



Triangle North Executive Airport, Louisburg

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events

- Pandemic Recovery Focus Group: **Monday, March 4 @ Kerr-Tar COG Office, 2:15pm**
- 2024 Senior Games Opening Ceremonies: **Friday, March 22 @ Aycock Recreation Center, 9:30am**
- KTRPO TAC/TCC Meeting: **Thursday, March 28 @ Kerr-Tar COG Office, 3:00pm**
- Kerr-Tar COG Board Meeting: **Thursday, March 28 @ Kerr-Tar COG Office, 6:30pm**
- Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training: **See Page 4 for dates and registration**
- Young Adult Hiring Event: **Tuesday, April 30 @ Raleigh Road Outdoor Theater, 12:00-4:00pm**



NCDOT Needs Feedback on Proposed Greenway & Trail Projects

The N.C. Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is seeking public input on plans to build and extend several proposed trail and greenway projects throughout the state. The Great Trails State Implementation Report was prepared in coordination with the Integrated Mobility Division (IMD), stakeholders, and partners across North Carolina to identify priority pedestrian and bicycle natural surface trail and paved greenway projects and action steps to move them forward. The report highlights ten priority projects that have some of the greatest impact and are most ready for implementation. The projects were chosen for their equity benefits and connectivity to the larger state trails network. Members of the public located in counties of the proposed projects can provide feedback through a survey starting **Feb. 1**.



Projects in the Kerr-Tar Region:

- **Franklinton to Louisburg Rail-Trail** (Franklin County)



Participants can go to a specific project survey or visit the **main survey page** and view all the projects and select the one they want to fill out. Results of the survey will inform stakeholders what the public would like to see in the projects and help provide more justification for local support and need for the identified projects.

Pandemic Recovery Focus Groups

ncIMPACT Initiative is proud to partner with the **North Carolina Pandemic Recovery Office** (NCPRO) to engage in regional focus groups that identify issues of greatest concern about pandemic recovery through focus groups and NCPRO’s Community Engagement Survey (CES), Business Engagement Survey (BES), and Resiliency Index (Index).

These regional focus groups will offer insights into past survey results, assess the success of state, local, and federal programs to address these concerns, and help formulate recommendations for continuing to build resilient communities across the state. Sign up to share your perspective and contribute to the state’s continued recovery from COVID-19.



Focus groups will be take place throughout **March 2024**. If selected to participate in a focus group, you will be notified via email. If you’d like to share your perspective and contribute to the state’s continued recovery from COVID-19, please sign up **HERE**. Please send any questions to Chelsea Brock at **cbrock@sog.unc.edu**.

UNC School of Government New ARPA Office Hours

Please see below for an updated list of upcoming American Rescue Plan (ARPA) office hours. These office hours are intended to help answer eligibility, compliance, and reporting questions related to the ARP/CSLFRF award.



ARPA Office Hours:

- Monday, March 4, 8:30–9:30am
- Monday, March 11, 8:30–9:30am
- Thursday, March 21, 12–1pm
- Wednesday, March 27, 8:30–9:30am
- Thursday, April 4, 12–1pm
- Wednesday, April 10, 12–1pm
- Friday, April 19, 8:30–9:30am
- Wednesday, April 24, 8:30–9:30am
- Monday, April 30, 8:30–9:30am

All upcoming ARPA office hours are held via Zoom. To access the Zoom meeting room click [HERE](#). **Meeting ID:** 954 8190 9044. **Passcode:** 779726.

Host a UNC School of Government Lead for North Carolina (LFNC) Fellow

LFNC is a fellowship program that aims to create the next generation of local government leaders in North Carolina. LFNC places recent college graduates in high-impact positions in local governments across the state to work on transformative community projects. Fellows receive up to three weeks of training prior to placement and ongoing training and support from the UNC School of Government. Currently 70% of local government leaders in North Carolina are eligible to retire and our program is designed to prepare the next generation of local government leaders! Check out [this video](#) to learn more about the fellowship program.

The deadline to apply is **Friday, March 8** – the application takes less than five minutes to complete, and you do not have to commit to the program until after you have been accepted as a potential host site. You can access the application [HERE](#). **Significant subsidies are available to jurisdictions with demonstrated need.** The final subsidy amount will be determined by the total applicant pool. The cost to host a full-time fellow could be as low as \$10,000. Access an informational flyer [HERE](#) and a frequently asked questions webpage [HERE](#). Please contact the program’s director with any questions at russell@sog.unc.edu.



Check out the event below!

- **Register for the Butner** Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training [HERE](#).
- **Register for the Henderson** Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training [HERE](#).



PLANNING FOR THE UNEXPECTED

Kerr-Tar Regional Council Of Governments

Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training

On April 11th & 18th we are partnering with NC Emergency Management to offer Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training. The workshop will focus on pre-disaster training and preparation so that your organization has a plan in place when disaster strikes. The workshops will be from 10-3 and includes lunch & take home materials. This workshop is open to all units of government, nonprofits, and for-profit service organizations.

Thursday, April 11th
Butner Town Hall
(Camp Butner Room)
415 Central Avenue,
Butner, NC

Register Here

10am-3pm

Thursday, April 18th
Perry Memorial Library
(Farm Bureau Room)
205 Breckenridge Street
Henderson, NC

Register Here

For More Information Contact:

Ken Krulik at kkruklik@kerrtarco.org or
Katie Conner at kconnerkerrtarco.org
252-436-2040

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Check out the event below!

All of our Kerr-Tar COG departments will be present at the 2024 Community Resource Festival! Come on out and learn about what we do for our five county Region. We can't wait to see you there!



Community Resource Festival

HUFF CONSULTING

VG
Vance-Granville Community College

HENDERSON-VANCE COUNTY CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Granville County Chamber of Commerce
Burrus • Grandmoor • Oxford • Stone • Sowell

community

**VGCC Main Campus Civic Center
Henderson, NC**

**March 13th
10am-3pm**

Enjoy this free event filled with food and giveaways and learn what our community has to offer!

OVER 30 VENDORS READY TO HELP INDIVIDUALS SWIFTLY!

Vance-Granville Community College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1868 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4597 or call 404-679-6500 for questions about the accreditation of Vance-Granville Community College. Vance-Granville Community College is an equal opportunity institution. The college serves all students regardless of race, creed, color, age, sex, national origin, or disabling conditions. Vance-Granville Community College is a Tobacco-Free College.

Check out the event below! 

PERSON COUNTY'S FAM Fest



A FUN OPPORTUNITY FOR EVERYONE TO GET OUT, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, LEARN ABOUT PERSON COUNTY'S COMMUNITY RESOURCES, & WELLNESS OPTIONS AVAILABLE IN PERSON COUNTY FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

APRIL 13, 2024
FROM 10 A.M. TILL 2 P.M.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:



[HTTPS://WWW.PERSONCOUNTYNC.GOV/RESIDENTS/FAM-FEST-2024](https://www.personcountync.gov/residents/fam-fest-2024)



ACTIVITIES:

- EXPLORE LOCAL COMMUNITY RESOURCES
- TRY YOGA, MASSAGE, DANCE, & OTHER FITNESS OPTIONS FOR ALL AGES
- ENJOY FAMILY FUN WITH GAMES, BOUNCE HOUSES, VENDORS & FOOD TRUCKS

and more!

**HUCK SANBURY RECREATION
COMPLEX**
303 S MORGAN ST, ROXBORO, NC 27573

A FREE EVENT FOR ALL, SPONSORED BY VAYA HEALTH & BROUGHT TO PERSON COUNTY FAMILIES THROUGH COLLABORATIONS WITH:



2024 Senior Games



Registration is still open for the 2024 Senior Games and is due by **Friday, March 8, 2024**. Opening Ceremonies will be on Friday, March 22 at Aycock Recreation Center in Henderson at 9:30am. Join the KTAAA for a fun community event featuring a cornhole competition and much more! This year's events include individual sports events, singles and doubles for table tennis, badminton, bowling, tennis, and pickleball. SilverArts will be held at the Person County Office Building on Friday, May 17. Registration packets for sporting events and SilverArts are available at your local Senior Center, local Parks & Recreation Departments, and online [HERE](#).

Scam Jam Coming Soon



Our next Scam Jam will be in Franklin County on **Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at the Louisburg Senior Center**. Come hear the latest in fraud prevention and how to protect yourself and your assets! **What are Scam Jams?** Scam Jams are educational events that offer education regarding: insurance and investment fraud, online and door-to-door scams, identity theft and other scams targeting older consumers. Studies have shown that the hardest hit are often individuals age 60 and over. Stay tuned for more event details!

Need More Fresh Fruits & Vegetables?

Thanks to ARPA funding, the KTAAA has a program for older adults who are food insecure to obtain the fresh fruit and vegetables of their choice. If you or someone you know is experiencing food insecurity, please call **Barbara Stewart, Aging Specialist, at (252) 436-2040 ext. 2023** to enroll.

To be eligible for the program, you must be **age 60 or better** and experiencing food insecurity. Interested? Make sure to hurry, this program ends on **September 30, 2024!**



Spoken Existence Ministries Receives BCBS Grant



Our community partner, Spoken Existence Ministries in Henderson, with Minister William Henderson, recently received a **Strengthening Community Capacity grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield NC** to construct a greenhouse for his thriving community garden! Our Family Caregiver Specialist, Michael Patterson, congratulated Minister Henderson on this achievement. The community garden provides fresh produce for dozens members of the congregation and community. We look forward to seeing the great impact this project will have in Henderson and the surrounding communities!

North Carolina Aging Profiles

Curious about the demographics and key factors regarding the aging community in your county? The most recent NC Aging Profiles are now available **HERE**. Just click on your county name in the Table of Contents to be taken to the right page!



Update: 2024 Regional Aging Needs Assessment



Many thanks to all who responded to our 2024 Regional Aging Needs Assessment survey! We received **438 responses** from area residents who offered input regarding the needs of older adults for the next four years. The 2024-28 Area Aging Plan will be submitted to the state on **May 1**, and posted to the KTCOG website by the new fiscal year. We appreciate your involvement!

Share Your Good News!

If you have news, events, announcements, or other items you would like included in an upcoming newsletter, please email Kenia Gomez-Jimenez, Kerr-Tar COG Regional Program Coordinator.

Traffic Safety Fun with Turning Point CDC Preschool Students



On Thursday, February 15, the Kerr-Tar COG's Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program partnered with the City of Henderson Fire Department and Vance County Fire Department to bring Turning Point Community Development Corporation (TPCDC), Inc.'s preschool students a super fun Traffic Safety class! SRTS Coordinator, Kenia Gomez-Jimenez, kicked off the class with an interactive game tailored to teach the students basic traffic safety signs, pedestrian/bicyclist safety rules and more!

The students then enjoyed a "read with firefighter" activity led by the Vance County Fire Department. They read *Duck on a Bike* by David Shannon, a story of a duck who decides to try riding a bike, and loves it! Sparky the Fire Dog made a surprise visit as well, and even surprised the students with goodie bags filled with a ton of educational traffic safety materials.

Lastly, the students got a tour of two awesome firetrucks and even had the opportunity to see one of the wonderful firefighters put on his turnout gear! The whole experience was fun and educational for all, and we are super thankful for our community partners. If your organization would like to partner with our SRTS program, please contact us at (252) 436-2040 or kgomezjimenez@kerrtarco.org.

Franklin County Request for Qualifications

Franklin County is **requesting qualifications** from qualified professional engineering firms to develop a Preliminary Design Plan for constructing a 30,000sf shell building, expandable to 60,000 - 90,000sf, located on Lot 5 at the Triangle North Franklin Business Park. Click [HERE](#) for the complete RFQ.



CFAT February Lunch & Learn

On Wednesday, February 21, the Kerr-Tar COG's Clean Fuel & Advance Technology (CFAT) program held an Electrification Funding Opportunities Lunch & Learn Workshop! The event was hosted at the Kerr-Area Transportation Authority (KARTS) building in Henderson. With a total of **20 attendees from across our Region**, attendees heard from guest presenter Heather Brutz, Clean Energy Transportation Director with NCCETC. Throughout the program, they explored federal and state level funding opportunities aimed at supporting electrification initiatives, with a particular focus on electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure and fleet sustainability.

After the presentation (and a delicious lunch catered by Jersey Mikes of Henderson) KARTS staff provided attendees with a wonderful tour of their facility. The insights gained from the tour complemented the discussions and provided a real-world context to our exploration of funding opportunities.

We are so thankful to all who attended this Lunch & Learn and hope that everyone was inspired to take on one of the various funding avenues discussed to positively impact their communities! For questions about our CFAT program, please contact Kenia Gomez-Jimenez, Regional Program Coordinator, at kgomezjimenez@kerrtarcog.org.



Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) Winding Down

Without additional funding from Congress, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) anticipates that the current ACP funding is projected to run out in **April 2024**. This date is an estimate and may change. All households enrolled in the ACP will continue to receive the benefit on their internet service until ACP funding, which is currently projected through April 2024, runs out. During the ACP wind-down period, ACP households will receive notices from their internet company about the impact of the end of the benefit on the household's bill and service. For more information, please click [HERE](#).



Operation Spring Plant Annual Conference

On January 12-13, AmeriCorps service member and Food Systems Specialist, Charlie Robinette, attended the Operation Spring Plant Annual Conference in Durham, NC. Operation Spring Plant, Inc. offers educational programs and technical and marketing assistance for Black and other small family farmers as a legal grassroots non-profit in Region K. While attending the conference, Charlie got to tour three farms in the Kerr-Tar Region: Abanitu Organics in Roxboro and Allied Organic Farms and Pine Knot Farms in Hurdle Mills! In addition to seeing innovative organic practices and historical lands, he also heard guests speak on topics including, but not limited to, conservation, land leases, agritourism, cover crops, and rural development.



Funding Forecast

Check out these **SUNNY** funding opportunities!



- **Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grants Program**

- EPA's new Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants program (Community Change Grants) has announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for approximately \$2 billion dollars in Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds in environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges. More information [HERE](#).



- **USDOT Safe Streets & Roads for All Grant Program**

- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) established the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over 5 years, 2022-2026. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. Over \$3 billion is still available for future funding rounds. The SS4A program provides funding for two types of grants: Planning and Demonstration Grants and Implementation Grants. More information [HERE](#).

- **Bank of America Charitable Foundation Philanthropic Strategy**

- Coming up in Spring 2024, the Bank of America Charitable Foundation will issue a request for proposals (RFPs) for Economic Mobility Focused on Needs of Community. This can include affordable housing, small business and neighborhood revitalization projects. Applications will be accepted starting May 27 through June 21. More information [HERE](#).



Check out the flyer below!



FRAMING OUR FOOD SYSTEM

TOGETHER, LET'S BUILD A STRONGER FOOD SYSTEM FOR ALL OF OUR REGION!

Regional policymakers are starting a Regional Food Council and want to hear about the experiences, challenges, and successes of local farmers, processors, retailers, restaurant owners, food pantries, area partners, and consumers living or working in Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, & Warren Counties.

Kerr-Tar
Regional Council
Of Governments

NC COOPERATIVE
EXTENSION



Scan to apply for the Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council.

Choose the best conversation for you!

- MARCH 6TH, ROXBORO**
- MARCH 13TH, LOUISBURG**
- MARCH 19TH, WARRENTON**
- MARCH 26TH, HENDERSON**
- MARCH 27TH, OXFORD**

Each night 5-7pm

Local snacks will be provided!



Scan for addresses, details, and to register for a conversation.

For more info or to register: crobinette@kerrtarco.org | (980) 389-3446

East West Rapid Response Event

The NCWorks Rapid Response Team, including Vance-Granville Community College, provided services to East West Manufacturing in Franklin County, back in January after receiving the WARN notice indicating that the company would close in March, impacting **107 employees!** On January 18 a benefits information session was held for the 107 employees so they could understand all options available during their transition to new employment. An NCWorks Career Advisor conducted a resume workshop after the information session for those who needed assistance with their resumes.



On top of that, an onsite job fair was held on January 31 including eight employers from Franklin, Granville, Vance, Wake, Durham, and Nash counties. Many have already been able to secure employment and/or get on the path to a new career!

The NCWorks Mobile Unit was onsite for both events, providing convenient computer access and the opportunity to register with NCWorks online for further job seeking assistance. The Rapid Response events were very successful and appreciated by the employees at East West Manufacturing.



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



3rd Annual Young Adult Hiring Event

The 3rd Annual Young Adult Hiring Event will be held on **Tuesday, April 30 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm, at the Raleigh Road Outdoor Theatre** at 3336 Raleigh Road, Henderson, NC! This regional event is hosted by the NCWorks Career Center in collaboration with the Career & Technical Education Coordinators in the Kerr-Tar Region. This is the perfect opportunity for high school seniors and other young adults to learn about careers within the Kerr-Tar Region and meet with hiring managers.

Students from schools in the five-counties will arrive on buses during their allotted slots and the event will also be open to the public for the entire event. This will be a great event for all! For more information, contact **Desiree Brooks** at **252-436-2040** or by email at dbrooks@kerrtarco.org.



**Multiple
Employers
Onsite!**

YOUNG ADULT HIRING EVENT

Exclusively for High School Seniors in the Kerr-Tar Region

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 2024
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

RALEIGH ROAD OUTDOOR THEATRE

3336 RALEIGH RD.
HENDERSON, NC 27536

This is an excellent opportunity for graduating seniors to learn about career opportunities in the region and apply!

Working Collaboratively with Franklin, Granville, Person, Vance, & Warren County Schools



Success Story: *Derrick Burchette*

Derrick Burchette joined the WIOA program on July 25, 2023 with the goal of acquiring his CDL Certification and CDL Driver's License. He enrolled in the CDL program at Vance-Granville Community College in October 2023 and successfully completed the program in December 2023. Derrick was very excited and determined to get his CDL so that he could pursue his goal of becoming a Transport Driver. Upon receiving his credentials, Derrick accepted a position at EPES Transport System, LLC in January as a Truck Driver Trainee. Congratulations Derrick!



Success Story: *Casey Morgan*



Casey Morgan is a NextGen customer who is scheduled to take CDL training next month at Vance-Granville Community College. Casey requested assistance with a job search while waiting for his training to start. After a career interest assessment, staff determined that a paid Work Experience would allow Casey to gain occupational skills within his designated career pathway while earning wages. He is currently working as a Construction Helper with Ken's Construction. Wishing Casey all the best in his career journey, way to go!

Success Story: *Gwendolyn Cooper*

Ms. Gwendolyn Cooper has completed the NAI program at Vance-Granville Community College. Ms. Cooper is now listed on the NC Nurse Registry and has decided to work private duty for patients. She will also be continuing her studies in the medical field in the Dialysis Tech program. Congratulations on your accomplishments, Ms. Cooper!





KERR-TAR

Council of Governments

COMMUNITIES SERVED

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

Executive Director

Diane Cox
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Area Agency on Aging

Nancy Francis
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Community & Economic Development

Vacant

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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