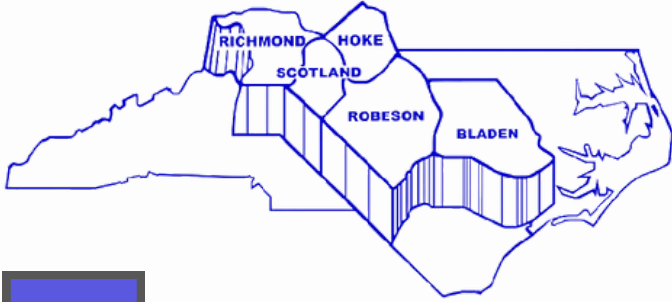


# LUMBER RIVER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ANNUAL REPORT

2021  
-  
2022



## CELEBRATING FIFTY YEARS OF REGIONAL EXCELLENCE

[www.lumberrivercog.org](http://www.lumberrivercog.org)

Phone: (910) 775-9700 | Fax: (910) 521-7556



**Message From**  
LRCOG Board Chairman  
**Robert L. Conoly**

As I begin my tenure as the Lumber River Council of Governments (LRCOG) Board Chair, it is with great pleasure that I present to you the LRCOG's annual report for fiscal year 2021-2022. Of note this year, the Lumber River Council of Governments is celebrating 50 years of regional excellence and service as an organization to Bladen, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson, and Scotland counties, the municipalities therein, and their citizens.

When the LRCOG started in 1972, it had a staff of one, an annual operating budget of only about \$26,000, and its primary focus was on serving as a regional clearinghouse for comments on federal programs. At the close of its 50th fiscal year, the LRCOG had a staff of 20 full-time employees, 11 part-time employees, an annual operating budget of a little more than \$8,400,000, and provided the region with a variety of aging programs and services, local government services, and workforce development programs. Over the course of its history, the LRCOG has provided almost \$290,000,000 of programs and services directly through the organization to the region's local governments and citizens. In addition, the LRCOG has assisted the region's local governments to acquire additional tens of millions of dollars in federal and state investments that have not passed through the LRCOG's finances. Over its 50 years, the LRCOG has returned almost \$84 for each dollar of membership dues invested with the LRCOG.

When the LRCOG's fiscal year 2021-2022 started, the world was optimistic for a return to normalcy following the COVID-19 pandemic. However, as the year unfolded, the country experienced another surge in the pandemic, but the LRCOG remained steadfast in adapting its programs and services to meet the ever-evolving needs of our local governments and the needs of the residents of Region N.

Over the past year, the LRCOG has assisted our region in reducing our digital divide highlighted even further by the pandemic through the completion of our regional broadband demand aggregation study. This study has already been leveraged to support millions of dollars in grant applications to support broadband deployment within the region. Our Area Agency on Aging has continued to be on the frontlines, addressing the advocacy, nutritional, individual personal care, and transportation needs of our region's older adults, while continuing to address the ever-present social isolation challenges faced by older adults. Our Workforce Development division has provided funding through its COVID-19 program to allow individuals to obtain their CDL, while continuing to provide its traditional services to local employers and job seekers including On-the-Job Training and Incumbent Worker Training. Finally, our Local Government Services division has continued to help local governments leverage new funding opportunities through the American Rescue Plan, while continuing to work toward the protection of the long-term health of our region's water and wastewater systems.

Through the continuing support of our member governments, our Lumber River Council of Governments, will continue to support, improve, and empower our region for the next 50 years.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE.**

*Robert Conoly, Chairman*



"We visualize opportunities for engagement, growth, and development throughout the region."

## ■ *WHO WE ARE*

We are one of North Carolina's 16 Regional Councils established to support community and economic development within the counties we serve. Our region - Bladen, Hoke, Richmond, Robeson, and Scotland counties - has a rich cultural heritage and history. We believe that the region's people are our most valuable regional asset. Through our programs and services, we seek to celebrate the uniqueness of our region while also focusing on its common community and economic future together.



## ■ *OUR MISSION*

"In its dedication to regional excellence, the Lumber River Council of Governments is proactive in identifying local and regional needs and the resources to address those needs in an effective and fair manner."



## ■ *WE VALUE*

*Collaboration*

*Resiliency*

*Inclusivity*

*Engagement*

*Quality*

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# 2021 - 2022 LRCOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Officers

Rufus Duckworth (Bladenboro, July-Dec.)	Chairman
Perry Blanks (East Arcadia, Jan.-June)	Chairman
Robert L. Conoly (Raeford)	First Vice Chairman
Angeline David (Dobbins Heights)	Second Vice Chairman
David Kirby (Dublin)	Treasurer

Key  
(A) = Alternate

## County Representatives

Bladen County	Commissioner Charles Ray Peterson
Hoke County	Commissioner James Leach
Hoke County (A)	Commissioner Tony Hunt
Richmond County	Commissioner Tavares Bostic
Robeson County	Commissioner John Cummings
Scotland County (July-May)	Commissioner John Alford
Scotland County (June)	Commissioner Tim Ivey
Scotland County (A)	Commissioner Clarence McPhatter, II

## Municipal Representatives

Bladenboro (July-Dec.)	Mayor Rufus Duckworth	Maxton	Commissioner Virgil Hutchinson
Bladenboro (Jan.-July)	Commissioner Jeff Atkinson	McDonald	Commissioner Dannie Bacot
Clarkton	Commissioner Linda Croom	Norman	Commissioner Nancy Paxton
Dobbins Heights	Commissioner Angeline David	Norman (A)	Mayor Tonia Collins
Dublin	Commissioner David Kirby	Orrum	Commissioner Jessie Stephens
East Arcadia	Mayor Perry Blanks	Parkton (July-Dec.)	Commissioner Robin Hill
East Arcadia (A)	Commissioner Lillian Graham	Parkton (Jan.-June)	Mayor Pro Tem Doris Underwood
Elizabethtown	Commissioner Rich Glenn	Pembroke	Commissioner Larry McNeill
Elizabethtown (A)	Commissioner Howell Clark	Proctorville	Mayor Michael Sealey
Ellerbe	Commissioner Elsie L. Freeman	Proctorville (A)	Commissioner Alphonso McRae
Fairmont (July-Dec.)	Mayor Charles Townsend	Raeford	Councilman Robert L. Conoly
Fairmont (Jan.-June)	Mayor Pro Tem J.J. McCree	Red Springs	Commissioner Murray McKeithan
Fairmont (A, July-Dec.)	Commissioner Felecia McLean	Red Springs (A)	Commissioner Caroline Sumpter
Fairmont (A, Jan.-June)	Commissioner Jan Tedder-Rodgers	Rennert	Commissioner Vivian W. McRae
Gibson	Mayor Eric Stubbs	Rockingham	Councilman Denise Sullivan
Gibson (A)	Commissioner Adam Liles	Rockingham (A)	Councilman A. Eugene Willard
Hamlet	Councilman Maurice Stuart	Rowland	Commissioner Jean Love
Hamlet (A)	Councilman Oscar Sellers	St. Pauls (July-May)	Commissioner Debbie Inman
Hoffman	Mayor Tommy Hart	St. Pauls (June)	Mayor Pro Tem Evans Jackson
Laurinburg	Councilman Mary Jo Adams	St. Pauls (A)	Commissioner Jerry Quick
Laurinburg (A)	Councilman Mary Evans	Tar Heel	Mayor Samuel Allen
Lumberton	Councilman Owen Thomas	Wagram	Commissioner Robert McLaughlin
Lumber Bridge	Mayor William Davis	White Lake	Commissioner Timothy Blount
Marietta	Commissioner Donna Stubbs	White Lake (A)	Commissioner Mike Suggs
Marietta (A)	Commissioner Walter Powell		

# Finance Report

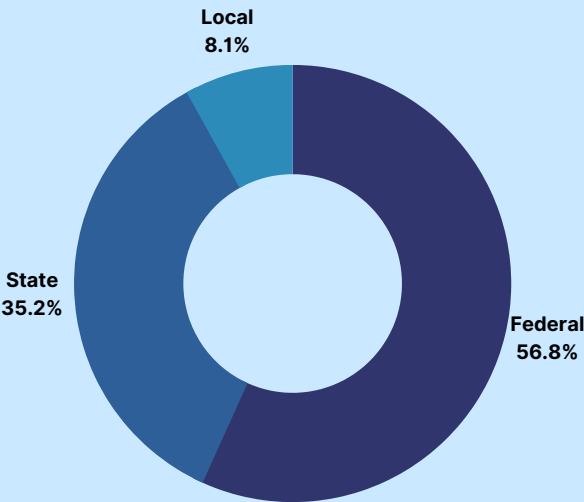
## Revenues

Federal	4,801,987
State	2,976,985
Local	681,751
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>8,460,723</b>

## Expenditures

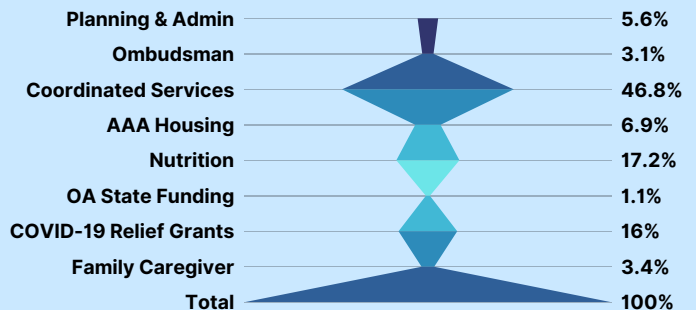
**Total Expenditures 8,460,723**

\* UNAUDITED



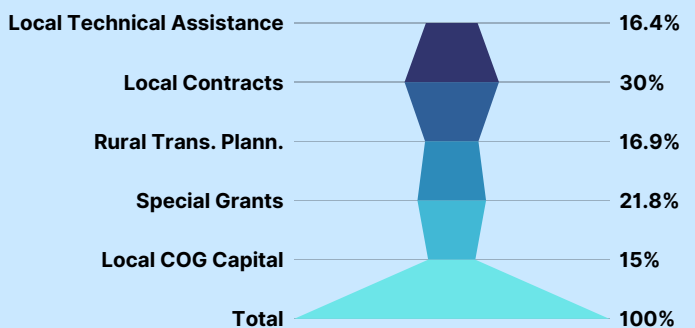
### Area Agency on Aging

Planning & Admin	247,326
Ombudsman	135,765
Coordinated Services	2,064,852
AAA Housing	303,678
Nutrition	758,775
OA State Funding	48,263
COVID-19 Relief Grants	706,061
Family Caregiver	151,601
<b>Total Aging</b>	<b>4,416,321</b>



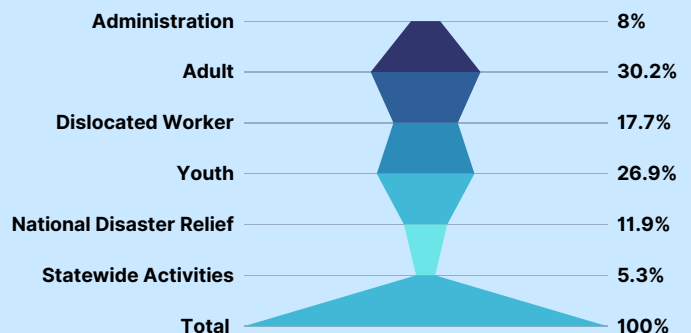
### Local Government Services

Local Technical Assistance	123,766
Local Contracts	226,287
Rural Trans. Plann.	127,850
Special Grants	164,391
Local COG Capital	112,957
<b>Total Local</b>	<b>755,251</b>



### Workforce Development

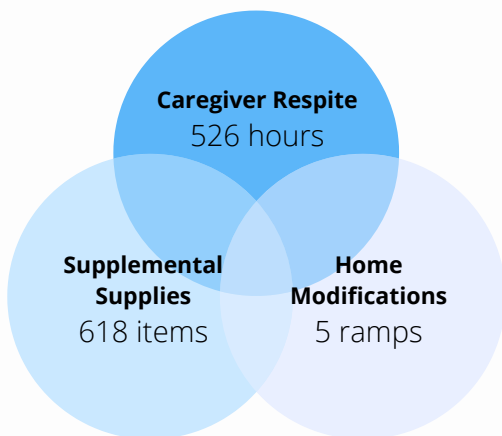
Administration	263,255
Adult	994,109
Dislocated Worker	582,488
Youth	884,408
National Disaster Relief	391,384
Statewide Activities	173,507
<b>Total Workforce Dev.</b>	<b>3,289,151</b>



# AREA AGENCY ON AGING

## Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP)

The Family Caregiver Support Program provides supportive services to unpaid caregivers by planning, referring, coordinating, and delivering services that can assist them with their caregiver needs.



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**INSURANCE**  
SENIORS' HEALTH INSURANCE  
INFORMATION PROGRAM  
(SHIIP)

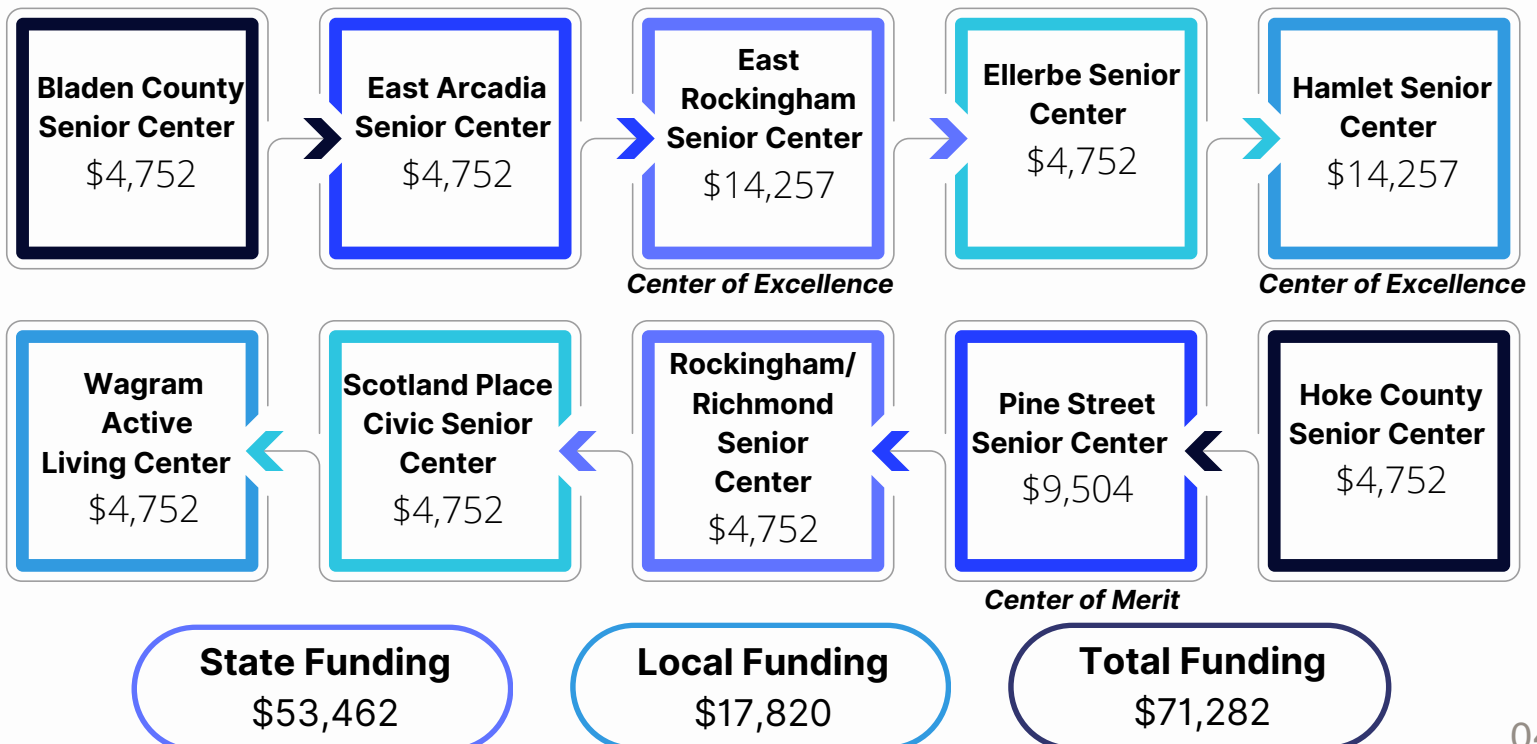


Total Clients

Total Savings

\$269,771  
Saved

## General Purpose Funding for Senior Centers





# Health Promotion Programs



30

Geri-Fit Participants  
Hoke County

12

Tai Chi Participants  
Bladen County



# HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE BLOCK GRANT (HCCBG)

\$3,048,123

Total  
HCCBG  
Funding

40,031  
Hours

In-Home Aide  
Services

451  
Hours

Legal  
Services

186,342  
Meals

Total Meals  
Served

21,175  
Trips

Transportation  
Provided

## Housing and Home Improvement (HHI)

\*HHI Services Provided in Bladen, Robeson, and Scotland Counties

122  
Projects

Furnishings &  
Appliances  
Projects

467  
Projects

Home Repair  
Projects

101  
Projects

Mobility &  
Accessibility  
Projects

# SENIOR GAMES

137

Participants  
in the Games

Silver Arts  
Categories

38

37

Different  
Sporting  
Events

National  
Registered  
Participants

5



# Elder Abuse Awareness

The Lumber River Area Agency on Aging partnered with Bladen County Division of Aging, Bladen County Health and Human Services, Senior Services of Hoke, Hoke County Department of Social Services, Richmond County Aging Services, Richmond County Department of Social Services, Robeson County Department of Social Services and Scotland Place Senior Center to hold Elder Abuse Awareness Walks/Educational Sessions in June.

The goal was to raise awareness of abuse along with educating community members on resources to offer support and protection to vulnerable and disabled older adults.

**449**

Elder Abuse  
Walk  
Attendees



**60**

Educational  
Session  
Attendees



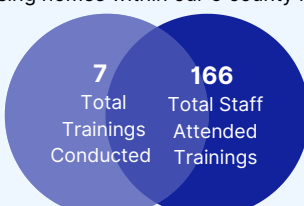
## LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

The Ombudsman program is designed to provide advocacy services for residents in long term care settings such as nursing homes, adult care homes, and family care homes. It is the goal of the Ombudsman to advocate for rights of residents through resolution of complaints filed by residents and/or their loved ones. During July 2021 to June 2022, the Ombudsman received various calls and complaints.

**Total of 30 complaints were received during this timeframe.  
21 of those complaints were closed with the following findings.**



Ombudsman conducted Resident Rights/Customer Service/Elder Abuse/Patient Care 101 trainings to some of the adult care homes and nursing homes within our 5 county region.



## CARES ACT

**33**

Older  
Relative  
Caregivers  
Hotspots

Meals  
**45,673**

Transportation  
Trips  
**105**

**52**

Older  
Relative  
Caregivers  
School  
Supplies

Grocery  
Assistance  
Produce Boxes  
and PPE  
**623**

Total Funding  
**\$537,594**  
\*July-September

Caregiver  
Supplies  
**743**

**35**  
HHI  
Projects

Grocery  
Assistance  
Clients  
**317**

Respite  
Hours  
**50**

**iPads** for  
Long-Term  
Care,  
Outreach  
Material,  
and PPE

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The LRCOG's Local Government Services (LGS) Division covers a wide range of work for our member governments.

Some of our work is highlighted below:

## Develop New Methods for Communication of Information



Work on the LRCOG Portal continued this year with great progress. Currently, 14 local governments have benefited from this new technology platform.

- The Portal is designed to be a secure, self-service website that will give our member governments and their staff the ability to connect and share useful information, while also allowing the user to easily search, upload and view information.
- Once fully operational, the following will be available:
  - Maps and data from the Water and Wastewater Asset Inventory and Assessments grants
  - Rural Transportation data and documents
  - Information on Broadband regional services



## Convene Groups and Partner Agencies

**Supported meetings between various jurisdictions to examine regional water and sewer opportunities.**

- Bladen County governments with Elizabethtown in an intergovernmental agreement
- Robeson and Columbus county governments to explore formation of a regional authority

**Provided assistance** with Uniform Guidance compliance and grant administration specific to the American Rescue Plan Act for all members.

**Hosted** the NC Department of Environmental Protection for three workshops for the region.

**Regional Broadband Study**  
**Region N Managers Association**  
**Municipal and County Association of Bladen**



## Provide Planning Assistance

**Provided General Planning assistance with zoning questions and regulations interpretations to:**

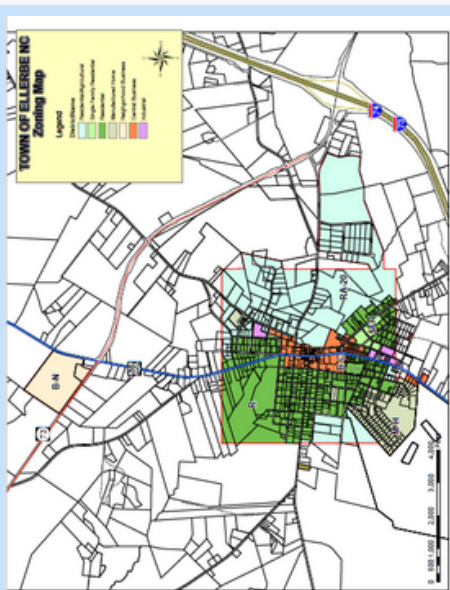
Bladenboro, Clarkton, Dobbins Heights, Dublin, Ellerbe, Fairmont, Gibson, Hoffman, Marietta, Maxton, Norman, Parkton, Proctorville, Rennert, Rowland, St. Pauls, Tar Heel, Wagram, and White Lake

**Developed Subdivision Ordinances for:**

Bladen County, Clarkton, Hoffman, Scotland County, Wagram, and White Lake

**Worked on NC Chapter 160 D Zoning Ordinance Revisions for:**

Bladen County, Bladenboro, Clarkton, Dublin, Fairmont, Hoffman, Maxton, Red Springs, Scotland County, and White Lake



## Develop and Administer Projects



**Asset management planning involves** the development of an asset inventory, a condition assessment of that inventory, maps, analysis and recommendations concerning fiscal and operational management of each system and an action plan that reflects the priority needs of the community.

**In recent years the LRCOG planners have been extensively involved in assisting members with issues revolving around their water and sewer utilities.** Assistance with operational and management issues, developing customer profiles, fiscal management, and rate studies are several of the services the LRCOG has provided directly or through workshops and training opportunities.



# Asset Inventory Assessment Projects Summary

	Jurisdiction	Grant Amount	Local Contribution	Status
Bladen	Dublin Water AIA	\$150,000	\$7,500	Ongoing
	Elizabethtown Sewer AIA	\$150,000	\$ 7,500	Closed 2022
	Elizabethtown Water AIA	\$150,000	\$ 7,500	Closed 2022
Richmond	White Lake Sewer AIA	\$150,000	\$22,500	Closed 2022
	Ellerbe Water AIA	\$125,000	\$ 6,250	Ongoing
	Fairmont Water AIA	\$150,000	\$ 7,500	Ongoing
Robeson	Parkton Sewer AIA	\$135,000	\$13,500	Closed 2021
	Pembroke Water AIA	\$150,000	-0-	Ongoing
	Southport Water AIA	\$ 65,000	\$13,000	Closed 2021
Partnerships	Lake Waccamaw Sewer AIA	\$150,000	\$22,500	Ongoing

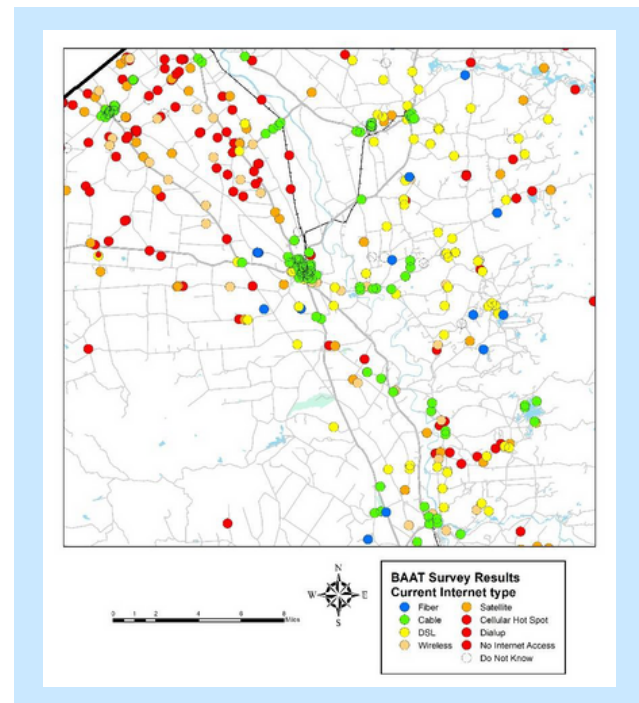
## Regional Broadband Study



Recognizing the challenges of broadband availability, accessibility, and affordability, the LRCOG undertook a comprehensive effort to assess the true extent of broadband within all five counties of the region this past year.

The study also involved a **public input survey** obtaining over **4,300 responses** across the region as well as an infrastructure assessment. The completed study provides local governments with information about the existing broadband infrastructure and potential infrastructure expansions within the region.

The results of the LRCOG's work has already been leveraged by numerous organizations to seek millions of dollars in grant funding to expand broadband within the region. During its study and as part of its continuing efforts to support broadband development within the region, LRCOG provided **at least seven broadband education events** with at least **one in each county** in the region.



# Redistricting



After the release of the 2020 Census, the COG staff worked with Bladen County, Robeson County, the City of Laurinburg, the City of Lumberton, and the Public Schools of Robeson County Board of Education to develop new voting districts that comply with the one-person/one vote requirement of the U.S. and N.C. Constitutions.

## American Rescue Plan Planning for COVID-19 Recovery and SLFRF Implementation

26



Spending plans or budget ordinances developed

147



Policies developed with members

32



Local governments received technical assistance

229



Engagements with local governments

37



Local governments engaged

29



Local governments received assistance  
**225** times on eligibility or program design

4



Grants written for local governments

30



Education events held engaging  
**219** individuals

## Rural Planning Organization



- **Rising construction and right-of-way costs, as well as improved methods of estimating costs, caused NCDOT to realize that there would be no funding available for new projects to be programmed in the next State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).** Therefore, the Draft 2024-2033 STIP was developed from the existing 2022-2029 STIP without adding any new projects. It is expected that the Board of Transportation will approve the 2024-2033 STIP in May 2023.
- **The lack of funding for programming new projects does not jeopardize NCDOT's current financial standing.** The fact that there is no funding for new projects means that there are no such projects to report for the LRCOG region in this year's Annual Report.
- **During FY 2021-22, RPO staff participated on the Steering Committees for numerous studies and plans including the Robeson County Comprehensive Transportation Plan, the Laurinburg Bicycle Plan, the Lumberton Pedestrian Safety Study, the Pembroke Pedestrian Safety Study, the US 74 Risk, Resiliency and Vulnerability Study, the NC Clean Transportation Plan Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Study, and the Integrated Project Delivery Team.** The RPO and COG hosted Department of Environmental Quality informational sessions about grant opportunities for funding Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and replacing diesel fleet vehicles with cleaner alternative fuels vehicles.

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The Lumber River Workforce Development Board, in conjunction with our local area NCWorks Career Centers, has continued to provide services to our local businesses despite the global challenges faced.

Through the use of virtual platforms, we have provided Job Fair Services, Mass Recruitment Services, Candidate Pre-Screening, Employment Matching Services, Incumbent Worker Training Information, Job Order Follow-up & Assistance, and On-the-Job Training Services.

## Business Services



Job Referrals  
**46,810**

Hire Results  
**592**

Employers  
Receiving Staff-  
Assisted Services  
**667**

Services Provided  
to Employers  
**8,244**

Incumbent Worker  
Training Services  
**57**

## COVID-19 Employment and Training Project

The Lumber River Workforce Development Board received funding from the US Department of Labor to operate a COVID-19 Employment & Training Project. This project is designed to assist dislocated individuals by placement into full-time permanent employment positions through the use of On-the-Job Training (OJT), contact tracing with local health departments, and assistance with occupational skills training to qualified individuals in pursuit of a Commercial Driver License (CDL).

**49**

Individuals in  
CDL Training

**55**

Obtained  
Unsubsidized  
Employment

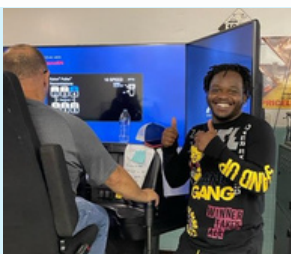
**34**

Individuals in  
OJT

**3**

Contact  
Tracers

**\$513,846.90**  
Total Spent





# FINISH

## LINE GRANT



Bladen Community College = 162 awards  
\$81,863.74

Richmond Community College = 54 awards  
\$37,037.39

Robeson Community College = 291 awards  
\$146,700.46

Sandhills Community College = 93 awards  
\$58,783.82

**Over 340 FLG award recipients have obtained their credentials.**

Lumber River has provided **600 Finish Line Grant awards, totaling \$324,385.41**, to community college students with unforeseen financial emergencies that may have prohibited their chance at completing their program of study.

## Local Area NCWorks Career Center

**29,199**

Individuals receiving services

**166,593**

Services provided



## Adult and Dislocated Worker Program

Providers: Bladen Community College Two Hawk Workforce Services

### Programs and Services

#### On-the-Job Training (OJT)

Total OJT Placements  
**36**

OJT Wage Reimbursement to Employer  
**\$158,837.51**

Average Rate of Pay Wages Paid to Employer per OJT Training  
**\$4,412.16**

#### Work Experience (WEX)

Average Wage Paid to Employee per WEX Training  
**\$4,159.17**

WEX Reimbursement to Employee  
**\$74,865.09**

Total WEX Placements  
**18**

#### Occupational Skills Training (OST)

Total OST Trainings  
**267**

Total OST Costs  
**\$339,901.46**

Average Amount Paid per Participant  
**\$1,273.04**

#### Supportive Services

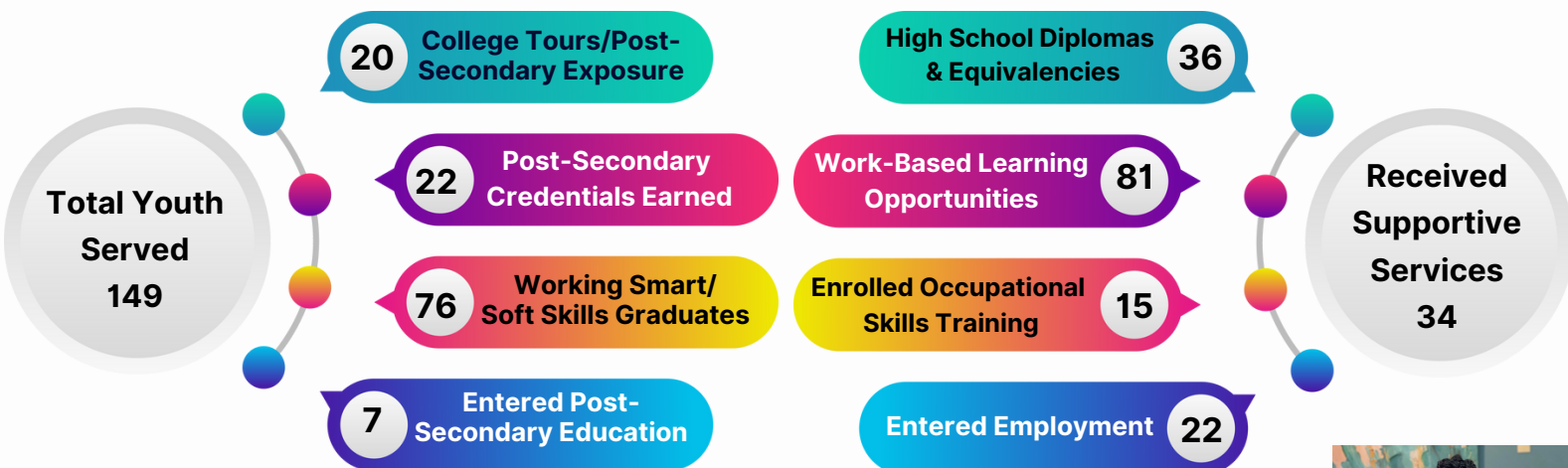
Total Supportive Services  
**100**

Total Supportive Services Costs  
**\$40,710.37**

Average Amount Paid per Supportive Service  
**\$407.10**



# LUMBER RIVER NEXTGEN PROGRAM



The Lumber River Workforce Development Board NextGen Program enables youth (aged 14-24) to expand their opportunities in the workforce by providing activities that will increase their educational level and enhance their job skills and abilities.



## Youth Programs (In and Out of School)

**Providers**

Bladen Community College	Hoke County Schools
Partners in Ministry	Scotland County Schools
Two Hawk Workforce Services	UNC Pembroke



### Programs and Services

#### On-the-Job Training (OJT)

Total OJT Placements	OJT Wage Reimbursement to Employer	Average Rate of Pay Wages Paid to Employer per OJT Training
12	\$30,807.00	\$2,567.25

#### Work Experience (WEX), Internships and Summer Employment

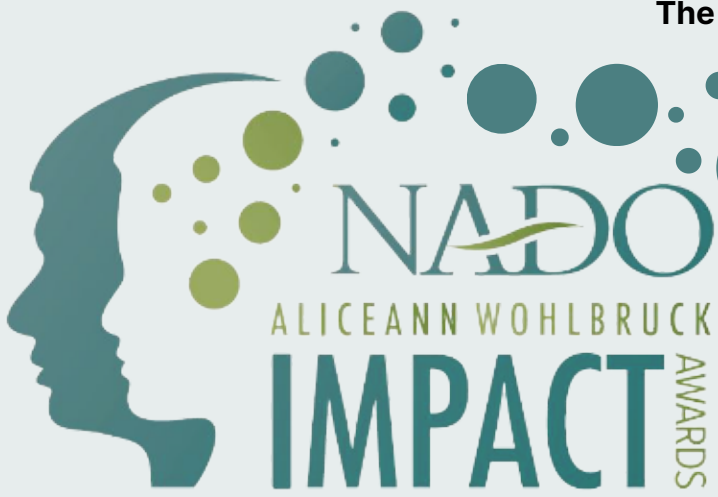
Total WEX, Internships and Summer Employment Placements	WEX, Internships and Summer Employment Reimbursement to Employee	Average Wage Paid to Employee per Employment
55	\$186,724.00	\$3,394.99

#### Occupational Skills Training (OST)

Total OST Trainings	Total (OST) Costs	Average Amount Paid per Participant
13	\$35,041.00	\$2,695.47

#### Supportive Services

Total Supportive Services	Total Supportive Services Costs	Average Amount Paid per Supportive Service
93	\$18,215.00	\$195.86



The Lumber River Council of Governments received *three* NADO Impact Awards for the following programs:

COVID-19  
Employment  
Program

Back to  
School  
Support for  
Grandparents

Lumber River  
Regional  
Broadband  
Study

NADO recognizes member organizations that demonstrate valuable and effective approaches to regional economic and community development and improved quality of life.

## REGION N COMMITTEES & BOARDS

Lumber River Council of  
Governments Board of Directors

Lumber River COG Housing  
Corporation Board of Directors

Lumber River Development  
Corporation Board of Directors

Lumber River Regional Aging  
Advisory Council (RAAC)

Lumber River Rural Transportation  
Advisory Council (TAC)

Lumber River Rural Transportation  
Coordinating Committee (TCC)

Lumber River Workforce  
Development Board (LRWDB)

## Lumber River Council of Governments



## Staff 2021-2022



## OUR TEAM

### ADMINISTRATION

**David Richardson, JD/MBA**

Executive Director  
dr@lrcog.org, 910-775-9752

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Local Government Services Coordinator  
Clerk to the Board  
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**Noor Shehata**

LEAD for NC Fellow  
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### FINANCE

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### AREA AGENCY ON AGING

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**Med Leggette**

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**Kayla Lowry**

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**Stephanie Powers**

Family Caregiver Resource Specialist  
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**Shontelia Sowers, MSHCA**

Regional Long-term Care Ombudsman  
sls@lrcog.org, 910-775-9761

**Donna Wright**

Aging Coordinator  
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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

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**Janet Robertson, MPA**

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### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

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**Sonja Smith**

COVID-19 Accounting Clerk  
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### NUTRITION

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**Tabitha Locklear**

Nutrition Assistant  
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**Camisha Laws**

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### SITE MANAGERS

**Barbara Bullard**

Pembroke Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Audrey Locklear**

Lumberton Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Diane Seals**

Fairmont Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Daris Hunt**

Rowland Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Virginia Nicholson**

Home Delivered  
Meals Driver

**Joann Jacobs**

Laurel Hill Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Joseph Ray**

Red Springs Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Janice Leviner**

Wagram Nutrition  
Site Manager

**Selma Rozier**

St. Pauls Nutrition  
Site Manager

# Lumber River Council of Governments

## Board Chairs

**Sam Noble** - Robeson County  
*1972 - June 1973*

Scotland County - **Clarence McPhatter, II**  
*July 1999 - June 2000*

**John K. McNeill** - Raeford  
*July 1973 - June 1974*

Bladen County - **Billy Ray Pait**  
*June 2000 - June 2002*

**Bobby D. Locklear** - Robeson County  
*July 1974- June 1978*

Raeford - **Bob Gentry**  
*July 2002 - October 2003*

**William H. Morgan** - Scotland County  
*July 1978 - June 1980*

Richmond County - **J.C. Watkins**  
*November 2003 - June 2006*

**Danny DeVane** - Hoke County  
*July 1980 - June 1982*

Robeson County - **Raymond Cummings**  
*July 2006 - June 2008*

**Calvin Haggins** - Fairmont  
*July 1982 - June 1983*

Laurinburg - **Thomas W. Parker, III**  
*July 2008 - June 2010*

**Sadie Odom** - Gibson  
*July 1983 - June 1984*

White Lake - **Tim Blount**  
*July 2010 - June 2012*

**Robert G. Roberts** - Bladen County  
*July 1984 - June 1987*

Hoke County - **James Leach**  
*July 2012 - June 2014*

**Wyatt Upchurch** - Hoke County  
*July 1987 - June 1989*

Hamlet - **Tony Clewis**  
*July 2014 - November 2015*

**Gordon Westbrook** - St. Pauls  
*July 1989 - June 1991*

Marietta - **Donna Stubbs**  
*December 2015 - June 2018*

**John Calhoun** - Scotland County  
*July 1991 - January 1993*

Laurinburg - **Mary Jo Adams**  
*July 2018 - June 2020*

**Kenneth Kornegay** - Elizabethtown  
*January 1993 - June 1995*

Bladenboro - **Rufus Duckworth**  
*July 2020 - December 2021*

**Bob Gentry** - Raeford  
*July 1995 - June 1997*

East Arcadia - **Perry Blanks**  
*January 2022 - June 2022*

**Ray Pennington** - Lumberton  
*July 1997 - June 1999*

Raeford - **Robert Conoly**  
*July 2022 - Present*

# **Lumber River Council of Governments**

## **Executive Directors**

**Graham Pervier**

*April 1971 – July 1973*

**John Highfill**

*January 1974 – January 1981*

**Jim Perry**

*September 1981 – August 2012*

**Jan Hester Maynor**

*July 2012 – June 2017*

**David Richardson**

*July 2017 – Present*

*Celebrating*  
**50**  
*Years of Regional  
Excellence*





Lumber River Council of  
Governments  
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