



## IN THIS EDITION:

### Important Information

Disaster Relief Recovery Expo	P. 2
2025 Elder Abuse Conference & Walk	P. 3
Ignite Summit 2025	P. 4
Staff Development: Franklin Co. Senior Center	P. 5

### Area Agency on Aging

Produce Bag Distribution for Seniors in Oxford	P. 6
Franklinton Community Garden Awarded Ernest B. Messer Award	P. 6
RAAC & Senior Tar Heel Legislature Hold Meeting	P. 7
Congressman Don Davis Honored with Healthcare Innovation Leadership Award	P. 7
KTCOG Food Council Celebrates First Anniversary & Leadership Transition	P. 8
Spotlight on Elder Abuse Awareness: Kim Hawkins Speaks on WARR Radio	P. 8

### Planning & Development

Bikes, Books, & Big Smiles @ Aim High Keep Pressing Event	P. 9
Piedmont & Coastal NC Clean Communities Earns Full DOE Designation	P. 10
Tech-Savvy Travel Tips	P. 10

### Workforce Development

Success Stories	P. 11
Person High School Hiring Event	P. 12

Staff Announcements	P. 13
---------------------	-------



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **Workforce Development Board Meeting**, June 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6 p.m., at Kerr-Tar COG
- **Disaster Relief Recovery Expo**, June 12 @ 10 a.m. at VGCC Civic Center
- **Elder Abuse Conference & Walk**, June 13<sup>th</sup> @ 10 a.m. at Warren County Armory Convention Center
- **Holiday**: Juneteenth, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- **TAC/TCC Meeting**, June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 3 p.m. at Kerr-Tar COG
- **KTCOG Board Meeting**, June 26<sup>th</sup>, @ 7:00 p.m. at Kerr-Tar COG



# Kerr Tar

## Disaster Relief Recovery Expo

In the aftermath of devastating disasters, entire communities are left in need of urgent assistance. Join us to receive resources from our vendors on how to stay safe!

- EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES
  - INSURANCE
  - NON-PROFITS
  - ANIMAL SHELTERS
  - NCSU
- AND MANY MORE!**



*Join us to enter a raffle where you can WIN your very own emergency kit!*

**JUNE**  
**12**

**Vance-Granville Community College**

*Civic Center*

200 Community College Rd,  
Henderson, NC 27536

 **10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**



For more information, please contact Katie Conner  
at 252-436-2040 ext. 6071 or at [kconner@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:kconner@kerrtarcog.org)





2025

Friday, June 13, 2025

10:00am-2:00 pm

## REGION K ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS & PREVENTION

# Conference & Walk



## Prevent Elder Abuse

FREE and Open  
to the Public

Warren County Armory  
Convention Center  
501 US Hwy 158 Bus E,  
Warrenton, NC 27589

Free t-shirts,  
lunch, &  
other goodies  
available

### Reminders/Awareness



June 15 is observed internationally as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day



Each year, NC recognizes Vulnerable Adult & Elder Abuse Awareness from Mother's Day to Father's Day

Wear PURPLE & SILVER to show the world you care about ending elder abuse and neglect and/or decorate your vehicle, in support. We will recognize each participant that displays their support for Elder Abuse Awareness & Prevention.

### For more information, contact:

Nyesha Woodard,  
Adult Services  
Warren County DSS  
(252) 257- 5000

Kimberly Hawkins  
Kerr-Tar Area  
Agency on Aging  
(252) 436-2050



SAVE THE DATE



**IGNITE**  
**2025**

Collaboration - Opportunity - Success



**Kerr-Tar Regional Summit**  
**Thursday, October 9, 2025**  
**Oxford City Hall - Oxford, NC 27565**

*Presenting Sponsor:*



**Other Sponsorship Opportunities Available!**

**Contact Desiree Brooks - 252-436-2040 or email [dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org) for information**





# STAFF DEVELOPMENT: FRANKLINTON SENIOR CENTER COMMUNITY GARDEN

On May 9th, our COG team had the incredible opportunity to step out of the office and into the community at the Franklinton Senior Center Community Garden for our Staff Development Meeting! We rolled up our sleeves and got to work: picking strawberries, laying down fresh mulch, and planting seeds that will soon bloom in the community. It was all part of helping the garden prepare for their special Mother's Day celebration, and we were honored to play a small part in bringing it to life. We're so grateful for the chance to give back, learn from our neighbors, and be part of something meaningful. Keep an eye out for our next staff development adventure!





## PRODUCE BAG DISTRIBUTION FOR SENIORS IN OXFORD

The Area Agency on Aging is partnering with local farmers to distribute \$2,000 in weekly produce bags at the Oxford Armory Farmers Market this summer. More than 50 older adults picked up their first bag of the season on Saturday, May 24th.



## FRANKLINTON COMMUNITY GARDEN AWARDED ERNEST B. MESSER AWARD

The North Carolina Division of Aging recognizes the Franklinton Community Garden with the 2024 Ernest B. Messer Award. The award recognizes individual communities for services provided to their aging populations. Bernie on the left is seen accepting the award.





# REGIONAL AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND SENIOR TAR HEEL LEGISLATURE HOLD QUARTERLY MEETING

On Wednesday, May 21, volunteers gathered for our quarterly Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC) with the Senior Tar Heel Legislature delegates to show information about current topics related to aging in the Kerr-Tar Region.

**If you are interested in more information about how you can be involved with the Regional Aging Advisory Committee or the Senior Tar Heel Legislature, please get in touch with Alan Winstead at [awinstead@kerrtar.org](mailto:awinstead@kerrtar.org).**



# CONGRESSMAN DON DAVIS HONORED WITH HEALTHCARE INNOVATION LEADERSHIP AWARD



Congressman Don Davis (D-NC- 01) receives the We Work for Health Healthcare Innovation Leadership Award for his sponsorship of the EPIC Act. Presenting the award is WWGH-NC, Alan Winstead, Area Agency on Aging Director, Bryan Fox, Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce, and Laura Gunter, NC Life Sciences Organization.

# KERR-TAR FOOD COUNCIL CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY & LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

On May 28, the Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council celebrated it's one year anniversary and recognized the service of its inaugural members who will be transitioning out. Thank you to Bo Freeman, William Landis, and Jacob Moore for being food systems champions in our region, and congratulations to Martha Mobley for being named Co-Chair!



**Contact Charlie Robinette at [crobinette@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:crobinette@kerrtarcog.org) if you're interested in joining the next meeting on June 25.**



## SPOTLIGHT ON ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS: KIM HAWKINS SPEAKS ON WARR RADIO

On May 29th, Kim Hawkins, Ombudsman at Kerr-Tar, joined Vonn P on WARR Radio's Facebook Live show to discuss her upcoming Elder Abuse Awareness Conference and Walk, scheduled for June 13th. As an Ombudsman, Kim advocates for the rights and well-being of older adults, helping to resolve concerns through fair and impartial support. During the segment, she shared valuable resources and emphasized the importance of protecting our aging population. Elder Abuse Awareness Month runs from Mother's Day to Father's Day, with the official awareness day on June 15th. Shockingly, 1 in 10 older adults experience some form of elder abuse, a statistic that highlights the importance of an ombudsman. Click [here](#) to tune in!



# BIKES, BOOKS & BIG SMILES AT THE AIM HIGH KEEP PRESSING EVENT

On May 10th, our Regional Program Coordinator, Victoria Glasscock, partnered with the Aim High Keep Pressing 5K/10K Race to host a Bike Rodeo that brought families and children together for a day full of fun, learning, and community spirit. In collaboration with Pathways to Peace, a Henderson nonprofit, we were able to offer 22 bikes generously donated by community members. Kids had the chance to ride through our bicycle course and explore the area outside the library, where a special Earth Day-themed Story Walk was held with Melody Peters, Youth Services Librarian at Perry Memorial Library. The featured book, *The Earth Gives More* by Sue Fliess, was provided by Safe Routes to School and included a scavenger hunt to engage young readers. After the race, excitement filled the air as the crowd gathered for a raffle where all 22 bikes were given away. Seeing the smiles on the children's faces made it a truly unforgettable day!



## Follow us on social media!



# PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## PIEDMONT & COASTAL NC CLEAN COMMUNITIES EARNS FULL DOE DESIGNATION

The Piedmont and Coastal NC Clean Communities Coalition has officially received full designation from the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities and Communities program. Led by Alrik Lunsford and coordinated by the NC Clean Energy Technology Center, the Coalition will support clean transportation and energy efforts across 57 counties, including the following counties in our region: Vance, Granville, Person, and Warren. This designation recognizes the Coalition's work in reducing transportation emissions, promoting alternative fuels, and supporting economic development through regional partnerships, technical assistance, and educational events. Learn more at [fuelwhatmatters.org](http://fuelwhatmatters.org).



## TECH-SAVVY TRAVEL TIPS: STAY SAFE ON THE GO!

- Update devices, set strong passwords, and turn on Find My Device.
- Bring only what you need and backup important data.
- Limit location sharing and think twice before posting in real-time.
- Avoid public Wi-Fi for sensitive tasks — use a VPN or your phone's hotspot.
- After your trip, check your accounts and delete any unused travel apps.

Want to learn more tips on how to stay safe while you're on vacation? Sign up for the National Cybersecurity Alliance Webinar [here](#)!

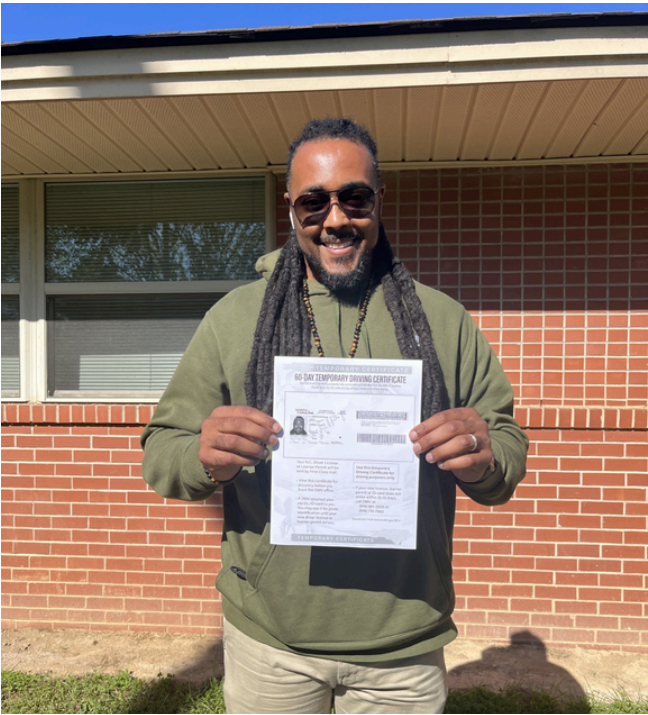


# SUCCESS STORY: MICHAEL WRIGHT

NCWorks staff met Michael Wright in February 2024. Driven to create a stable future for his growing family, he fully embraced the Kerr-Tar WIOA program. His journey included a Work-Based Learning assignment, CDL training, and earning his CDL-A license. Most impactful, however, was the support from his Career Advisor, Lucinda Clay. With her help, Michael secured full-time work as an Integrated Voter Engagement Associate with Civil 360. He shared the following heartfelt message to update her on his progress:

**“Life has truly been a blessing lately—my baby boy is now 10 weeks old... we’ve even started traveling as a family, embracing every moment and living life to the fullest. couldn’t let this chapter of my journey go by without expressing my deepest gratitude. Your support meant the world to me when I was starting from the bottom. You helped plant the seeds of stability and confidence during a time when I needed it most. Thank you for everything you did to help me find my footing. Your work changes lives, and I’m living proof.”**

Michael’s story highlights the lasting impact of Career Advisors like Lucinda Clay. We celebrate Michael’s success and honor Lucinda’s dedication, compassion, and professionalism, which have empowered countless individuals through the NCWorks system.



Story & photos submitted by Tatum Ryan

# SUCCESS STORY: NYARIA SPRUILL

Congratulations to Nyaria Spruill on a major milestone! On May 22, 2025, Nyaria successfully completed her CDL class at Vance-Granville Community College and passed her exam to earn her CDL-A license. Her dedication, perseverance, and hard work paid off, and she is now ready to pursue her career. Nyaria’s accomplishment is a wonderful example of what can be achieved through determination and the right support.

We’re proud of you, Nyaria, and can’t wait to see where the road takes you next!



Story & photos submitted by Tatum Ryan

# PERSON HIGH SCHOOL HIRING EVENT



Kerr Tar/NCWorks attended the Person High School 2025 Hiring Event May 8, 2025. It was such a pleasure to support this event. Employers engaging with students sharing their skills and knowledge. It was a successful day creating such an impactful experience for students! The event was well planned, and we had several students interested in signing up for NCWorks.



## STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR NCWORKS CAREER CENTER!

NCWorks updates you on job fairs, career fairs, job search tips, virtual reality simulations, and many other great resources! Click below to follow us today!

[CLICK HERE FOR KERR-TAR  
LABOR MARKET UPDATE](#)





## BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Katie Conner*  
June 10th



*Charlie Robinette*  
June 23rd

## ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS



*Diane Cox*  
18 years



*Victoria Glasscock*  
1 year



*Lou Grillo*  
11 years

JOIN US IN WISHING  
NICOLE A FAREWELL!

This month, KTCOG lost our AmeriCorps service member, Nicole Manalis, as the result of federal funding disruptions. In the nine months that Nicole was with us, she made deeply impactful contributions to our food systems work, building relationships and assisting COG staff and community partners in any way she could. We're incredibly grateful for the time we had with Nicole and wish her nothing but the best in her next season of life!





# Kerr-Tar

## Regional 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](mailto:dcox@kerrtarcog.org)

#### Area Agency on Aging

**Alan Winstead**

[awinstead@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:awinstead@kerrtarcog.org)

#### Community & Economic Development

**Desiree Brooks**

[dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org](mailto:dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org)

#### Workforce Development

**Lou Grillo**

[lgrillo@kerrtarcog.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@kerrtarcog.org) | [kerrtarcog.org](http://kerrtarcog.org)

