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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Senior Games Entry Deadline: **March 7th**
- Daylight Savings Time: **March 9th**
- Workforce Board Meeting: **March 11th @ 6 p.m.**
- St. Patrick's Day: **March 17th**
- Kerr-Tar Regional Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting: **March 19th @ 9 a.m.**
- First Day of Spring: **March 20th**
- TAC/TCC Meeting: **March 20th @ 3 p.m.**
- COG Executive Board *via Zoom*: **March 27th @ 10 a.m.**

SAVE THE DATES



**IGNITE
2025**

Collaboration - Opportunity - Success



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

Presenting Sponsor:



Other Sponsorship Opportunities Available!
Contact Desiree Brooks - 252-436-2040 or email dbrooks@kerrtarog.org for information



WIN a \$500 gift card!

Join us in helping NC local government employees ... and you could win a prize

Local government employees in western NC need our help to continue their recovery from Hurricane Helene. Let's make a difference!

Your donation through Civic Foundation and NCARCOG goes directly to those impacted, and is 100% tax deductible.

Donate \$100 or more by March 28, 2025, you'll be entered to win one of these prizes:

- ▶ \$500 REI co-op gift card
- ▶ \$500 Ticketmaster gift card
- ▶ \$500 Hilton hotel brand gift card



You can also enter by submitting words of encouragement to hurricane survivors; see details at civiclfsquare.site/local-government.



Show your support for NC's local government heroes – donate today!

PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY: DRAFT 2026-2035 STIP OUTREACH PERIOD

The N.C. Department of Transportation is inviting the public to provide feedback on the Draft 2026-2035 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The STIP is developed under the Strategic Transportation Investments law (STI), which established the Strategic Mobility Formula. Over the past 18 months, NCDOT has worked closely with the public, legislature, local planning organizations, and other stakeholders to implement this law and develop the Draft STIP.

As part of this effort, NCDOT will host regional drop-in sessions across the state between February 17 and March 17, 2025.

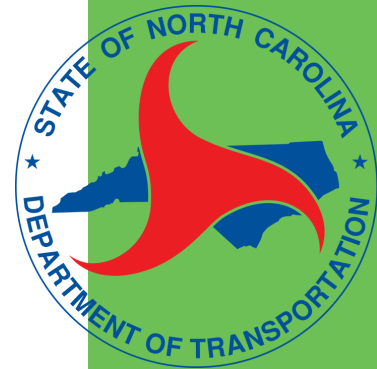
These sessions and the broader outreach effort aim to gather input on:

- The variety and geographic diversity of projects;
- The process used to develop the STIP;
- Ideas for improvement.

Feedback from these sessions will also help shape the development of the 2028-2037 STIP. To learn more about this outreach effort, we would like you to watch a short informational video in the link below. This communication is an invitation to participate in shaping North Carolina's transportation network. The public comment period will run from January 31, 2025, to April 4, 2025.

[Click here for informational video!](#)

[Click here to comment!](#)



NC RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION: REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM



NC Rural Water Association (NCRWA)'s Registered Apprenticeship Program partners with water and wastewater utilities and are working across NC to gain, train, and retain the next generation of treatment plant operators. This is a great opportunity for skill development, workforce retention, and partnerships. The site has information for apprentices and for program employers.

[Click here for more information!](#)

2025 CLEAN FUEL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY (CFAT) PROJECT GRANT FUNDS AVAILABLE NOW

\$5,900,000 to be awarded for transportation-related emission reductions. The North Carolina Clean Energy Technology Center (NCCETC) at North Carolina State University announces the following request for proposals (RFP) through the 2025 Clean Fuel Advanced Technology (CFAT) project.

This year's initiative will offer \$5.9 million, focused on reducing transportation-related emissions and supported with federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funding from the N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT).



NC CLEAN ENERGY
TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The primary purpose of the CFAT project is to reduce transportation-related emissions in 24 eligible North Carolina counties; the secondary purpose is to expand the availability of eligible refueling and charging infrastructure.

Project proposals will be limited to a maximum award of \$450,000 with a minimum award of \$5,000. **Applications will be due Friday, March 14, 2025.** Learn more [here](#).

Projects located in the following counties are eligible for CFAT funding: Cabarrus, Catawba, *Chatham, Davidson, Davie, Durham, Edgecombe, Forsyth, **Franklin**, Gaston, **Granville**, Guilford, *Haywood, *Iredell, Johnston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Nash, Orange, **Person**, Rowan, *Swain, Union, Wake, (*Represents partial counties).

Projects for electric vehicle charging stations (EVSE) will be accepted within all 100 counties.

ESSENTIALS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



This one-day workshop is designed to help local officials understand the fundamentals of economic development in the current economic climate. It will help participants understand what is required to attract and support private investment in their communities.

Participants will examine various economic development strategies and tools and consider how local governments in partnership with the nonprofit and private sectors, can help facilitate the process of creating jobs and wealth. It will be on June 6, 2025 via Zoom. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Program Topics:

- An Overview of Economic Development: Trends and Strategies
- Building an Effective Economic Development Program
- North Carolina Economic Development Toolbox
- Best Practices and Opportunities in Economic Recovery

EXECUTIVE ORDER 14173: NEW COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS



On January 21, 2025, President Trump issued Executive Order 14173, requiring contractors and grant recipients under federal contracts to certify they do not operate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs that violate federal anti-discrimination laws. This EO mandates contract clauses that could lead to liability under the False Claims Act for violations. Local governments receiving federal funding, especially those involved in DEI-related programs, will need to review and certify their compliance with these laws. Agencies have started incorporating these clauses into funding opportunities, and local governments should be prepared for these new requirements, including potential adjustments to grant applications or forfeiting funds. Monitoring these developments is crucial, as legal challenges to the EO are ongoing. To learn more click [here](#).

ARPA UPDATE

ARP OFFICE HOURS

The UNC School of Government (SOG) hosts virtual ARPA Office Hours for local governments to discuss issues related to the American Rescue Plan Act Fiscal Recovery Fund program and local government finance. NCACC participates in these sessions and provides timely updates for counties on ARPA-related matters. Click [here](#) for the UNC SOG ARPA Office Hours and to access the [Zoom link](#).



Upcoming ARP/Finance Office Hours:

- March 6, 2025: 8:30-9:30am
- March 18, 2025: 12:00-1:00pm

THE ARPA ANNUAL REPORT FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS RECEIVING UNDER \$10 MILLION IN SLFRF WILL BE DUE IN APRIL. If you would like assistance filling out your jurisdiction's report, please contact Kerr-Tar COG (kconner@kerrtarcog.org).

Follow us on social media!



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



2025

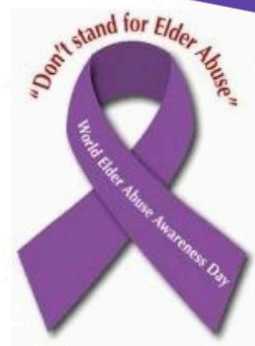


SCAN HERE to be a vendor/sponsor!

Friday, June 13, 2025

10:00am-2:00 pm

REGION K ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS & PREVENTION



Conference & Walk

Prevent Elder Abuse

FREE and Open to the Public

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

Free t-shirts,
lunch, &
other goodies
available

Reminders/Awareness

- June 15 is observed internationally as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
- Each year, NC recognizes Vulnerable Adult & Elder Abuse Awareness from Mother's Day to Father's Day

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

Want to be a Vendor or Volunteer?

Please scan the QR code or visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/2025ElderAbuse>

For more information, contact:

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

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



March FOR Meals



You're Invited

We invite you to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Older Americans Act senior nutrition programs by volunteering with Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging.

Support your local Meals on Wheels program by delivering meals or serving lunch at a senior center. Make a difference in the lives of our neighbors and be part of providing 100,000 meals in our five-county region.



For more information contact our Area Agency on Aging Director Alan Winstead at awinstead@kerrtarco.org or (252) 436-2040 ext. 2047

You may also schedule your volunteer opportunity directly with your local senior center. To find a participating senior center near you, please scan the QR code.

KATHY MAY WINS AGING ROCK STAR AWARD

The Granville County Senior Services Director, Kathy May, received the NC Association on Aging Rock Star Award. The award recognizes Kathy's long tenure delivering quality, innovative senior services. This award honors those who are Chief Executive/Administrative Officers for the quality of leadership and organizational management they provide to their organization and to the aging network. Congratulations Kathy May!



SENIOR GAMES OPENING CEREMONY

The Kerr-Tar Regional Senior Games Opening Ceremony is **Friday, March 21** at 10 a.m. The event will take place at Aycock Recreation Center in Henderson at 307 Carey Chapel Road. Come out and join more than 200 participants to start the games.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT CRYSTAL ALLEN AT CALLEN@KERRTARCOG.ORG



GRANVILLE AMBULANCE CHASE

Come and join us on Saturday, March 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for an exciting day at the Granville Ambulance Chase & Food Rodeo in downtown Oxford. Be part of the community as we support the Granville Health Foundation. We look forward to seeing you there! To learn more about the Ambulance Chase please click [HERE](#).



GRANVILLE
AMBULANCE CHASE
& FOOD TRUCK RODEO
5K / 10K / FUN RUN



SHIIP

SENIORS' HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION PROGRAM

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

MARCH IS

NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Colorectal cancer is the fourth-most common cancer in the U.S. and the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths.

It affects all racial and ethnic groups and is most often found in people ages 50 and older.

Screening and early detection are vital.

Medicare covers certain colorectal cancer screening services—ask a SHIIP counselor for more information.

Colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable and beatable!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT A SHIIP COUNSELOR [HERE](#)

KERR-TAR 2025

SENIOR GAMES & SILVER ARTS



Granville
HEALTH SYSTEM



Lifetime Homecare
Services

GAMES INCLUDED:

Badminton, Basketball, Billiards, Bocce, Bowling, Corn hole, Croquet, Cycling, Disc Golf, Discus, Running and Standing Long Jumps, Football Throw, Golf, Horseshoes, Mini Golf, Pickleball, Shuffleboard, Softball Throw, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, and Track Events. (individuals compete for awards in their own gender and age category within five year increments (50-54, 55-59, 60-64...))

SILVER ARTS INCLUDES:

Literary Arts, Visual Arts, Heritage Arts, Performing Arts

WHEN TO REGISTER

Early Registration:

February 10-February 24, 2025

Cost: \$15.00

Entry Deadline: March 7, 2025

Cost: \$20.00 after Feb.24th

Additional Fees:

Bowling: \$5.00

Golf: \$36.00

Mini Golf: \$3.00



REGISTER HERE

Register at your local Senior Center or visit this link to register online

<https://torch.ncseniorgames.org>



For more information about Senior Games and Silver Arts 2025

Please contact Michael Patterson at (252) 436 - 2040 ext. 6072 or

Crystal Allen at (252) 436 - 2040 ext. 2036

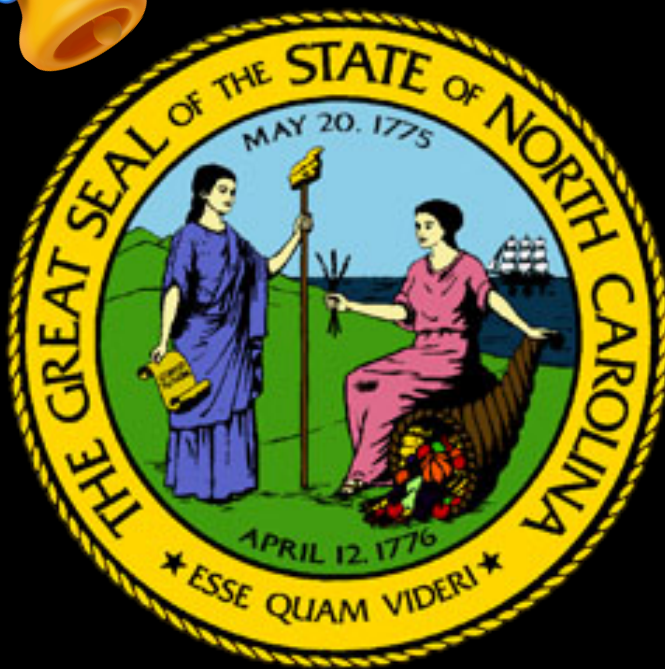
GRANVILLE COUNTY RECOGNIZED AS DIGITAL TRAILBLAZER

We are delighted to announce that Granville County has been named a 2024 Digital Inclusion Trailblazer by the National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA).

This recognition celebrates the Granville County Library System's outstanding efforts to bridge the digital divide and provide broader access to digital resources for all residents.

Granville County joins 60 other governments in this honor, with the City of Durham being the only other North Carolina recipient.

"The Granville County Board of Commissioners and our staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that no Granville resident is left behind in this digital age," said Chair of the Granville County Board of Commissioners, Jimmy Gooch. A special shout out to our grant writer, Amanda Lewis, for her assistance in writing the digital inclusion plan. Her support was instrumental in this achievement. Granville County achieved Trailblazer status by developing a comprehensive digital inclusion plan, collaborating with local schools, nonprofits, and community organizations to provide innovative digital access solutions. Initiatives include technology classes, Wi-Fi router and laptop lending programs, braille keyboards for vision-impaired residents, and mobile device charging lockers at library branches. For more information about the 2024 Trailblazer award winners, visit the NDIA website [here](#).



KERR-TAR TAC REMINDER: NORTH CAROLINA ETHICS COMMISSION

Elected officials and appointed alternates serving as members of the KTRPO TAC are required to submit Statements of Economic Interest (SEI) and RealEstate Disclosure (RED) Forms annually to the North Carolina State Ethics Commission. The annual due date for the Commission to receive these documents is April 15, 2025. Click [here](#) to access these forms. If you're in need of assistance completing these forms, please contact Ty Cheek, RPO Coordinator, to schedule an appointment at 252-436-2040, ext 2004.

CAREERLAUNCH LUNCH & LEARN

On January 29th, Turning Point CDC partnered with Vance-Granville Community College and NCWorks to host a “Lunch & Learn” session for their CareerLAUNCH Program. This program supports adults as they seek higher education to achieve their workforce goals. Those who attended were able to participate in a Resume Writing Workshop and also received tips for writing an effective cover letter. Helen Bradby, WIOA Program Manager and Stacey Williams, Business Services Representative were invited to share about the Adult & Dislocated Workers Program, NextGen Program, local work-based learning opportunities and other services available at the NCWorks Career Center. The attendees received handouts and were very engaged throughout the session while asking relevant questions about establishing and furthering their career paths. To learn more click [here](#).



SUCCESS STORY: WILLIAM LOLLY

William Lolly, a 28-year-old father of two, was laid off from his manufacturing job and struggling to find new employment. At a RESA appointment, his Career Advisor introduced him to the WIOA program. After attending an orientation, William met with a Training Placement Coordinator (TPC) to explore his options. Always interested in long-haul trucking, William faced financial constraints in pursuing Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) training.

Through the NCWorks Career Center, William learned how WIOA could assist with funding and supportive services. He started his CDL training on October 21, 2024, and completed it by December 20, 2024. Armed with his new license, William quickly secured a full-time job with US Express, offering excellent pay and benefits.



BIRTHDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Amanda Lewis
March 1st



Cynthia Pernell
March 31st

ANNIVERSARY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Katie Conner
9 years



Michael Patterson
3 years

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@kerrtarco.org

Area Agency on Aging

Alan Winstead

awinstead@kerrtarco.org

Community & Economic Development

Desiree Brooks

dbrooks@kerrtarco.org

Workforce Development

Lou Grillo

lgrillo@kerrtarco.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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Henderson, NC 27536

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