






JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 2, 2024

“Hard Hats, Strong Minds”: Providing a Lifeline *Seminar on Mental Health in the Construction Industry.*

Jackson County, FL – The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners, in partnership with DHM Melvin Engineering Inc., and Rivertown Community Church, is proud to announce "Hard Hats, Strong Minds." This pioneering event, themed "Providing a Lifeline," focuses on suicide awareness and mental health within the construction and trade industry.

Scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2024, from 12 pm to 2 pm CST at Rivertown Community Church, 4534 Lafayette Street, Marianna FL. 1pm - 2pm will feature an optional breakout session. The seminar seeks to address the critical issue of mental health in a demographic that has remained largely overlooked.



Dr. Vince Hafeli, D.B.A., President of AJAX Paving and an expert in Mental Health and Transformational Leadership, will spearhead the discussions. His insights and expertise are pivotal in guiding the seminar's focus on normalizing conversations about mental health in the construction sector. More about Dr. Hafeli can be found on his website: <https://vincehafeli.com/>.

The construction industry has one of the highest suicide rates in the U.S., with the rate of suicide being four times more likely than in other industries. While job-related accidents claim two to three workers daily, ten to fifteen workers are lost to suicide. "Hard Hats, Strong Minds" aims to shift the narrative, emphasizing that mental health is as crucial as physical health and should not be stigmatized as a sign of weakness or flaw.

This event is a call to action for companies employing construction laborers in Jackson County and the surrounding areas to participate in this vital conversation.

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The event is generously sponsored by numerous community partners, including:

Chipola Career Source; Opportunity Florida; Ducky Johnson, House Movers; Spanish Trail Lumber Company; Woodall's Total Comfort Systems, inc.; West Florida Electric; Tommy's Auto-Glass; Mowrey Elevator; Chick-fil-a; Catalyst, Fabric Solutions; DHM Melvin Engineering/ Florida Public Utilities; Rivertown Community Church; Fuqua & Milton, P.A.; Blankenship Jordan, P.A.; Jackson EDC; City of Marianna; Busy Bee; Jackson County Board of County Commissioners; Anderson Columbia inc.; Rex Lumber; Chrome; Florida Power & Light; Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

Event Details:

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024 Time: 12 pm - 2 pm CST

Location: Rivertown Community Church, 4534 Lafayette Street, Marianna, FL 32446

Agenda:

Lunch/Talk: 12 pm - 1 pm

Bonus Session: 1 pm - 2 pm (*Optional*)

Registration: <https://bit.ly/47mu4f5>

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