

ANNUAL REPORT FY: 24



Bluegrass Area Development District
699 Perimeter Drive
Lexington, KY 40517

www.bgadd.org

Projects | Planning | Programs

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Letter from the Chair of the BGADD

The Bluegrass Area Development District (BGADD) is determined to achieve results. As we continue to face challenges affecting our community – affordable housing, clean water, adequate care for our aging and disabled population, training and employment opportunities that will provide a comfortable standard of living for generations to come –we are firmly committed to improving the lives of all Bluegrass residents.

Despite these challenges the BGADD has just completed one of the most impactful years in our over 50-year history. Last year the BGADD administered 209 grants worth more than 41 million dollars to benefit the communities of the Bluegrass.

- We partnered as never before with government agencies and community organizations to address a more than 50-year injustice with the Paris Waste Transfer Station Community Service Block Grant.
- We sought to close the digital divide, so families will have internet access that is fast, reliable, and affordable.
- We made significant strides in assisting those in recovery with the completion of two grants for housing and two additional grants awarded.

Our progress on these difficult issues has been made possible, in large part by clear leadership, talented staff, and the powerful partnerships we have forged over the years. This year we will be highlighting one of our most significant attributors to our continued success, our committees and councils. We rely on the input of committees, councils, with their board and community member participation to ensure successful allocation of our resources to meet community needs.

During the year that I have had the privilege of serving as Executive Chair of the Board of BGADD, I have seen what an exceptional team we have serving our communities throughout the 17-counties. Its senior leadership and staff members are second to no other Area Development District. With that said, I am excited to share this year's annual report.

Sincerely,

David West
Executive Chair Bluegrass Area Development District
Judge Executive Jessamine County



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Bluegrass ADD Board:

In January of 2024, we embarked on a mission to improve and enhance the governance of your Regional Council of Government. This effort included taking a deep and thoughtful look at our enabling legislation and our statutory authority. My goal as your Executive Director is to carry out the mission of your organization, to enhance the economy of your communities through planning to maximize resources, projects to promote development, and programs to improve the quality of life for all citizens of the Bluegrass region.

We started this exercise through a careful analysis of the BGADD Bylaws. The Bylaws were a decade old and were last revised under the duress of an organizational crisis. The focus then was on doing things right. The focus this time was on doing things better. Doing things better included redefining the roles and responsibilities and relationship between the statutorily driven full Board, consisting of 72-members and the governing unit defined as the Executive Committee. We cancelled the full Board Quarterly meetings, opting for one annual meeting, and we moved the Executive Committee meetings from evening to day to increase participation.

The final piece of the improved governance is to create and drive a committee structure to serve as the units of action. Committees should encompass the grass roots analysis and discussion of policy issues used to inform the Executive Committee. At the heart of their existence, committees should serve as the sounding board to recommend the allocation of resources. The Executive Committee oversees the execution of \$42 million dollars of public funds on an annual basis. Vetting the decisions on how those funds are utilized is the most important task that the Executive Committee can complete.

Committees must be informed by the strategic plans that will move our region forward. These plans begin with the requirement from our federal cognizant agency, the Economic Development Agency to produce a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This economic development plan works in tandem with several other plans including a Regional Land Use, Transportation, Water Management, Workforce and Aging plans. Together these plans will ensure that we maximize the welfare of all citizens who call the Bluegrass Region home.

One other accomplishment to note is that we implemented the first ever performance-based compensation. Employees are no longer given an automatic cost of living increase but are instead evaluated and compensated based on performance. This has changed how we approach our work and has improved communication. I'm proud to say that we have created a culture that has attracted the strongest staff since I have been here. I cannot wait to see where it takes us in 2025!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your Executive Director and having the privilege of being involved in such a rewarding career.



David Duttlinger, P.E, MPA
Executive Director, Bluegrass ADD

About Us

OUR MISSION

Enhance the economy of our communities through planning to maximize resources, projects to promote development, and programs to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the region.

What is an “ADD”?

- “ADD” is an abbreviation for Area Development District.
- There are 15 ADDs in Kentucky, each representing a multi-county planning district. Each of the Commonwealth’s 120 counties falls within an ADD region.
- ADDs are partnerships of and provide resources to the local counties and cities in their regions.
- ADDs perform a host of critical functions that positively affect quality of life and economic development.
- ADDs are partners with numerous state and federal agencies, obtaining & administering grants for programs.
- ADDs are governed by volunteer boards of directors composed of elected officials and business/community leaders.
- ADDs are recognized for their fiscal responsibility and outstanding capabilities in professional program management.

 PLANNING

.....
 PROJECTS

.....
 PROGRAMS

OUR SERVICES:

- Local & Regional Planning
- Transportation
- Workforce Development
- Programs for Older Adults
- Develop & Administer Grants
- Data Centers
- Community Development
- Business Loans
- GIS Mapping
- Economic Development
- Water Quality

Our Departments

Each department within the Bluegrass Area Development District (BGADD) provides a unique function to the operation and service to the 17-county area.



ADMINISTRATION

The BGADD's Administration ensures the organizations other departments are able to provide top quality and smooth service delivery to the citizens in each of our counties, by overseeing day-to-day communications and operations within the BGADD offices.



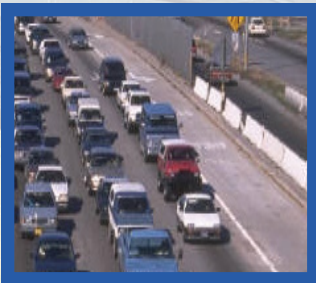
FISCAL

Tasked with the monumental responsibility of ensuring that not only are the operational costs paid and staff are compensated, they also ensure that the financial requirements of the grants are met and maintained to ensure fiscal integrity.



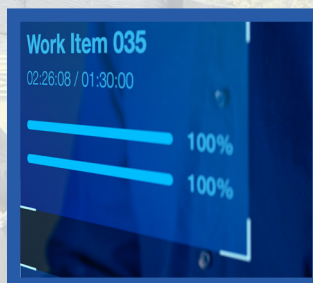
AGING

The Department of Aging focuses on care to the Bluegrass' aging population. Whether it is in-home assistance, senior centers, or medicaid programs, the Department of Aging's dedicated staff work to provide to a demographic that can sometimes be overlooked.



COMMUNITY PLANNING

The Department of Community Planning provides assistance with any number of community projects, in addition they write and can serve as administrator of grants. This department can be seen in the counties on an almost daily basis providing services to projects like wastewater or broadband.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

IT manages and maintains technology systems and infrastructure for the BGADD, contracted partners, and numerous local government agencies within the Bluegrass area. The main goal is to ensure that the organization's technology resources are used efficiently, securely, and in line with the company's objectives.



WORKFORCE

The Department of Workforce Services staff works closely with employers, community organizations and individuals throughout the Bluegrass Area to provide a variety of services related to workforce development. They also provide oversight to the Kentucky Career Center - Bluegrass under the guidance of the BGWIB.

ADMINISTRATION

Public service leaders are at the heart of government effectiveness. These individuals who occupy senior positions in public administration lead and transform major functions within the organization. They have to make space for innovation while managing risk and being accountable for results. They ensure staff are fulfilling the vision and mission of the Bluegrass Area Development District.



**David
Duttlinger**
.....
Executive
Director




**Shane
New**
.....
Deputy
Director




**Kelly
Rode**
.....
Executive Board
Staff Assistant




**Bob
Casher**
.....
Senior Public
Admin Specialist




**Mike
Riley**
.....
Human Resource
Director




**Staci
May**
.....
Public Information
Officer



FISCAL

Tasked with the monumental responsibility of ensuring that not only are the operational costs paid and staff are compensated, they also ensure that the financial requirements of the grants are met and maintained to ensure fiscal integrity.

The Bluegrass Area Development District's Finance Department is responsible for making sure the dreams that fuel the mission of the BGADD are kept maintainable. This is done through developing and administering internal controls. The Finance Department also ensures financial statements, such as general ledgers and balance sheets, are maintained and provides reports on the BGADD's overall financial health.

The Chief Financial Officer is committed to guiding the accounting staff in providing fiscal oversight and stewardship for the funds the BGADD has been awarded. He is dedicated to maintaining accurate and complete fiscal records while creating policies and procedures to ensure proper controls. He works with leadership to provide financial guidance and direction for all program areas, and ensure that we provide accurate and timely reporting of operational expenses.

FISCAL DEPARTMENT STAFF



Michael Buschmann

 Chief Financial Officer





Jacqueline Vaught

 Controller




Bonnie Johns

 Accounting Officer, Administration



Pakou Vang

 Accounting Officer, Aging



Colin Moseley

 Accounting Officer, CP & Workforce



Michelle Johns

 PDS Financial Specialist



ACTIVE GRANTS

209 Active grants
serving the communities
throughout the 17-county
Bluegrass Area.



ACL Ship	Berea, City of (Admin) - ARPA
ADRC	Berry - ARPA
Aging - ADVC	BG Area Defense Divers 2023
Aging - CRF/CHFS Meals C1 & C2	BG Community Res Project - BRIC
Aging - ESMP	Bluegrass Cat Project
Aging - Med ADRC No Wrong Door	BMH Aging Coalition
Aging - MIPPA ADRC	Bourbon Co. - KYTC Local Roads
Aging - MIPPA SHIP	Bourbon Co. Fiscal Court - ARPA
Aging - MIPPA-AAA	Bourbon Co. Reapportionment
AMR Water Meters CWP R1 WX1068	Bourbon Co. Webpage Update
Anderson Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Bourbon Co. YMCA Teen Act Ctr - CDBG
Anderson Co. (Admin) - ARPA	Boyle Co. - KYTC Local Roads
Anderson Co. CDBG - CV	Boyle Co. Joint Comprehensive Plan
Anderson Co. GPS E911	Boyle Co. Reapportionment
Anderson Co. Planning TA	Bridging the GAP
Anderson Co. Reapportionment	Bridging the Gap (Non-Direct)
ARC Ready LDD 2023	Burgin - ARPA
BEAD KYOBD Challenge Project	Burgin CWP Round 1
Berea - CDBG	Carlisle - ARPA
Berea KIA WX21151040	CDC
Berea KY 595 CWR2 SX1068	Clark Co. - KYTC Local Roads
Berea Walnut Meadow Pump - CDBG	Clark Co. Community Service - CDBG

Clark Co. SD CWP Rockwell SX9045	Harrodsburg Bypass - CDBG
Clay City I&I - CDBG/ARC 2020	Harrodsburg, City of (Admin) - ARPA
Comprehensive Plan NG	Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Consumer Directed Options	Homecare
Crab Orchard, City of - ARPA	Homeland Security Geo. Audits
Cynthiana FEMA Low Head P1	Hustonville CWP R1 WX7055
Cynthiana GPS	Hustonville CWP R2 KIA
Danville Boyle Co. P&Z Mapping	IMU/Estill Co. Reloc. CWP WX5008
Danville E911 Maps & Data Coll	INNU Suicide Prevention
Danville E911 TA	Irvine Kelly CWP R2 SX5008
Danville Mapping Agreement	Irvine, City of - ARPA
Dental Office	Isaiah House
EDA Cares	Isaiah House - CDBG
Estill Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Isaiah House HUD 23 - CDBG
Estill Co. CWP R2 WX5010	Jessamine Co. - KYTC Local Roads
Estill Co. E911	Jessamine Co. Fiscal Court - ARPA
Estill Co. ECWD KIA	Jessamine Co. GIS
Estill Co. Fiscal Court - ARPA	Jessamine Co. GIS Reapportionment
Estill Co. Mack Theatre - CDBG	Jessamine Co. Jenette Phase 3
Estill Co. Reapportionment	Jessamine Co. Reapportionment
Families 1st Corona Act - Leave	JFA 120 EDA
Family Caregiver (Admin)	JFA 125 CDBG/Gr Writing/Project D
Family Caregiver-E	JFA 130 ARC
Farmdale SD CWP SX21073087	JFA 140 Public (Admin)
Franklin Co. - CDBG - CV	JFA 150 Committees
Franklin Co. - KYTC Local Roads	KIA 409 Council
Franklin Co. E Government	KIA GIS
Franklin Co. Planning Assistance	KY Grandparent Program
Franklin Co. Reapportionment	Lake Village Water IT
Franklin Co. Women & Family Shelter	Lancaster Comp Plan Update
Garrard Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Lancaster Planning TA
Garrard Co. Reapportionment	Lancaster San Sewer CWP SX9015
Georgetown - CDBG-CV	Lancaster Sewer Improvement Project - CDBG
Georgetown/Scott Co. Sewer KIA SX9012	Lancaster, City of - ARPA
GIS Transportation	Lawrenceburg/Anderson Co. Comprehensive Plan
God's Outreach Food Bank - CDBG	Lincoln Co. - KYTC Local Roads
Harrison Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Lincoln Co. Comprehensive Plan
Harrison Co. (Admin) - ARPA	Lincoln Co. Fiscal Court - ARPA
Harrison Co. (Admin) - ARPA	Lincoln Co. McKinney WD KIA
Harrison Co. E911	Lincoln Co. Reapportionment
Harrison Co. SD CWP WX7016	Lincoln Co. SD - ARPA
	Lincoln Co. SR Ctr Exp - ARPA

LTC Ombudsman State	Stanford - CDBG-CV
Madison Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Stanford P1 Sewer Rehab - CDBG
Madison Co. PVA Mapping	Stanton - CDBG/ARC I/I
Mapping Assistance	Stanton Water Improvement State Line
MCSD Gwinn Island (Admin)	Stanton Water Improvements Pro
Mercer Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Stanton, City of - ARPA
Mercer Co. North Water - CDBG	Title III B
Mercer Co. Reapportionment	Title III B Ombudsman
Midway Bluegrass Dist. - CDBG	Title III C1
Midway Fund B Loan SX9015	Title III C2
N. Middletown (Admin) - ARPA	Title III-D (note 1)
N. Middletown, City of - Fire Station	Title VII Ombudsman
Nicholas Co. - KYTC Local Roads	Title VII-Elder Abuse
Nicholas Co. Fiscal Court - ARPA	Transportation
Nicholas Co. Reapportionment	UMAST Upgrade
Nicholas Co. Water District CWP	UMAST Upgrade Rev. & Oil
Nicholas Co. Water District P13	Versailles Distillery - CDBG
Nicholas Co. WD Management Serv.	Versailles Safe Room Ph 1 FEMA
Nicholas Co./Carlisle E911	Versailles Tornado Shelter
Nicholasville Video	Wilmore CWP R1 & 2
Nicholasville Video Recording (Non-Grant)	Wilmore Granary Restore - CDBG
North Middletown Safe Room	Wilmore, City of - ARPA
NSIP USDA	Winchester River Intake CWP WX9042
Paris CWP R1 Millersburg SX7022	Winchester Services Cost Study
Paris CWP R2 Millersburg SX7022	Winchester, City of - ARPA
Paris Transfer Station Project	WIOA - Adult 270AD24
Paris Water SRF (Admin)	WIOA - Adult 270AD24 (Admin)
Paris/Bourbon Co. E911	WIOA - Adult 273AD24
PDI non-Medicaid - ARPA	WIOA - Adult 273AD24 (Admin)
Perryville (Admin) - ARPA	WIOA - DW 271DW24
Powell Co. - KYTC Local Roads	WIOA - DW 271DW24
Powell Co. Clerk's Web Map	WIOA - DW 272DW24 (Admin)
Powell Co. E911	WIOA - Trade 205BE22
Ravenna FEMA Stormwater Design	WIOA - Trade 205CM22
Ravenna, City of - ARPA	WIOA - YIS Program 274YT24
Red River CWP 2023	WIOA - YOS Program 274YT24
Scott Co. - KYTC Local Roads	WIOA - Youth 274YT24 (Admin)
Scott Co. Amen House - CDBG	WMU Flanagan/Madison CWP SX9026
Scott Co. AMEN House - CDBG	WOIA - Adult 272DW24
Scott Co. Computer Services	Woodford Co. - KYTC Local Roads
Scott Co. Landfill (Mapping/GIS)	

REVENUE & EXPENSES



\$45,327,681

Total Revenue



\$43,751,810

Total Expenses



\$6,351,792

Total Administration Expenses



\$15,118,54

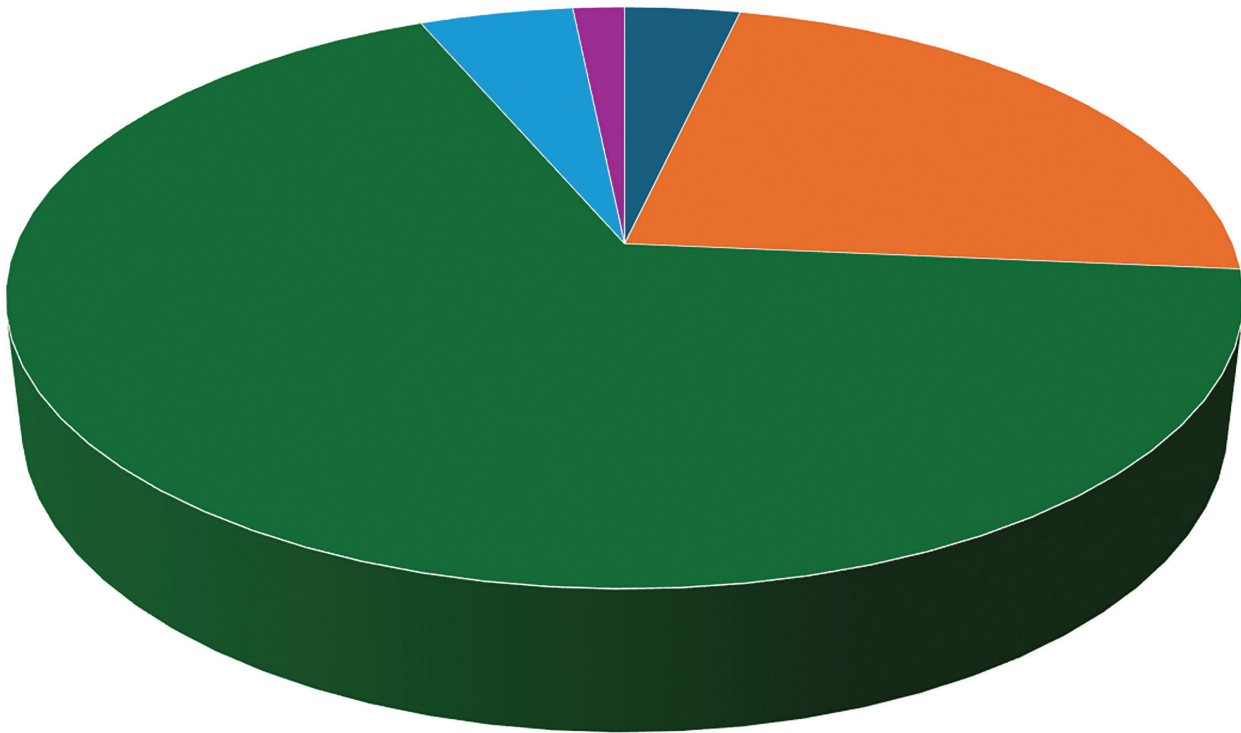
Total Liabilities








\$11,929,135

Total Liabilities & Net Assets

REVENUE BY PROGRAM



KEY	PROGRAM	TOTAL	RATIO
	Community Planning (CP)	\$1,632,096	4%
	Aging	\$10,340,378	23%
	Customer Directed Option (CDO)	\$30,445,824	67%
	Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)	\$2,177,254	5%
	Other	\$732,128	2%
Total:		\$45,327,681	



AREA AGENCY ON AGING & INDEPENDENT LIVING

The Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging & Independent Living promotes and provides for the development of community-based systems of care which include planning, access, and delivery of services, coordination of activities and programs, as well as advocacy on behalf of and education for older persons, disabled individuals, and caregivers in the communities of the Bluegrass Region.

The Department strives to maintain or improve quality of life and enable older persons, disabled individuals, and caregivers the ability to thrive in their chosen environment with mutual respect, dignity, self-determination, and inclusion. The Department has 24 employees and 23 contracted providers for 9 standard programs. They maintain an active presence in the community by participating in community events, partnering with community agencies and organizations as well as serving on community committees.

AREA AGENCY ON AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING STAFF



Celeste Robinson
.....
Director of the BGAAAIL



Sarah Eldridge
.....
Assistant Director of the BGAAAIL



Meaghan Rooks
.....
Aging Program Coordinator



Molly Newman
.....
ADRC Program Manager



Susan Nieto
.....
ADRC Intake



Allison Roy
.....
ADRC Specialist



Dana Davidson
.....
ADRC Specialist



Marquetta Brown
.....
ADRC Specialist



Robin Stewart
.....
ADRC Specialist



Sara Wade
.....
ADRC Specialist

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER



Regina Goodman
.....
Caregiver Program Manager/
Dementia Care Specialist



Charolette Garnett
.....
Aging Program Assistant



Lisa Hurt
.....
Aging Program Assistant



Linda Cunningham
.....
PDS Waiver
Manager



Ada Labus
.....
PDS Waiver
Staff
Spervisor



Brianna Friedman
.....
PDS Lead
Service
Advisor



Gabriele Gorney
.....
PDS
Program
Assistant



Kyra Burgess
.....
PDS
Program
Assistant



Amanda Collins
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Andre Mayhorn
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Diane Underwood
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Gwen Foley
.....
PDS Service
Advisor




Justin Conn
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Kendell Burdette
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Kristen Pumphrey
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Laura Bailey
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Lexi Winkfield
.....
PDS Service
Advisor




Margaret Stults
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Maurica McIntosh
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Nae Fyffe
.....
PDS Service
Advisor



Taylor Cobb
.....
PDS Service
Advisor

PARTICIPANT DIRECTED SERVICES

OUTCOMES

NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM

SERVICES	PEOPLE SERVED	UNITS SERVED	GRANDPARENT SERVICES	PEOPLE SERVED	UNITS SERVED
Assistance Case Management	202	559	Assistance Case Management	113	400
Information Services	187	289	Information Services	118	100.3
Respite	152	13910	Supplemental	109	263
Supplemental	126	291			

SENIOR CENTER SERVICES

SERVICES	PEOPLE SERVED	UNITS SERVED
Advocacy	383	740
Information and Assistance	4486	133258
Outreach	840	4714
Recreation	3066	220736
Transportation	626	48060
Total	6838	532341

HEALTH PROMOTION CLASSES

SERVICES	PEOPLE SERVED	UNITS SERVED
Arthritis Foundation Exercise Program, Bingocize, Drums Alive, Matter of Balance, SAIL- Stay Active and Independent for Life, Tai Chi for Arthritis, Walk with Ease	546	7839

MEALS SERVED

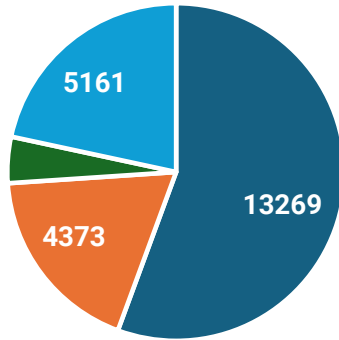
HOME DELIVERED MEAL	PEOPLE SERVED	MEALS SERVED
Drive Up	168	6520
Emergency Meals	398	4499
Other Home Delivered Meals	838	215,121
Total	1404	226140
Congregate	1369	84863

KY CAREGIVER - SUPPLEMENTAL

SERVICES	PEOPLE SERVED	UNITS SERVED
Child Clothing, Personal Needs, Furniture, Respite	18	78
HOME CARE Services	337	96929

COMMUNICATION WITH ADRC

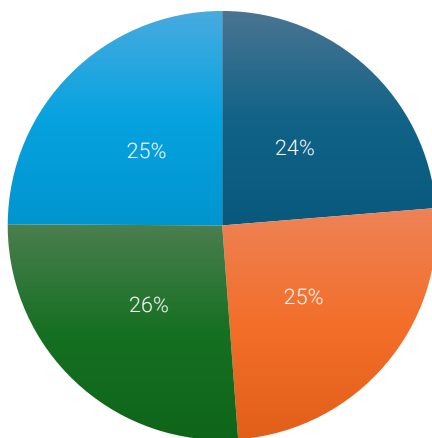
Calls with Individuals Needing Assistance	13269
Calls with Caregivers	4373
Calls with Family	1057
Calls with Professionals	5161
Total	23860



- Calls with Individuals Needing Assistance
- Calls with Caregivers
- Calls with Family
- Calls with Professionals

AGE OF INDIVIDUALS NEEDING ASSISTANCE FROM ADRC

0-59	3892
60-69	4122
70-79	4313
80+	4090



■ 0-59 ■ 60-69 ■ 70-79 ■ 80+

NUMBERS SERVED BY PROGRAM

PROGRAM	YTD SERVED
Homecare	337
Medicaid Waiver-PDS	551
HCB	368
MP Waiver	183
KY Caregiver	69
Grandchildren	51
Grandparents	18
National Family Caregiver	203
National Family Grandparent/Relative	86
ADRC calls	24,625
ADRC Unique Individuals	7,314
ADRC Level One Screenings	2,108
ADRC Benefind Applications	941
Uniper	76
Veterans Direct Care	2

HIGHLIGHTS



UNIPER: CONNECT TO LIFE - NOW AVAILABLE IN THE BLUEGRASS

Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living is proud to offer Uniper to individuals in the Bluegrass region over the age of 60. This program provides older adults with access to a senior social community that promotes a healthy lifestyle through a wide variety of live and on-demand classes, video-chat interactions, health and wellness programs, and so much more! This year we expanded it to all 17 of our counties and grew to nearly 80 members.

LOCAL MEALS ON WHEELS RECEIVE PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

Capital City Activity Center/ Meals on Wheels Greater Frankfort received a Programs of Excellence Award from the National Council on Aging (NCOA) National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC) for social and support services for its Helping Hands Food Pantry program. The program was innovative by focusing on seniors who experienced food insecurities by offering each participant a shopping experience while also offering other food box programs which help met senior needs.



Capital City Activity Center, Helping Hands Food Pantry has helped hand out more than 635 food boxes each month to older adults who experience food insecurities. The pantry offers Free Food Friday's, which is a drive-up shopping experience, every week. In addition to Free Food Friday's, seniors can request a monthly food box and participate in the Senior Commodity Food Box program. There is also an emergency food box program available to seniors who are in immediate need.

WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY'S CHAMP AWARD GOES TO MARY CROWLEY SCHMIDT

On June 15th, 2024, at World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Frankfort, Mary Crowley Schmidt, Assistant Director (retired) was awarded the CHAMP Award - Champion of Adult Maltreatment Prevention. Mary has served the Bluegrass Area Development District for 38 years and has been a strong advocate for older adults during her tenure.



COMMUNITY PLANNING

BGADD's Community Planning team provides a broad array of professional services to the Cities and Counties of the Bluegrass Region. The staff adds capacity and expertise to the capabilities of each of your units of local government to bring transformational projects to life in your communities. Services provided by the CP team include planning administration and technical assistance, comprehensive plan writing, water and wastewater infrastructure planning, regional transportation planning, grant writing, economic development management assistance, construction project management and financial administration, financial needs analyses and public administration assistance to cities, counties, and public utilities, and more. The department prepares our region's Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Area Water Management Plan. At the foundation of the department is BGADD's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (or "CEDS"). This guiding document is a critical mechanism that helps identify regional vulnerability, opportunities to capitalize on, and inventories many of the region's ongoing initiatives. The plan elicits participation from BGADD's advisory committees and executive board, and is directly informed by the BGADD's priorities set by the board. The document acts as a charter for the department's course and steers the project development efforts of the CP team. Annually, the CEDS is reviewed and updated, and is fully rewritten every five years. Our current full CEDS and each annual update can be found on the BGADD website at www.bgadd.us/transparency.


COMMUNITY PLANNING STAFF




**Greyson
Evans**
.....
Director of
Community
Planning




**Michael
Murphy**
.....
Community
Development
Specialist




**Paul
Mauer**
.....
Community
Development
Specialist



**Gene
Detherage**
.....
Economic
Development
Specialist



**Casey
Cash**
.....
Infrastructure
Development
Specialist



**Logan
Hart**
.....
Public
Administration
Specialist



**David
Gambrel**
.....
Regional
Transportation
Planner



**Linden
Smith**
.....
Senior
Regional
Land Use
Planner





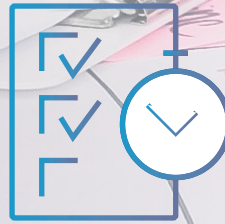
OUTCOMES



\$78 Million in Grants for Construction/
Infrastructure Awarded and Currently Being
Administered by BGADD



\$51.2 Million of
ARPA funds under BGADD
Administration



4
Ongoing Comprehensive
Plans; Planning Services
being provided in

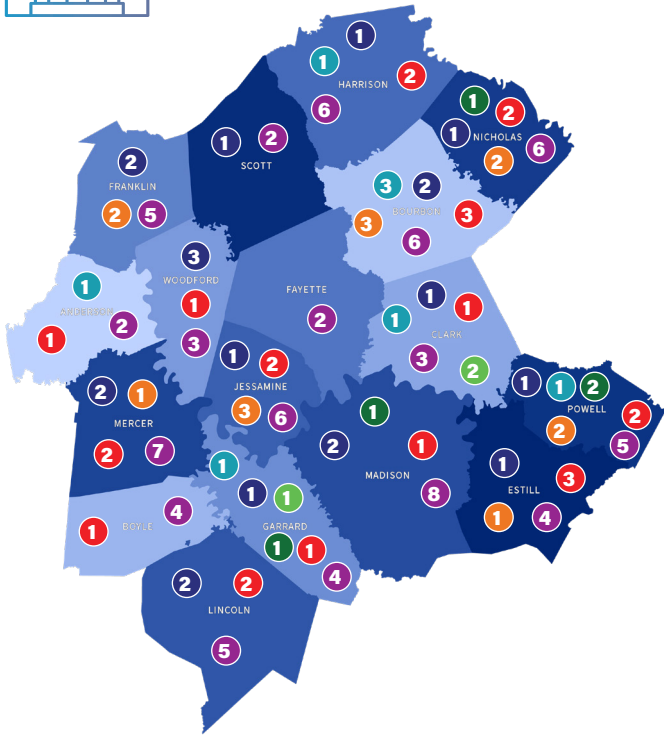
3
Jurisdictions



120+ Open
contracts with units of
local government for
grants administration/
professional services



FEDERAL FUNDING AWARDS



KEY	Funding Source	TL
	Community Development Block Grant/CDBG	21
	CDBG - Pending	8
	Appalachian Regional Commission/ARC	9
	ARC - Pending	3
	ARPA Funds Administration	24
	Congressionally Directed Spending/CDS or "Earmark"	14
	Additional Services *	78

Note: CDBG Pending could be awarded between now and the issuing of this report.

* Additional Services include: E911, Broadband Technical Assistance (TA), Comprehensive Plans, Economic Development, Email Management, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Highway Information System Global Information System Update, Planning TA work, Reappointment, Web Hosting



COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT - OPEN AND PENDING

OPEN	
Location	Project
City of Paris	Solid Waste Transfer Station
North Middletown	Fire Station
Boyle County	Isaiah House Recovery Housing
Clark County	Sanitation District/US60 Sewer Extension
Estill County	Mack Theatre Rehabilitation
Franklin County	Farmdale Sanitation District Package Plant Elimination
Franklin County	Franklin County Women and Family Shelter Recovery Housing
Lancaster	Sanitary Sewer Extension Project
Cynthiana	Fire Station
Wilmore	Granary Restoration/Stabilization Phase II
Lincoln County	McKinney Water District Improvements
Madison County	God's Outreach
Berea	Farristown Community Center
Nicholas County	EMS Facility
Clay City	I&I Sewer Rehabilitation
Scott County	Amen House
City of Midway	Bluegrass Distillers CDBG-ED
City of Versailles	Rick & Still CDBG-ED
PENDING CDBGs	
Anderson County	Oxbow Meats CDBG-ED
Bourbon County	Divine Spirits CDBG-ED
Bourbon County	Millersburg Farmers Bank Building Stabilization
Millersburg	Downtown Block Revitalization/Rehabilitation CDBG**
City of Winchester	Bluegrass Tool CDBG-ED
Garrard County	Sanitation District
City of Berry	WWTP Lagoon Rehabilitation Project

* 1. Pending CDBG's as of September 5, 2024

** 2. In partnership with Community Ventures Corporation

HIGHLIGHTS

WILKINSON FARM MEGASITE

From 2022 through 2024, BGADD has provided assistance to Harrodsburg, Mercer County Fiscal Court, and Harrodsburg Mercer County IDA with their efforts to bring an industrial megasite to market. The community is finalizing the bonding for acquisition of 958 prime industrial acres with mainline rail, US highway frontage and high voltage transmission. Efforts to date culminated on May 20, when our legislative champions, Representative Kim King and Senator Amanda Mays Bledsoe presented the community with \$11.5 million in HB1 funding for infrastructure improvements to the property. The community has also received grants from the USDOT and Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority, and anticipates additional funding in the near future.

RECOVERY HOUSING

FY24 saw BGADD complete two recovery housing CDBG's for Franklin County Women and Family Shelter and Isaiah house, providing needed funding and new bedspace for recovery in the region. Since then, the BGADD has secured additional funding for two more CDBG RHP projects, and has continued to work with the City of Richmond, New Vista, and EDA to bring a new recovery housing and workforce training center online in Richmond.

NICHOLAS COUNTY EMS



After losing their EMS facility and nearly all its contents to catastrophic flooding, Nicholas County sought BGADD's assistance to find grant funds to build a new EMS facility out of the floodplain, to be able to continue providing emergency services to the community. A \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant has been secured, alongside approximately \$1.7 million in Congressionally appropriated funds through congressman Barr's office, to build the new facility at little to no cost to Nicholas County.

PARIS TRANSFER STATION



The Paris Transfer Station has been a detriment to Paris' West Side Neighborhood for over 50 years. Solid waste was dropped off/transferred here, leading to major heavy truck congestion in a residential area, and significant concerns associated with litter and the environment. Through grassroots neighborhood organization and collective effort, this issue has come to the forefront over the last couple of years. Through \$2 million in CDBG funding to the city of Paris and land for a new location being granted to the project by Bourbon County, this wrong is being righted, and the new Paris solid waste convenience center is being constructed off of the Paris bypass in a more appropriate and accessible location away from residential neighborhoods.

JENETTE INDUSTRIAL PARK



Jenette Industrial Park is Jessamine County's first new industrial park project in over three decades. The park spans 170+/- acres, and is broken into three phases. Phase two is nearing completion of construction, and ground will be broken on phase 3 in the spring of 2025. At the close of FY2024, JCJEDA had partnered with BGADD to secure nearly \$7.6 million in grant funds from 6 distinct grants that included two KPDI awards and two Congressional Appropriations spearheaded by Congressman Andy Barr.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The IT (Information Technology) department became a standalone department on July 1st of 2024, though the services provided have been a vital part of the BGADD and the counties we serve previously as part of the Community Development Department. It manages and maintains technology systems and infrastructure for the BGADD and numerous counties within the Bluegrass area. The main goal is to ensure that the organization's technology resources are used efficiently, securely, and in line with the company's objectives.

IT departments have many responsibilities, including:

- Audio/Visual services: From recording and publishing public meetings to utilizing drones to capture the beauty of a county.
- Governance: Managing the company's technological systems
- Maintenance: Ensuring the infrastructure and functionality of the systems are maintained
- Software and hardware: Working on computer software and hardware internally
- Functionality: Creating and maintaining operational applications, developing, securing, and storing electronic data, and helping with software and data management
- GIS Services: Providing mapping technology to the 17-county area.
- Network responsibilities: Overseeing the installation and maintenance of computer network systems
- Security: Managing and maintaining security, and ensuring that security breaches don't happen or are detected and dealt with as soon as possible
- Training and support: Providing training and support
- Website design and hosting: Providing customized websites and hosting the platform.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY STAFF




Shane New

 Director of
 Information
 Technology




Tab Patterson

 Audio Visual
 Specialist/
 Building
 Superintendent




James Whisenhunt

 Geographic
 Information
 Systems
 (GIS)
 Manager



Ellie Wellman

 GIS
 Specialist



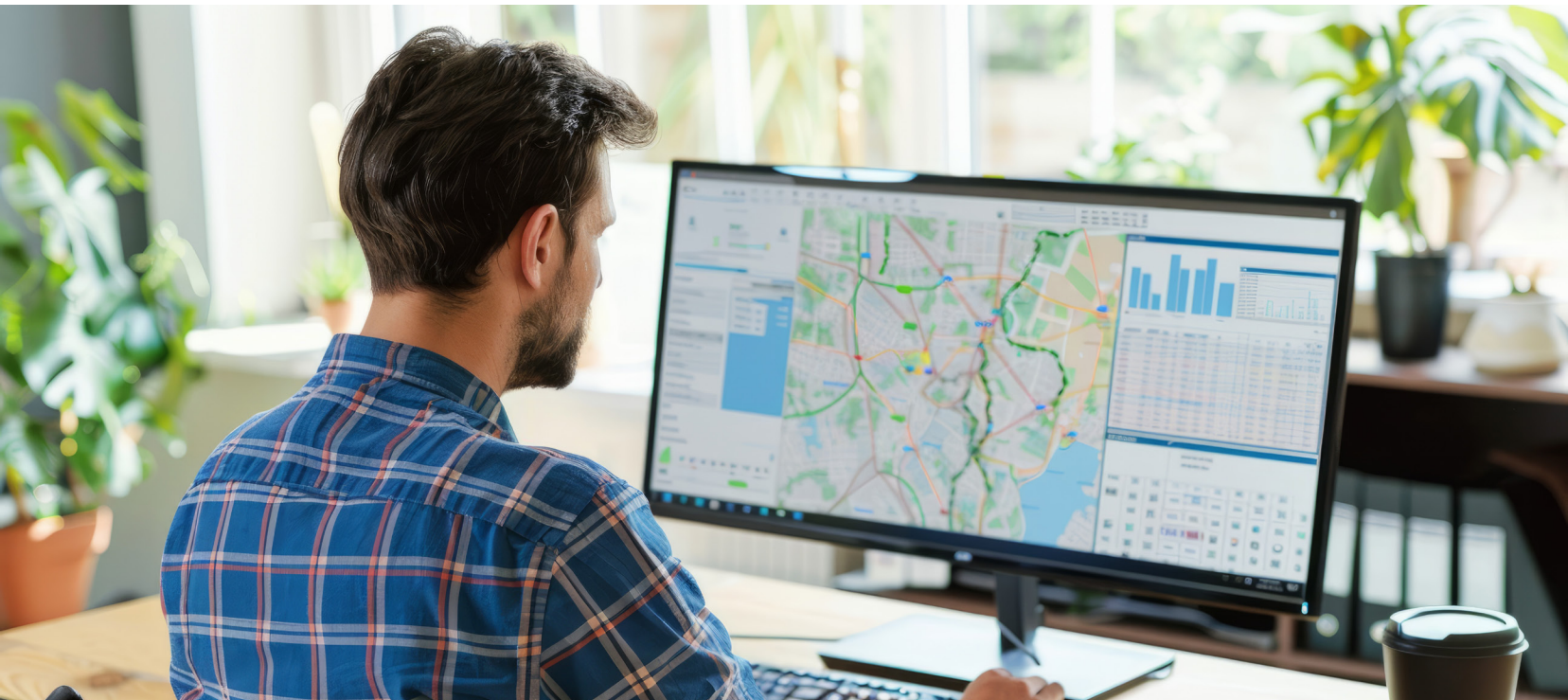
Nathan Blackledge

 GIS
 Specialist



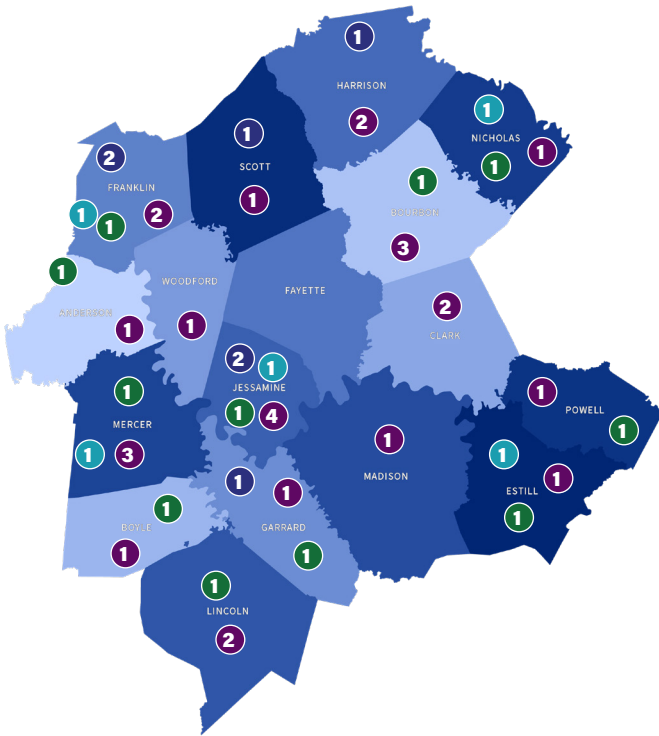
Jeff Luoma

 IT Specialist



OUTCOMES

INTERNET SECURITY



KEY	Service Provided	TL
	Interactive Maps	6
	E911	5
	Reapportionment *	11
	Technical Assistance **	27

* Reapportionment is the process of redrawing the boundaries of magisterial districts to ensure equitable representation based on population changes. This means adjusting the lines of these districts to reflect shifts in population as recorded by the most recent census. The goal is to ensure that each district has roughly the same number of residents, thereby maintaining fair and effective representation in local government. The Bluegrass Area Development District (BGADD) has been actively involved in this process, utilizing demographic data and sophisticated mapping techniques to propose adjustments that uphold the principles of equal representation. This work ensures that all residents in the Bluegrass area have their voices heard equally in county government, promoting fairness and democracy in our region's political landscape. Bluegrass ADD worked with 11 of our 17 counties on this process and assisted a couple more with the process and map creation.

** Technical Assistance represents email hosting, troubleshooting, domain hosting, website design, or other services not outlined in the key above.



Security awareness risk score was reduced from **30** to

28



Phishing email attempts increased from **1.4%** to

4.1%



312 hours was spent on training staff regarding internet security.



864 simulated phishing emails were reported.



50 legitimate phishing emails were reported per week over **6** per month in the previous year.



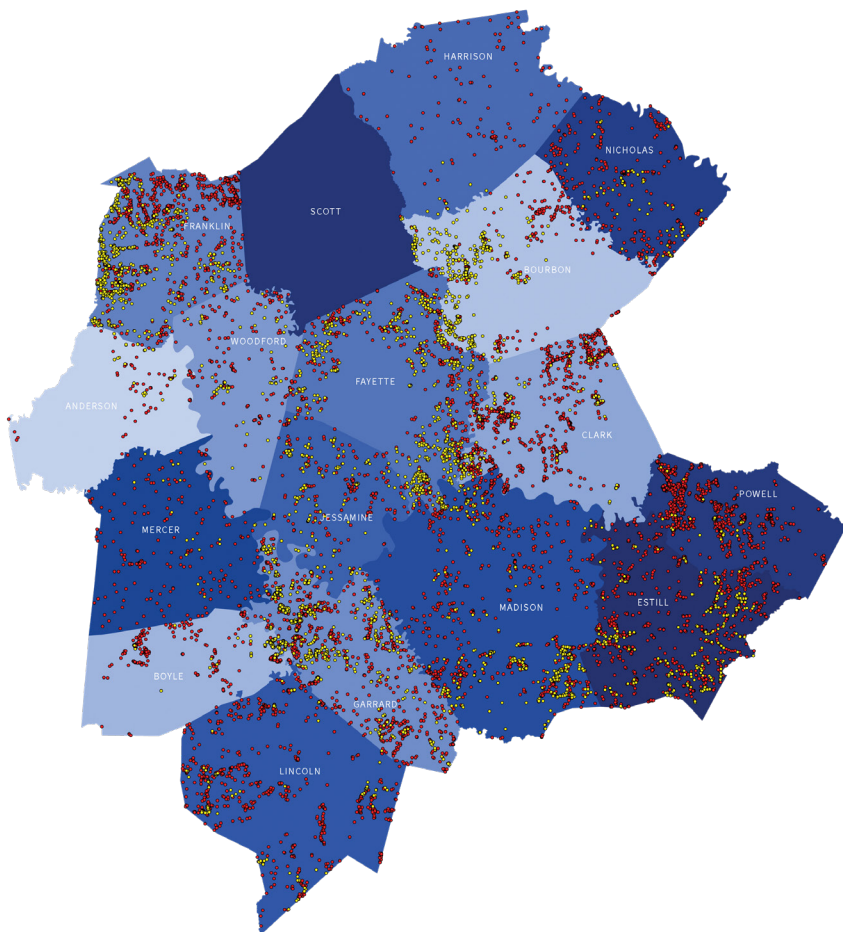
100 blocked spam and phishing domains saving staff time and organizational resources.



303 Sysaid requests were addressed and closed in the previous year. ***

*** This does not include direct email requests for assistance.

BROADBAND EQUITY, ACCESS, AND DEPLOYMENT (BEAD) PROGRAM



COUNTY	UNSERVED	UNDERSERVED
Anderson	60	22
Bourbon	252	446
Boyle	212	14
Clark	996	138
Estill	997	273
Fayette	488	486
Franklin	922	576
Garrard	970	716
Harrison	119	9
Jessamine	208	142
Lincoln	710	92
Madison	1206	370
Mercer	202	16
Nicholas	339	61
Powell	1425	41
Woodford	142	59

* Scott County was not included because an ISP is under contract for the county.

The Bluegrass Area Development District (BGADD) has made significant contributions this year through its collaborative efforts in the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. This critical federal initiative is aimed at bridging the digital divide by ensuring that all communities, particularly those in rural and underserved areas, have access to reliable and affordable broadband services.

BGADD's success in the BEAD program has been enhanced by the partnership with the Kentucky Office of Broadband Development (KOBD). Working with them, BGADD has been able to contribute effectively to the program, ensuring that our region's specific needs are addressed. The Office's support has been pivotal in helping us secure a \$49,500 contract to assist local communities in challenging and verifying the FCC Fabric Broadband Data. This process is crucial in ensuring that areas lacking broadband coverage are accurately identified and prioritized for BEAD funding.

While the Kentucky Office of Broadband Development has provided the framework and support necessary for broadband infrastructure expansion, BGADD has played a key role in implementing these plans at the local level. Our work has included detailed mapping and the creation

of new broadband maps that reflect the current state of coverage within our jurisdiction. These efforts have laid the groundwork for future infrastructure development, ensuring that underserved areas are not left behind.

BGADD has complemented the infrastructure efforts by focusing on public awareness and digital literacy. Together with the Kentucky Office of Broadband Development, we have conducted workshops and outreach programs to educate community members about the benefits of broadband access and how to use these services effectively. These initiatives are crucial in maximizing the impact of the expanded infrastructure and ensuring that all residents can take full advantage of the opportunities that broadband connectivity provides.

As we look to the future, BGADD remains committed to continuing its collaborative work with the Kentucky Office of Broadband Development. Together, we will strive to further enhance broadband coverage in our region, ensuring that every community has equitable access to high-speed internet. Our ongoing efforts under the BEAD program are vital to fostering economic growth, improving educational opportunities, and enhancing the quality of life for all our residents.

HIGHLIGHTS



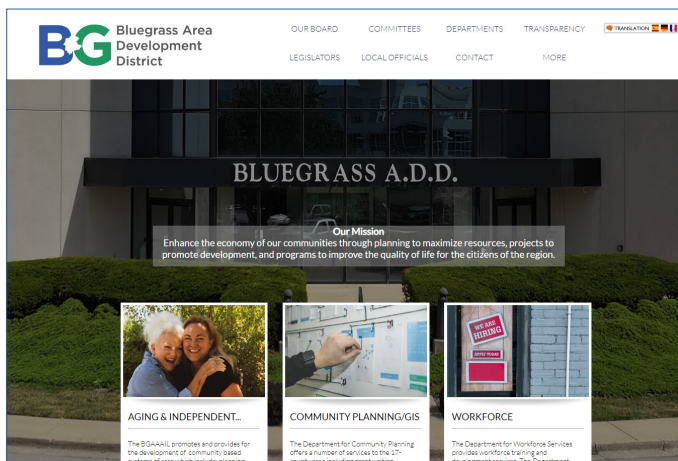
MAKING BLUEGRASS WEBSITES MORE ACCESSIBLE

In an effort to ensure accessibility to information on BGADD and related websites for the citizens of the Bluegrass staff researched options to meet this need. A service called Accessibe was highly recommend and after some further investigation it was found to not only meet but exceed the needs of most clients who experience challenges when trying to view online materials. This service was quickly installed on the BGADD, BGAAAIL, BGWIB, and Bourbon County Fiscal Court, Kentucky Career Center - Bluegrass web pages. Other websites associated with the BGADD has had this service recommended.

UMAST PROJECT

The Revenue Cabinet contracted with the Bluegrass Area Development District to develop an application which can produce tax bills for unmined coal in Kentucky. As of 2020 their website, which was built on an antiquated system, became nonfunctional. The Bluegrass ADD has worked for over 2 years to provide the Cabinet with a website to maintain coal seams, property owners, assessments, and tax bills.

The project was completed in FY24, the Revenue Cabinet can produce tax bills that will assist them in reclaiming millions in revenue for 2021 and going forward.



BGADD WEBSITE GETS A FACELIFT

The BGADD launched a new website in the previous year. The website offers not only an updated look as well as enhanced accessibility and translation services. It also offers menu options for transparency, departments, and and committees. In this upgraded site, the BGADD provides video welcomes from the Department Directors, describing the services and/or functions. It also offers ways to connect with departmental staff via email, which makes contacting us simpler. Lastly, each committee page offers a description of its purpose, future meetings, previous minutes and its accomplishments via the reports link. If you haven't visited our new website at BGADD.us then I highly recommend you check it out.

WORKFORCE SERVICES

Funding for WIOA is allocated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky through the Department of Labor at which point the Governor allocates a portion of funds to each workforce area. Workforce areas are established through an interlocal agreement between the highest-ranking elected official in that county, as they are responsible for the WIOA funds. The interlocal agreement requires the identification of six local Judge Executives and the Mayor of Lexington-Fayette County to form an Executive Committee of the Governing Board of Local Elected Officials to oversee the requirements determined in the law.

One of those functions is the establishment of a Workforce Board and the approval of member appointments for that board as outlined in WIOA. The purpose of the Bluegrass Workforce Innovation Board (BGWIB) is to guide the board support staff based on their experience in their respective fields, which includes: A 51% majority of high-level decision-making private sector professionals, 20% workforce and labor, government, economic development, and education.

WORKFORCE SERVICES STAFF



Tiffanie Reeves
.....
Director of Workforce Service



Rolando Thacker
.....
Business Services Manager



Hannah Gregory
.....
Quality Assurance Manager



Kevin Moore
.....
Workforce Services Manager



Jeremy Heard
.....
IT Specialist/Trainer



Robin Richmond
.....
Program Assistant



OUTCOMES



Employers Served Total PY23: 328



Jobseekers Served PY23: 10,172



Adult, DW, & Youth Exits to Employment Total PY23: 123

Anderson County

- Library Visits: 6
- Virtual Reality Events: 2

Approximate Attendees: 60

Bourbon County

- Expungement Fair: 1
- Library Visits: 6
- Virtual Reality Events: 3

Approximate Attendees: 100

Boyle County

- Job Fair: 1
- Rapid Response: 1
- Resource Fair: 1
- VR Event: 5

Approximate Attendees: 339

Clark County

- Expungement Fair: 1
- Job Fair: 2
- Library Visits: 6
- Rapid Response: 3
- Virtual Reality Events: 3

Approximate Attendees: 463

Estill County

- Library Visits: 6
- Job Fair: 1
- Virtual Reality Events: 1

Approximate Attendees: 60

Fayette County

- Expungement Fair: 2
- Job Fair: 2
- Resource Fair: 9
- Virtual Reality Events: 25

Approximate Attendees: 2,150

Franklin County

- Job Fair: 1
- Library Visits: 6
- Rapid Response: 2
- VR Event: 9

Approximate Attendees: 546

Garrard County

- Library Visits: 6
- Virtual Reality Events: 3

Approximate Attendees: 30

Harrison County

- Job Fairs: 1
- Library Visits: 6

Approximate Attendees: 20

Jessamine County

- Expungement Fair: 1
- Library Visits: 6
- Resource Fair: 1

Approximate Attendees: 75

Lincoln County

- Expungement Fair: 1
- Library Visits: 6

Approximate Attendees: 50

Madison County

- Job Fair: 4
- Rapid Response: 5
- Resource Fair: 2
- Virtual Reality Events: 17

Approximate Attendees: 986

Mercer County

- Library Visits: 6
- Resource Fair: 1
- Virtual Reality Events: 4

Approximate Attendees: 165

Nicholas County

- Library Visits: 6

Approximate Attendees: 6

Powell County

- Job Fair: 1
- Library Visits: 6

Approximate Attendees: 25

Scott County

- Conference: 1
- Expungement Fair: 1
- Job Fair: 3
- Rapid Response: 1
- Resource Fair: 1
- Virtual Reality Events: 4

Approximate Attendees: 885

Woodford County

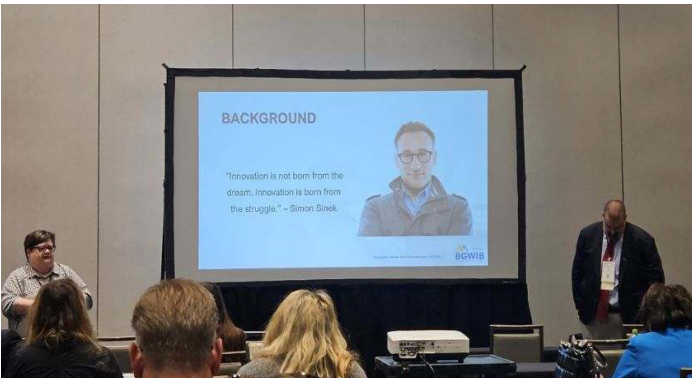
- Expungement: 1
- Job Fair: 1
- Library Visits: 6
- Resource Fair: 1
- VR Event: 1

Approximate Attendees: 120

Note: Attendee numbers are approximated due to many of these events being in partnership with other organizations and are based on the numbers provided to the Board Support Staff by those partners.

HIGHLIGHTS

Brandon Briscoe visited the Kentucky Career Center – Bluegrass access point at Campbellsville University in the fall of 2022 to get help with finding a better employment option. He was referred to by a friend after being told that staff could assist him with this need. Brandon had a limited work history and no credential beyond a High School Diploma. After review, staff determined that he could benefit from additional training. Brandon entered the HVAC program at Campbellsville University in Fall 2022 and successfully completed the program in Fall 2023. After completing this program, Brandon has since gained suitable full-time employment with Essity Operations Wausau earning 19.38/hour in his hometown.



WIOA Board Support Staff were selected to present at the Southeastern Employment & Training (SETA) conference in March of 2024. The presentation was very well reviewed by attendees and received high praise from the SETA President, who also attended.



Staff are constantly providing outreach and partnering with organizations on on events to assist job seekers and businesses in the Bluegrass. Pictured above: Kentucky Career Center - Bluegrass, Direct Service Provider staff set up for the Goodwill Expungement Clinic in Lexington.

Jerrard Sauler, a job seeker who is currently employed at Bluegrass Army Depot, reached out to the for training assistance. Jerrard will be losing his job due to the chemical agent-destruction project concluding sometime between 2024-2025. Jerrard has worked in some capacity with the Army Depot for the past 15 years and came to the us seeking certification in Data Analytics with the intent of upskilling and building his resume in search of his next career. Jerrard was approved for a three-day certification in data analytics to be completed in July 2024. He will remain at the Depot until being laid off and will continue to work with us for an employment transition at that time.

William Conder visited the Kentucky Career Center - Bluegrass in Danville for assistance in Lineman Training. He previously worked for a construction company but did not get full-time hours or benefits, both of which he needed to be suitably employed. Staff person, Alicia Mullins worked with William on basic career services and got him approved for training. He successfully completed his training during the month of June 2024 and has already had an interview with Inter-County Energy and is awaiting a decision. He is thankful for the opportunity the KCC provided for him.

Workforce Direct Service Provider staff had the opportunity to spend time speaking with Senator Rand Paul regarding services provided by the Kentucky Career Center-Bluegrass. Staff reported he was interested in hearing the work being done, especially the work experience program and services to small business. They also discussed unemployment and the work being done with those in substance abuse recovery.

A photograph of a man and a woman standing together indoors. The man is on the left, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt. The woman is on the right, wearing a white top and glasses. They are both smiling at the camera.

A blurred background image of a business meeting. Several people are seated around a table, looking at a laptop screen. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a modern office environment.

COMMITTEES & COUNCILS



AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Judge Executive
Steve Hamilton
.....
Chair**

This Council, mandated by the federal Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA) and KAR 1:220, advises the Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living (AAAIL) on all community policies, programs and actions affecting older persons throughout the region. The Council also reviews and advises the AAAIL on its annual Area Plan, a report and needs assessment of services and assistance throughout the region required by Kentucky’s Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL).

At least half of the Council is composed of Bluegrass residents 60 years and older, including minority individuals, who participate in or are eligible for OAA Title III programs such as general support services, nutrition programs and caregiver support. The remaining Council membership includes representatives of healthcare and support service providers, local officials and other interested individuals. This group is directed by the AAAIL.

Staff Contact: Celeste Robinson - crobinson@bgadd.org

AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Participated in a Dementia Virtual Reality Experience using an Oculus.
- Attended the annual Aging Advocacy Day event held at the Capital Annex on March 7, 2024.
- In honor of Older Americans Month, each county had a Senior Champion recognized and presented with a certificate.

Established by KRS 151 and KRS 2241, the 409 Council exist to coordinate water and wastewater system development statewide. Members include all county judge/executives, the mayors of any city with a municipal water or wastewater system and representatives of each local health department within the Bluegrass region. Leaders of KRS 74 water districts and KRS 273 water associations, as well as representatives of for-profit utilities, are also voting members. Quarterly meetings give members the opportunity to coordinate plans and projects to avoid duplication of service, ensure consistency with local and regional land use plans and promote cost-effectiveness. The 409 Council is directed by the Community Planning Department.

Staff Contact: Casey Cash - ccash@bgadd.org



AREA WATER MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**Judge Executive
Woods Adams
.....
Chair**

AREA WATER MANAGEMENT COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Responsible for reviewing every project profile for water and wastewater infrastructure construction across the BGADD region, and facilitates the completion of the Area Water Management Plan.
- Statutorily required and is BGADD’s legislative body for its collaborative work with the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority.
- Focused upon KIA’s Cleaner Water and KYWWATERS Programs.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Judge Executive
Reagan Taylor
.....
Chair

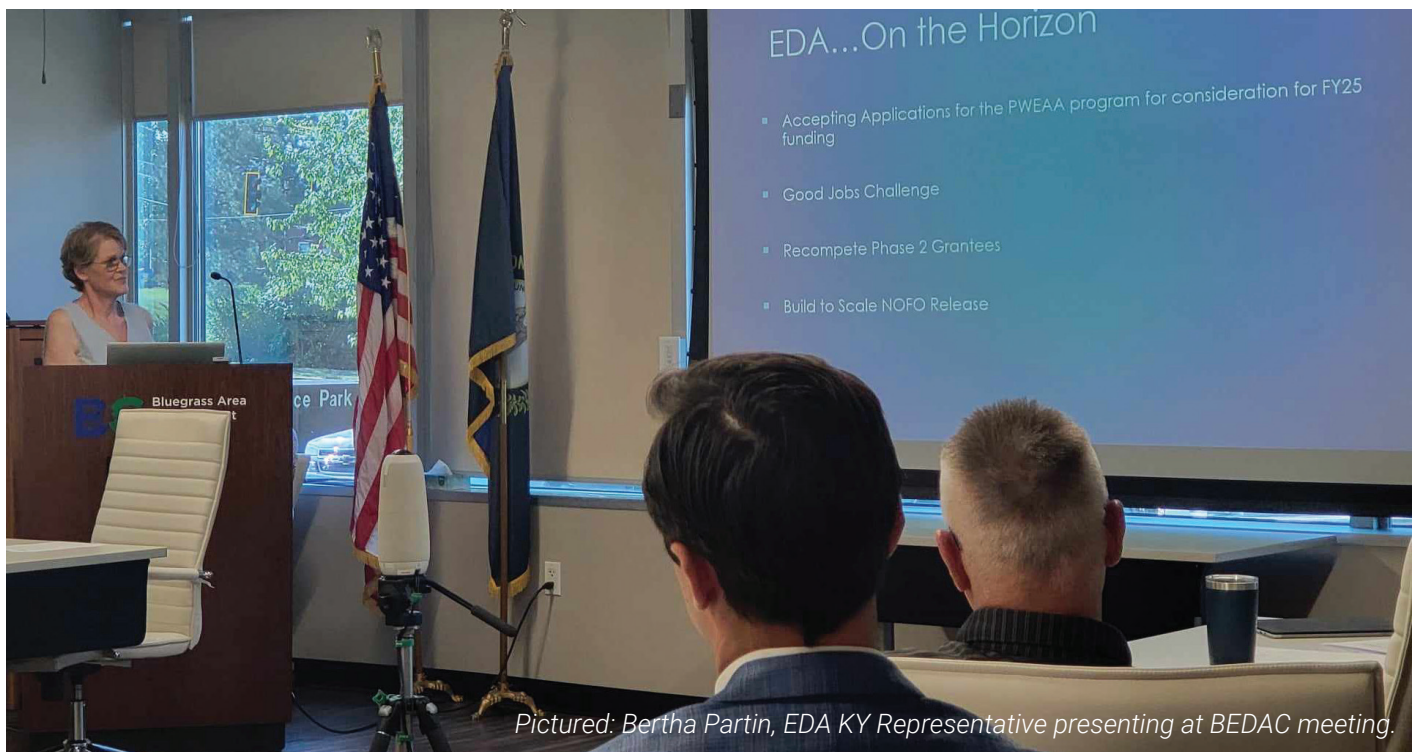
The Bluegrass Economic Development Advisory Council (BEDAC) is made up of regional economic development stakeholders, including County Economic and Industrial Development Authority Directors, Chambers of Commerce, and representatives of various industries and financial institutions from around the region. The committee meets quarterly to discuss future industrial and economic development in the region, to collaborate to solve challenges and barriers to growth that member communities are collectively facing, and to review grant funding applications related to economic development that have been submitted around the region. The Council

also serves as the primary set of stakeholders to assist BGADD staff with the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, also known as the "CEDS Plan." The plan is updated annually and is rewritten every five years. The Bluegrass Economic Development Advisory Council is directed by the Community Development Department.

Staff Contact: Greyson Evans - gevans@bgadd.org


ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Focused on funding this year, with meetings on EDA and KCED Grant opportunities. The group heard presentations from Babbage Cofounder and Ms. Bertha Partin of EDA.
- Across BGADD in the last two years, at least 19 KPDI awards, multiple state budget line items, and multiple federal appropriations have been made toward economic development and increasing the region's inventory of high-quality, publicly controlled available industrial property.
- Provides important feedback that informs the industrial development priorities that go into the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (aka "CEDS" Plan)



Pictured: Bertha Partin, EDA KY Representative presenting at BEDAC meeting.

The first of its kind in the Commonwealth, this Council is designed as a forum for elected officials and first responders such as public health officials, law enforcement officers, firefighters and emergency services personnel. The Council works to encourage cooperation among various groups and agencies, assist local agencies in prevention and response activities, seek funding for local and regional projects related to homeland security and aid local jurisdictions in protecting assets during emergencies. The Council also participates in the periodic update of the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan, as required by federal regulation, and reviews hazard mitigation and Homeland Security KIRPs. This Council is directed by the Community Planning Department.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Judge Executive
Eddie Barnes
.....
Chair

Staff Contact: Michael Murphy - mmurphy@bgadd.org

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

- Rebranded and shifted focus from a Homeland Security perspective to placing emphasis on Emergency Preparedness in FY24, allowing the committee to address a wider array of concerns and to adapt to the current landscape surrounding emergency management, law enforcement and first responders.
- Increased the resilience and recovery of the region in Homeland Security issues, natural disasters, and other hazards that have affected and will continue to impact this population.
- Brought in multiple speakers during the year to discuss the various funding opportunities in the scope of Emergency Preparedness.



HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

Judge Executive
Sarah Steele
.....
Chair

This Committee serves as a planning body for local-level human service needs, meeting bi-monthly to review and comment on grant applications for Bluegrass region projects in the areas of income, health and nutrition assistance, housing, employment, youth, equal rights and education. The membership may also consider areas of special concern to other existing ADD committees and councils – such as transportation, energy, land use and child advocacy – when they affect human resources within the ADD. The Committee consists of one representative from each ADD county as well as other individuals and

stakeholders interested in human service issues as at-large members. It is specifically encouraged to be a group with a wide range of interests and representation in order to meet all human service needs of ADD residents. The Council is directed by the Community Planning Department.

Staff Contact: Kelly Rode - krode@bgadd.org

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased awareness of legislation through guest speaker Representative Samara Heavrin, Chair of the Families and Children House Committee.
- Improved understanding of NICU needs being spearheaded by Sandy Shafer.
- Positively impacted information dissemination by reaching organizations outside or own area to help foster education and learn from others.

A wide variety of public projects, including water, sewer, and housing, carry with them potentially negative environmental effects. The purpose of this Committee is to promote and assist in the protection, maintenance, and development of natural resources, and to protect and enhance the region’s environment. The Committee also advises the Board on issues related to water and wastewater, air quality, solid waste, land and soil, forest, agricultural, mineral and other resources. The group is directed by the Community Planning Department.



NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 Mayor Brian Traugott


 Chair

Staff Contact: Casey Cash - ccash@bgadd.org

NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

- Focused on protecting the region's natural resources ad beauty, and for implementing environmentally friendly development strategies, green infrastructure, and sustainability initiatives across the Area Development District.
- Focus for 2024 was on invasive species, making strides to assist communities in banning the retail sale of officially designated invasive plant species, and is working toward mitigating negative effects catalyzed by invasives.
- Staffed through a partnership with Bluegrass Greensource.

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL



Mayor Alex Carter

 Chair



Peter Beaty

 Committee Lead

An advisory board on land use, zoning, and planning issues within the District’s communities. With a membership including planning commissioners and professional planning staff representing every jurisdiction throughout the Bluegrass, the Council monitors and reviews comprehensive, transportation, infrastructure and land use plans at the local, county and regional levels. Attendance at regular meetings can be counted toward continuing education (CEU) training for planning commissioners, Board of Adjustment members, zoning administrators and planning professionals and their staff as required by KRS 147A.027.

Staff Contact: Linden Smith - lsmith@bgadd.org

REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Positioned itself to offer training to other Area Development Districts, reaching out to expand training and setting protocols for how to track training in accordance with HB55
- Held two programs with affordable housing as the focus, and partnered on joint meetings with the BEDAC.
- Working to develop new and updated ideas for providing housing that can be truly "affordable" and is searching for ways to streamline the P&Z process and shorten associated timelines across the region.



REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

Mayor James Atkins
.....
Chair

The goal of this Committee is to promote the development of a safe, cost-efficient, accessible and balanced transportation and communication system throughout the ADD. The Committee is a cooperative forum for local leaders and a regional advocate for producing solutions to regional transportation problems. One of the most important tasks of the RTC is its partnership with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) in its Statewide Transportation Planning Program. RTC members create a prioritized list of highway, bikeway, pedestrian and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) projects, based on regional impact, which the

KYTC uses to develop its state-level transportation plans. The RTC also works with county governments throughout the ADD to create prioritized project lists at the local level and to administer the KYTC regional transportation program. This Committee was established to fulfill contractual obligations with KYTC and is directed by the Community Planning Department.

Staff Contact: David Gambrel - dgambrel@bgadd.org

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased members in 2024, as well as members’ engagement. Of special note are the number of Judge-Executives who are participating on the council.
- Widened its scope to include stakeholders from communities not previously involved i.e. motorcyclists and law enforcement.
- Provided a wide gamut of topics including House Bill 9, SS4A, Safety for Older Drivers, and Major Traffic Generators.





WORKFORCE GOVERNING BOARD OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor
Linda Gorton
.....
Co-Chair

Judge Executive
Mike Williams
.....
Co-Chair



Funding for WIOA is allocated to the Commonwealth of Kentucky through the Department of Labor at which point the Governor allocates a portion of funds to each workforce area. Workforce areas are established through an interlocal agreement between the highest ranking elected official in that county, as they are responsible for the WIOA funds. The interlocal agreement requires the identification of six local Judge Executives and Mayor of Lexington-Fayette County to form an Executive Committee of the Governing Board of Local Elected Officials to over see the requirements determined in the law. This Committee has two equally seated Chairs.

Staff Contact: Tiffanie Reeves - treeves@bgadd.org

GOVERNING BOARD OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR WORKFORCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Confirmation of a new Director of Workforce Services.
- Contributed to the realignment and provided confirmation of the Workforce Services 5-year Strategic Plan.
- Approved budget for Workforce Services for Bluegrass Area.



WORKFORCE INNOVATION BOARD

Jon Dougherty
.....
Chair

The Bluegrass Workforce Innovation Board (BGWIB) is made up of high-ranking professionals, labor representatives, community organizations, and state partners. All members of the BGWIB are appointed by the Executive Committee of the Governing Board of Local Elected Officials. The purpose of the BGWIB is to provide guidance and oversight of the workforce under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) for the Bluegrass area.

Staff Contact: Tiffanie Reeves - treeves@bgadd.org

AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Spearheaded the realignment and approval of Workforce Services 5-year Strategic Plan.
- Recommendation and Approval of Direct Service Provider for One-Stops.
- Review and approval of policies overseeing the delivery of workforce services in the Bluegrass.

The Council works with and advises the ADD Board via reporting on meetings and reviewing KIRPs. THRAC is directed by Community Planning. THRAC typically tours sites throughout the 17-county region, while having a guest speaker for the January meeting. The council also has a Facebook page for sharing events and connects local tourism directors or citizen members that are appointed to the group. This information sharing can become invaluable as communities look to develop or sustain their recreational or historic draws. The Council is directed by the Community Planning Department. "THRAC" focuses on providing a forum for tourism, historic preservation, recreation, downtown/main street, chamber, and attractions stakeholders in the region to collaborate to advance tourism and entertainment as major contributors to the region's economy and quality of life.



TOURISM HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Judge Executive
James Kay
.....
Chair

Staff Contact: Logan Hart - lhart@bgadd.org

TOURISM HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION ADVISORY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

- Worked to address the rapid influx of short-term rentals and identify strategies to ensure tax compliance.
- Focused on identifying new recreational opportunities post-COVID.
- Explored new funding opportunities to promote tourism in Bluegrass communities.



STAFF RETIREMENTS



2024 marked the retirement of two beloved veteran staff. Mary Schmidt served as the Assistant Director to the Bluegrass Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living and retired in July after 28 years with the organization. Mary Ann Fegley retired in mid-September after serving a variety of roles with the BGADD over the last 19 years. Their energy, expertise, and smiling faces will be missed going forward but we wish them the very best!



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The staff of the Bluegrass Area Development District would like to thank the Elected Officials, citizen board members, committee representatives, and the communities of central Kentucky for the honor of being able to provide continued service.

We hope you found this report enlightening, as we continue to grow and evolve we hope to share more information about the amazing work being done throughout the Bluegrass area.

If there is a particular area or project you would like to know more about, please let us know!



ANNUAL REPORT
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Bluegrass Area Development District
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