

OCTOBER 2026

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCT 8 Kerr-Tar Regional Economic Development: 2026
ROOTED Summit

OCT 12 & 13 KTRCOG Childcare Discussion With Industry Leaders

OCT 15 RPO TCC/TAC Meeting at 2pm

OCT 27 A Matter of Balance Coach Training Program

OCT 29 COG Executive Board Virtual Meeting: Time TBD

IMPORTANT EVENTS

October 1st - October 31st 2026



National Disability Employment Awareness Month

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, celebrating the skills, talents, and contributions of workers with disabilities. It also highlights the importance of creating inclusive workplaces where everyone has opportunities to contribute and succeed. Our Workforce Development / NCWorks team assists those with disabilities immensely, be sure to thank them for all of their hard work!

International Day of Older Persons —October 1

International Day of Older Persons recognizes the important contributions older adults make to our families and communities. It also promotes healthy aging, independence, inclusion, and access to resources that support quality of life. Let's thank our Area Agency of Aging dept. for all that they do!

Walk & Roll to School Day — October 7

Walk & Roll to School Day encourages students and families to walk, bike, or roll to school when it is safe and practical. The day promotes physical activity, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and safer, more connected communities. This is an important day for the Safe Routes to School program!

International Day of Rural Women — October 15

International Day of Rural Women recognizes the important contributions women make to rural communities and economies. From agriculture and entrepreneurship to leadership and community service, rural women play an important role in strengthening their communities. Here at KTRCOG, we appreciate this important observance day!

World Food Day — October 16

World Food Day raises awareness of food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture, and access to healthy food. It recognizes the farmers, producers, organizations, and community partners who help strengthen local food systems. Be sure to register for our 2026 Rooted Summit - Grounded Locally, Growing Regionally on Oct. 8th!

Halloween & Pedestrian Safety — October 31

Have a safe and happy Halloween! Drivers should slow down and stay alert for trick-or-treaters, while families are encouraged to use sidewalks and designated crossings, increase visibility, and remind children to look carefully before crossing the street.

World Habitat Day — October 5

World Habitat Day highlights the importance of safe, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable communities. It encourages us to consider how housing, planning, and community development help create places where everyone can thrive.

As we recognize these upcoming holidays and observances, we encourage everyone to take time to reflect, celebrate, and support the people and causes that make our communities stronger, safer, and more connected.

Celebrating Excellence Across the Kerr-Tar Region: 2026 Annual Banquet & Awards Ceremony

On September 24, 2026, the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments welcomed regional leaders, community partners, and guests to its Annual Banquet & Awards Ceremony to celebrate the people and partnerships strengthening our region.

Congratulations to our 2026 award recipients:

Outstanding Clerk to the Board: *Annette Lynch — Town of Macon*

Outstanding Manager: *Brent Taylor — City of Oxford*

Outstanding Municipal Elected Official: *Mayor Casey Dover — Town of Stem*

Outstanding County Elected Official: *Tare "T" Davis — Warren County*

Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening a success! Special thanks to Clearview Church in Henderson for providing the beautiful event space and to VC3 and Farm Bureau for sponsoring the banquet.

We appreciate our local governments, community partners, sponsors, and guests for their continued commitment to the Kerr-Tar region!



Kerr-Tar Regional COG

2028 Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool Program for Person & Vance Counties



Does your plumbing leak? Is your electrical system unsafe? Does your roof need repairs? Does your heating system leave you cold? Do you qualify by income? Are you a homeowner?

If your home is in need of serious repairs, you may qualify for home rehabilitation assistance through the KTCOG Essential Single-Family Rehabilitation Loan Pool Program.

Are you...

- An older adult (age 62 and up), disabled (or family member), or a veteran homeowner?
- A homeowner living in a home with lead base paint hazards with children under the age of 6 present?

General Homeowner Eligibility Requirements:

- ☐ Gross household income must be at or below 80% of the median county income;
- ☐ Home must be site built. Manufactured & mobile homes are not eligible;
- ☐ Applicant must own the home being repaired;
- ☐ Applicant must live in the home as their primary residence;
- ☐ The property cannot have been repaired or rehabilitated with public funding of \$30,000 or more within the past 10 years;
- ☐ The cost of rehabilitation cannot exceed the ESFRLP 2028 Program Guideline limit of \$70,000;
- ☐ Home must meet Housing Quality Standards and Code after the work is completed.

Loan Information:

Minimum deferred/forgiven loan of \$14,000.
Maximum deferred/forgiven loan of \$70,000.
0% interest.

- No loan payments are required unless the home is sold, or is no longer the primary residence of the applicant, during the first 5 years (payments pro-rated). After 5 years, the loan is forgiven.
- The loan is secured by a deferred (forgiven after 5 years) mortgage on the property.
- Applications are due by noon on **December 18, 2026.**

Activities generally include:

- Roof repair/replacement
- Septic system replacement
- Well replacement
- Asbestos & lead paint remediation
- Door/window replacement
- Plumbing/electrical/HVAC
- Siding repair/replacement
- Accessibility improvements for individuals with disabilities
- Other general improvements

For more information or to be added to our list, please contact:

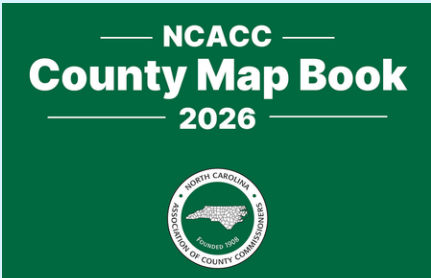
David Stuart at 252-436-2040 ext. 2071

2026 COUNTY MAP BOOK

The North Carolina Association of County Commissioners is pleased to share the **2026 County Map Book**, compiling relevant North Carolina county data maps into one publication.

These maps and data tables highlight demographic, economic, health, and educational information from North Carolina’s 100 counties. This annual publication is intended to provide context and promote analysis for decisions at the local level in counties across the state.

One page county-specific summaries will be released soon.



EPA Launches Transparent, Interactive Permitting Map

WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is launching the EPA Permitting Authority Map. The interactive map—accessible via EPA’s website—identifies which regulatory agencies have the authority to issue permits covering all of EPA’s permitting programs and environmental statutes.

The development of the map is an integral resource in advancing Pillar 3 of Administrator Lee Zeldin's Powering the Great American Comeback initiative: Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership.

The EPA Permitting Authority Map supports federal agencies, states, territories, Tribal nations, local agencies/governments, and the general public with:

- The ability to make a quick determination whether the permitting authority is with EPA or if there has been an approved delegation, primacy, or authorization given to a state, territory, Tribal nation, or local agency.
- The use of a Geo Platform based web map, which provides maximum flexibility for site visualization and project planning ability.

EPA also released new informational tools and resources to help community members, local officials, data center developers, and other interested parties assess the viability of Brownfield and Superfund sites as possible locations for industrial reuse. EPA's Redevelopment Mapper for Superfund and Brownfield Sites can help screen for suitable site characteristics on a Brownfield or Superfund site. The Mapper provides site locations and options for adding data layers that highlight site features and surroundings.



Together in Support of Sharon!

On Thursday, October 1, KTRCOG staff surprised Sharon at Maria Parham Hospital following her first round of cancer treatment. The visit brought the team together to share words of kindness, encouragement, and support.

Staff wore matching "Support for Sharon" T-shirts featuring a breast cancer awareness logo, designed and ordered by Finance Director Katie Conner. This thoughtful gesture reflected the team's shared commitment to standing beside Sharon throughout her treatment.

Through heartfelt conversations and messages of hope, staff reminded Sharon that she is a valued part of the KTRCOG family and can count on her team whenever she needs support. Sharon, we're thinking of you, cheering you on, and standing with you every step of the way! ❤️



Preparing A Warm Welcome For ROOTED Summit Attendees!

On September 30, the ROOTED Summit planning committee gathered to pack bags for attendees, filled with items contributed by local government organizations in the Kerr-Tar region. This team effort was one of the finishing touches as the committee prepares to welcome attendees to the summit.

Thank you to the contributing organizations and committee members for their time, generosity, and support!

Don't forget to register for the ROOTED Summit on Thursday, October 8, at McGregor Hall in Henderson. We look forward to bringing everyone together for a day of learning, connection, and community!



KERR-TAR FAMILY CAREGIVER CONFERENCE

You are invited to our Family Caregiver Conference: Best Practices in Supporting Care

Presenters include Dr. DeLon Canterbury, Bruna Rech, DDS, MSc, dentist and researcher at Duke University; and Dr. Thomas and Donna Finn. They will share their knowledge to support professionals and family caregivers. Local resource vendors will be available to provide tools for engaging and supporting caregivers.

Registration includes breakfast and a swag bag.



BRUNA RECH

DDS, MSc, dentist and
researcher at Duke University



DR. DELON CANTERBURY

PharmD, BCGP Deprescribing
Implementation Strategist



**DR. THOMAS &
DONNA FINN**

\$10 Family Caregiver Ticket

For those caring for someone living with dementia, neighbors, friends, students, clergy and anyone else who would like to attend. Limited scholarships available.

Professional Caregiver \$25 Ticket

For professionals caring for people living with dementia. 1.5 CEU's credited.

Register Now!

*Breakfast and refreshments
will be provided!*

DOORS AT 9 A.M.

**THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 5TH, 2026**

**VANCE GRANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CIVIC CENTER AUDITORIUM**

10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

**Medicare costs
hard to swallow?**

**SHIIP can help find the
best Medicare Prescription
Drug Plan for you!**



It's time to evaluate your plan and see what's new for 2027. The Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) offers free, unbiased information about Medicare and can assist with enrollment and subsidy applications that could save you money.

**Medicare Annual Open Enrollment Period
October 15 – December 7**

Changes will be effective Jan. 1, 2027!

**Call to schedule an appointment
with a trained SHIIP counselor.**

***For more information:
Call Crystal Allen at
(252)-436-2040 ext. 2036***





FREE To All Participants!

Warren
County

A MATTER OF BALANCE

Experience the award-winning
8-week program
proven to reduce falls!

YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- View falls as controllable
- Set goals for increasing activity
- Make changes to reduce fall risk at home
- Exercise to increase strength and balance

Every Tuesday

Dates: Tuesdays, November 10, 2026 – January 5, 2027 (no class on December 15)

- November 10, 17, 24
- December 1, 8, 22, 29
- January 5

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Where: Warren County Senior Center
435 W. Franklin St.
Warrenton, NC 27589

To register, please contact:

Aquayla Lynch
(252)-257-3111

aquaylalync@warrencountync.gov

Crystal Allen

252-436-2040 ext. 2036
callen@kerrtarccog.org

AMOB BENEFITS:

- Reduce fear of falling
- Improve flexibility & strength
- Reduce pain & feel great

A MATTER OF BALANCE

Coach Training Program

Did you know falls are the leading cause of injuries for adults over 65?

Make a difference by joining our "A Matter of Balance" Coach Training!

Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging is looking for volunteers to help provide the "A Matter of Balance" program.

A Matter of Balance Coaches:

- Help participants become more confident about managing falls
- Help to identify ways to reduce falls
- Lead exercises to help increase strength and balance

A Matter of Balance Coaches Need:

- Good communication and interpersonal skills
- Enthusiasm, dependability and a willingness to lead small groups of older adults
- Ability to lead low to moderate level exercise

Learn How to Lead!

During this training, you'll learn how to lead an "A Matter of Balance" course at no cost! Register by Friday, October 2, 2026. Attendance is limited.

Location & Time:

- South Granville Senior Center (114 Douglas Drive, Creedmoor, NC 27522)
- Monday, October 12th and Tuesday, October 13th 2026 from 8:30am to 12:30pm.

Participants are expected to teach two workshops per year to remain active coaches. Attendance for both training days is needed to receive certification.

REGISTER NOW!

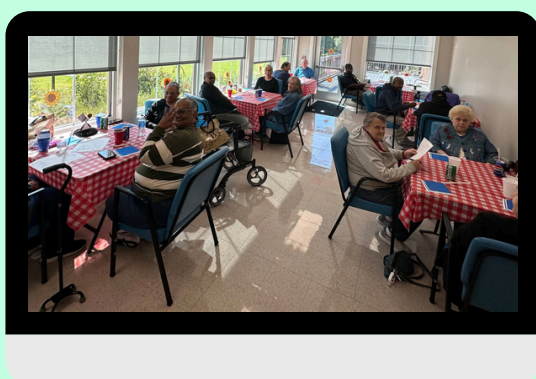
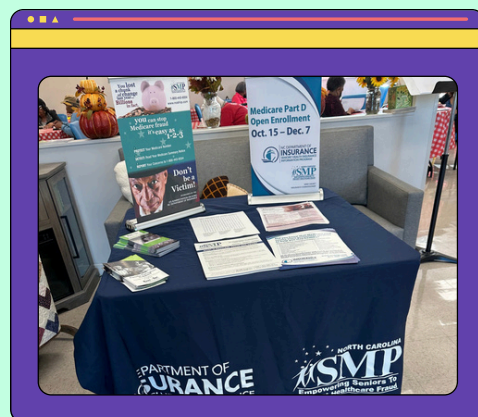
To register, call Crystal Allen at (252)-436-2040 ext. 2036 or at callen@kerrtarccog.org

South Granville Senior Center Fall Cookout

On September 25, the South Granville Senior Center hosted a cookout in partnership with the Creedmoor Police Department, bringing older adults together for food, fellowship, and community connections. The gathering offered a welcoming opportunity for participants to spend time with one another while learning about helpful resources.

Kerr-Tar's Area Agency on Aging joined the event to share information about Medicare, the Seniors' Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP), and Medicare Open Enrollment. Participants also received information about recognizing and preventing fraud and abuse, helping them stay informed and protect their personal information.

Thank you to the South Granville Senior Center and the Creedmoor Police Department for bringing the community together and providing an opportunity to connect participants with valuable information and support!



Alan Winstead
KTRCOG Area on Aging Agency Director
(252) 436-2040 ext. 2047
awinstead@kerrtarcog.org

Stepping Toward Wellness: 2026 STEP-tember Walking Challenge

Senior centers across Region K promoted fall prevention, healthy aging, and independence throughout September, with support from Kerr-Tar's Area Agency on Aging.

Crystal Allen, Aging Specialist, shared tips on reducing fall risks, including reviewing medications with health care providers, getting vision and hearing checks, reducing household hazards, and staying active. Participants learned about A Matter of Balance, Walk with Ease, Bingocize®, and Tai Chi and received flashlights to promote safety.

Senior centers also joined the 2026 STEP-tember Walking Challenge, with Kerr-Tar providing pedometers and bags. Across the region, **153 participants; 21,146,158 steps recorded!**

- Franklin: 51 participants; 7,209,999 steps
- Granville: 43 participants; 5,475,089 steps
- Person: 25 participants; 4,751,628 steps
- Vance: 24 participants; 3,229,955 steps
- Warren: 10 participants; 479,487 steps

Thank you to the senior centers, staff, partners, and participants who made September a month of learning, movement, and connection!



Franklin Co. Senior Center



Warren Co. Senior Center



Person Co. Senior Center



Louisburg Senior Center



South Granville Senior Center



North Granville Senior Center



Vance Co. Senior Center

Crystal Allen
 KTRCOG Aging Specialist
 (252) 436-2040 ext. 2036
callen@kerrtarcog.org

September Wellness and Fall Prevention Activities

Michael Patterson, Caregiver Specialist, led a Tai Chi class featuring gentle, controlled movements that support balance, flexibility, and body awareness. The class encouraged participants to focus on their movements while enjoying an opportunity to be active together.

Tricia Smar, Adult Injury Prevention Coordinator with Duke University Hospital, visited several senior centers to host Fall Prevention Bingo. Through a familiar and enjoyable game, participants learned practical safety tips and explored ways to reduce fall risks in their everyday lives.

Kerr-Tar supported these sessions by providing prizes and assisting with activities. Partnerships with senior centers and community professionals helped bring useful information directly to older adults while creating opportunities for conversation, shared learning, and encouragement.

Thank you to the senior centers, staff, community partners, instructors, and participants who made September a month of learning, movement, and connection!



Medicare Open Enrollment: October 15–December 7



Medicare Open Enrollment gives beneficiaries an opportunity to review their health and prescription drug coverage and make changes for the coming year. Taking time to compare your options can help you find coverage that best meets your health care needs and budget.

During this period, beneficiaries can explore available plans, compare coverage, and consider whether their current plan continues to meet their needs. Changes made during Open Enrollment take effect in January.

For assistance through SHIP, contact your local senior center or Crystal Allen at 252-436-2040, ext. 2036.

Community Voices Help Shape North Carolina's Aging Plan

The Granville Senior Center hosted a listening session to gather community input for North Carolina's State Aging Plan. More than 20 attendees participated, sharing their priorities for older adults and offering perspectives on the services and supports that matter most to their community. The gathering gave participants a chance to be heard and contribute to discussions about the future of aging services.

Division of Aging staff recorded participants' feedback, while Tammy Koger provided an update on the current plan. Attendees shared their experiences and ideas, bringing local perspectives to the planning process. Their participation highlighted the value of hearing directly from community members when considering how services can support older adults and respond to their changing needs.

Thank you to the Granville Senior Center for hosting this conversation and to everyone who participated and shared their perspectives. Your input helps guide future services and supports that promote the well-being, independence, and quality of life of older adults across North Carolina.



Kathy May,
Granville County Senior
Services Director



Tammy Koger,
NC Division of Aging Director



Kay Castillo,
NC Coalition on Aging
Executive Director

Alan Winstead
KTRCOG Area on Aging Agency Director
(252) 436-2040 ext. 2047
awinstead@kerrtarcog.org



KERR-TAR REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

Discover how tourism and agri-tourism drive economic growth, create opportunities, and strengthen rural communities

*Special Guest
Delivering Remarks:*



**North Carolina
First Lady Anna Stein**

**THURSDAY
OCTOBER 8, 2026**

10:00 am - 3:30 pm

**McGregor
Hall**

201 Breckenridge St.,
Henderson, NC 27536

Register Now!

Registration

\$40 per person

(Includes Lunch Voucher)

Deadline: Sept. 18, 2026



Thank you to our sponsors!



Silver Sponsor



Venue Sponsor



**PERSON COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Bronze Sponsor



Desiree Brooks

Community and Economic Development Manager

(252)-436-2040 ext. 6546

dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org



Regional Marketplace

Grown, Raised, and Made in Kerr-Tar!

Shop With & Support Local Farmers in the Five-County Region

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

On Breckenridge St.,
Henderson, NC 27536

Food Trucks

RJ's Grill
Angela's Grill
Fruits of ABKL
Holly Creek Dairy & Ice Cream

Live Music

The Konnection Band
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Sponsored By:



TRANSPORTATION PROJECT UPDATE

3 Projects Funded

Following regional-level project submissions, three prospective projects received funding. The RPO is now working on the division local input portion of Prioritization Cycle 8.0, North Carolina's transportation project prioritization process.

FUNDED PROJECTS



Intersection Improvement

Belmont Dr. & Welcome Ave.
 City of Henderson



Signal System Project

City of Henderson



Signal System Project

Spanning Wake and Durham counties into Granville and Franklin counties



Questions about these projects?

Contact Ty Cheek
 Rural Planning Coordinator
tcheek@kerrtarcog.org
 (252) 436-2040 ext. 2004

Childcare Discussion with Industry Leaders

Discuss practical childcare solutions that support employees and families.



SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

Help your workforce thrive at work and at home.



STRENGTHEN BUSINESS

Boost retention, productivity, and community impact.



SHAPE SOLUTIONS TOGETHER

Collaborate with leaders to build practical options.

Join the conversation

TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD WORKPLACES THAT WORK FOR FAMILIES.



DATE

Tuesday, October 27, 2026

TIME

10:00 am - 11:00 am

LOCATION

Kerr-Tar Regional COG
1724 Graham Avenue
Henderson, NC 27536

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Industry Leaders, Employers, and HR Professionals

Take the Survey!

Kerr-Tar Regional Food Pantry Needs Assessment



Food Security Partnership Project Funded by:



SCAN HERE



Desiree Brooks
Community and Economic Development Manager
(252)-436-2040 ext. 6546
dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org

SRTS ON THE MOVE: SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Earth Appreciation StoryWalk at Franklin County Library

In September, KTRCOG's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program brought an Earth Appreciation StoryWalk to Franklin County Library. The activity runs from September 16 through October 16 and invites families to enjoy a story together while exploring ways to walk and bike safely.

At the SRTS activity table, families can pick up a StoryWalk worksheet, a Bike and Walk Safety Pledge coloring sheet, Family Bike and Walk Safety Tips, and an SRTS general interest and feedback form. Children who complete the StoryWalk and turn in their worksheet at the library's front desk can receive a bike light, sunglasses, a hand sanitizer keychain, a pen, and a pencil, while supplies last.

The activity was created by Ashley Zuniga, SRTS Regional Program Coordinator. To learn more about SRTS or invite Ashley to table at an event, email azuniga@kerrtarcog.org.

Kerr-Tar Regional Council Of Governments SRTS Regional Program Coordinator Ashley Zuniga Presents
September - October 2026

EARTH APPRECIATION

SPECIAL DAYS FOR OUR PLANET

- SEP 19** • **National Clean-Up Day**
Be a cleanup hero. Put litter in the trash, not on the ground!
- SEP 20** • **World Clean-Up Day**
Kids and grown-ups around the world help clean the planet.
- SEP 22** • **World Car-Free Day**
Try walking, biking, rolling, transit, or carpooling!
- OCT 5** • **World Habitat Day**
Every person, plant, and animal needs a safe place to live.
- OCT 11-17** • **Earth Science Week**
Discover rocks, water, weather, soil, and our amazing Earth!

WALK BIKE ROLL! **TRY A CAR-FREE ADVENTURE!**
World Car-Free Day - September 22
Ask a grown-up if you can walk, bike, or roll to the library next time. Moving your body is fun, helps you notice nature, and can help keep our air cleaner!

Want to learn more about Safe Routes to School? Contact SRTS Regional Program Coordinator Ashley Zuniga at azuniga@kerrtarcog.org

Kerr-Tar Regional Council Of Governments **READ, LEARN & WIN!**

★ **EARTH APPRECIATION STORYWALK** ★
★ **ONLY AVAILABLE FROM 09/16-10/16!** ★

COMPLETE THE WORKSHEET
AFTER READING THE STORYWALK
Return it to the library front desk and choose a

FREE PRIZE!

CHOOSE YOUR PRIZE!

 **SRTS SUNGLASSES**
 **BIKE LIGHT**
 **SRTS PEN & PENCIL**

AVAILABLE WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

Created by Ashley Zuniga, Safe Routes to School Regional Program Coordinator
Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments



Ashley Zuniga
KTRCOG Program Coordinator
252-436-2040 ext. 2009
azuniga@kerrtarcog.org



SRTS ON THE MOVE: SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



Earth Appreciation StoryWalk at Person County Public Library

In September, KTRCOG's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program brought an Earth Appreciation StoryWalk to Person County Public Library. The activity runs from September 16 through October 16 and gives families a chance to enjoy a story together while learning about walking and biking safely.

At the SRTS activity table, families can pick up a StoryWalk worksheet, a Bike and Walk Safety Pledge coloring sheet, Family Bike and Walk Safety Tips, and an SRTS general interest and feedback form. Children who complete the StoryWalk and turn in their worksheet at the library's front desk can receive a bike light, sunglasses, a hand sanitizer keychain, a pen, and a pencil, while supplies last.

The activity was created by Ashley Zuniga, SRTS Regional Program Coordinator. To learn more about SRTS or invite Ashley to table at an event, email azuniga@kerrtarcog.org.



Ashley Zuniga
KTRCOG Program Coordinator
252-436-2040 ext. 2009
azuniga@kerrtarcog.org

STAY CONNECTED WITH SRTS!

As part of KTRCOG's Safe Routes to School non-infrastructure outreach efforts, community members are encouraged to stay involved by sharing feedback, completing the SRTS Interest Form, and learning more about walking and biking safety opportunities throughout the region. The flyer below includes helpful QR codes for event feedback, future SRTS interest, the KTRCOG monthly newsletter, and the KTRCOG Safe Routes to School webpage.

SAFE ROUTES • STRONG COMMUNITIES • BRIGHT FUTURES

Safe Routes to School

Event Feedback & SRTS Interest

Thank you for joining us!




Thank You for Participating in Our Safe Routes to School Event!

Thank you for participating in our Safe Routes to School event. We hope your family enjoyed learning, engaging, and connecting with us. Your feedback and interest help us plan future walking, biking, and safety activities for students, families, schools, and communities across the Kerr-Tar region.





Event Feedback Survey
 Families, parents, caregivers, and children are invited to share their thoughts about today's Safe Routes to School event. Your feedback helps us improve future Safe Routes to School events and activities.



Scan to complete the Event Feedback Survey.



SRTS Interest Form
 Interested in Safe Routes to School activities, walking and biking safety events, Walk to School Day, Bike to School Day, school outreach opportunities, community partnerships, or future SRTS events?



Scan to complete the SRTS Interest Form and stay connected.

Keep Up With Safe Routes to School


KTRCOG Monthly Newsletter
 Stay updated on Safe Routes to School activities, community events, and regional updates through KTRCOG's monthly newsletter.


KTRCOG SRTS Webpage
 Visit the Safe Routes to School webpage to learn more about resources, outreach opportunities, and upcoming activities.




Ways to Get Involved

-  Encourage children to walk, bike, and roll safely
-  Practice pedestrian and bicycle safety together
-  Participate in Walk, Bike, and Roll to School activities
-  Share safety concerns near schools or neighborhoods
-  Help spread the word about future SRTS events
-  Complete the SRTS interest form to stay connected







What Happens Next?
 Your responses help us plan future Safe Routes to School activities, identify family interest, and improve walking, biking, and safety outreach across Vance, Franklin, Granville, Warren, and Person counties.



Questions, comments, or concerns?
Contact Ashley Zuniga
 Safe Routes to School Regional Program Coordinator
 Serving Vance, Franklin, Granville, Warren, and Person Counties
 Email: azuniga@kerrtarco.org
 Phone: 252-436-2040 ext. 2009



♥ Thank you for helping us create safer, healthier, and more connected communities! ♥

Ashley Zuniga
 KTRCOG SRTS Program Coordinator
 252-436-2040 ext. 2009
azuniga@kerrtarco.org

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

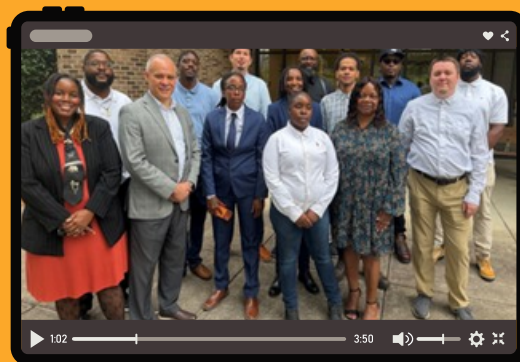
Building Skills, Opening Doors: Reentry Partnership Leads to Jobs

Eleven graduates, 10 immediate job offers, and eight new hires at Carolina Sunrock—these results highlight the impact of a workforce training partnership between the Kerr-Tar Local Reentry Council (KTLRC), NCDOT, and Vance-Granville Community College.

The two-week Highway and Construction Trades Academy helped justice-impacted individuals prepare for careers through classroom instruction, hands-on training, and career coaching. Participants earned OSHA 10, Flagger, and CPR/First Aid certifications before connecting with employers at a hiring event on the final day.

Each graduate received a \$500 completion stipend from KTLRC, along with a laptop and mobile hotspot through NCDOT to support their job search and career advancement. Eight graduates have accepted flagger positions with Carolina Sunrock, earning a starting wage of \$20 per hour.

By combining practical skills, supportive resources, and direct connections to employers, this partnership is helping participants build lasting careers and greater stability for themselves and their families.



Helen Bradby
Regional Reentry Coordinator
Phone 252.436.2040 ext. 2048
hbradby@kerrtarcog.org

Person County Job & Resource Expo Connects Communities to Opportunities

The 2026 Person County Job & Resource Expo brought together job seekers, employers, and community partners for a successful day of connection at the Huck Stansbury Recreational Complex. With strong attendance from across Person, Vance, Granville, Franklin, and Warren counties, the event offered opportunities to explore careers, meet employers, and learn about local support services.

A welcoming outdoor setting and food trucks serving lunch and refreshments created a family-friendly atmosphere where attendees could connect with workforce and community resources.

Thank you to the employers, community partners, food truck vendors, NCWorks staff, volunteers, and attendees who made the event a success. Your participation helps connect residents to employment opportunities, support local businesses, and strengthen the Kerr-Tar region's workforce!



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SOAAR Warren County Project Puts Student Voices at the Center

The SOAAR Warren County Project brought students, educators, employers, workforce partners, and community leaders together to explore career opportunities and the future of the county's workforce. Students shared their interests and goals while hearing about local careers, training, internships, and apprenticeships.

Thank you to Warren County Economic Development, Warren County Schools' CTE Program, Vance-Granville Community College, and participating employers for sharing their time and expertise. We were also pleased to welcome Brett from My Future NC.

Students' thoughtful questions and feedback gave partners valuable insight into their aspirations and the support they need to pursue them. Their enthusiasm included a request to continue the conversation in the spring—a chance to reconnect, revisit their goals, and explore how their interests may have evolved.

By listening to students and connecting them with education and workforce partners, SOAAR is helping strengthen pathways from school to training and employment in Warren County. We look forward to building on these connections!



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*Happy
Birthday!*

Crystal Allen

*Area Agency on Aging:
Aging Specialist*

October 7th



*Happy
Birthday!*

Desiree Brooks

*Transportation and Planning:
Community and Economic
Development Manager*

October 28th



Happy Anniversary!

Kim Hawkins

*Area Agency on Aging:
Regional Long Term Care
Ombudsman*

32 Years - October 17th, 1994



Happy Anniversary!

Cindy Pernell

*Administration and Finance:
Finance & Administrative
Assistant*

3 Years - October 30th, 2023

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

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Area Agency on Aging

Alan Winstead

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Community & Economic Development

Desiree Brooks

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Workforce Development

Lou Grillo

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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

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