Kerradia Regional Council Of Governments











ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016

Promoting regionalism that provides opportunities for local governments to enhance and improve the quality of life for our citizens through the effective delivery of services and programs.

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* Member of Executive Committee

Chairman's Remarks



I am honored to have served as your Kerr-Tar Chairman for this past year and have seen firsthand the important and valuable work of our Council of Governments. As we in local government work daily for our counties and municipalities, we know that Kerr-Tar COG will be tackling the tough issues that cross jurisdictional lines. Whether we are looking 50 years ahead for transportation planning or improving long term care for families today, we know the best results come from the partnerships we build and the relationships we share.

As outgoing Chairman of the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments Board, I would like to challenge my colleagues throughout the region to be active members of Kerr-Tar, and to give of your valuable time and energy to make our region and our Council of Governments the best of the best. I encourage you to actively participate in our Board meetings and to bring members of your local Boards to these meetings. Kerr-Tar COG brings us together to address our common interests; the

relationships we build strengthen our communities and make us better leaders, individually and collectively.

I am consistently impressed with our staff of professionals, led by our Executive Director Diane Cox, and I hope you will take time to get to know them and to gain a first-hand appreciation of the level of expertise they bring to our organization. The COG staff is an extension of your local unit of government and can provide resources to assist you in addressing local and region issues/concerns.

Important work happens every day at Kerr-Tar COG. With a regional focus and long-term perspective, our accomplishments may be better measured in decades than years, but each day brings new opportunities to strengthen relationships and collaborate effectively. Making the most of those opportunities brings the greatest success to our region and will make all our communities' futures bright.

Tommy Hester, Chairman

Executive Director's Remarks

As Executive Director, I am very proud of the role we play as an organization facilitating productive and meaningful regional cooperation and assisting our members and partners in addressing critical public service and resource issues. As you read through this report, you will see and hopefully take pride as I do in the many accomplishments we have achieved working together over this past year. All this is possible through the dedication and commitment of our outstanding staff as they work for you and the region to implement all of our programs. They are to be commended for their professionalism and excellent work.



In this issue of the Annual Report you will have the opportunity to learn more about the successes of the region and the many programs offered to our local governments. Regional initiatives are evidenced by our Transportation and Planning services. Some of our most vulnerable populations are provided services through Aging and Mobility programs. Dislocated and unemployed/underemployed workers receive training from the Workforce Development program. All of these programs provide support for the citizens of our communities and create opportunities for growth locally. As we look to the future, you will see that the foundation for even more success is solid and promising.

Thanks to our many partners at the local, state and national level that assist up in accomplishing our mission. A big thank you to Vance County Commissioner Tommy Hester for his leadership as Chairman and to the many elected officials and volunteers who serve on our Board and Committees. As we work together for the benefit of our region's future generations, the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments will continue to honor its important role as the dedicated lead regional organization to help our members and partners meet important challenges.

Annual Awards Banquet



2015 Award Winners:

Terry Turner, Outstanding Municipal Elected Official Pete O'Geary, Outstanding COG Board Member Archie Taylor, Outstanding County Elected Official Barb Rote, Outstanding Clerk Robert Davie, Outstanding Manager



Warrenton Mayor Walter Gardner presents Outstanding Manager award to Warrenton Town Manager, Robert Davie.



Henderson City Manager Frank Frazier presents Outstanding COG Board Member award to James (Pete) O'Geary of Henderson.



Oxford Mayor Jackie Sergent presents Outstanding Clerk to the Board Award to Barb Rote of Oxford.



Butner Councilwoman Linda Jordon presents the Outstanding Municipal Elected Official Award to Terry Turner of Butner.



Vance County Commissioner Tommy Hester presents the Outstanding County Elected Official Award to Archie Taylor of Vance County.



Area Agency on Aging Staff: (Left to Right; Melissa Catlett, Family Caregiver Specialist, Katie Conner, Project Manager & Marketing Specialist, Sheila Brown, Aging Projects Coordinator, Kim Hawkins, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman, and Jillian Hardin, Area Agency on Aging Director.)

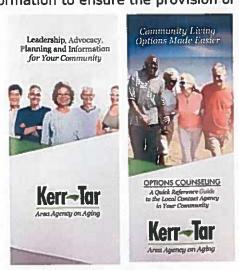
Mission: The Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging will lead, develop and enhance community based services, opportunities and protections for older adults, persons with disabilities and family caregivers to empower them to live independent, healthy and improved quality of lives in their community of choice for as long as possible.

Vision: To be the source for leadership, advocacy, planning and information to ensure the provision of

services to build livable and senior friendly communities that are prepared to meet the challenges of a growing aging population.

Core Services: Home and Community Care Block Grant, Family Caregiver Support Program, Information and Options Counseling, Ombudsman Services, Medicare Programs and Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

Outreach: During 2015-2016 the AAA developed new marketing materials that highlight our core programs. Through the help of a professional marketing firm, we now have brochures that are



Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG)

The Kerr-Tar Area on Agency on Aging administers and monitors the Home and Community Care Block Grant for five counties. County aging service providers were allocated about \$1.8M in order to provide services such as in-home assistance, congregate and home delivered meals, transportation, and other senior services.

HCCBG 2015-2016 Funding Allocations

	нссвб	Senior Center General Purpose	Total	
Franklin	451,234	22,795	474,029	
Granville	400,626	19,000	419,626	
Person	327,838	11,400	339,238	
Vance	341,013	11,397	352,410	
Warren	273,983	11,398	285,381	
Total	1,794,694	75,990	1,870,684	

County	*Units Served	People Served	At/Below Poverty Level
Franklin	25,567	456	246
Granville	43,097	462	71
Person	22,655	152	80
Vance	35,640	264	166
Warren	33,300	291	148
Total	160,259	1,625	711

*1 unit = 1 Meal (Home Delivered Nutrition, Congregate Nutrition)

1 Trip (Transportation)

1 Hour (In-Home aide Services)

NC Senior Tarheel Legislature

Newly appointed Senior Tarheel Legislature alternate for Vance County, Ms. Sandra Tubbs takes oath at the March 17th meeting of the NC Senior Tarheel Legislature.



Family Caregiver Support

Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging's Family Caregiver Support Program provides information, assistance and support to family members and friends who are caring for a frail elderly person or someone with Alzheimer's disease or other related dementias. Grandparents and older relatives age 55 and older who are raising a child are also eligible for assistance.

Caregivers receive information about services and programs available to help them keep the person they care for at home. Limited financial assistance is available for caregiver respite, which allows caregivers to take a short break from their caregiving responsibilities. Support groups as well as workshops and training programs are available to help caregivers take better care of themselves.

Breakdown of Caregivers Assisted in FY2015/2016:

Types of Caregivers:	Number of Caregivers Helped:	
Support Groups	10	
In-home Respite	34	
Adult Day Care Respite	8	
Caregiver Directed Respite	20	
Liquid Nutrition Supplements	15	
Transportation	13	
Total Caregivers Helped	100	

Virtual Dementia Tour

Kerr-Tar AAA applied and received grant funding in the amount of \$10,000 to implement and train staff at long term care facilities, EMS and Law Enforcement Officers in the Virtual Dementia Tour (VDT). Our Family Caregiver Specialist applied and was chosen to attend an apprenticeship through Second Wind Dreams, the company that owns the program. VDT is an evidence-based and scientifically proven method of building a greater understanding of dementia through the use of patented sensory tools and

instruction. During a Virtual Dementia Tour experience, trained facilitators guide participants through common every-day tasks and exercises while outfitted with patented devices that alter their senses. The Tour enables caregivers to experience for themselves the physical and mental challenges those with dementia face and use the experience to provide better person-centered care.

Melissa Catlett presenting at Triangle North Healthcare Foundation 12/3/15 board meeting.



Local Contact Agency (LCA)— LCA staff, who are certified Options Counselors, are responsible for working with the resident and nursing home staff to discuss options for transitioning to the community by offering contact information for community based services that may facilitate transition once a resident indicates interest in learning more about transitioning home during their assessment. Staff are also responsible for making in reach and outreach visits. During 2015-2016 we accomplished 100% of our goal in making ten outreach visits throughout the region. In addition, we made twelve in reach visits to regional skilled nursing facilities.

Information and Options Counseling Options Counseling (OC)— A person centered approach to decision making that helps an individual, living in a skilled nursing facility, to transition back into their community of choice. When a nursing facility resident is referred to an Options Counselor, the OC makes a visit to the facility to listen to a clients preferences, values and needs. We discuss options based on needs and preferences that support an individual to make informed choices. We connect the individual to services and follow up with the resident. The AAA has three certified Options Counselors. This year the AAA responded to 15 referrals. Since the program was established in 2010 the Kerr-Tar AAA has responded to 65 referrals.

Money Smart for Older Adults—Kerr-Tar AAA began promotion of this program that was developed jointly by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). The program raises awareness among older adults and their caregivers on how to prevent financial exploitation and encourages advance planning and informed financial decision-making.

Medicare Programs

Extra Help—A program mandated and funded under the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) of 2008 provides outreach and application assistance to persons eligible for the federal Low Income Subsidy (LIS) and/or Medicare. These programs help Medicare recipients save money on their prescription drug copayments and their Medicare Part B and D premiums. During fiscal year 15-16 the AAA assisted beneficiaries with 60 LIS applications.



<u>Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP)</u>— The AAA has three SHIIP volunteers or counselors. As SHIIP counselors, we assist Medicare beneficiaries and caregivers and provide unbiased information about Medicare and Medicare services. We also help people recognize and prevent Medicare billing errors and possible fraud and abuse through our NC SMP Program.

In 2015-2016, we served 1,842 consumers and were counseled throughout the region. Nearly \$563,000 is the amount of dollars saved by these individuals.



During 2015-2016 Kerr-Tar AAA held public and media events throughout the region where we educated consumers, caregivers, and other professionals about Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP). This grant assists older adults in the detection, prevention and how to report scams. The AAA held 282 events last year throughout the region. In addition, we provided counseling to 176 clients alone. We counseled 9 individuals that were possible fraud cases. Twenty-eight outreach events were held with nearly 1,780 attending.



Health Promotion/Disease Prevention -

Healthy Eating for Successful Living in Older Adults—is both an educational and support program designed to assist older adults in the self-management of their nutritional health. The focus of this program is to encourage participants to understand and implement eating and activity behaviors that support heart and bone health. The main components of the

program include self-assessment and management of dietary pattern, goal-setting, problem-solving and group support, education, relying on both group interaction and the expertise of a Registered Dietician/Nutritionist when needed and behavior change strategies. The program meets for six sessions, one session each week, 2.5 hours each session and a restaurant outing to test knowledge and skills.

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP), called Living Healthy with Chronic Disease in North Carolina— this self-management program is offered to individuals with one or more chronic health conditions such as heart disease, arthritis, and kidney disease. Throughout the six week program, participants are given the tools needed to better manage their condition. They learn heathy eating, the importance of physical activity, better communication, medication management, decision making, problem solving and goal setting. In addition, participants learn self-efficacy and the importance of helping each other. The AAA has two certified Master Trainers and one T-Trainer qualified to certify Master Trainers through out the United States. During 2015-16 we facilitated one workshop and held one leader training. In addition, our T-Trainer co-facilitated a Master Training which generated revenue for the AAA.

Chronic Pain Self-Management Program (CPSMP) – called Living Healthy with Chronic Painthis program is designed to help individuals with chronic pain by emphasizing four concepts: (1) each person with chronic pain is different, (2) there are a number of things people with chronic pain can do to feel better, (3) with knowledge and by experimenting, each individual is the best judge of which self-management tools and techniques are best for him or her and (4) the responsibility for managing your chronic pain day-to-day rests with you, not anyone else. During 2015-16 we facilitated one workshop.

Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) called Living Healthy with Diabetes-this program offers tools for individuals who manage their diabetes daily. The program is designed to enable the participant to check their glucose levels everyday, meal planning, medication management, physical activity, foot care, emergency preparedness and dealing with heath care. The AAA has two certified Master Trainers and one T-Trainer qualified to certify Master Trainers throughout the United States. During 2015-2016 we facilitated one workshop and held one leader training. Workshops are free.

CDSMP, CPSMP & DSMP programs were developed through <u>Stanford University Patient Education</u>. The workshop meets 2.5 hours once a week for six weeks. Each participant receives a companion book and an audio relaxation CD.

A Matter of Balance—is an 8 session program specifically designed to reduce fear of falling, stop the fear of falling cycle, and improve activity levels among community dwelling older adults. The program uses practical coping strategies to reduce fear of falling and to diminish the risk of falling including group discussions, mutual problem solving, exercises to improve strength, coordination and balance, and home safety evaluation.

MANAGING CONCERNS ABOUT FALLS

Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman

The Ombudsman Program is federally mandated through amendments made to the Older American's Act in the late 60's. The intent of this program is to provide advocacy services to frail and vulnerable older adults across our nation. Today the Ombudsman program serves individuals in all 50 states. Each program has the same core initiatives; to provide advocacy, education, information, referrals, and supportive services to residents, family members, staff and others in the community with Long Term Care (LTC) or Aging questions.

In the Kerr-Tar region the program provides these same services. Our office staff diligently attempt to ensure that each individual is respected and provided the services requested and to offer supports with one goal: Ensuring a quality existence for all of our citizens, those in and/or outside of a long term care facility. In 2015-2016 our Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman:

- Investigated 60 complaints and made 100 facility visits.
- Conducted 12 Facility Staff Trainings included: Resident Rights, Aging Sensitivity and Elder Abuse
- Facilitated 32 Community Educational events for Residents and non-facility healthcare professionals and the general public. Topics included: Resident Rights, Aging Sensitivity, Elder Abuse Awareness, Advocacy, CAC (Community Advisory Committee) and Ombudsman Program. Facilitated an Elder Abuse Forum with the Person County DA's office - approximately 60 participants.
- Provided supervision and technical assistance to a total of 39 CAC Volunteers.
- Assistance provided to 500 citizen contacts/requests for information.

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

On Monday, June 13, 2016 Kerr-Tar Regional Area Agency on Aging recognized their volunteers with an appreciation lunch at the Henderson County Club. The luncheon was a great success, with over 50 volunteers attending, appreciation speeches from the staff at Kerr-Tar, delicious food, and great fellowship.













Region K Senior Games

Senior Games is a holistic approach to keeping the body, mind, and spirit fit while enjoying the company of friends, family, spectators and volunteers.

Senior Games is a year-round health promotion program for individuals age 55 and better. Each spring Region K Senior Games hosts the local athletic and SilverArts competition for residents of Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, and Warren counties. Athletic events include track and field, bocce, shuffleboard, pickle ball, horseshoes, table tennis, cornhole and basketball. On March 24th Senior Games opening ceremonies took place in Person County at Huck Sansbury, with guest speaker Brad Allen. This year there were 280 participants in Region K Senior Games. Participants who placed were recognized at Silver Arts & Awards in Granville County at City Hall on May 19th. Participants who win medals compete in the NC Senior Games; state winners went on to the National Senior Games.



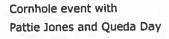
Opening ceremonies for Senior Games with Brad Allen



Shuffleboard event with Vanita Green and Maxine Robinson



New Cornhole Boards







Horseshoe event with Nelton Pace and Hal Keith

2nd Annual Elder Abuse Awareness Walk

Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging held its second annual Elder Abuse Awareness Walk on June 2nd at the Huck Sansbury Recreation Complex walking track in Roxboro to acknowledge elder abuse awareness. This year's event included 15 vendors and more than 150 individuals attended from within all five counties and walked more than 80 laps for Elder Abuse









Franklin County Aging Plan

Kerr-Tar AAA assisted the Franklin County Department on Aging with its County Aging Plan. Three public forums were held during the summer. From the feedback and information collected, the Franklin County Aging Leadership Planning Team identified two goals designed to address quality of life and health issues faced by older adults in Franklin County. The plan covers two main topics: Healthcare and Transportation.

- **Goal # 1:** Empower older adults to have optimal health status and to have a healthy lifestyle.
- **Goal # 2:** Empower older adults and their families to make informed decisions and easily access transportation options and services.





AAA Four Year Aging Plan





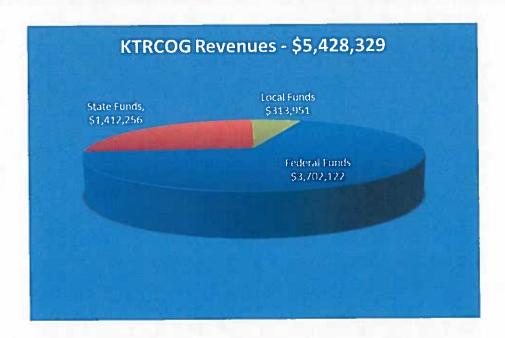
Top 3 unmet needs in the Kerr-Tar region:

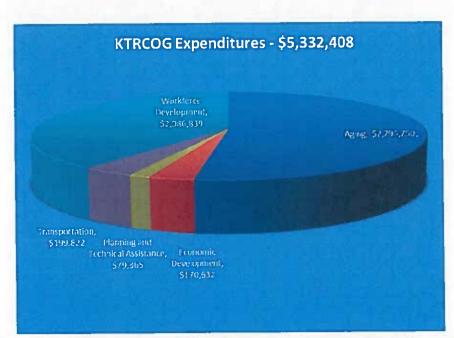
County	1	2	3
Franklin	Medical Care or Treatment	Transportation	Housing
Granville	Community Based Services	Housing	Finances or Income
Person	Community Based Services	Long Term Care	Medical Care or Treatment
Vance	Housing	Finances or Income	Social Interaction
Warren	Housing	Transportation	Community Based Services

The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging is required by federal and state law to submit a Regional Area Plan to the NC Division of Aging and Older Adult Services every four years. The plan provides important information regarding stakeholders and citizens as well as sets goals to benefit older adults and their caregivers in our region. This plan also serves as a guide and work plan for the Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging to follow for the next four years. Information was collected during listening sessions held throughout the region. We also distributed and created an online survey that was completed by over 250 citizens from the region. The plan was submitted and approved.

North Carolina ranks 9th nationally, both in total population and in the number of people 65 and better. In 2025, one in five North Carolinians will be 65 and older. Our 65 and better population will almost double in the next 20 years from 1.5 to 2.5 million. The number of people age 85 and older will be the fastest growing segment beginning in 2030 when the oldest of 2.4 million baby boomers near their 85th birthday.

Finance





Total Funds Leveraged: \$5,296,147

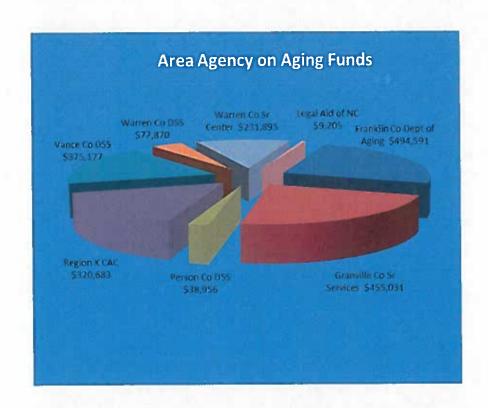


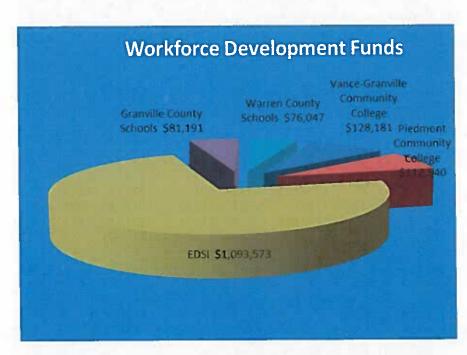
Total Dues: \$132,182



\$40 ROI (Return for every \$1 in Dues)

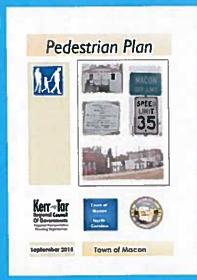
Finance





The Town of Macon Pedestrian Plan

The Macon Pedestrian Plan was adopted in September 2015. The plan envisions safe pedestrian connections to town buildings, services and neighborhoods by improving or creating pedestrian facilities along existing roadways. Recommendations include repairing existing sidewalks and crosswalks, creating a rail trail along the old CSX



railway, creating a defined entry point to the Town of Macon with a welcome sign and adding additional features to the existing park to encourage health and recreational potential for all ages.

Technical Assistance

Kerr-Tar COG Planning Department was awarded a two-year Community Transportation of America technical assistance grant through the Rural Passenger Transportation Technical Assistance Program. The technical assistance was provided to the Town of Louisburg to formulate a plan for the initiation of a new public transit service for the Town. Louisburg was one of only four small towns in the US to receive the grant.



Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Staff attended meetings for regional initiatives involving KTRPO which included: Granville Greenways Technical Coordinating Committee and Comprehensive Transportation Plan Committees, NC-56 Corridor Study, US-1 Council of Planning, the Asset Management Plan Pavement Working Group, as well as other meetings. Staff continues to work on the Strategic Planning Office of Transportation Prioritization 4.0 (SPOT P4.0) with meetings of the Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC) and Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) on NCDOT highway, aviation and transit projects in the Kerr-Tar region.

NCLD Lakes District Regional Bike Plan

This year, planning staff have finalized the plan in conjunction with the consultant Alta Design and the NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation. The final phase of the plan involves adoption by the jurisdictions within the Kerr-Tar region with education and outreach meetings which will take place in 2016-2017.



Clean Fuels Advanced Technology Grant Events

NC Clean Transportation Tour, October 20-22, 2015

Sam Brake, Manager and Agriculture Program Specialist at the Bioenergy Research Initiative in Oxford, NC, was elected as a 2015 Mobile CARE Award winner. Sam was nominated by staff at the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments as part of our Clean Fuel Advanced Technologies grant and selected by judges as an awardee in the Individual Category, as someone who in their personal or professional lives has expanded the use and understanding of best driving practices, alternative fuels and advanced transportation technologies as these relate to air quality and energy diversity. Through his travels and presentations across the state and also through the Bioenergy Research Initiative in Oxford, Sam Brake promotes and makes people aware of bioenergy crops such as switchgrass and its potential for renewable energy and fuel. NC Mobile CARE is an initiative of the NC Clean Energy Technology Center/NC State University and is sponsored by the NC Department of Transportation. Sam Brake's 2015 Mobile CARE Award was presented by Mike Holder, Chief Engineer from NC Department of Transportation during the 9th Annual Mobile CARE & NC Smart Fleet Awards Luncheon. The lunch-

eon was held in Raleigh at the City of Raleigh's Central Operations Facility on October 22nd, 2015 as part of the NC Clean Transportation Tour.

Sam Brake (left), NC Dept. of Agriculture & Consumer Services,

Research Division, Bioenergy Research Initiative and Mike Holder (right), Chief Engineer, NC Dept. of Transportation at the Annual Mabile CARE & NC Smart Feet Awards Luncheon.

Solar Powering Your Community - August 20, 2015

Solar Powering Your Community took place on August 20, 2015 at Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments. Communities interested

in learning more about Solar Development in North Carolina were invited to a free workshop with national and local experts. The interactive workshop focused on the benefits and barriers of solar development in North Carolina, creating solar friendly planning and zoning codes and ordinances, understanding the regulatory landscape of solar and innovative financing options for solar projects.

Biofuels and Schools Workshop -August 13, 2015

Biofuels workshop took place on August 13, 2015 at the Oxford Research Station. Speakers included Sam Brake (NCDA) NC Dept. of Agriculture. George Miller (Food & Fuel 4 the Forces), Dean Price (Biodiesel 4 Schools) and Brad Rogers (Golden Corral). Attendees learned about the Biofuels process and were invited to participate in a roundtable discussion with their feedback, issues of concern, solutions and potential collaborations.







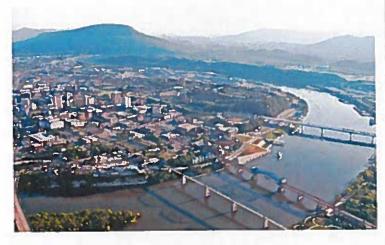


2016 NADO Excellence in Regional Transportation Award for "Imagine Bickett Boulevard"

Imagine Bickett Boulevard: Louisburg, North Carolina was chosen to receive a 2016 NADO Excellence in Regional Transportation Award. The project was a cooperative effort between Kerr-Tar Regional Transportation Planning Organization, the Town of Louisburg and the NCDOT. The document was written, produced and organized by staff from Kerr-Tar RPO with support from the Bickett Boulevard Working Group, the Louisburg Assistant Town Administrator and NCDOT staff including the Division and District Engineer. Ann Stroobant, Kerr-Tar Regional Planner and RPO Coordinator, presented the project at the 2016 National Regional Transportation Conference held in Chattanooga, Tennessee June 13-15, 2016 at a Breakout Session entitled, "Complex Issues in Multimodal Planning."

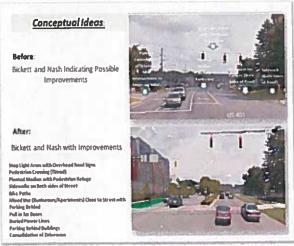
National Regional Transportation Conference

June 13 – 15, 2016 | Chattanooga, TN



Imagine Bickett Boulevard

Louisburg, North Carolina









Economic Development Workshop

The COG hosted a roundtable presentation and discussion with EDA NC Liaison Hillary Sherman on August 10th. Local economic

developers heard about upcoming EDA grant opportunities and technical assistance programs available. EDA is encouraging more applicants to contact EDDs and liaisons to coordinate competitive applications.



Warrenton Disaster Resiliency Workshop

Kerr-Tar Planning Department assisted the Town of Warrenton with a *Disaster Resiliency through Leadership and Training Program* workshop. The Rural Center awarded Warrenton \$5,000 as a host community. As a host town in collaboration with Rural Center staff, the workshop showcased disaster mitigation steps taken locally. The workshop took place Wednesday, January 27, 2016.



Bunn Planning

Kerr-Tar Planning Department provides Planning and Zoning Administration for the Town of Bunn. We provide for the review and issuance of zoning permits, enforcement of violations, review requests for zoning changes, conduct meetings of Planning Board and update Ordinance amendments as needed.



Henderson – Vance Industrial Park Water and Sewer Project

The Department assisted the City of Henderson in obtaining a \$165,356.00 Industrial Development Fund Utility Account grant to extend water and sewer lines to the Henderson-Vance Industrial Park. These improvements will enable the City to expand the park and recruit companies to this strategically located asset.



Warrenton CDBG

Kerr-Tar Planning Department is administering the Warrenton CDBG Downtown Development Fund Grant through the N.C. Department of Commerce. This is a \$ 500,000 grant to rehabilitate a vacant downtown building that will provide a new restaurant and (15) fifteen new full-time

jobs to the community.



Stronger Economies Together (SET)

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments was one of two regions selected from North Carolina for the Phase V Region Stronger Economies Together (SET) program. Stronger Economies Together (SET) represents an exciting initiative launched in 2009 by USDA Rural Development in collaboration with the four Regional Rural Development Centers (RRDCs) and their land-grant university partners. The award decision involved an application, team commitment letters, a State site visit, and a National team review.

The purpose of SET is to strengthen the capacity of communities/counties in rural America to work together in developing and implementing an economic development blueprint that strategically builds on the current and emerging economic strengths of their region. The SET process has occurred or is occurring in 28 states across the U.S. The SET strategic plan will serve as a regional economic development roadmap for the Kerr-Tar Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.



Here are some of the important elements of the Stronger Economies Together initiative:

• State Resource Teams bring the talents and resources of key state and federal agencies, land grant university Extension programs, and other organizations together to provide coaching and technical assistance to each of the regional teams.



- Step-by-step coaching to guide the design and implementation of a practical and viable regional economic development plan.
- In-depth data tailored to the region, describing its current and emerging clusters, comparative economic advantages, and detailed demographic and socio-economic information.
- Technical assistance is provided to the regions over a period of 6 to 7 months upon completion of the SET training.
- Experiences and insights will be shared among the regions thru multi-state meetings.





NADO Innovation Awards

NADO is a Washington, DC-based association that promotes programs and policies that strengthen local governments, communities, and economies through regional cooperation, program delivery, and comprehensive strategies. The association's Innovation Awards program recognizes regional development organizations and partnering organizations for improving the economic and community competitiveness of our nation's regions and local communities. Award-winning projects were honored during NADO's 2015 Annual Training Conference, that was held October 24-27 in New Orleans, LA. The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments staff was presented with three awards during the conference by NADO Board President, Terry Bobrowski. We are very proud to recognize the following award winners:



Melissa Catlett, Family Caregiver Specialist, receiving the 2015 NADO Innovation Award for Surfing the Silver Tsunami: A Boomer, Senior and Caregiver Expo. Danny Wright, Diane Cox and Jimmy Clayton were also present.

Will Brooks, Regional Planning Director, receiving the 2015 NADO Innovation Award for Building Economic Resilience in the Kerr-Tar Region. Danny Wright, Diane Cox and Jimmy Clayton were also present.





Diane Cox, Executive Director, receiving the 2015 NADO Innovation Award for the Kerr-Tar Regional STEM Education Summit. Board Members Danny Wright and Jimmy Clayton were also present.

Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board

The Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board oversees workforce and business services planning and policy development for Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, and Warren counties. By law, the majority of the Board, the Chair and Vice Chair must represent the private sector. Other members represent local government, community-based organizations, employment related agencies, apprenticeship, and educational organizations. The Board is committed to making the Kerr-Tar region a great place to have a business, to find educated and skilled employees and a great place for job seekers to find the programs and training that will make them well qualified employees.

Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Consortium Board

The Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Consortium provides for representation of elected officials in the local area's approach to carrying out the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. The Consortium partners work with the Workforce Development Board in providing policy guidance and oversight with respect to the local workforce development system.

Sidney DunstonFranklin County



Terry GarrisonVance County



Timothy KaranGranville County



Victor Hunt Warren County



David Newell
Person County



Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board Roster

Derrick SimsChair, Safety Manager
US Flue Cured Tobacco



Dexter Williams1st Vice Chair, Sr. Recruiter
CenturyLink Communications

Eva McDougal 2nd Vice Chair Nurse Consultant



Walter Bartlett President Piedmont Community College



Debra HarlowABE Coordinator
Piedmont Community College

Hal Muetzel Owner Express Personnel



Jeff TingenRegional Human Resources Manager
Altec Industries

Zac SegerDirector of Manufacturing
Captive Aire

Ginnie CurrinDirector
Granville Chamber of Commerce

J. Phillip BettsIsiah 58Jobs for Life Cornerstone Church



Dorwin HowardBoard Member
Granville Education Foundation

Fred KellerManager of Member Services
Wake Electric



Monica Satterwhite Manager Oxford NC Works Career Center



Gordon Agingu Regional Manager Vocational Rehabilitation



Nikki Ward Human Resources Manager MetoKote



Chris Roark President CWA Local 3632

John Alston Owner A & S Pest Control



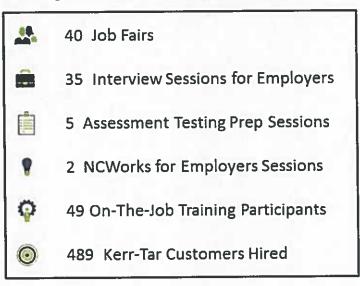
Harry Mills
Director
Granville County
Economic Development



N.C. Works Career Centers & NCWorks Online

Through the Kerr-Tar WDB NCWorks Career Centers in the region and NCWorks Online, we're putting our citizens back to work by connecting employers with the talented workers they need to thrive. The career center is helping customers find work, improve their skills and connecting them with other resources to help prepare for interviews and make a good impression on employers or advance their careers.

The NCWorks Career Centers also serve employers in the region by connecting talent to jobs. The NCWorks Career Centers offer many services including posting job listings, searching for candidates, applicant screening and assessments, coordinating hiring events, individualized training plans for new hires and even direction on training resources for current employees.



Program Year 2015 WIOA Adult & Dislocated Worker Program

In Program Year 2015, Kerr-Tar Local Area experienced multiple successes in placing a total of 256 adults and dislocated workers in numerous training programs. Forty Job Fairs were conducted, 49 eligible individuals participated in OJT training, 207 in other training programs. Moreover, 489 Kerr-Tar customers received employment earning self-sustainable wages. On average, over the last three program years, 69% of Adults, and 72% of Dislocated Workers exiting our program have entered into employment, with PY15 being at 63.91% for adults and 67% for dislocated workers.

Kerr-Tar Career Center Locations

NCWorks Career Center-Granville County

111 Hilltop Village Oxford, NC 27565 Phone: (919)693-2686

Email: ncworks.6900@nccommerce.com

Days/Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday. 8:30am-5:00pm

NCWorks Career Center-Vance County

857 South Beckford Drive Suite G

Henderson, NC 27536 Phone: (252)438-6129

Email: ncworks.4200@nccommerce.com

Days/Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday. 8:30am-5:00pm

Kerr-Tar Career Center Access Point Locations

Franklin County Workforce Center

(Temporarily Closed)

Piedmont Community College Workforce Training Center

303 South Morgan Street Roxboro, NC 27573 Phone: (336)599-3109

Warren County Workforce Center-John Graham Building

309 N. Main Street Room 123 Warrenton, NC 27589

Phone: (252)257-3230

Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathway Roundtable November 15, 2015—Butner, NC



Program Year 2015 WIOA Youth Program

PY 2015 Reporting Category	In-School Youth	Out-of-School Youth	
Total Number of Youth Served PY 2015	51	75	
New Enrollments during PY 2015	12	30	
Total Number of Exits during PY 2015	24	29	
Number enrolled in Work Experience	18	16	
% of Funds devoted to Work Experience	27%		
Number enrolled in Training	10	43	
Number Successfully Completed Training	1	13	
Number Entered Employment during PY2015	4	15	
Cost per WIOA Youth Participant	\$2,831.66	\$5,318.14	
% of WIOA Youth Budget	29%	71%	

Success Story

Students in the Carpentry program at Vance-Granville Community College spent much of the year gaining valuable work experience through a partnership with Granville County Habitat for Humanity. Their first construction project was a home in Oxford that students helped build from start to finish, leading to its dedication in January. The second is a home currently under renovation in Henderson. One of the individuals completing this program is WIOA Youth participant,

Mr. Elam has been enrolled in the WIOA Youth program since July 2015. He has a quiet personality with a strong dedication to becoming successful in the Construction and Business fields. He spent a year away from the classroom after earning his HS Diploma in Warren County and later approached the WIOA Youth Program for additional assistance reaching his well-organized career goals. He has

worked hard on improving his basic skills during his tenure. Mr. Elam balances his school work and community services with his commitment to the VGCC Vanguard basketball team. After earning his Carpentry degree, Mr. Elam will shoot for more credentials in the Business arena at VGCC.

VGCC Carpentry program head Keith Tunstall is also a Granville County Habitat for Humanity board member. "Our continuing partnership provides practical training for our Carpentry students, as well as an opportunity for 'service learning' that will improve the life of a local family," Tunstall said. The Workforce Development Board and VGCC have worked hard during PY 2015 to engage more young adults like Mr.



Elam in career pathways, and the Construction field offers many great opportunities.

Kerr-Tar Staff

Administrative & Finance:

Diane Cox, Executive Director Donna Lee, Finance Manager Gina Parham, Office Manager

Area Agency on Aging:

Jillian Hardin, Area Agency on Aging Director Sheila Brown, Aging Projects Coordinator Melissa Catlett, Family Caregiver Specialist Katie Conner, Project Manager/Marketing Specialist Kim Hawkins, Long Term Care Ombudsman

Planning and Development:

Mark Warren, Interim Planning Director
Ann Stroobant, Regional Planner & RPO Coordinator
Tony Sumter, Mobility Planner
Mike Inscoe, Rehab Specialist Consultant

Workforce Development:

Vincent Gilreath, Workforce Development Director
Deborah Cozart, Performance & Accountability Coordinator
Ben Foti, Youth Program Coordinator
Luis Grillo, Business Service Representative & Loan Officer
Kelly Hundley, Workforce Development Program Specialist

On July 30, 2016 our co-worker and friend Sheila Brown, Aging Program Coordinator for the Area Agency on Aging, passed away after a short illness. As a SHIIP (Senior Health Insurance Information Program) volunteer Sheila assisted hundreds of Medicare beneficiaries navigate and enroll in Medicare plans. In addition, Sheila facilitated Health Promotions programs such as Living Healthy, Living Healthy with Diabetes, Pain Self-Management, A Matter of Balance and was recently certified in the Healthy Eating program. It is these self-management programs where Sheila empowered participants to better manage their chronic conditions. Sheila was a certified Options Counselor. She responded to referrals from residents in skilled nursing facilities who were interested in returning to their home. Sheila would meet with these individuals and provide them with various resources and programs that could assist them in returning to their community of choice. She truly had a servants heart. We will certainly miss her.



Sheila Ann Brown December 22, 1951-July 30, 2016

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love." – Martin Luther King Jr.

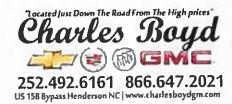
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Henderson, NC 27536

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Website: www.kerrtarcog.org