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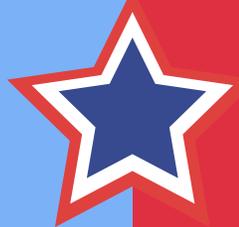
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- **Holiday:** Independence Day, July 4th, the COG will be closed.
- **Save the Dates**
 - **Housing Summit:** Thursday, Sept. 11th @ VGCC Civic Center
 - **COG Annual Awards Banquet:** Thursday, Sept. 25th @ Miles Magnolia Event Center, Louisburg, 6:30 p.m.
 - **Ignite 2025 Regional Summit:** Thursday, Oct. 9th, Oxford City Hall, Oxford

Happy INDEPENDENCE Day

Celebrate with us!

- Franklin County Parks and Recreation:
 - **July 3rd @ Louisburg High School, at 5 p.m.**
- Granville County/City of Creedmoor/Town of Butner/Town of Stem/City of Oxford Fireworks:
 - **July 3rd @ Lake Holt, 9 p.m.**
- Roxboro Independence Day Parade:
 - **July 4th @ 10 a.m., in Uptown Roxboro**
- Roxboro/Person County Firework Show:
 - **July 5th @ Main St, Roxboro, Dusk**
- Vance County Fireworks:
 - **July 5th @ Satterwhite Point Park in Henderson, 9:15 p.m.**
- Fireworks Longbridge Volunteer Fire Department:
 - **July 5th @ Eaton Ferry Bridge, Littleton, NC, Beginning at Dark**
- Wise Parade & Festival
 - **July 4th Parade @ 10 a.m., Festival follows at Wise Baptist Church**



HAPPY RETIREMENT DONNA LEE



After 36 and a half years at the Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments, our Finance Manager, Donna Lee, retired on June 30th!

Join us in wishing Donna farewell! She will be missed!

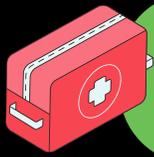
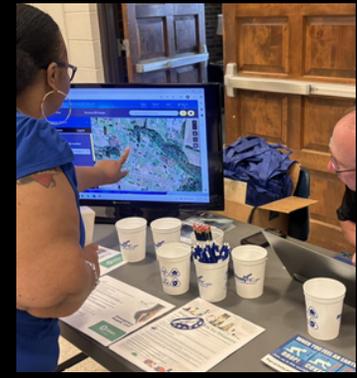
KATIE CONNER PROMOTED AS FINANCE DIRECTOR



The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments has announced the promotion of Katie Conner to Finance Director, effective July 1, 2025. Conner, who has been with the organization since 2016, will now oversee both financial and HR operations, including accounting, financial planning, reporting, employee relations, and benefits. She holds degrees in Business Administration and Accounting and remains active in professional development. "Katie has consistently gone above and beyond in managing complex financial responsibilities and contributing to the organization's overall success," said Executive Director Diane Cox. This promotion reflects not only her skills and professionalism but also the high level of trust and respect she has earned among colleagues and leadership." "I'm grateful for the opportunity to continue serving Kerr Tar Regional Council of Governments in this new capacity," said Conner. "I look forward to building on our strong financial foundation and supporting the mission and goals of the organization." Please join us in congratulating Katie Conner on this well-earned promotion.

DISASTER RELIEF RECOVERY EXPO

On June 12th, the Kerr-Tar COG held the Disaster Relief Recovery Expo, where vendors and organizations from across the region came to help our community get ready for the unexpected. A special thank you to Justin Graney from NC Emergency Management for his timely insights on staying informed, knowing your resources, and having a plan, especially following events like Hurricane Helene. Attendees connected with experts from local Fire Departments, Senior Centers, EMS, Fire Marshals, the American Red Cross, and more!



Congratulations to the two winners: Chris Vick and Karen Solomon who were able to take home an emergency kit!

SAVE THE DATES



IGNITE 2025

Collaboration - Opportunity - Success



Kerr-Tar Regional Summit

Thursday, October 9, 2025

OxfordCityHall - Oxford, NC27565

Presenting Sponsor:



REGISTRATION OPEN JULY 2ND!

Other Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

Contact Desiree Brooks - 252-436-2040 or email dbrooks@kerrtarco.org for information

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

SAVE THE DATE!



Housing Summit

Guest Speakers



Chris Allen
Strong Towns



Tyler Mulligan
UNC School of Government

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025
VANCE-GRANVILLE COMMUNITY
COLLEGE CIVIC CENTER
8:30AM - 1:00PM

Follow us on social media!



FRANKLIN COUNTY APPOINTS NEW COUNTY MANAGER

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners has appointed Ryan Preble as County Manager following a unanimous vote on June 16th. Preble has served as Interim County Manager since November 2024 and was previously Assistant County Manager. With over 20 years of public and private sector experience, he brings strong leadership and technical expertise to the role.

"I am honored and humbled by the confidence that the Board has placed in me," Preble said. "I look forward to working with the Board and department leaders to address the challenges together."



CITY OF OXFORD ANNOUNCES NEW DOWNTOWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Pam Patron has been appointed Downtown Economic Development Director for Oxford. With over 20 years of experience in business, real estate, and strategic planning, she will lead efforts to revitalize the downtown area, including the city's participation in the NC Main Street Program. Known for her work in finance and small business development, Patron brings a forward-thinking, community-centered approach to the role.

11TH ANNUAL ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS WALK & CONFERENCE



On Friday, June 12th at the Warren County Armory, more than 300 people participated in the Elder Abuse Awareness Walk along with nearly 25 vendors from all over the region. In addition to informative speakers, participants enjoyed entertainment and a delicious lunch. This event brought together people of all ages, united in one message: our elders deserve dignity, safety, and respect. A big shout-out to our Kerr-Tar Ombudsman, Kim Hawkins, and the planning committee, for organizing such a great event! As well as a special thank you to the sponsors of the events, along with the volunteers, speakers, and supporters. We hope to see you at the next one!



WALK WITH EASE AT SOUTH GRANVILLE SENIOR CENTER

The South Granville Senior Center conducted the Arthritis Foundation Walk With Ease Program for six weeks. The evidence-based program teaches exercises that can reduce pain and improve health. Participants learned about the relationship between arthritis, exercise, and pain. They also learned how to exercise safely and comfortably as a part of a personal walking plan with realistic goals.





SHIIP

SENIORS' HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION PROGRAM

N.C. Department of Insurance • Mike Causey, Commissioner
855-408-1212 (toll free) • www.ncdoi.gov

JULY

STAYING HEALTHY

You can live a healthy lifestyle and prevent disease by exercising, eating well, maintaining a healthy weight and not smoking.

Medicare can help. Medicare pays for many preventive services to help keep you healthy. Preventive services can find health problems early and fight off certain diseases.

If you have Medicare, you can get a yearly wellness visit and many other preventive services.

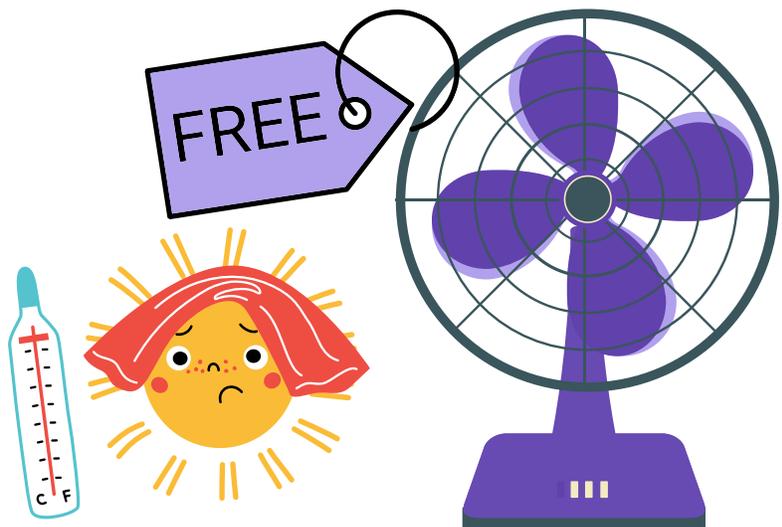
Ask a SHIIP counselor for more information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CRYSTAL ALLEN @ 252-436-2040

OPERATION FAN RELIEF

The Area Agency on Aging is supporting the senior centers in our region to provide fans for older adults who need assistance staying cool this summer. Participants can request a fan from their local senior centers at no cost.

Fans are first come, first served!



BROADBAND EXPANSION IN PERSON & GRANVILLE COUNTIES



On June 11th, Governor Josh Stein announced over \$58 million in funding through the Completing Access to Broadband (CAB) program to expand high-speed internet access across North Carolina. This investment will connect over 10,000 homes and businesses in 26 counties.

Locally:

- Person County will see 1,014 homes and businesses connected, covering 52% of the remaining unserved areas.
- Granville County will see 26 locations connected – about 12% of the county’s remaining need.

Stein said, **“I look forward to continuing to bring high-speed internet to every corner of the state so that people can communicate with family and friends, grow their business, or access telehealth services or educational opportunities.”**

Residents and local leaders can visit ncbroadband.gov to learn more.



GOLDEN LEAF LAUNCHES \$25 MILLION INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT NC MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Fifteen middle schools across North Carolina have been chosen to join the Golden LEAF Schools Initiative, a five-year, \$25 million effort funded by the Golden LEAF Foundation.

Two middle schools in our region were selected:

- Northern Middle School (Person County)
- Warren County Middle School (Warren County)

Both schools are part of the Transformative Schools Cohort, receiving intensive support to improve math performance and career readiness through the Marzano High Reliability Schools Framework and Open Up Resources Math Curriculum.



Warren County
Zoning Initiative

Public Meeting

Warren County is currently in the process of revising and combining its zoning, Subdivision, and other regulatory ordinances into one Unified Development Ordinance. This process is part of implementing the 2022 Warren County Comprehensive Development Plan. As part of this process, we are inviting you to the first public meeting to gather your input and feedback.



Tuesday, July 8
5 pm - 7 pm

WarrenCo. Armory
501 US Hwy 158 Bus East
Warrenton, NC 27589



2025 CDBG NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION: NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

2025 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization: Notice of Funding Availability
The Rural Economic Development Division (REDD), North Carolina Department of Commerce has opened the 2025 CDBG Neighborhood Revitalization (CDBG-NR) program. The CDBG-NR program is designed to provide grants to non-entitlement local governments for housing, housing-related activities, and public facilities. Approximately \$4.75 million of the \$12,280,856 available is set aside for the Rural Community Development Fund. This fund allows Tier 1 communities to submit non-housing projects as a sole activity. FEMA declared disaster areas due to Hurricane Helene have also been given specific wavers for this funding cycle.

Attached are the [2025 CDBG-NR NOFA](#) and [2025 CDBG-NR guidelines and application](#). Applications are due to REDD by 4:00 pm on October 29, 2025. Awards are anticipated to be announced on December 10, 2025. For questions and technical assistance, please contact John F. Brooks, CDBG Section Chief, at john.brooks@commerce.nc.gov or (919) 814-4663 or TDD 1-800-735-2962.



NC DEQ Tool Collects Feedback on Environmental Concerns

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality has updated its anonymous comment tool allowing members of the public to provide anonymous suggestions or complaints about an environmental concern. When submitting feedback, please include sufficient detail so that the complaints can be properly communicated and investigated. Please include photographs of the incident, date and time, the name of the contractor, the latitude and longitude of the location of where the incident occurred, and details about the issue. [Access Comment Tool](#).

DON DAVIS VISITS LOCAL FARMERS ACROSS THE REGION

Congressman Don Davis and his team visited with farmers from across the region at Brown Family Farms on Wednesday, June 18th. Representative Davis expressed his support of our small farms, discussed federal agricultural policy, and listened to challenges and concerns from the farmers in attendance. A big thank you to Patrick Brown and the Eva Clayton Rural Food Institute for hosting!

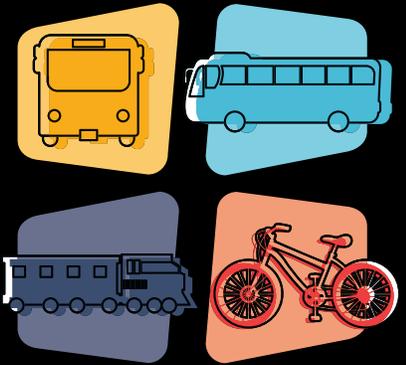


RPO UPDATE

The Kerr-Tar Rural Planning Organization (RPO) has officially opened the project solicitation period for the Prioritization 8.0 (P8) cycle. This is a critical opportunity for member governments to submit transportation projects for consideration in the next round of Strategic Transportation Investments (STI) funding. The RPO, has been allocated 13 project submission slots per mode—including highway, bicycle/pedestrian, aviation, rail, and transit. These slots will cover both new project proposals and any projects removed from the database at the end of the P7 cycle for resubmittal.

SPOT Online is expected to open on July 28th with the submittal deadline of September 30th for all projects. The Carryover Modifications and Deletions deadline remains on July 18th.

If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out to Ty Cheek tycheek@kerrtar.org. Your thoughtful and timely participation is essential to ensuring our region’s transportation priorities are well-represented.



SRTS JOINS PERRY MEMORIAL SUMMER READING KICKOFF

On June 17th, the Regional Program Coordinator, Victoria Glasscock, joined the Summer Kick-Off Reading Event at the Perry Memorial Library in Henderson. Over 170 kids showed up, including several summer programs full of kids. It was a wonderful opportunity for kids to set down their phones, pick up a book, and dive into reading. Several participants have already turned in their weekly reading logs and earned prizes, proof that summer reading is off to a strong start!

KITTRELL JOB CORPS RAPID RESPONSE



On June 4th, Kerr-Tar/NCWorks, Capital Area WDB, Durham WDB, Vance-Granville CC, Wake Tech, Durham Tech, and NC Commerce hosted a Rapid Response event at the Kittrell Job Corps Center to support students and staff during a time of transition.

The event served 234 students, many of whom are also enrolled at Vance-Granville CC, helping connect them with workforce services and answer questions about off-campus support. NCWorks staff assisted with enrollment, now required by the U.S. Department of Labor. Support was also provided to 129 staff members preparing to exit the facility. The NCWorks Mobile Unit was on-site from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., offering access to technology and assistance.

Two sessions were held:

- 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: 108 students
- 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.: 87 students



This event highlighted strong collaboration among regional partners to ensure continuity of support and services.

NCWORKS STAFF SPOTLIGHT: LISA HOLLAND

Congratulations to Lisa Holland, Business Services Manager at Kerr-Tar COG/NCWorks, for being featured in this month's NCWorks Staff Spotlight! Since joining in January 2025, Lisa has been instrumental in supporting employers, developing training programs, and promoting NCWorks services across the region. She's passionate about helping the community and spending time with her family, grandchildren, and animals. Join us in congratulating Lisa!




A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter® network

Staff Spotlight

Lisa Holland

**Business Services
Manager**



**Kerr-Tar
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

252-436-2040

CREEDMOOR COMMUNITY JOB FAIR 2025



On Thursday, June 5th the NCWorks Career Center Held the Creedmoor Community Job Fair at the Creedmoor Community Center Willow Oak Room. In Creedmoor. It was a great event hosted by the Kerr Tar WDB/NCWorks. Community College partners, Vance Granville Community College and Piedmont Community College were onsite to share their programs, classes, and short-term training opportunities. We had multiple employees and numerous consumers who came dressed for success and interacted with employers. Interviews were conducted on-site. The VR machine saw lots of patrons ready to experience a job virtually. It was an exciting event with lots of engagement. We want to thank all of the employers and staff who came together to make this such a successful event!



RE-ENTRY

Resource & Job Fair

July 18, 2025

9 am - 1 pm

NCWorks Career Center

826 S. Garnett Street

Henderson, NC 27536

Together, we can help
you put the pieces
back together!

For More Information
visit:

kerrtarworks.com

HEALTH INDUSTRY ROUNDTABLE

Kerr Tar/NCWorks hosted a Health Industry Roundtable June 17th at the NCWorks Career Center in Henderson. Health Leaders Convened to Address Critical Challenges in the Industry. More than 25 leaders from across 5 counties the health industry gathered for a powerful and solutions-focused Health Industry Workforce Roundtable, aimed at tackling some of the most pressing issues facing the sector today, from workforce shortages and burnout to recruitment, retention, and equity in healthcare. The roundtable brought together stakeholders from hospitals, public health agencies, community health centers, workforce development organizations, and education institutions. The goal was to share insights, identify barriers, and forge new strategies to strengthen and sustain the healthcare workforce. **“Healthcare is at a crossroads,”** We’re seeing increased demand for services at a time when our workforce is stretched thin. This roundtable gives us the chance to listen, collaborate, and take real action together.



The roundtable featured panel discussions, breakout sessions, and interactive workshops focused on five key themes:

1. Recruitment and Pipeline Development
2. Retention and Professional Growth
3. Burnout and Wellbeing
4. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
5. Public-Private Partnerships for Workforce Support



Participants shared both data and lived experiences, pointing to innovative programs, successful models, and persistent gaps. One popular session spotlighted how local partnerships with community colleges are creating new career pathways for underrepresented populations.

“Our workforce is the heartbeat of healthcare, “If we don’t care for them, we can’t care for our communities.” The event closed with a commitment to produce a summary report, capturing key takeaways and proposed action items. Organizers plan to use these findings to inform policy recommendations and drive ongoing cross-sector collaboration.



BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Matris Robinson
July 9th



ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Alan Winstead
1 year



Crystal Allen
1 year

Kerr-Tar

Regional Council of Governments

COMMUNITIES SERVED

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

Executive Director

Diane Cox

dcox@kerrtarcog.org

Area Agency on Aging

Alan Winstead

awinstead@kerrtarcog.org

Community & Economic Development

Desiree Brooks

dbrooks@kerrtarcog.org

Workforce Development

Lou Grillo

lgrillo@kerrtarcog.org

MISSION STATEMENT

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

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments

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