



Butner Gazebo, Chip Henderson Photography

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events

- April Reentry Resource Fair: **Friday, April 5 @ Downtown Henderson on Breckenridge Street, 11:00am-2:00pm**
- Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training: **See page 6 for dates and registration**
- Digital Inclusion Planning Stakeholder Meetings:
 - **Franklin County: Wednesday, April 17 @ Franklin Plaza, 9:00am**
 - **Granville County: Thursday, April 18 @ Expo Center, 9:00am**
 - **Warren County: TBD**
- Young Adult Hiring Event: **Tuesday, April 30 @ Raleigh Road Outdoor Theater, 12:00-4:00pm**
- **Save the Date:** Louisburg Scam Jam Event: **Wednesday, May 1, more details coming soon!**
- **Save the Date:** Elder Abuse Awareness Walk: **Friday, June 14 @ Granville County, more details coming soon!**



Granville County Welcomes New Economic Development Director

Granville County has selected Joseph Stallings to serve as the next Economic Development Director. Stallings joins Granville County following thirteen years leading economic development efforts for the North Carolina Railroad Company, the Town of Garner in Wake County, NC and the Town of Benson in Johnston County, NC.



Joseph Stallings

Stallings most recently served as the Director of Economic Development for the North Carolina Railroad Company in Raleigh. In his nearly two years with the NC Railroad, Stallings facilitated statewide and local economic development efforts in partnership with the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the Economic Development Partnership of North Carolina as well as municipal and county governments to recruit and expand existing industries in North Carolina. Before his time with the NC Railroad, Stallings served as the Economic Development Director for the Town of Garner from 2015-2022.

“I am excited and honored to have been selected as Granville County’s next Economic Development Director,” said Stallings. Read the full official press release [HERE](#).

Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board Awarded \$250,000 Grant



The North Carolina Department of Commerce has awarded grants totaling \$750,000 to three local Workforce Development Boards to support the creation of Local Reentry Councils (LRCs). These new groups will collaborate with workforce development partners, the N.C. Department of Adult Correction and others in their communities to support justice-involved people in making a successful transition to employment, which in turn promotes public safety.

Recipients of these one-time grants, each in the amount of **\$250,000**, include:

- Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, which will support a new LRC in Wayne County;
- **Kerr-Tar Workforce Development Board (WDB), which will support a new LRC in Warren County;** and
- Piedmont Triad Regional Workforce Development Board, which will support a new LRC in Alamance County.

Commerce officials selected these areas after receiving recommendations from the Department of Adult Correction. To read the full press release, click [HERE](#). Congrats to the Kerr-Tar WDB!

NCDOT Mobi Awards Contest Deadline Extended

Communities now have more time to enter a contest for the state's best multimodal transportation projects. The deadline to enter the 2024 N.C. Department of Transportation Mobi Awards has been extended to **June 28**. It had originally been set at March 1. Also, NCDOT has rescheduled the ceremony to honor the winners of this year's NCDOT Mobi Awards. The new ceremony will be held during a luncheon at **noon October 11** at the **Raleigh Convention Center**, instead of May 22. The October event will be the fourth NCDOT Mobi Awards ceremony. The NCDOT launched the Mobi Awards in 2019 to showcase multimodal projects such as greenways and complete streets projects that spurred economic development and improved communities' quality of life and public health.



Entries for the NCDOT Mobi Awards can come from towns, cities, counties, universities/colleges, planning organizations, public transit systems, airport authorities or councils of government. For more information and contest rules, please click [HERE](#). Interested participants should apply as soon as possible using the [online application](#).

Unlocking Potential: Strategies for Brownfield Redevelopment



Save the date! Central Pines COG will be hosting a session on Unlocking Potential: Strategies for Brownfield Redevelopment on **Thursday, May 2 from 9:15am-3:00pm at their office in Durham**. This will be in partnership with Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments.

Brownfields redevelopment is a tool for community revitalization and economic development. Most communities have at least one brownfield site. This event will help local governments, non-profits, and brownfield stakeholders learn strategies for transforming brownfield sites into productive uses.

Lunch will be provided at the workshop! Register [HERE!](#)

Check Out the New NCARCOG Website



The North Carolina Association of Council of Governments (NCARCOG) has launched an all new website! Learn more about North Carolina's Regional Councils (including the Kerr-Tar COG) and the wide range of services they deliver to local governments. The website also allows users to explore valuable NCARCOG resources, from groundbreaking reports and studies to cutting-edge tools such as: 2024 Policy Agenda, ARP Impact Report and NC Impact Report.



Check out the new NCARCOG website [HERE](#).

Don't be Trashy: Volunteer for the Spring 2024 Litter Sweep



SPRING
LITTER SWEEP
April 13-27, 2024

N.C. Department of Transportation
Biannual Cleanup Drive

➔ **Volunteer Locally!**

ncdot.gov/littersweep
Forms, posters, and telephone listings are available on our website

Share your clean-up photos at:
[#LitterSweepNC](https://twitter.com/LitterSweepNC)

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As spring starts, the N.C. Department of Transportation is gearing up for its annual Spring Litter Sweep from **April 13-27**. The Spring Litter Sweep, one of **NCDOT's roadside litter removal initiatives**, harnesses the power of community engagement to tackle the issue of roadside litter. During the two-week period, residents are encouraged to participate in local efforts to help clean up North Carolina's roads. In addition to volunteers, NCDOT maintenance crews devote one week of their time picking up litter and collecting trash bags that are filled by volunteers. People interested in volunteering during the Spring Litter Sweep can request gloves, safety vests and bags from their **local county maintenance offices**. For those eager to lend a hand, simply reach out to your **local litter management coordinator** to get started. Check out the **Litter Sweep webpage** for all the details!

SOG Releases Model Procurement Policy for Expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance

When spending federal financial assistance (e.g., federal grant awards), local governments are required to adopt written procurement policies to help ensure compliance with the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). The School of Government developed a model procurement policy intended to help local government recipients and sub-recipients of federal awards to comply with the Uniform Guidance procurement requirements.

- [Click here](#) to view the Model Procurement Policy
- [Click here](#) to access the School of Government's PowerPoint presentation on Uniform Guidance Procurement
- [Click here](#) to access the School of Government's sample contract terms complaint with Uniform Guidance procurement requirements



Internal Control in Financial Management: Understanding the Basics

Headline: City finance employee embezzles public money. While the facts may differ, the story underlying this all-too-common headline is usually one in which a trusted employee slowly pockets money by writing checks or electronically transferring funds to a personal bank account until the fraud is eventually uncovered. This is an unfortunate situation all around. Yet, there are steps local governments can (and must) take that will help keep them out of the headlines. These steps are called internal controls. Learn more [HERE](#).

New Obligation Guidance Regarding ARPA SLFRF

Treasury issued new obligation guidance regarding ARPA State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) via the **Obligation Interim Final Rule** (IFR). The Obligation IFR revises the definition of "obligation" in Treasury's implementing regulations for the SLFRF program and provides related guidance to give additional flexibility and clarity to recipients to support their use of SLFRF funds. Click [HERE](#) to view the full Obligation Interim Final Rule. Click [HERE](#) to view the Treasury's Quick Reference Guide for the Obligation Interim Final Rule.



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](#).



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.

For More Information Contact:

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

Thursday, April 11th Butner Town Hall (Camp Butner Room) 415 Central Avenue, Butner, NC	Register Here 10am- 3pm
Register Here	Thursday, April 18th Perry Memorial Library (Farm Bureau Room) 205 Breckenridge Street Henderson, NC

2024 Opening Ceremonies 🏆 🏆 🏆

Opening Ceremonies for the 2024 Senior Games were held on Friday, March 22 at Aycock Recreation Center in Henderson. To say the least, our amazing local coordinators, Senior Games Steering Committee, senior center staff and community volunteers, organized an amazing Opening Ceremonies event this year!

Opening Ceremonies began with a warm welcome by one of our local coordinators, followed by opening remarks offered by: Tami Walker (City of Henderson Councilwoman), Terrell Blackmon (City of Henderson Manager), and Kendrick Vann (Henderson-Vance Parks & Recreation Director).



Minister Evelyn C. Couch sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem and our KTAAA Director, Nancy Francis, offered an inspiring speech to attendees titled "YOU Are the Spirit of the Senior Games." Crystal Allen with the Aycock Recreation Center led the "Introduction of the Counties", allowing senior participants from all of our five counties the opportunity to represent their community and cheer one another on! The final act was The Vance County Sliders performing one of their lively dance numbers. Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC, who provided a generous community grant for the Senior Games, had an information table and giveaways.

After the Ceremonies, the Cornhole competition started the athletic events for our 2024 Senior Games! **We had almost 70 competitors!** Thanks to the tireless efforts and direction of Aging Specialist and Local Coordinator Barbara Stewart, the Steering Committee members, Senior Center staff and community volunteers had everyone organized and playing within minutes.

Over 200 regional older adults will compete in the many athletic events and creative arts over the next seven weeks. SilverArts, where older adults showcase their creative work, will be held on **Friday, May 17, at the Person County Office Building starting at 10:00am.** Here's to an amazing Senior Games season this year!

SRTS Participates in 2024 Community Resource Festival

On Wednesday, March 13, the Kerr-Tar COG’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program attended the second annual Community Resource Festival at Vance-Granville Community College! With over 300 people in attendance, we had such a blast connecting with citizens from Granville and Vance counties. From educating attendees on different types of active transportation, to making them aware of the resources we provide to the Region, our SRTS mission was surely spread that day!



Our Regional Project Manager, Amanda Lewis, was also at our SRTS table sharing our region’s digital inclusion endeavors and upcoming projects. Community outreach and partnerships mean the world to our SRTS program, so it was an absolute honor to be a part of this event. Congratulations to all involved!

If your organization would like to partner with our SRTS program, please contact us at (252) 436-2040 ext. 2009 or email Kenia Gomez-Jimenez at kgomezjimenez@kerrtarco.org.

Kerr-Tar COG Planning Team at 2024 NC Rural Summit



The 2024 North Carolina Rural Summit, held on March 20-21, was an amazing experience for networking connections for two of our planning department team members! Charlie Robinette (Food Systems Specialist) and Amanda Lewis (Regional Project Manager) enjoyed listening to esteemed speakers about Rural Leadership, Internet for All, Innovation in Rural Job Creation, Mainstreet Revitalization, Who Will Farm, Connecting Communities to Care, and Engines of Economic Mobility from community trail blazers from all over North Carolina. Thank you, NC Rural Center, for being such a wonderful host and creating this space to foster connections through the Rural Resource Fair & Reception and breakout sessions!

“Framing Our Food System” Engagement Sessions

In partnership with NC Cooperative Extension, the Planning Department’s AmeriCorps service member, Charlie Robinette, and Regional Project Manager, Amanda Lewis, hosted five conversations throughout March to identify strengths and challenges in the regional food system. A conversation was held in each Kerr-Tar county, with more than **60 folks in attendance** ranging from farmers and market managers to food pantry directors and health departments, from support agencies and local restaurant owners to elected officials and universities. The findings from these meetings will directly inform the work of the Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council once it begins meeting.



Vance County Session



Granville County Session

To apply to be on the Kerr-Tar Regional Food Council, please email crobinette@kerrtarco.org or call (980) 389-3446 for more information!

EDA Accepting Applications to Support Economic Development Projects



The Economic Development Administration (EDA) is accepting applications from a wide array of Eligible Entities (including Counties, Towns, and Municipalities; water and sewer authorities; institutions of higher education; regional development organizations; Federally-recognized Tribes, and nonprofits working in collaboration with units of local government) to advance economic development.

EDA can support an array of planning and technical assistance projects, as well as construction and/or renovation of public or nonprofit owned assets that will support higher-wage job creation.

EDA requires matching share funds, generally at 50 percent, and applications are reviewed on a rolling basis, so applicants interested are strongly encouraged to submit as soon as possible. Interested applicants are strongly encouraged to reach out to **Hillary Sherman** at hsherman@eda.gov to discuss their project and EDA grant requirements

Wilfoods Hiring Event



Wilfoods, sister company of MR Williams, hosted a hiring event at the NCWorks Career Center on March 27 from 9:00am-4:00pm. The food service commissary business is located in the former Supply Line building, and will be open soon. There were a total of **146 candidates who attended!** Onsite interviews were conducted and once the needs were met for the food service technicians at Wilfoods, they began offering other positions with MR Williams. There were many job offers made on the spot! The MR Williams/Wilfoods staff were all pleased with this amazing event!

For information about other events, contact the NCWorks Career Center at 252-598-5200 or check out the Facebook page [HERE](#).

Success Story Update:

Kendrick Mangum

Kendrick Mangum was enrolled in WIOA through the NCWorks Career Center in December 2021, right in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. Kendrick was determined to get into the CDL program at Piedmont Community College. He saw that there was a shortage of truck drivers and thought it would be the perfect time for a career change.

Kendrick was in the catering business. Catering opportunities were very slow to none during COVID. After completing training in April 2022 he went to work with USA Truck to get additional training and drive time. On August 25, 2022, he started the paperwork for Mangum's Logistics LLC. Currently, he is the proprietor of 2 trucks and trailers at Mangum's Logistics LLC in Person County!

In Kendrick's words, "Business is going very well".



April Reentry Resource Fair

April is **National Second Chance Month**, which helps raise awareness of the challenges individuals encounter when they re-enter society after being incarcerated. The Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments Reentry Roundtable is holding a reentry resource fair in **Downtown Henderson on Breckenridge St**. The event will be held from **11am-2pm on Friday, April 5**.

Justice Involved residents of the Kerr Tar region can stop at tables, pick up information, and speak with providers who offer a variety of services and opportunities, including health, education, training, employment, and peer support, that can benefit them in their reentry. Agencies, organizations, and companies offering services and opportunities for returned citizens are encouraged to participate. This event is also open to families of justice involved individuals and the community to have access and learn about services and programs provided throughout the Kerr Tar region.



REENTRY RESOURCE FAIR
Presented By: Kerr-Tar Reentry Roundtable

Friday, April 5, 2024
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Downtown Henderson
on Breckenridge Street

Regional & Community Resources Onsite for Justice-Involved Individuals

- Criminal Record Expungement
- Housing
- Transportation
- Food Assistance
- Financial Literacy
- Outreach Programs

And More !

Contact Sharon Thomas at 252-436-2040 or visit www.kerrtarworks.com for more information

Kerr-Tar WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD | **NC works** A proud partner of the American Job Center network

Check out the flyer below!



**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: *Crystal Melgar*

Crystal Melgar is a 24 year-old mother of a seven-month baby girl who resides in Vance County. She enrolled in the NextGen Program in November 2023 seeking assistance with obtaining her Nurse Aide 1 certification. Crystal passed her Nurse Aide state exam on March 22 and is waiting to take the Medication Aide state exam. She attended a hiring event for Henderson Nursing and Senior Center on March 26 where she was offered a position as a Certified Nursing Assistant!

"It was a great opportunity to continue my education so that I can have a better future for me and my daughter," said Crystal when asked about her experience in the NextGen Program. Congratulations Crystal, we wish you all the best!



Success Story: *Jemarius Reed*



VGCC WIOA Youth participant Jemarius Reed has completed truck driving training! Jemarius, a Granville County resident, enrolled in the youth program in December 2023 with a desire to become a truck driver. The training started on January 16, 2024 and with hard work and dedication, he successfully completed the CDL truck driving training! Jemarius graduated from the CDL program on Thursday, March 28 and is currently seeking employment as a CDL driver. We are so proud of you Jemarius!

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.



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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