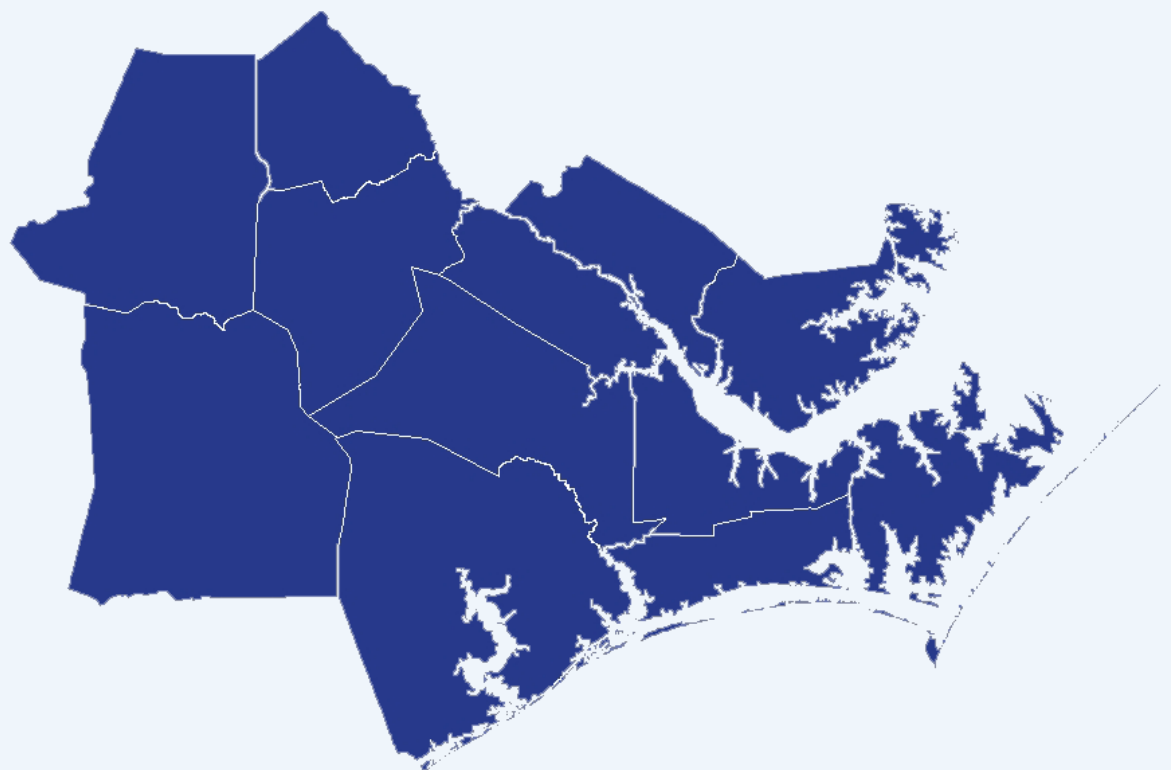




Eastern Carolina Council
2023-2024 Annual Report

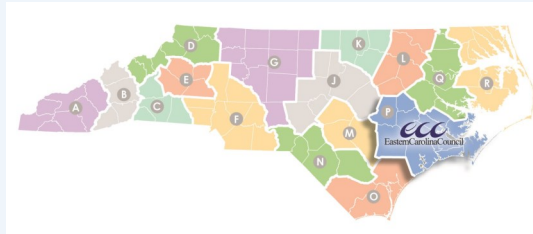


233 Middle Street, Suite 300, New Bern, NC 28560 ▪ PO Box 1717, New Bern, NC 28563 ▪ 252.638.3185 ▪ www.eccog.org

Eastern Carolina Council

About

The Eastern Carolina Council (ECC) is a multi-county, local government, planning and development organization. ECC is one of sixteen councils of government in NC. These councils are forums where local officials determine priorities for the larger area in which their communities are an integral part.



ECC serves a region with a land mass of 5,710 square miles and a population of over 652,000 in the region's nine counties (Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne).

ECC is a conduit between local governments in our region and state/federal partners. ECC's Area Agency on Aging Department plans and administers a variety of federal, state, and local programs and services primarily targeted at supporting aging adults and their caregivers. ECC's Planning and Economic Development Department provides professional planning, economic, and community development services to member governments and partners at the local and regional levels. We provide technical assistance to local governments and administer projects and programs which benefit our region's citizens.

Mission Statement: *The Eastern Carolina Council's mission is to improve the region's quality of life by providing planning, economic development and senior services to local governments and area residents by maximizing resources and collaborating regionally.*

Vision Statement: *Eastern Carolina Council's vision is to be the recognized resource leading and engaging local governments, citizens, and stakeholders in an innovative collaborative manner to meet changing needs while enhancing and promoting a vibrant region.*

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Letter from the President & Executive Director of ECC

Local Government Leaders, Partners, and Friends:

The Neuse River Council of Government (d/b/a Eastern Carolina Council, or ECC) was established by the North Carolina Legislature in 1967. Our region consists of 9 counties, 62 municipalities, and a population of over 650,000. Our communities are of varying sizes, and our economy is complex, including military, agribusiness, manufacturing, medical, tourism, and other sectors. While our communities are diverse, we have much in common when it comes to the quality-of-life issues that are important to us all. ECC helps to address these issues in its roles as convener, collaborator, and technical expert. Ultimately, ECC is here to serve the people through the services we provide to our local governments.

ECC's mission includes the phrase "to improve the region's quality of life." To that end, ECC is focused on a range of key issues in our nine counties that are continually changing or evolving. Some of the projects we have worked on this past year include:

- Providing coordinated aging and other home and community based services intended to help vulnerable older adults to live with independence and dignity in their homes as long as possible.
- Supporting resilient economic and community development efforts.
- Assisting local governments to access and manage federal and state programs and funding.
- Supporting the development of a robust transportation network.
- Providing training for local government staff and elected officials.

Through this 2023-2024 Annual Report, we provide an opportunity to review this year's programs, services and accomplishments. We are accountable to you as we work to make the greatest impact to help our communities. While these projects are led by different departments, they are all interconnected. Our job at ECC is to connect the dots between all these seemingly disparate issues to engage the right partners or identify funding sources to address the problem.

This annual report showcases successes achieved through diligent staff work, strong relationships, and regional collaboration. Each story underscores ECC's commitment to navigating complex challenges for the betterment of the region.

One of our successes in 2023-2024 has been the growth of our membership. Our success hinges on working together—collaborating about our challenges, sharing in the successes of programs that work, and partnering to solve mutual problems. By expanding our membership, we become stronger and more united; we have more opportunities for partnership. By leveraging relationships with member governments and stakeholders, we navigate complexities and identify opportunities for positive change.

As we provide information about our programs and services in this report, we recognize the invaluable contributions of community leaders, volunteers, and partners. Together, we continue to strive towards a resilient and thriving region. To that end, we hope you will continue your involvement in ECC and help us as we improve the quality of life for all in our region.

Sincerely,

Ed Riggs, Jr. (President) & David Bone (ECC Executive Director)

Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

The Eastern Carolina Council Area Agency on Aging (ECC AAA) is one of 16 Area Agencies on Aging in North Carolina. Formally established in 1973 by way of the Older Americans Act, the Area Agency on Aging has served as the local leader on aging by planning, developing, funding, and implementation of local systems of coordinated aging and other home and community-based services intended to help vulnerable older adults to live with independence and dignity in their homes as long as possible.

MISSION STATEMENT: The ECC AAA will advocate, plan, develop, and support a comprehensive system of quality services designed to attain and preserve quality of life, health, and independence of older adults, individuals with disabilities, and caregivers.

Home and Community Care Block Grant

For FY 23-24, ECC AAA received an allocation of \$4,207,605 from the North Carolina Division of Aging Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) to be distributed to our 9 counties. The HCCBG is a combination of allocations from the Older Americans Act (OAA), the Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) in support of respite care, portions of the State In-Home and Adult Day Care funds, and other relevant State appropriations.

The distribution of the federal and state funds is based on county population using a formula with the following factors and weights:

- 50% on the number of persons 60 years of age and older
- 30% on the number of persons 60 and older who live at or below poverty
- 10% on the number of non-white persons 60 and older
- 10% on the number of 60 and older who live in rural areas

Home Delivered Meals:

- Average Rate: \$7.83
- Meals Delivered: 164,559
- People Served: 1,086

Congregate Nutrition:

- Average Rate: \$8.28
- Units Delivered: 99,313
- People Served: 1,730

Transportation:

- Average Rate: \$19.71
- Units Delivered: 38,752
- People Served: 406

In Home Services:

- Average Rate: \$26.68
- Units Delivered: 72,267
- People Served: 510

The formula component was designed to meet the requirements of the Older Americans Act, a major HCCBG funding source, to take into account: (1) the geographical distribution of older adults; and (2) the emphasis placed on those with the greatest social and economic needs. The formula-based allocation amounts to the counties fluctuate from year to year based on the shift in the designated demographic factors and funding levels.

HCCBG has 19 fundable programs to help meet local needs in assisting older adults to remain at home as long as possible in an effort to prevent premature institutionalization. With the annual allocation each county receives, the county funds programs based on guidance given to the County Commissioners from the local aging planning board with the intent to help those most in need.

To the left, you will see the top four funded programs in our region and how effective they have been during FY 23-24 in serving the older adults.

HCCBG Funded Agencies: Carteret County DSS ▪ Carteret Senior Services ▪ Coastal Community Action, Inc. ▪ Craven County DSS ▪ Havelock Senior Center ▪ Duplin Senior Services ▪ Greene County Senior Services ▪ Greene County DSS ▪ Jones County DSS ▪ Lenoir County Council on Aging, Inc. ▪ Lenoir County DSS ▪ Onslow County Senior Services ▪ Pamlico County DSS ▪ Pamlico Senior Services ▪ Primetime ▪ Wayne County Services for Older Adults ▪ Wayne Action Group for Economic Solvency, Inc. (WAGES))

Family Caregiver Support Program

Dementia Live

ECC AAA conducted nine dementia live trainings throughout the region in FY 23-24 with over 336 attendees. The trainings were presented to caregivers, family members, professionals, and our communities. The events were provided for professionals and community members.

Powerful Tools for Caregivers

ECC AAA conducted two regional provider **Powerful Tools for Caregivers** facilitator trainings in the Spring of 2024.



Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP)

The program assists unpaid individuals who serve as caregivers to frail elderly members and grandparents raising their grandchildren by providing them with:

- Information about available services in the community
- Assistance in connecting individuals with the available supportive services
- Individual counseling, support groups and training for caregivers to help them in making decisions and solving problems related to their caregiving role
- Respite care in the form of in-home assistance, adult day care, or group respite to provide the caregivers with a temporary relief from their caregiving duties
- Supplemental services to assist the caregiver as needed such as incontinence supplies, nutrition supplements, minor home modifications, and assistive devices.

Trainings for 1st Responders & Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT): 13 trainings, 258 people trained.

Supplemental (Liquid Nutrition, incontinence supplies, equipment, safety devices, assistive technology): 2,556 items given; 28 people served.

FCSP Support Services, Educational Sessions, Community events: 65 events, 1,939 people attended.

Respite (In-Home Aide & vouchers): 4,117 hours, 65 people served.



ECC Received 2023 NADO Award

Eastern Carolina Council received a 2023 NADO Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award for the Eastern Carolina Council Area Agency on Aging's Digital Technology Program. Noticing a technology and services gap in their region, ECC staff looked to expand the service capabilities of local senior centers to enhance seniors' quality of life, improve cognitive and memory skills, promote aging in place, and to help seniors connect and communicate with friends and family. ECC staff purchased two new interactive tools to meet these goals: the Meeting Owl and Obie for Seniors. Meeting Owl captures everything with a 360-degree camera, microphone, and speaker. Providers will use Meeting Owl to help with senior center virtual programming and to boost attendance at senior center events. By using the Meeting Owl system, regional senior centers can now give seniors that are unable to travel to the senior center the chance to participate in programming.

Obie for Seniors is an interactive gaming system that uses a projector combined with motion sensors to project motion activated games and activities onto tables, walls, or floors. This system supplies safe, hygienic, and germ-free activities for older adults. Programs include BINGO, touch and paint, interactive movement, memory games, general recreational, and sports. These efforts are a part of ECC's continuous efforts to improve service delivery at their regional senior centers and give senior residents more opportunities for engagement and community involvement.

Ombudsman Program

Long Term Care Ombudsman Activities for FY 23-24

Visits to LTC Facilities	596
Facility In-Services	12
Community Education Events	26
Technical Assistance	859
Complaints	180
Cases	78

The **Ombudsman Program** advocates for the rights of residents in Long Term Care (LTC) in the region. We investigate and work to resolve complaints related to medical and personal services provided to facility residents. We work with facilities, residents and their family members, concerned citizens and government entities to protect the rights of residents and provide information on the long-term care system. The Program provides in-service training and education to LTC facility staff and provides elder abuse awareness for community groups and organizations. We train and oversee the functions of 13 Community Advisory Committees (CAC) consisting of 32 volunteers.

Community Advisory Committee Volunteers:

Hours served: 679 Miles driven: 5,378



Region P Long Term Care Facilities:

Nursing Homes: 23
 Adult Care Homes: 40
 Family Care Homes: 28

Community Advisory Committees (CAC) – ECC AAA is actively working on volunteer recruitment with county clerks across the region. Pre-covid, we had 116 volunteers. When the suspension was lifted for CACs in July 2022, we were left with 22 volunteers. We now have 32 CACs across the region that are designated by the State Ombudsman Office and appointed by the County Commissioners. We have several volunteers still in the training process, and the numbers continue to grow. Ombudsmen provided training to our Community Advisory Committees volunteers on resident rights from the resident’s perspective, effective communication, understanding social isolation, and fighting back against retaliation. The CACs have given 679 documented hours of their time and driven over 5,378 miles during the year.

Advocacy / Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to the Community Advisory Committee, ECC is also thankful for its **Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC)** and **Senior Tar Heel Legislators (STHL)**. RAAC members are volunteers appointed by each county (3 per county) with the purpose to provide advisory functions which further the area agency’s mission. STHL volunteers provide information to seniors on the legislative process and matters being considered by the NC General Assembly.

Senior Centers in Our Region

Region P Senior Centers:

- Carteret County Senior Services Leon Mann Jr. Enrichment Center
- Craven County Senior Services
- Havelock Senior Services
- Duplin County Senior Services
- Greene County Senior Services
- Jones County Senior Services
- Lenoir County Council on Aging
- Onslow County Senior Services
- Pamlico County Senior Services
- Wayne County Services on Aging Peggy Seegars Senior Center

Since the birth of the first senior center in New York City in 1943, senior centers have continuously evolved to meet the needs of the older adults by providing valuable programs, services, and activities. The centers offer a variety of programs and choose which programs to fund based on the needs of the community. Below are programs that are typically offered in the senior centers within our region:

- Home Delivered Meals
- Congregate Nutrition
- Transportation
- In Home Aide Services
- Housing and Home Improvement
- Yoga
- Tai-Chi
- Technology Literacy
- Adult Basic Education
- Durable Medical Equipment Lending
- Information, Referral, and Case Assistance
- Consumer Directed Care
- Arthritis Exercise Programs
- Legal Assistance
- Care Management
- Family Caregiver Support
- Nutritional Supplements
- Senior Companion
- Fitness programs
- Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) and counseling
- Evidenced Based Health Promotion Programs
- Support Groups
- Adult Day Care
- Group Respite

Congrats to Providers Who Received Awards at the North Carolina Association on Aging (NCAOA) Conference

Congratulations to Lakisha Williams at the Leon Mann Jr. Enrichment Center in Morehead City and Alissa Andrewsborn from Craven County Department of Social Services for receiving NCAOA awards at the 2024 NCAOA Conference in New Bern on March 14, 2024, presented by NC Senior Games Executive Director and NCAOA board member Brad Allen (also NFL White Hat Referee). Lakisha Williams received the Reaching for the stars Innovate Program award, which honors an agency that has an innovative and creative program that is working to enrich the lives of older adults. Alissa Andrewsborn received the Guiding Star Award, which honors a supervisor or manager for quality supervisory skills in the management of programs, staff, and/or volunteers and the services they provide that benefit older adults.



Planning Department

Eastern Carolina Council's (ECC) Planning Department provides transportation planning and community development services, along with technical assistance to local governments within the nine-county region.

Community Planning Services:

The Planning Department offers a variety of land use planning services which include advising local governments on issues such as:

- Zoning,
- Annexation, and
- Ordinance revisions.

Staff provides training for Planning Boards, Boards of Adjustment, and Governing Boards. Staff also draws on expertise in such areas as the environment, and strategic planning to assist local governments as requested.



ECC hosted a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Workshop in February in conjunction with Colliers Engineering & Design.

Activities/Milestones:

- **ARP Technical Assistance** - Provided American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Technical Assistance to numerous towns related to policies, program deadlines, and reporting assistance.
- **160D Ordinance Updates** - Completed 160D ordinance updates for Oriental, Pink Hill, and Pikeville.
- **Zoning Administration** - Provided Zoning Administration services for Peletier and Pink Hill.
- **General Technical Services / Ordinance Updates** - Provided technical assistance in general planning, and various ordinance design for the towns of Bogue, Newport, Oriental, Peletier, Pikeville, Pink Hill, Richlands, and Vanceboro.
- **Comprehensive Land Use Planning** - for Town of Pink Hill.
- **Board Training** - Developed and conducted Quasi-Judicial Proceedings training sessions for Duplin County.
- **Grant Writing Training** - Developed and conducted three grant writing sessions for ECC members.
- **Newsletter Publications**— 12 “ECC General Newsletters” distributed to an average of 755 contacts. 12 monthly “Grant Resource Newsletters” distributed to an average of 725 contacts.

Grantsmanship:

- ECC Assisted the Town of Faison with a Rural Transformation Grant application, and the town was awarded a \$180,000 grant for Park improvements. ECC administered the grant of behalf of the town.
- ECC Assisted the Town of Pine Knoll Shores with an application preparation for FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program.



Grant Writing Workshops:

ECC organized and conducted three 2-day Grant Writing Workshops at the ECC office in 2023-24.

A total of 35 individuals participated in the workshops, which builds internal capacity.

Pictured to the left is a photo from one of the workshops.

Planning: Disaster Recovery & Mitigation

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA):

ECC partnered with North Carolina Emergency Management (NCEM) to assist jurisdictions within ECC's 9-county region with their 2024 FMA applications. The FMA program is an annual competitive grant from FEMA which provides funding to units of government. This grant program aims to reduce the risk of repetitive flood damage to structures that are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Units of local government are eligible sub-applicants so long as they are NFIP participating and have adopted a hazard mitigation plan. Eligible project types include elevation or acquisition of flood-prone structures. The objective outlined by NCEM is for each Council of Government to gather 50 structures that can be put on an application for elevation or acquisition/buyout during the upcoming funding round (2024), with an additional 50 structures anticipated for the 2025 funding round.

FMA Milestones: Between May and July of 2024, community engagement penetration included:

- 8 Community meetings conducted.
- 9 Counties reached.
- 13+ cities/towns reached.



FEMA Public Assistance (PA)



Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) is funding that becomes available to units of government located in an area that has received a Presidential disaster or emergency declaration. The program provides funding for emergency assistance to save lives and protect property, and assists with funding for permanently restoring community infrastructure. FEMA PA seminars were offered by the ECC to elevate awareness of the PA program and principles as well as to support local governments with effective management of disaster recovery funding by building capacity for their recovery operations.

- One of the pieces of the Disaster Recovery initiative involved Disaster Recovery training that each COG provided within their region. The focus of the training was to prepare for utilization of the FEMA Public Assistance program.
- ECC delivered three Disaster Recovery/FEMA PA seminars, initially at the ECC office, then at Wayne County EMS Training Facility, and finally, at the Crystal Coast Civic Center in Morehead City. More than 70 individuals participated in the three day-long sessions.

Additional Disaster Recovery and Planning Assistance:

ECC partnered with the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Government and subcontractors Working Landscapes and Croatan Institute to provide disaster recovery and planning assistance to local governments. Regional workshops were conducted to raise awareness of resilience efforts, resources, collect local need and impact statements, and to provide individual reports identifying major concerns and an opportunity to develop mitigation strategies.

Disaster Recovery Activities:

- Conducted 3 workshops in Trenton, La Grange, and Morehead City.
- Produced 18 community reports for the ECC region.

Photo to the left is from a Disaster Recovery Training in Morehead City.

Transportation Planning



Eastern Carolina Rural Planning Organization



Eastern Carolina Council is the lead planning agency for two Rural Transportation Planning Organizations (RPOs) the Eastern Carolina RPO (ECRPO) and the Down East RPO (DERPO). The four primary duties for RPOs include:

- Developing, in cooperation with NCDOT, long-range, local and regional multimodal transportation plans;
- Providing a forum for public participation in the transportation planning process;
- Developing and prioritizing suggestions for transportation projects the organization believes should be included in the State's Transportation Improvement Program (STIP); and
- Providing transportation-related information to local governments and other interested organizations.

Photo on the right is from the 2023 Transportation Summit - approximately 150 in attendance.

Transportation Project Prioritization

Prioritization is the process used by NCDOT to develop the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). The STIP is a 10-year planning document that programs projects to receive funding from NCDOT for right-of-way, engineering and construction. The DERPO and ECRPO submitted over **126 projects** for prioritization including: aviation projects, bicycle/pedestrian projects, highway projects, railway projects and public transport projects. There were 40 highway projects submitted which encompass nearly 200 miles of highway infrastructure across ECC's 9-county region of Carteret, Craven, Jones, Duplin, Greene, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne.

The ECRPO, in conjunction with the New Bern MPO, created a committee of MPOs & RPOs east of I-95 to find solutions to transportation issues within our region and to discuss how prioritization has fallen short of addressing those needs. The STIP and the Prioritization processes have historically favored large projects in larger cities, which leaves the rural areas of the state struggling to find funding for their projects. The group will be congregating current and historical prioritization data to provide a presentation to the Prioritization 8 Workgroup, who dictate how the next Prioritization Cycle will score projects and set the calendar for the MPOs/RPOs to provide input for the next STIP.



Comprehensive Transportation Planning

ECC's RPOs, DERPO & ECRPO, have initiated 3 Comprehensive Transportation Plans (or CTPs) - in Carteret, Craven and Greene counties. A CTP is similar to a Land Use Plan but for transportation related topics. A CTP is a 30-year document that delivers a high-level analysis of current and future conditions that concern highways, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, aviation, rail, public transit and ferries. CTPs are typically updated every 10 years using a needs-based planning approach that engages local stakeholders to discuss how the County would like transportation infrastructure to look and operate. The CTP process begins with a steering committee made up of local members with technical expertise in transportation. The committee develops public surveys, recommends projects, and ultimately creates a draft CTP. Once a draft has been developed, it is presented for approval by all municipalities within a county, then the county itself, and is ultimately approved by the State Board of Transportation.

Economic Development



EDA Supports ECC's Economic Development Work

Eastern Carolina Council (ECC) serves as the Economic Development District (EDD) for the US Economic Development Administration (EDA). ECC receives EDA Partnership Planning grant funds to support this work. A new 3-year award for this funding was applied for and received in 2023-2024. Maintenance of the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) economic development plan (available at <https://eccog.org/economic-development-planning/>), and working on the goals from the CEDS is part of this work.

EDA Grant Assistance for NC Coastal Federation

ECC assisted the NC Coastal Federation in applying for an EDA Financial Assistance grant, and the Federation received an award in the amount of \$734,000 for construction of a new shellfish aquaculture facility in Carteret County. ECC is the grant administrator for this grant, which is ongoing.

Strategic Economic Development Planning with IEDC

In 2023-2024, ECC developed a strategic Partnership with the International Economic Development Council (IEDC), which is a non-profit, membership organization serving economic developers. IEDC assisted the ECC region achieve economic resilience through the development of three strategies that are incorporated into our 2023-2027 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) regional plan, including:

- Regional Military Retention Strategies/Action Plan
- Workforce Housing Strategies
- Talent Attraction and Retention Strategies

Over 120 people were engaged in these efforts.

Partnership with IEDC Assisted Individual Communities

ECC also helped connect communities in our region with the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) for technical assistance visits to assist communities evaluate specific economic development/community development opportunities. The IEDC member volunteers help provide recommendations **at no cost to the community** (through funding from US EDA). **Nine communities participated in the program**, and the projects included:

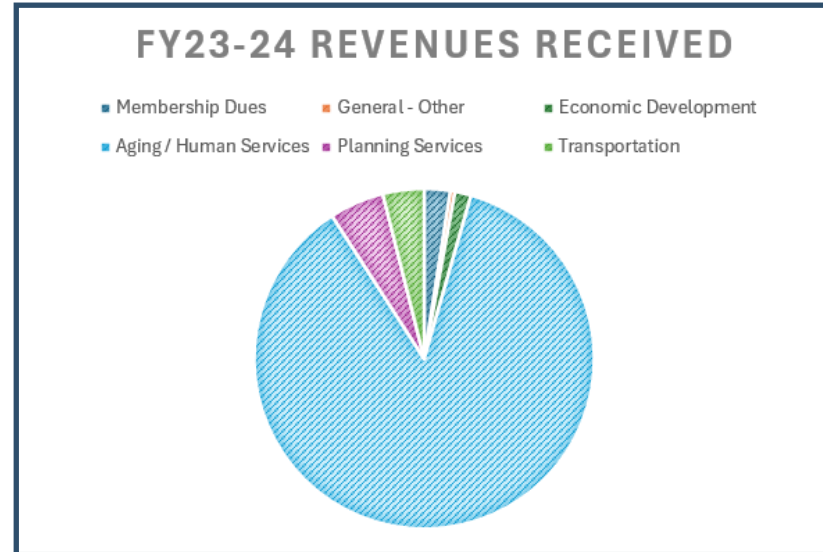
- Helping a community evaluate options for the highest and best use for a building.
- Assisting a county with developing strategies for corridor beautification and promotion.
- Assisting several communities with downtown redevelopment strategies.
- Helping a city evaluate opportunities to redevelop two properties.
- Assisting a town in developing an economic development vision.



In 2023-2024, ECC applied for and was provided the opportunity to serve the region as the Local Development District (LDD) for the **Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC)**. The SCRC is a federal-state partnership that promotes and encourages economic development in portions of AL,GA,MS,NC,SC,VA, and all of the state of FL. Modeled after the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), SRC targets new resources to support basic infrastructure, business development, natural resources, and workforce development. The Commission's mission is to help create jobs, build communities and improve the lives of those who reside in the 408 counties (69 in NC). As the LDD, ECC's role is to assist local governments in our region to apply for SCRC/ other federal funding and provide related programs. ECC receives SCRC grant funds to support this work. ECC provided ongoing support to Lenoir Community College's application to the SCRC State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant program. LCC received an award of \$349,000 for equipment for its Aviation Maintenance Program. ECC also partnered with multiple organizations & agencies on a "Grant/Project Resource Roundtable" in June 2024, and SCRC funding supported this effort. Over 50 people participated in the event.

Finance FY 2023-2024

Revenue Received	
Membership Dues	\$189,397
General-Other	\$33,240
Economic Development	\$117,730
Aging/Human Services	\$6,605,099
Planning Services	\$396,809
Transportation	\$299,878
TOTAL	\$7,642,153



Some of the FY 23-24 Revenues Include:	
Federal Grants	\$6,668,478
State Grants	\$305,176
Contract Services	\$524,807

Administrative Assistance

- **Employment Searches** - ECC can assist local governments with employment searches. In the fall of 2023, ECC assisted the Town of Newport with its Fire-EMS Chief search.
- **Retreat Facilitation** - ECC assists local governments with retreat facilitation. ECC facilitated retreats for the towns of Magnolia and Holly Ridge in the spring of 2024.

For more information, contact ECC Executive Director David Bone.

ECC Staff

Administration and Finance

David Bone
Melinda McGuire
Heather O'Connor
Kim Baker
Susan Wolf

Area Agency on Aging

David Rosado
January Brown
Angelia Pridgen
Lauren Latshaw
Amanda Young

Community & Transportation Planning

Larry Faison
Mickey Anderson
Carlton Gideon
Holly Lippitt
Sara Deskar

ECC General Membership Board / Executive Committee

Officers:

Ed Riggs, Jr.—President // Frank Emory— 1st Vice President // Lorraine Washington— 2nd Vice President// Bill Taylor— Treasurer

Carteret County

Robert Cavanaugh – Carteret County*
John O'Daniel – Town of Atlantic Beach
Paula Gillikin – Town of Beaufort
Shawne Southard – Town of Bogue
Courtney Barnhill – Town of Cape Carteret
Gary Bray – Town of Cedar Point
Town of Emerald Isle**
Ryan Kelley – Town of Indian Beach
William Taylor – Town of Morehead City*
Town of Newport**
Bea Cunningham – Town of Peletier
Clark Edwards – Town of Pine Knoll Shores

Craven County

Chadwick Howard— Craven County*
Randy Alexander— Town of Bridgeton
Barbara Jones— Town of Cove City
Randy Mitchell— Town of Dover
Karen Lewis— City of Havelock*
Johnnie Ray Kinsey— City of New Bern*
Patty Leonard— Town of River Bend
Shane Turney— Town of Trent Woods*
Todd McMillen— Town of Vanceboro

Greene County:

Bennie Heath— Greene County*
Town of Hookerton**
Lorraine Washington— Town of Snow Hill*
Town of Waltsonburg**

Onslow County

Mark Price— Onslow County*
Pete Parnian— Town of Holly Ridge
Cindy Edwards— City of Jacksonville*
Town of North Topsail Beach**
McKinley Smith— Town of Richlands
Trudy Solomon— Town of Surf City
Town of Swansboro**

Jones County:

Frank Emory— Jones County*
Janet Baker— Town of Maysville
James V. Bender, Jr.—Town of Pollocksville*
Darlene Spivey— Town of Trenton

Pamlico County:

Edward Riggs, Jr.- Pamlico County*
Linda Marshall— Town of Alliance
Evelyn Paul— Town of Grantsboro
Lois Credle— Town of Mesic
Town of Minnesott Beach**
Allen Price— Town of Oriental
Danny Wooten— Town of Vandemere*

Lenoir County:

Roland Best— Lenoir County*
Town of Grifton**
Shawn Condon— Town of La Grange
Town of Pink Hill**
Chris Suggs—City of Kinston*

Duplin County

Jesse Dowe— Duplin County*
Russ Lanier— Town of Beulaville
Rubylene Lambert— Town of Calypso
Billy Ward— Town of Faison*
Diane Brown— Town of Greenevers
Linda Tyson— Town of Kenansville
Charles “Twig” Rollins— Town of Magnolia
Angela Smith— Town of Rose Hill
Patrick Williams— Town of Teachey
Rod Fritz— Town of Wallace
Scotty Smith— Town of Warsaw

Wayne County:

Bevan Foster— Wayne County*
Town of Eureka**
Town of Fremont**
Danny Keel— Town of Mount Olive
Town of Pikeville**
Robert Parchman— Village of Walnut Creek

County Manager Representative:

Kyle DeHaven— Greene County Manager*

*** Denotes members of the Executive Committee**

**** Denotes pending seat**

About the Board: ECC is governed by a General Membership Board and an Executive Committee. The General Membership Board includes one County Commissioner from each member county and one representative from each municipality served by the organization. The ECC Executive Committee includes the County Commissioner delegate from each of the nine counties, one municipal representative from each county, and elected delegates from municipalities with a population of 16,000 or more. The Executive Committee conducts business for the organization in months that the General Membership Board does not meet.

ECC is grateful for the continued dedication of the General Membership Board and Executive Committee.

Additional Pictures from the Year

Powerful Tools for Caregivers Training



Disaster Resilience Workshop



Retreat Facilitation in Magnolia



IEDC Regional Talent Attraction & Retention Workshop



Transportation Summit



Carolina Senior Care PACE Groundbreaking



Christmas Event in Jones County



ECC Board Meeting



Additional Pictures from the Year

Dementia Live Training



ECC AAA staff and providers at the 2024 NCOA conference.



ECC Partnered with multiple agencies on a "Grant/Project Resource Roundtable" in June 2024, Over 50 people participated in the event.



Disaster Recovery FEMA Public Assistance Training



Christmas Event in Jones County



Older Americans Month Festivities



