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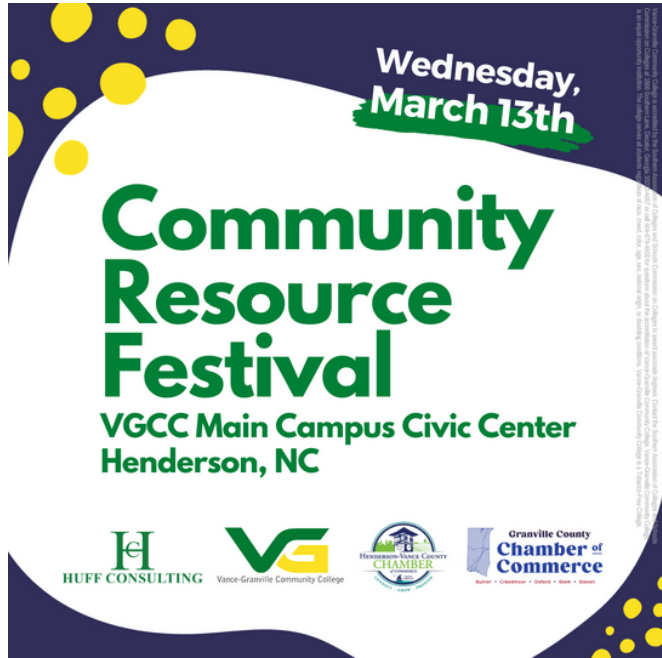


MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Upcoming Events

- KTAAA RAAC Meeting: **Wednesday, February 14 @ Kerr-Tar COG Office, 2:00pm**
- **RSVP TODAY:** Electrification Funding Opportunities Workshop: **Wednesday, February 21 @ Kerr-Area Transportation Authority (KARTS), 12:00-1:30pm, RSVP [HERE](#)**
- KTRPO TAC/TCC Meeting: **Thursday, February 22 @ Kerr-Tar COG Office, 3:00pm**
- Community Resource Festival: **Wednesday, March 13 @ Vance-Granville Community College Civic Center, 10:00am-3:00pm**
- 2024 Senior Games Opening Ceremonies: **Friday, March 22 @ Aycock Recreation Center, 9:30am**
- Young Adult Hiring Event: **Tuesday, April 30 @ Raleigh Road Outdoor Theater, 12:00-4:00pm**

2024 Community Resource Festival



Vance-Granville Community College is partnering with Huff Consulting LLC, the Henderson-Vance Chamber of Commerce, and the Granville County Chamber of Commerce to host an exciting 2024 Community Resource Festival on **Wednesday, March 13 from 10:00am-3:00pm!** Dozens of local businesses and nonprofit organizations will be on hand to assist with a range of services to show what our communities have to offer—find resources for housing, education, employment readiness, childcare, addiction, re-entry, veterans’ services, and more! This **FREE** event welcomes people of all ages!

USDOT Seeks Public Comment on Ways to Improve Accessibility

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) published a Request for Information (RFI) seeking public comment on ways to improve the accessibility of public transportation facilities for people with disabilities. Read the RFI in the Federal Register [HERE](#) or submit comment by **Tuesday, February 20, 2024.**



2024 State Energy Conference



Registration is now open for the 2024 State Energy Conference. The conference will be held **April 23-24, 2024** at the **McKimmon Conference & Training Center in Raleigh.** Individuals are invited to attend to network, learn best practices, hear about successful case studies, engage in important energy discussions and more. For more information, including registration cost and conference agenda, click [HERE](#).

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NCARCOG Executive Director Advertisement

The North Carolina Association of Regional Councils of Governments (NCARCOG) is seeking proposals from qualified individuals and firms to serve as NCARCOG's full-time Executive Director. NCARCOG seeks to establish a contract with an individual or firm that is experienced in organizational leadership and management, public policy, governmental service delivery, and partnership building.



The Executive Director shall serve as the Chief Executive Officer of the NCARCOG and, therefore, shall direct the day-to-day management of the organization, lead the organization's strategic planning efforts, assist the Executive Committee with the management of the organization's financial resources, actively participate in the organization's legislative advocacy efforts, amongst other duties.

Click [HERE](#) for more information, including a detailed position description and guidelines for submitting a proposal. Please feel free to contact Justin Hembree, Mid-Carolina Regional Council, at jhembree@mccog.org with questions.

Disaster Recovery Financial Administration Training



Does your community have a plan for when disasters strike? We are partnering with NC Emergency Management to host **two pre-disaster training and preparation workshops** on **April 11 in Butner** and **April 18 in Henderson**. The workshops are open to all units of governments, school systems, community colleges and nonprofits. Be on the lookout for more information coming soon!

Local Government Resources for Drafting ARPA Policies

Sample policies and tools have been created by School of Government faculty and are intended to provide local governments a general guide to drafting policies that are consistent with the Uniform Guidance, 2 CFR Part 200, and the U.S. Department of Treasury regulations applicable to Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. Use of these sample policies does not create an attorney-client relationship with the UNC School of Government or its faculty members. Local governments must work with their attorneys to modify these policies as necessary to reflect local needs and capabilities. Document links can be accessed [HERE](#).

Registration Open: 2024 Senior Games

Early Bird Registration is open for the 2024 Kerr-Tar Regional Senior Games! Normal entry deadline is due by **March 8, 2024**. Opening Ceremonies will be on **Friday, March 22** at **Aycock Recreation Center in Henderson at 9:30am**. Join the KTAAG 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 May 17. Registration packets for sporting events and SilverArts are available at your local Senior Center and Parks & Recreation Departments. If you would like to access the registration booklet online, click [HERE](#).



Regional Aging Needs Assessment

We are in the final stages of developing the Region's 2024-28 Area Aging Plan. A **six-question Regional Aging Needs Assessment** has been distributed via newspaper, social media, and paper copies throughout the Region to get residents' input regarding the needs of older adults. Respondents may offer their own ideas and solutions for any of the listed needs and topics. We look forward to your comments and responses. It takes less than 2 minutes to complete the survey, which you can find [HERE!](#) Thank you for your input!



Franklin County Holds Annual Pool Tournament



The Franklin County Senior Center hosted its 2nd Annual Pool Tournament on December 14, 2023 at the Franklinton Senior Center! There were five registered individuals for this tournament, one being last year's king, King Bryant. It was a close tournament but, at the end of the event, a new king was crowned! Pictured is the new King of billiards winner, Dan Grimmes with our very own Aging Specialist Barbara Stewart. There were several other spectators that came out and supported this event. A great time was had by everyone in attendance!

KTAAA Staff Attend the 2024 Local Coordinators Association Conference

Our very own KTAAA staff members, Barbara Stewart and Michael Patterson, attended the 2024 Local Coordinators Associations Conference in Asheville from January 10-11. They both had a great time networking with other Local Coordinators across the state, all while receiving useful training on Senior Games practices. The highlight of the conference was the Meet and Greet event where everyone was asked to dress up in their favorite 80's attire. As you can see from the picture submitted, Barbara and Michael perfectly embraced the theme! Way to go you two!



February RAAC Meeting



Our next Regional Aging Advisory Council (RAAC) meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 14 at 2pm at the Kerr-Tar COG office**. We seek two new members from Franklin County to fill our council. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact us at (252) 436-2040.



NC Insurance Commissioner Informational Session in Henderson



On January 23, KTAAA staff members Kim Hawkins and Barbara Stewart attended an informational session featuring NC Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey at Perry Memorial Library. The session was hosted by the Henderson-Vance County Chamber of Commerce. Ideas discussed were business insurance/rates, insurance fraud and the importance of reporting fraud, health claim issues, life insurance, and much more. There were **over 50 people** in attendance, including staff from the local Fire Departments, Vance County Sheriff's Office, Chamber members, insurance professionals and our very own KTAAA team!

Check out the event below!

FREE POP-UP CLINIC

FREE DENTAL, VISION, AND MEDICAL SERVICES



February 17-18, 2024

Vance Charter School

2090 Ross Mill Road, Henderson, NC 27537



VISION

Eye Exams
Glaucoma Testing
Classes Made on Site



DENTAL

Fillings
Cleanings
Extractions



MEDICAL

General Medical
Women's Health
And More!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The patient parking lot will open no later than 11:59 P.M. on Friday night, February 16, and remain open. Clinic doors typically open at 6 A.M.
- On Saturday (2/17), the clinic will be open from 6 A.M. – 4 P.M.
On Sunday (2/18), the clinic will be open from 6 A.M. – 12 P.M.
- Patients should be prepared with their own food, water, medicines, and clothing, when arriving early.
- Bathrooms will be provided.
- Free dental, vision, and medical services are provided on **first-come, first-serve basis**.
- Due to time constraints, **be prepared to choose between DENTAL and VISION services**. General Medical services are offered to every patient attending the clinic.
- All services are **free and open to the public**. No ID required.

NO ID NECESSARY, FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED



865.579.1530

SPONSORED BY:



ramusa.org

Join Us: Electrification Funding Opportunities Workshop

The Kerr-Tar COG’s Clean Fuel & Advance Technology (CFAT) program is thrilled to invite all interested individuals to attend our upcoming Electrification Funding Opportunities Lunch & Learn Workshop! This **FREE** workshop will be held on **Wednesday, February 21 from 12:00-1:30pm at the Kerr-Area Transportation Authority (KARTS) building in Henderson**. The workshop aims to provide valuable insight into the various Federal and State funding opportunities available to fleet organizations, schools, law enforcement, local governments and more. Hear from Heather Brutz, Clean Energy Transportation Director with NCCETC, on electrification topics that are greatly informative and relevant to our rural five-county Region.



Please join us for this educational workshop, and enjoy lunch on us (plus a tour of the wonderful KARTS building, you really don’t want to miss this one)! **If you will be attending, RSVP** to Kenia Gomez-Jimenez, Regional Program Coordinator at kgomezjimenez@kerrtarco.org or (252) 436-2040 ext. 2009.

Applications Open for 2024 NCDOT Bicycle Helmet Initiative

Since being introduced, the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) Bicycle Helmet Initiative has equipped thousands of children with a helmet. Unfortunately, children are a key demographic involved in bicycle-related incidents. To promote helmet usage and support local bicycle activities, the Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation is accepting applications from organizations and non-profits willing to distribute helmets to children. The selection process encourages applicants to collaborate with community groups to extend bicycle safety awareness outreach.

The application deadline for 2024 is **Friday, February 9**. Interested organizations are encouraged to apply **HERE**. Once distributed, the Kerr-Tar COG’s Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program will gladly provide assistance as a regional partner with the distribution of helmets and other safety materials.



National Digital Inclusion Alliance

The National Digital Inclusion Alliance (NDIA) Community forms the strong, growing core of digital inclusion work in the United States. NDIA is comprised of a group of digital inclusion practitioners, advocates, and supporters working with communities to advance digital equity. They are always welcoming new members, including nonprofits and government entities who wish to identify as NDIA Affiliates. Our very own Regional Project Manager, Amanda Lewis, is a registered NDIA Affiliate. Call us today to learn more about NDIA and how you can promote digital equity in our Region!



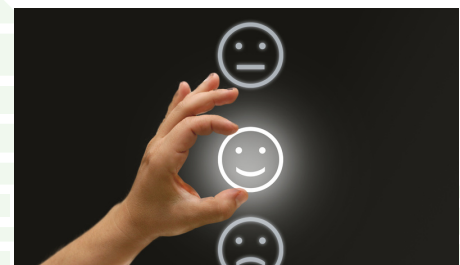
Funding Forecast

Check out these **COOL** funding opportunities!

- **FY 2024 USDOT RAISE Grant**
 - The RAISE grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation is a wonderful funding opportunity with zero match for rural areas—which we are mostly rural in the Kerr-Tar region. For more information on how to develop your RAISE grant application, you may find their outreach page containing recorded informational webinars about the RAISE grant application and award process [HERE](#). Applications must be submitted through Grants.gov. More information [HERE](#).
- **Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program**
 - The Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grant Program fosters economic development in rural communities through the rehabilitation of historic buildings in those communities. These sub-grant programs, managed by States, Tribes, Certified Local Governments, special district governments, and non-profits will fund preservation projects for historic properties to include architectural/engineering services and physical preservation. More information [HERE](#).
- **National Endowment for the Arts Grant Programs**
 - The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is proud to support the nation's arts sector with grant opportunities. Challenge America offers support primarily to small organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved groups/communities. More information [HERE](#).

Digital Inclusion Surveys Available

English and Spanish versions of the Digital Inclusion Survey for Home and Businesses in the state of North Carolina are available upon request by emailing our Regional Project Manager, Amanda Lewis, at alewis@kerrtarco.org or by downloading the survey [HERE](#).



Check out the flyer below!



BROADBAND ACCESS HOME & BUSINESS SURVEY

**SLOW internet?
NO internet?**
We need to know.

The N.C. Broadband Survey is designed to gather information on locations without adequate internet access and speeds in our community.



For Homes & Businesses
WITH Internet Service
Visit [NCBroadband.gov/Survey](https://www.ncbroadband.gov/survey)
to take the survey now.



For Homes & Businesses
WITHOUT Internet Service
Text **"Internet"** to **919-750-0553**.
Standard text messaging rates will apply.

Your feedback directly impacts grant and infrastructure funding in your community.

NCDIT NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY
Broadband Infrastructure Office

We welcome your feedback!

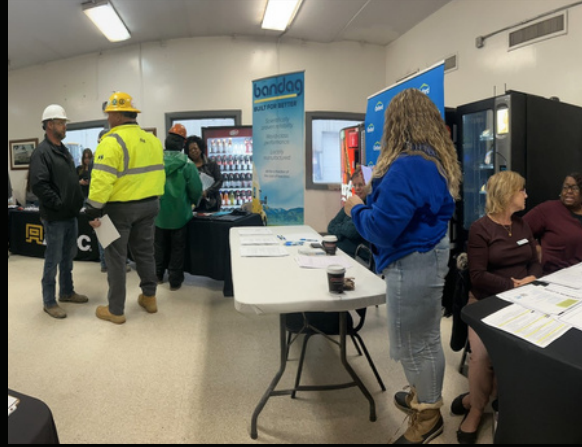
Ways to take the survey:

Scan the QR code with your cell phone

Call Residents with landlines or cellphones that do not have texting capability may place a voice call to 919-750-0553. An interactive voice response system will guide them through a series of short questions to obtain the caller's address and register it in the database as having no internet capability at all.



Gate Precast Rapid Response Event



On January 9, the NCWorks Rapid Response Team, including staff from Vance-Granville Community College, provided services to the employees at Gate Precast in Granville County after the announcement of their closure. This had an immediate impact on 77 employees. The team conducted a Rapid Response Benefits Information Session for both English and Spanish speaking employees to help them understand options available during their transition to new employment. Following the information sessions, a job fair was held that included nine local employers. Many employees received job offers on the spot. The NCWorks Mobile Unit was also onsite, providing convenient computer access and the opportunity to register with NCWorks online for further job seeking assistance.

Despite the uncertainty of the weather that day, it was certain that the employers were supportive and the employees were very grateful, resulting in a very successful event!

Success Story: Stanley Joseph



Congratulations to Stanley Joseph on being one of our February 2024 Success Stories! Stanley was enrolled in the WIOA program in August 2023. The following month he enrolled in CDL training through Nash Community College and successfully finished training on November 2, 2023. Before the end of November, Stanley had gained full-time employment as a CDL Class A license driver for U.S. Xpress. Stanley is now enjoying his new career, and he even purchased a new home for his family! Way to go Stanley!

Check out the event below! 



REGISTER NOW!
Deadline:
March 29, 2024

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 to explore all the options available to you and apply.
See counselor for your allotted time slot and more information.

Person County Students
REGISTER HERE! →



<https://bit.ly/pcsregistration2024>

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



Success Story: *Kearna Shaw*

Congratulations to Kearna Shaw on being our second Success Story of the month! Kearna enrolled in the WIOA program on September 28, 2023 with the goal of obtaining her Dental Assistant certification from NC Dental U. Kearna had a job but was looking for a career with longevity and an opportunity to improve her financial status. She was extremely excited about the opportunity to pursue a new career at NC Dental U. She started her class on October 20, 2023 and completed her training on December 7, 2023. Kearna was a model student who excelled throughout the program passing all her exams and receiving her certification. Kearna is currently working with her NCWorks Career Advisor to revise her resume and assist her with finding a full-time position as a Dental Assistant. Great job Kearna!



Stay Connected with Your Local NCWorks Career Center!



[@NCWorksCareerCenter-KerrTar](https://www.facebook.com/NCWorksCareerCenter-KerrTar)



www.kerrtarworks.com



[@ncworks_kerrtar](https://www.instagram.com/ncworks_kerrtar)

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



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.

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*You are the heart of
our Region!*

What a fantastic month to express our gratitude! From our community leaders, to our outstanding citizens, local government workers, teachers and more, we would like to thank all of you for contributing to the greatness of the Kerr-Tar Region.





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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