



KERR-TAR

Council of Governments
JULY 2022 NEWSLETTER



*Hyco Lake, Person County
Photo Courtesy of Richard Long Photography*

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events

- Criminal Expungement Info Session: **Tuesday, July 5, 2:30-4:00 pm, Henderson & Oxford**
- ARPA Audit Meetings: **7/7 @ 12 pm; 7/15 @ 8:30 am; 7/22 @ 8:30 am; 7/27 @ 12 pm (Virtual)**
- RISE Stakeholder Meeting: **Tuesday, July 12, 10:30 am-12:00 pm (Virtual)**
- NCDOT Open House: **July 25-29 (see p. 6)**
- CEDS Meetings: **July 19, 21, 26 (locations & times vary; see p. 11)**
- Granville Co. Job Fair: **Wednesday, August 10 @ Hix Field, Oxford**

Deadlines

- Southeast Crescent Regional Commission Survey Deadline: **July 11**
- CFAT Grant Deadline: **August 1**



American Rescue Plan Act Compliance Audit

Leading into the new budget year, municipalities that have received their first portion of funding through the American Rescue Plan Act are required to submit an ARPA specific audit report. This report will verify compliance with the Final Rule issued by US Department of Treasury. Recommended steps for compliance audit preparation include:

1. Ensure that all policies and resolutions have been adopted prior to the obligation of funds
2. Ensure that all ARPA documents are effectively maintained, stored, and organized
3. Join the upcoming UNC School of Government Regular ARP/CSLFRF Office Hours (Zoom information, dates, and topics are listed below)
4. Ask questions! We are here to assist with your ARPA questions. As guidance develops we will continue to inform you of updates and recommendations.

Regular ARP/CSLFRF Office Hours

<https://zoom.us/j/91906998701?pwd=eWg0anp1MFJzSFVsU0FIYmduU3ZQU09>

Meeting ID: 919 0699 8701

Passcode: 912104

Meeting dates, times and topics

Thursday, July 7 at 12:00 p.m. (ARP Compliance Audit)

Friday, July 15 at 8:30 a.m. (ARP Compliance Audit)

Friday, July 22 at 8:30 a.m. (ARP Compliance Audit)

Thursday, July 27 at 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, August 4 at 8:30 a.m. (Sub-awards)



Southeast Crescent Regional Commission Online Survey

The Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC) is an economic development partnership agency of the federal government and seven state governments. SCRC's mission is to build sustainable communities and strengthen economic growth across the Southeast Region. SCRC's leadership includes a Federal Co-Chair who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, and the Governors of the seven Southeast Crescent states. Alternates are selected by each governor to represent their state and communicate state's priorities to the Commission's leadership.



**SOUTHEAST CRESCENT
REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Governor Roy Cooper
Alternate: Jim McCleskey**

To better understand what is wanted and needed within the region, SCRC has launched an **online survey** to get feedback from residents within the seven-state region and to help guide programs and initiatives of the Commission that address economic and community development over the next five years. Simply put, this is asking what needs to happen for you to love where you live? This survey closes **July 11, 2022 at 5:00 pm.**

BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Judy McArn

FRANKLINTON TOWN COMMISSIONER

Franklinton Town Commissioner Judy McArn is one of the newer additions to the Kerr-Tar COG Board of Directors. A graduate of UNC Wilmington, Judy has a degree in education with a minor in social work. She taught special education for two years and later began her career with the Department of Social Services. She retired in 2017 from the Department of Health & Human Services as the Section Chief of the Child Support Services program and was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for her work. Judy has served as a board member for the NC Child Support Council, Franklinton Parks & Recreation, Franklinton Main Street Beautification Project, and Franklin County Library Committee. In 2011, she received the Franklinton Citizen of the Year. In addition to serving on the KTCOG Board, Judy currently serves on the CEDS committee, volunteers for the Franklinton Senior Center Meals on Wheels program, and works part time at a Franklinton gift shop. Married for 36 years, she has 2 children, and enjoys woodworking, going to the beach, walking, church, and her work with the Town of Franklinton. One of her favorite days of the week is when she delivers Meals on Wheels.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Michael Patterson

FAMILY CAREGIVER SPECIALIST

Michael Patterson, Family Caregiver Specialist, has been with Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments for 4 months. In his short time with the COG, Michael is working to create a community partnership with the YMCA for evidence based health promotions, including Tai Chi. He enjoys meeting new people and learning the communities in the region. Michael enjoys sports, outdoor activities, learning new things, and most of all spending time with his 3 beautiful girls. His mother and grandmother both raised and influenced him greatly. They taught him hard work, compassion, and confidence that continues to lead him today. Michael's words of wisdom: A smile costs you nothing, but it could be invaluable to those who receive it.

KTAAA Updates

In early June, KTAAA joined forces with The Spoken Existence Ministry and a community vaccine provider for an event in Henderson where older adults who wanted a COVID vaccine or booster enjoyed a free lunch and took home a free grocery box.

Also in June, Walk With Ease wrapped up in Person County. In this class, participants learned and practiced skills to improve their mobility while having fun! Look for more classes in the coming months. Powerful Tools for Caregivers concluded in June, where participants said they gained valuable tools and insights for taking care of themselves while fulfilling their important caregiving roles.

On June 9, KTAAA hosted a Virtual Resident Council Meeting, a first for this region. The topic was Elder Abuse Awareness and the speaker was Ms. Sandra Waverly, Activities Director at Warren Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Warrenton. A total of 10 facilities, 3 Community Advisory Committee members and 30+ residents were in attendance. Yard signs were distributed to regional facilities to show their support of this Awareness season, as well as door hangers for residents. Be on the look out for upcoming events for Falls Prevention Month this September!



ARPA Funding Update

With new funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, the Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging has plans to initiate several new programs to support the health and well-being of the region's older adults. KTAAA will partner with local medical practices and a community based organization to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to older adults who might not otherwise be able to obtain these valuable additions to a healthy diet. Additionally, KTAAA has plans to assist family caregivers with adult day services for their loved ones living with dementia or a related condition. KTAAA plans to work with Warren and Person Counties to provide accessibility ramps for older adults to be able to safely enter and exit their homes. All five counties will be provided with locally grown and locally made home delivered meals. If you or someone you know could benefit from these resources, please contact KTAAA at 252-436-2040. Please note that not all services are available in all counties.

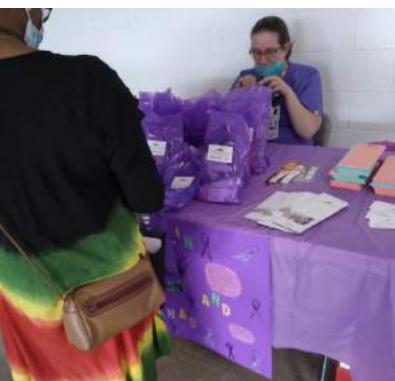


Elder Abuse Awareness Event

Elder Abuse Awareness Day was June 15 and was recognized at a regional event at the new Vance County Senior Center. Lunch was provided by one of the local facilities and there were informative and inspiring presentations by several speakers. Many older adults were connected to KTAAA at this event and everyone was enthusiastic about spreading the word for preventing elder abuse. Kim Hawkins, Regional Ombudsman would like to thank the vendors who helped make this event possible. 150 participants were in attendance and 353 miles were pledged to be walked in support of Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention.

Thank you to the many vendors who attended this event to share information about their organizations & businesses!

Kerr Lake Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Henderson | Franklin Oaks Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Louisburg | Vance County DSS | Vance County Senior Center | NCSHIIP | Franklin County DSS | Warren County DSS | Warren County Senior Center | Granville County DSS | Granville County Senior Services | Person County DSS | Person County Department of Aging | Kerr-Tar Area Agency on Aging | Louisburg Manor & Louisburg Healthcare & Rehabilitation | Families Living Violence Free, Oxford | Fit Masters, Creedmoor | Cambridge Hills, Roxboro | Aim High, Henderson | Pruitt Health, Rocky Mount | Warren Hills Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center of Warrenton | Roxboro Healthcare & Rehabilitation Center | Coventry House, Oxford | CareAccess/Alzheimer's Mobile Unit | VGCC | North Carolina Local Federal Credit Union | LULA's Landing, Henderson | Kerr-Tar Council of Governments-Workforce Development | Henderson-Vance Recreational Department | Money Follows the Person, Raleigh | 3HC Healthcare, Henderson | Senior Citizens Home



Kerr-Tar RISE Update

The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments is participating in the Regions Innovating for Strong Economies and Environment (RISE), through the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resiliency to develop a portfolio of priority projects that strengthen regional resilience. Region K Stakeholders are invited to attend the NCORR RISE Kerr-Tar Region Stakeholder Partnership meeting, **Tuesday, July 12th from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm (virtual)**. This month, members will participate in an activity to rank proposed projects for the Project Portfolio. The final Portfolio will consist of 5-10 projects that are applicable within the region and address issues identified by the Vulnerability Assessment and through local experience. There will be opportunities following the meeting to provide your input if you are unable to attend.



NCDOT Division 5 Open House

NCDOT's Division 5 office will be open to questions from across our five county region during the week of **July 25-29**. The Division's office is located at 2612 North Duke Street in Durham. Division staff will be available to answer questions related to the **2024-2033 STIP**, status of regional transportation projects, and general transportation-related inquiries. The KTRPO is encouraging our member governments, members of the TAC and TCC, and residents to participate in this Open House.



Kerr-Tar Region Drone Project



The Kerr-Tar COG has collaborated with the Western Piedmont COG to supply each of the 5 Kerr-Tar counties drone footage of outdoor recreational amenities and areas of interest. The goal of this project was to highlight places and events that make each county a unique and attractive place to visit. The footage will be made available for each county to use, and the footage will also be used by the COG to market the region.

Clean Fuel Advanced Technology Grant



The primary purpose of the Clean Fuel Advanced Technology (CFAT) project is to reduce transportation related emissions in 24 eligible North Carolina counties. In the Kerr-Tar region, that includes Franklin, Granville, and Person counties. The basic criteria for eligibility are that the project is transportation related, reduces criteria pollutant emissions, and is located within or benefits a NAAQS maintenance area. There is one exception,

however: electric vehicle charging stations are eligible projects in all 100 counties of the state. Applications are due by **August 1, 2022**. More information on CFAT funding can be found [HERE](#). If you need application assistance, please contact us!

Help Shape the Future of North Carolina Transportation

Fuel tax has largely been responsible for a well-functioning transportation system that gets you to where you need to go, delivers packages to your door, and keeps groceries on the shelves. But as vehicles go farther on less fuel and some stop using any fuel at all, it becomes harder to maintain our transportation system.

The Eastern Transportation Coalition needs your help exploring an alternative approach to the traditional fuel tax, called a Mileage-Based User Fee, and determining if it would be a more equitable and sustainable approach. A Mileage-Based User Fee means drivers only pay for the miles they drive instead of the fuel they buy.

To better understand if this approach could work, the Coalition is conducting a pilot program in North Carolina and wants you to join and share what you think. What do you like? What do you think should change? It is free to participate, and there are strict privacy protection measures to safeguard your data. Here's how to join the pilot in four easy steps:

1. **Enroll:** Fill out the enrollment form by clicking the link on the website
2. **Insert:** Plug a small device into your vehicle to record mileage
3. **Drive:** Then drive as you normally do
4. **Return:** After a few months, mail back the device



*These steps may vary depending on the mileage-reporting option selected.

Your participation will help shape transportation funding in NC. Visit NorthCarolinaMBUFpilot.com to learn more and enroll. Participants who qualify can receive up to \$50. Have questions? Contact a Pilot team member at 984-254-7400 or NorthCarolina@MBUFpilot.org.

Warren Co. Bridge Replacement

The NC Department of Transportation proposes to replace the bridge (Bridge Number 126) on Perrytown Road (SR 1116) over Phoebes Creek in Warren County. During construction, which is anticipated to last up to 12 months, the bridge will be replaced in its existing location, and an off-site detour will be required. The following construction is associated with STIP Number BP5.R112.

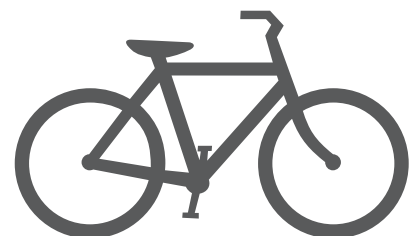
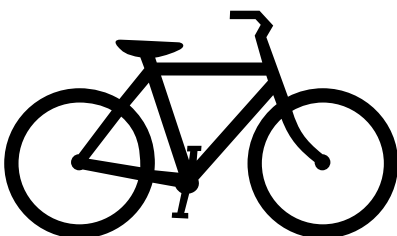


Oxford Bike Rodeo Update




On June 4, Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator Kenia Gomez-Jimenez and RPO Coordinator Sam Boswell participated in the Oxford Parks & Recreation's Bike Rodeo at Hix Gym. This event allowed over 50 youth ages 5-12 to show off their bicycle skills and learn about bike safety. Each participant received a free bike helmet courtesy of the 2022 NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative. The Oxford Parks & Recreation Department applied for and was a recipient of the 2022 Bike Helmet Initiative.

If your organization applied for and received helmets from the 2022 NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative, please contact Kenia Gomez-Jimenez at kgomezjimenez@kerrtarcog.org or 252-436-2040 to discuss ways to collaborate through special events and educational outreach.



Electric Vehicle Driver Spotlight

With the increasing popularity of electric vehicles and the increased funding for electrification in the new infrastructure bill, we wanted to highlight electric vehicle drivers and share what they love about driving an EV.



LISA BONEHAM


AKA:
"mega traveler"

JOB:
Business Consultant in Sales, Marketing and Public Relations

LONGEST TRIP IN AN EV:
560 miles

MILES DRIVEN ELECTRIC PER YEAR:
15,000 miles

"I love my Tesla and having an electric vehicle. My greatest joy is probably the money I save by plugging my car in to charge it vs. paying for gas at the gas station."




"Compliments of a friend who was a Tesla owner, I toured the Tesla Factory in early 2019. Going into the factory tour, I was only slightly interested in learning about electric vehicles. Coming out of the tour, I was sold, and had to have my own Tesla!"


FIRST PURCHASED AN EV:
2019

FAVORITE PLACE TO CHARGE:
Her garage or a Tesla Super Charger

EV OF CHOICE:
2019 Tesla Model 3



Learn more and see all of the driver profiles at fuelwhatmatters.org



Rural Transformation Grant Fund

Governor Roy Cooper announced in June that 30 local governments in rural areas across North Carolina have been awarded grants from the Rural Transformation Grant Fund, a new source of support for rural economic development projects in the state funded by the federal American Rescue Plan. The Rural Transformation Grant Fund awarded grants in 3 categories: 1) Downtown Revitalization, 2) Resilient Neighborhoods, and 3) Community Enhancements for Economic Growth.

Within the Kerr-Tar Region, the **City of Roxboro** received \$175,000 under the Downtown Revitalization category, and the **Town of Butner** and **Warren County** received \$825,000 and \$300,000 respectively under the Community Enhancements for Economic Growth category.

Age My Way NC Survey

A collaborative effort between the state of North Carolina and the largest representative of older adults in the state, AARP, will help our cities, towns, and rural areas become better prepared to meet the needs of an aging population.

"Age My Way NC" is surveying people age 45+ across the state to identify priorities such as safe and walkable streets, age-friendly housing and transportation options, access to needed services, and opportunities for residents of all ages to participate at home in community life. Approximately 1.7 million North Carolinians are age 65 or older, and that number is growing. By 2030, one in five will be older than 65 and for the first time ever, North Carolina will be comprised of more older adults than children.

Lisa Riegel, Manager of AARP North Carolina Advocacy & Livable Communities said, "Our state's aging population has become a cause for concern. With its expected growth, the nature of urban and rural development, daily living, work, leisure, and retirement are expected to change in order to keep pace." Riegel adds, "When it comes to making age-friendly improvements, what is good for older adults is also good for all residents. For example, better sidewalks and making areas more walkable not only improve health and mobility, they make main street businesses more accessible, and can even increase property value. Age-friendly investments have returns for all ages.



Take a few minutes to complete the Age My Way NC survey so that policymakers will understand and focus on projects that can make North Carolina communities livable for people of all ages. Scan the QR code or click [HERE](#) to take the survey.

Mi Centro Bicycle Safety Class

On June 27, Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator Kenia Gomez-Jimenez brought an interactive bicycle safety experience to 65 Mi Centro students at Dabney Elementary School. Mi Centro is a three-week summer program through Vance County Schools that prepares upcoming Pre-K Latino students ages 4-5 for an English-speaking academic setting. Kenia taught the students about the many parts of a bicycle, why it's important to be visible when biking, as well as how wearing a bike helmet can save lives. The students also participated in other fun activities such as bike helmet decorating and traffic sign education. At the culmination of the class, each student received a certificate. The event concluded with all 65 students receiving free bicycle helmets, courtesy of Granville Vance Public Health. The helmets provided were supplied to GVHP through the 2022 NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative.



Kerr-Tar Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Update

The Kerr-Tar COG has retained the services of Sanford Holshouser Economic Development Consulting (SHEDC) to assist in the CEDS process, a requirement of the Economic Development Administration for Economic Development Districts nationwide. There are 4 main components of a CEDS: 1) summary background; 2) SWOT analysis; 3) strategic direction/action plan; and 4) evaluation framework. In addition to the components outlined previously, the contents of this year's CEDS will align with the agency's recently released Equity Action Plan. The COG and the SHEDC team will be hosting individual County Focus Groups throughout the region in the month of July. If you are interested in participating in a Focus Group, please contact Michael Kelly, Planning & Economic Development Director at 252-436-2040 or mkelly@kerrtarco.org.

Date	County	Time	Location
Tuesday, July 19, 2022	Stakeholder Meeting Group (all 5 counties)	10:30 am-12:00 pm	Kerr-Tar COG Office 1724 Graham Avenue Henderson, NC 27536
Tuesday, July 19, 2022	Vance	3:30-5:00 pm	Kerr-Tar COG Office 1724 Graham Avenue Henderson, NC 27536
Thursday, July 21, 2022	Franklin	10:30 am-12:00 pm	VGCC-Franklin Campus Multi-Purpose Training Room, Building 4
Thursday, July 21, 2022	Warren	3:30-5:00 pm	Warren Co. Library Community Meeting Room 119 Front St., Warrenton
Tuesday, July 26, 2022	Granville	10:30 am-12:00 pm	Granville Co. Convention & Expo Center 4185 US-15, Oxford
Tuesday, July 26, 2022	Person	3:30-5:00 pm	Person Co. Office Building 304 S. Morgan St., Roxboro (1st Floor Auditorium)

Andrea L. Harris Highway Dedication

At the June meeting of the North Carolina Board of Transportation, the Board approved renaming 2.9 miles of Interstate 85 between Exit 220 to the Vance/Warren County line in honor of a true champion of Vance County, Dr. Andrea L. Harris. Dr. Harris was known throughout North Carolina, and beyond, for her pioneering work to expand opportunity for all. Among her many accomplishments, she co-founded and served as president for the North Carolina Institute of Minority Economic Development.



Criminal Record Expungement



The first Tuesday of each month, the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board hosts a Criminal Record Expungement Information Session. The next session will be **Tuesday, July 5 from 2:30-4:00 pm** and will be held at both Perry Memorial Library (205 Breckenridge Street in Henderson) and Oxford Housing Authority (101 Hillside Drive in

Oxford). Participants will receive free legal advice about criminal record expungement, and there will also be resources onsite for assistance with housing, transportation, and job placement. Please RSVP at kerrtarworks.com or call Sharon Thomas at 252-436-2040. Information Sessions are presented by Legal Aid of North Carolina and hosted by Kerr-Tar Reentry Roundtable.

Regional Job Fair:

Granville County

NCWorks and Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board will have a Regional Job Fair in Granville County on **Wednesday, August 10, 2022 at Hix Field in Oxford, NC** in partnership with Granville County Economic Development, Granville County Chamber of Commerce, Vance-Granville Community College, and Piedmont Community College. There will be over 25 employers present with a variety of career opportunities. Stay tuned for more details! Visit www.kerrtarworks.com or call the NCWorks Career Center at 252-438-6129 for more information.



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



Success Story: *Alyssa Bunton*

Alyssa Bunton was a young single mother and working as a hair salon receptionist when she came to NCWorks in March 2022. She worked well with the public, was professional on the phone, and managed the stylists' appointments, but she knew we wanted something more. Her NCWorks team created a Work Experience for Ms. Bunton, and on March 21, 2022 she started her training as a Junior Recruiter at Huff Consulting, a well-known staffing agency in Oxford, NC.

During her Work Experience, Ms. Bunton was exposed to the full range of responsibilities found in a busy office. She also mastered Microsoft Office, filing and organization, prioritizing, time management, and even cold calling. After completing her Work Experience, Huff was so pleased with her work that she was offered a promotion!

On June 17, 2022, Ms. Bunton started her On-The-Job (OJT) for the position of Human Resources Manager. Along with her previous skills, she will be learning the ins and outs of employment law, candidate vetting and selection, payroll, invoicing, negotiating future contracts, and making full use of the NCWorks Database for Employers.

When asked how she feels about her NCWorks experience, Ms. Bunton had this to say: "It is my job to share job resources and opportunities to help others also find rewarding careers."



Success Story: *Gwyneshia Green*



Gwyneshia Green, a single mother working part time as a customer service representative, was referred to NCWorks by Medical Careers Readiness. Ms. Green was seeking assistance with attaining her Phlebotomy license. She stated, "I have a goal of being a phlebotomist so I can provide for my children." On April 21, 2022 Ms. Green was enrolled in the WIOA program through NCWorks and began her training on April 25, 2022 with Medical Career Readiness. She successfully completed early due to receiving an employment offer from Maria Parham Hospital.

Ms. Green is so thankful for the assistance NCWorks has provided and she is excited to see what the future holds for her career.

Success Story: *Zacchaeus Williams*



Zacchaeus Williams contacted NCWorks in June 2022 after becoming dispirited with his local employer, where promises of a decent wage and consistent hours never seemed to materialize. He has always liked working with his hands, especially building things, but has never had the opportunity to pursue this interest. His NCWorks NextGen program team created a four-day "Job Shadowing" opportunity at Robco Manufacturing of Henderson, NC, producers of high-end floating docks for Alumadock Marine Structures from June 14-17.

In this role, and under the guidance of Robco's seasoned professionals, Mr. Williams had a first-hand taste of the advanced manufacturing process, from blueprint to finished product. The folks at Robco were so impressed with his enthusiasm, reliability, and willingness to learn that they asked if he could stay!

On June 20, Mr. Williams started a Work Experience through NCWorks' NextGen program. Upon completion, he will have the skills needed, such as calculating material and equipment needs, soldering, MiG welding, metal reshaping, and final assembly to compete successfully in the growing field of Advanced Manufacturing. Prior to creating the Work Experience, his NCWorks team asked Mr. Williams if he was enjoying his Job Shadow at Robco, which was so different from his retail background. He grinned and said, "Oh yes! I am!"

Regional Job Fair Update: *Vance County*

On Friday, June 3, 2022 NCWorks and the Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board held a job fair on Breckenridge Street in Vance County. Other key partners who led to the success of this event included Henderson-Vance Economic Development, Downtown Development Commission, Henderson-Vance Chamber of Commerce, Vance-Granville Community College, and Piedmont Community College. The event was a huge success with 26 employers offering a broad variety of opportunities and over 100 engaged job-seekers.

The employers were highly satisfied with the amount of applicants. In addition to the many job opportunities available, there was music and giveaways throughout the day to make the event even more enjoyable. Many downtown businesses offered specials for employers and job fair attendees, and many of them purchased lunch from downtown restaurants and shopped at participating stores. Stay up to date on future events by visiting www.kerrtarworks.com or calling the NCWorks Career Center at 252-438-6129.





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](#)

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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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