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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events

- **Save the Date:** Medicare Open Enrollment Period Ends: **Saturday, December 7**
- Workforce Development Board Meeting: **December 10 at 6 p.m.**
- Kerr-Tar Executive Committee Board Meeting: **December 5 at 10 a.m. via Zoom**
- **COG will be closed for Christmas Holiday: Tuesday, December 24 through Thursday, December 26**
- **COG will be closed for New Year's Holiday: Wednesday, January 1**



COG's Staff Development Meeting Gets Hands-On with Rebuilding Hope Inc.

On Friday, November 15th, the COG held its Quarterly Staff Development meeting, but with a twist—this time, we rolled up our sleeves and got to work! Partnering with Rebuilding Hope Inc., a local non-profit in Henderson, our team built a ramp for a community member in need. It was a rewarding and meaningful experience that not only strengthened our team but also allowed us to make a real, tangible impact in our community. Who knew a staff development day could be so constructive?



A special thank you

As the year comes to a close, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone in our region who has partnered with us, maintained connections, and supported us along the way. Your collaboration and commitment make our work meaningful and impactful.

A special person we wanted to recognize is this year's Regional Star:



Walter Gardner

We are grateful for Mayor Walter Gardner's dedicated service to Warrenton. Serving his eighth term in office, he earned our trust as commissioner in 1989 and became mayor in 1997. His 27 years with KTRCOG, including multiple terms as chairman, reflect his unwavering commitment to our community. Thank you, Mayor Gardner!

HAPPY 10th WORK-IVERSARY



Deborah Cozart

Our Performance & Accountability Coordinator, Deborah Cozart is celebrating **10 incredible years** with Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments as of November 10th.

Join us in congratulating Deborah on this remarkable milestone!

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS KARTS MEE NC



Demand Response Scheduling Software with Same-Day On-Demand Functionality. Interested Vendors should submit their Bids by December 20, 2024, to the attention of:

Name: Randy Cantor
Organization: KARTS
Mail: 1575 Ross Mill Road
Delivery: 1575 Ross Mill Road, Henderson, NC 27536
Phone: 252-341-3950
Email: rcantorekartsnc.com

This is a lead agency procurement involving 7 rural and urban public transportation providers in North Carolina. Kerr Area Transportation Authority, doing business as KARTS (Transit System) is the lead agency. KARTS reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, to waive minor technicalities and informalities and to make an award deemed in its own best interest.



To learn more, please click [here](#).



FTC Resources: Shareable Materials to Combat Scams

The FTC has provided downloadable publications about scams, privacy, credit, and more you can use for your business in order to bring awareness to scams happening, particularly during the holiday season. The materials range from a variety of topics and are also available in different languages and formats. Click [here](#) to access these downloadable resources.



Dementia Friend Meeting



Michael Patterson, Family Caregiving Specialist, facilitated a Dementia Friend meeting at New Sandy Creek Church. This meeting, like other similar events, help people understand dementia, how dementia impacts individuals, and how we can support people with dementia. The Area Agency on Aging also has Family Caregiver support and respite vouchers.



Fall Fun Day in Person County



The Person County Senior Center enjoyed a hot dog lunch as a part of the Fall Fun Day. Members participated in fun activities and enjoyed great fellowship.



Bingocize in Granville County

The South Granville Senior conducted a series of Bingocize events this fall. Bingocize combines the fun of bingo with health education. Participants have fun winning fabulous prizes and learning important tips for healthy living.



Silver Alert Update

Dementia Alliance of North Carolina wants to make the public aware of an important change to North Carolina's Silver Alert program. In 2023, this system was updated to the "Missing Endangered Alert". Now operated through the N.C. Center for Missing Persons, a Missing Endangered Alert will provide a statewide system for the rapid dissemination of information regarding a missing person of any age who is believed to have a cognitive impairment.

Criteria are as follows:

- Believed to have a cognitive impairment (not medical).
- Reported Missing to law Enforcement within 72 hours.
- In danger of abuse, physical harm, neglect, or exploitation.

If a loved one is missing:

- Family and friends should immediately notify local law enforcement and file a police or sheriff's report.
- Include information on where the missing person was last known to be. Provide officers with a recent photo as soon as possible.
- Request that law enforcement put out a "Be On the Lookout" (BOLO) Bulletin.
- Ask for an organized search with tracking dogs, if possible.
- If the missing person has any cognitive impairment, ask local law enforcement to have a Missing Endangered Alert issued.
- Limit access to your home until law enforcement investigators arrive and have collected evidence.
- Give the investigator all facts and circumstances related to the disappearance, including what efforts have already been made.
- Write a detailed description of clothing and any personal belongings the person may have.
- Designate one person to answer your telephone. Keep a pad of paper by the phone to jot down names, telephone numbers, dates, and times of calls about your person.



Beware of Holiday Scams

Scam artists target senior adults during the holidays, especially if the targets are lonely and depressed. Please be mindful of online shopping scams on fake websites, frauds imitating grandchildren in trouble and needing money immediately, fake charities seeking charitable donations, and phishing emails.



Elder Fraud Solutions: Highlights from the Fordham CLIP Roundtable Discussion

Regional Project Manager, Amanda Lewis attended the Fordham CLIP Law & Information Policy Roundtable: Elder Fraud and Exploitation discussion on November 21 to stay informed of the fraud

CLIP

Center on Law and Information Policy

AT FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL

concerns in legislation occurring in the digital space and what impact this has on consumers and financial institutions. Key challenges highlighted included the role of transnational crime syndicates as major drivers of scams and the mixed willingness of financial institutions to enforce anti-fraud measures. The roundtable also addressed the need for stronger policies across industries like social media, telecommunications, and law enforcement. The discussion emphasized the importance of consumer education, citing resources like the FTC's "Pass It On" campaign and outreach programs. Participants agreed that collaboration across industries, educators, and policymakers is essential to combat elder fraud effectively while safeguarding consumer rights.



AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Stay in the loop and follow us on social media!

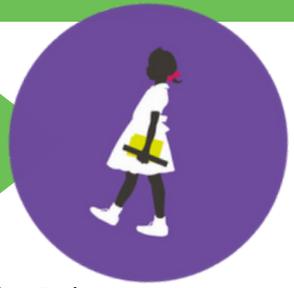
Don't miss out on future training opportunities and events hosted by the Kerr-Tar COG! Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay updated on what we are up to.



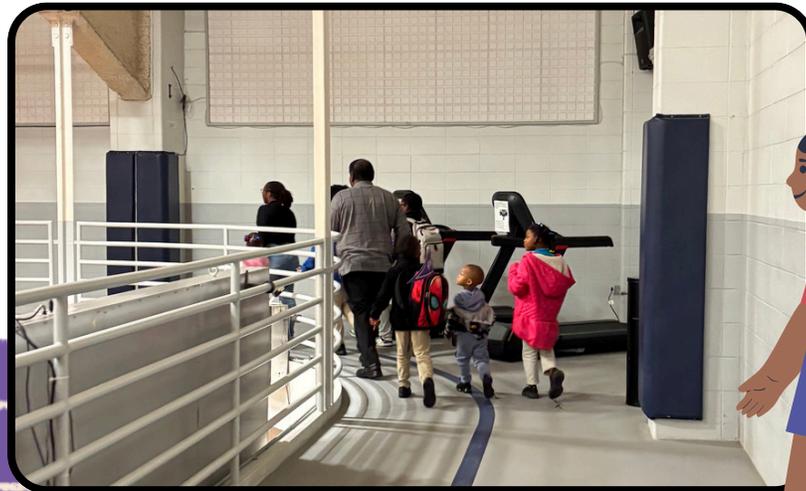
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Ruby Bridges Walk at Aycocock Recreation Center



Our Safe Routes to Schools Program Coordinator, Victoria Glasscock, held a Ruby Bridges Walk on November 14th in partnership with Aycocock Recreation Center and Perry Memorial Library. An amazing group from Turning Point CDC showed up with nearly 40 kids who were all able to hear the "I am Ruby Bridges" book reading from Ms. Peters along with sign language and then followed up with Curtis Harvey, a Henderson native, who wrote a book with a Ruby Bridges Easter egg! Some kids were able to win books to take home! After the story, the kids took part in walking 14 laps around the track (some were inspired to do even more) showing their enthusiasm and commitment to honoring Ruby Bridges' legacy. It was a great opportunity for the kids to get some steps in all while learning about our history!



WALK



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Advancing Connectivity: Granville County's Digital Inclusion Plan

The Granville County Digital Inclusion Plan was presented at the Granville County Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting on November 18, 2024.

Amanda Lewis, Regional Project Manager, reviewed the scope of the project and strategic alignment. The Digital Inclusion Project was made possible through an award from

BAND-NC to support the five-county region in developing County Digital Inclusion Plans and a Regional Digital Inclusion Plan. Public Information Officer and Grants Manager Terry Hobgood, Granville County Library Director Will Robinson, and Library Branch Manager Lisa Dendy, formed the county team, providing essential information for the plan. They collaborated regularly with the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments and supported the project. The plan incorporated Granville County's branding, including its logo and color hex code. Key steps included a stakeholder meeting on April 18, 2024, to define the Vision, Mission, and Values statements and set priorities. Data collection from the NC DIT survey, community resources, and public Wi-Fi locations informed the plan. Granville County facilitated survey outreach by posting it in local government buildings, businesses, and libraries. The plan aligned with regional and state strategies, emphasizing cybersecurity education and future training opportunities.



NCDIT and NC 211 Expand Digital Access in NC

Partnering to help North Carolinians have resources to get online

NCDIT NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

UNITED WAY North Carolina

211
Powered by United Way of North Carolina

NCDIT Partners with NC 211 to Expand Digital Access Across North Carolina The North Carolina Department of Information Technology's (NCDIT) Division of Broadband and Digital Equity has partnered with NC 211 to provide statewide access to community resources supporting internet affordability, digital devices, skills, and

tech support. NC 211, a service powered by United Way, connects residents with essential services and now offers digital literacy support, including help setting up email, finding free Wi-Fi, and locating computer classes. Governor Roy Cooper highlighted the importance of digital access for all North Carolinians, especially during emergencies. The service is available 24/7 in multiple languages. For more information, visit ncbroadband.gov or nc211.org.

Opportunity for Local Governments: Planning for Extreme Heat Cohort Program



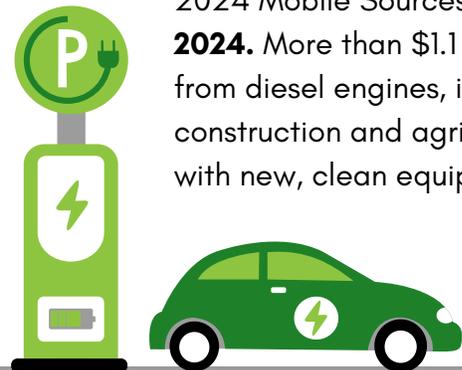
NCORR and the State Climate Office of North Carolina are launching a new technical assistance program for local governments. We hope you will share the invitation for this program with the communities you serve. The NC Office of Recovery and Resilience (NCORR) and the State Climate Office of North Carolina are launching the Planning for Extreme Heat Cohort Program to assist local governments in addressing extreme heat impacts. This program will help participants understand how heat affects their communities and develop strategies using the provided Heat Action Plan Toolkit. Participants will create a heat action plan, identify priority heat-response actions, and collaborate with heat experts and local partners. The program is a collaboration with the NC Department of Health and Human Services, Duke University Heat Policy Innovation Hub, NC State University, and the NOAA Carolinas Climate Adaptation Partnership. Local government staff and elected officials, along with community organizations, are invited to apply [HERE](#) by December 4, 2024. There is no cost to participate, aside from staff time commitment.

DEQ Accepting Applications for EV Charger and Diesel Emission Reduction Grants



The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's Division of Air Quality (DAQ) today is releasing requests for proposals (RFPs) for two grant programs aimed at reducing air pollution from the transportation sector: One for electric

vehicle chargers and another for clean vehicle replacements. Applications for the 2024 Mobile Sources Emissions Reductions Grant will be accepted through **Dec. 31, 2024**. More than \$1.1 million is available to fund projects that will reduce emissions from diesel engines, including the replacement or repowering of school buses, nonroad construction and agricultural equipment, heavy-duty on-road vehicles, and locomotives with new, clean equipment and vehicles. To learn more, click [here](#).



NCWorks at the RHA Annual Expo

On Thursday, October 24th, Career Advisor Lucinda Clay and Program Manager Helen Bradby represented NCWorks at the Roxboro Housing Authority (RHA) Annual Expo in partnership with Piedmont Community College. Held in Person County, this much-anticipated event brought together residents for a day of fun, food, and valuable information about community resources. The Expo, hosted annually by the RHA, provides a fantastic opportunity for residents to connect with local services and programs available to them. Attendees enjoyed a lively atmosphere with games, food, and fun giveaways. Residents visited at least 10 informational stations to participate in the prize drawings, collecting signatures at each one—a creative way to encourage meaningful engagement and ensure they learned about a wide range of services.

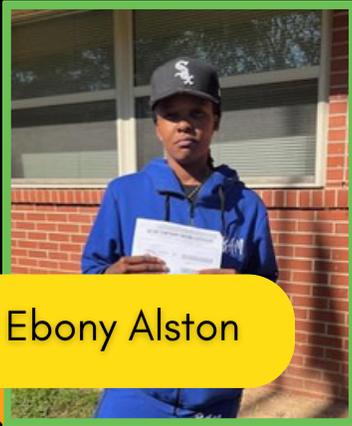


VR Brings Manufacturing Careers to Life at PCC Event

On Friday, October 25th, two of our NCWorks career advisers, Demetrius Johnson and Lucinda Clay represented our Kerr-Tar team at Piedmont Community College's Manufacturing Day. The event dedicated to showcasing the exciting opportunities within the manufacturing industry in the five counties we serve. The event was well attended by more than 20 local companies and businesses. Our staff engaged with high school students, helping to spark their curiosity about potential career pathways by "walking through" a specific job assignment in our Virtual Reality (VR) headsets. Through this technology, students could immerse themselves in a hands-on experience while exploring various occupations in manufacturing careers like welding, machining, or robotics. This interactive approach not only inspired students but also highlighted the endless possibilities available in modern manufacturing, with the hopes of showing the younger generation well-paying career opportunities that are close to home.



Success Stories Across the Industries



Ebony Alston



Michael Frost



Michael Wright

We are thrilled to celebrate the achievements of several NCWorks participants who recently completed training. Among them, Ebony Alston (left), Malcolm Coley (who isn't pictured), and Michael Wright (right) have proudly earned their Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDL) and are now ready to hit the road as professional drivers. Additionally, we are excited to highlight the success of Michael Frost (middle), who completed an On-the-Job Training (OJT) assignment and is now employed as a Store Manager for Little Caesar's in Oxford. His dedication and hard work have led to this well-deserved opportunity, showcasing how OJT programs help participants gain valuable skills while directly connecting them to long-term employment. Congratulations to all on these incredible milestones!

Success Stories: NCDental U Grads



Congratulations to our recent NCDental U graduates, Navarra Leonard and Ariyanna Green! After enrolling in WIOA, they wanted to pursue a career in the healthcare industry. They enrolled in a dental assisting class at NCDental U, eager to acquire the skills needed to transform their lives and financial status. Today, their hard work and dedication have paid off as they proudly step into their new roles as dental assistants. Through the dental assistant program, they gained the technical expertise required for their new careers. Their success is a testament to the power of determination, hard work, and the right support — proving that anyone can achieve their goals in life.



2024 Holiday Celebrations

Roxboro

Jingle on Main:
December 5, 5:30pm

Christmas Parade:
December 14

Oxford

**Lighting of the
Greens &
Christmas Parade:**
December 6 4:00pm

Henderson

Christmas Parade:
December 7, 3:00pm

Warrenton

Christmas Parade:
December 14, 7:00pm

Youngsville

Tree Lighting:
December 6, 5:30pm

Christmas Parade:
December 7,
10:00am

Butner

Christmas in the Park:
December 6, 7:00 pm
Christmas Parade:
December 7, 2:00pm

Creedmoor

Tree Lighting:
December 6, 7:00pm
Christmas Parade:
December 7, 11:00am

Bunn

Christmas Parade:
December 8, 3:00pm

Louisburg

Christmas Parade:
December 8, 4:00pm

Franklinton

Tree Lighting:
November 30, 7:00pm
Christmas Parade:
December 5, 7:00pm



KERR-TAR

Council of Governments

COMMUNITIES SERVED

- [Franklin County](#)
- [Granville County](#)
- [Person County](#)
- [Vance County](#)
- [Warren County](#)
- [Town of Bunn](#)
- [Town of Butner](#)
- [City of Creedmoor](#)
- [Town of Franklinton](#)
- [City of Henderson](#)
- [Town of Kittrell](#)
- [Town of Louisburg](#)
- [Town of Macon](#)
- [Town of Middleburg](#)
- [Town of Norlina](#)
- [City of Oxford](#)
- [City of Roxboro](#)
- [Town of Stem](#)
- [Town of Stovall](#)
- [Town of Warrenton](#)
- [Town of Youngsville](#)

Executive Director

Diane Cox
dcox@kerrtarcog.org

Area Agency on Aging

Alan Winstead
awinstead@kerrtarcog.org

Community & Economic Development

Desiree Brooks
dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org

Workforce Development

Lou Grillo
lgrillo@kerrtarcog.org

MISSION STATEMENT

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments aims to promote regionalism that provides opportunities for local governments to enhance and improve the quality of life for our citizens through effective delivery of services and programs.

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments

1724 Graham Avenue
PO Box 709
Henderson, NC 27536
Phone | (252) 436-2040
Fax | (252) 436-2055
info@kerrtarcog.org | kerrtarcog.org

