



# Appalachian Council of Governments

Special  
points of  
interest:

An investment in  
ACOG is an  
investment in  
your county, city  
or town.

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## Annual Report January-December 2012



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A special thanks to ACOG staff and service providers who contributed!



## Letter from Chairman Ernest Riley



ACOG Board Chairman  
Ernest M. Riley

*"Our purpose is to enhance the lives of people living in the six-county region."*



We are pleased to provide this Annual Report for the Appalachian Council of Governments, covering activities and accomplishments in 2012.

When people ask "what is the Appalachian Council of Governments?", it is sometimes challenging to come up with a concise response. To put it in one sentence, our purpose is to enhance the lives of people living in the six-county South Carolina Appalachian Region. While our programs are broad and widely varied, they all come back to serving the people of the Upstate.

Since our establishment in 1965, we have maintained a commitment to providing quality services to local government. In this current time, as local entities see increasing responsibilities in the face of shrinking dollars, this mission is more critical than ever. Whether it is general administration, assistance with grants, planning, or data services, we want to be a key resource for getting the job done.

Our involvement with human services has grown tremendously in recent years. Programs for the elderly, such as home-delivered meals, congregate dining, transportation, and counseling, benefit seniors across our region every day. Likewise, work skills development is another area with increased activities in recent years, as we strive to ensure that people in our region are able to keep up with the ever changing skill sets that are required by business and industry.

Economic development is another focus area for us. Through the administration of our *InfoMentum* economic development support system, assistance with grant funding for infrastructure, workforce development programs, and transportation planning, our purpose is to provide the resources that are needed for the region to compete in a global economy.

Thank you for your support of the Appalachian Council of Governments. I hope that you will find this Annual Report to be informative.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ernest M. Riley". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ernest M. Riley, Chair  
Board of Directors

## About ACOG

*In the years since 1971, the Council has evolved into a multi-faceted service organization for area local governments.*

The Appalachian Council of Governments is a voluntary organization of local governments in Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens and Spartanburg Counties of Upstate South Carolina.

The organization began in 1965 as the Appalachian Advisory Commission, a 12-member board created to advise the Governor on the use of Appalachian Regional Commission funds.

Authorized by referendum, the Council of Governments system emerged in 1971. ACOG has become a valuable resource for area local governments in the areas of public administration, planning, information systems and technology, grants, workforce development and services to the elderly population. Encouraged and facilitated through the Council of Governments, this marriage of intergovernmental and private sector cooperation continues as a critical element in the region's economy and quality of life.

In 2012, approximately 75 percent of ACOG revenue came from federal funding. We encourage all the entities in our region to utilize this funding. Because of these federal dollars, we provide many services at no charge.

### Policy, Management & Operations

A 44-member Board of Directors sets policy for the Council of Governments. Two-thirds of the members are local elected officials, including state legislators, county council members, and mayors or city council members. County councils appoint the remaining citizen and minority members.

The Executive Director is responsible for the overall management of the Council of Governments. The director runs the day-to-day operations, and delegates specific responsibilities to department directors and staff.



Members of the ACOG Board of Directors and director, Steve Pelissier, listen during a board meeting.



*Regionally, the Information, Referral and Assistance Specialist provided information and assistance to 8,572 seniors and caregivers.*

## ACOG's Area Agency on Aging

The S. C. Appalachian Council of Governments' Area Agency on Aging is designated by the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging as the coordinating and planning body for services for older persons in Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, and Spartanburg Counties. The principal goal of the Area Agency is to develop and promote a comprehensive, coordinated community-based service delivery system with simple access that will improve the quality of life for all older adults in the region and enable them to lead independent lives with dignity in their own homes for as long as possible. Programs include:

- Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman Program: complaint resolution for residents of long-term care facilities
- Family Caregiver Support Program
- I-CARE and Senior Medicare Fraud Prevention programs
- Senior Farmer's Market Program

Aging programs are funded by federal ( 84 %) and state ( 16 %) dollars.

## A Glimpse Back at 2012

### Ombudsman Program

The Ombudsman Program received 1,783 cases on behalf of long term care residents, resulting 477 investigations of abuse, neglect, exploitation and other issues.

### Medicare Guidance

- Certified Insurance Counselors provided on-site awareness, education and enrollment assistance to 5,160 Medicare beneficiaries and conducted outreach throughout the region.
- More than 321 applications were completed for the Medicare Savings Program, and over 418 applications were completed for extra help with the Medicare Drug Program.

### Family Caregiver Support Program

The Family Caregiver Support Program provided:

- 712 caregivers with in-home respite, supplies, information, referral and assistance.
- 55 grandparents raising grandchildren or related kin with in-home respite, educational tutoring, clothes, shoes, & school supplies.



# Appalachian Development Corporation

The ADC is a non-profit economic development lending corporation offering multiple financing options that can be structured to meet your needs using our "gap-financing" loans. The ADC works in conjunction with local lending institutions to provide a structure that works by including long-term, fixed-rate, funding sources that lower the overall debt service requirements and allows for the maximum leverage of the applicant's resources. The funding comes primarily from public funds, thus the ADC's thrust is to create jobs for our area.

Among the ADC programs is the Appalachian Loan Fund (ALF). The ALF is a locally controlled source of low-cost, long-term; fixed-rate financing for businesses whose projects will result in the creation of permanent full time jobs and leverage private sector investment.

The ALF is a loan pool capitalized by grants from the Appalachian Regional Commission, the State of South Carolina, and from borrowings from the USDA.

*More than \$2.3 million from the Appalachian Loan Fund (ALF) was*



*loaned to regional businesses in 2012, thereby resulting in another \$3.4 million in private capital.*



## ACOG's Finance Department

The Finance Department is responsible for the financial functions and activities of the Council and for the administration of the Council's fiscal policy.

- Budget preparation & administration
- Cost allocation
- Accounts payable
- Payroll and Fringe Benefits
- Grants administration
- Monitoring service Providers
- Contract administration
- Tax reports
- General accounting records
- Fixed assets records
- Custody of funds
- Distribution of pass-through funds
- Debt administration
- Investments
- Risk Management
- Internal & External Financial reports



*The mission of the Government Services Department is very simple: to help the governmental entities in this region in any way possible.*

## Government Services

The Government Services Department works very closely with the towns, cities and counties in the six-county region of the Upstate, providing a variety of technical and professional support. The division serves as a one-stop resource for problem resolution and information by providing hands-on expertise, cost-effective consulting services and general information.

The vast majority of funding for the Government Services Department comes from federal monies. An ARC grant provides staff with the necessary resources to give free services to our local governments. Please contact a staff member for additional information.

### Examples of 2012 Services

- Provided various types of technical assistance to local governments in the six-county region. Technical support is available in the areas of paralegal research, finance and taxation, utility rate studies, information technology, community planning, sanitation, personnel, economic development, municipal court, organizational behavior, transportation, planning and other local government issues.
- Served as the convener for the Greenville Region Workforce Collaborative, a group of funders that came together to assist in the development of workforce for the advanced manufacturing industry
- Facilitated a live quarterly broadcast from the South Carolina Municipal Association to Upstate municipal officials on budgeting and financial issues for elected officials; The broadcast is hosted at ACOG facilities.
- Continued to arrange and facilitate seven-week basic management/supervisory training programs for lower - level and first-time supervisors
- Facilitated retreats for the City of Spartanburg Community Services Department and the City of Easley council
- Provided training in areas such as customer service and sexual harassment. Training recipients included the Spartanburg Recreation District, Inman Community Fire



Government Services facilitated a live quarterly broadcast from the South Carolina Municipal Association on budgeting and financial issues for elected officials.

# Grants Services

The primary function of the Grants Services Department is to assist local governments in identifying, securing, and administering funds for a wide range of community and economic development activities, including water and sewer facilities, road improvements, housing rehabilitation, community centers, and senior centers.

Services include application preparation and packaging, and all aspects of grants administration.

The Grants Department is funded by federal and local dollars. Most of the department's revenue is associated with grants administration fees.



ACOG Grants Services routinely assists communities with infrastructure improvement grants to ensure safe water supplies.

*Grant applications submitted by ACOG in 2012 garnered more than \$3.6 million from EDA, CDBG, ARC, & USDA-RD programs.*

## Grants Services can assist with application preparation and grants administration for the following programs:



### Appalachian Regional Commission

- Infrastructure improvement grants for economic development
- Education grants for technical education



### Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- Infrastructure improvement grants for economic development
- Residential water and sewer upgrades
- Housing rehabilitation
- Community facilities improvements / construction



### Economic Development Administration

- Infrastructure improvement grants for economic development



### USDA - Rural Development

- Infrastructure improvement grants for economic development
- Community facilities improvements
- Residential water and sewer upgrades

### State Grant Programs including:

- Parks, Recreation, and Tourism (PRT) grants
- DHEC - recycling grants
- Archives and History - planning and preservation grants
- Coordinating Council for Economic Development - access road construction
- Budget and Control Board

# Information Services



ACOG Information Services provides products and services to facilitate the competitive growth and development of the Upstate by providing timely, easily accessible information about the region. The department serves Upstate residents, local governments, and the business community and also provides support for information and technical resources within the ACOG.

**InfoMentum**, a customized web-based tool, serves as a core research resource in each economic development office of the six-county region and for the Upstate SC Alliance. Economic developers use **InfoMentum** to market industrial properties, report socio-economic data, and access maps for traffic counts, census tracts, and aerial photos. Through **InfoMentum's** extensive demographic and economic database, public, business, and private users get instant access to data describing population, labor market, income, quality of life, and more.

Information Services produces economic profiles, apartment community surveys, and customized demographic reports. Staff answers statistical requests, and provides GIS application support. Within the ACOG, IS staff provides network and PC support, as well as design and maintenance of ACOG web sites. The department is funded primarily by the public / private investors in **InfoMentum** and by contracts with local entities for specific projects.

## 2012 Regional Services

- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**, the online, interactive mapping application linked to each county economic development website and several county planning websites. Staff also continued development of the ED-specific web application, which includes all of the tools available on the public site, plus over 50 new reports, and analysis tools specifically for economic development and planning staff.
- Provided technical support and training to the county economic development organizations; providing custom mapping services and research to support job growth
- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in each ACOG county.
- Coordinated with ACOG Aging Services staff to maintain and improve [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in each county; This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).
- Responded to over 600 requests for statistical information and mapping services for ACOG counties and municipalities
- Assisted other ACOG departments with socioeconomic data for grant applications and planning projects
- Created a stronger web presence for every ACOG county within the new ACOG website ([www.scacog.org](http://www.scacog.org)) Each ACOG county is highlighted on a dedicated page which includes an informative county overview and links to a myriad of informational tools and resources.

**InfoMentum**  
supported  
economic  
development  
efforts in  
2012 that  
resulted in the  
announcement  
of over  
\$2 billion  
in capital  
investments  
and more  
than 3,500  
new jobs.

## Planning Services

The Planning Services Department addresses issues of regional importance and provides consulting services and technical assistance to local governments. Economic development, transportation, and water quality are focus areas. ACOG's Regional Strategic Plan for Economic Development targets infrastructure and resource development that is necessary to attract and retain high quality industries.

**Seventy-five percent of planning revenues come from federal dollars. Contact a staff member to find out how your entity can utilize these dollars.**

### Regional Planning Activities:

Economic Development planning  
Strategic planning  
Transportation planning  
Water quality management

### Services to Local Government:

Comprehensive Plan development  
Zoning & Land Use regulation  
Historic Preservation  
Planning administration assistance



*COG staff reviewed 93 Section 208 Water Quality Management Plan compliance applications in 2012.*

## 2012 Initiatives

- Completed a full re-write of the region's 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS); the CEDS, entitled CEDS 2013-2017: Building 21<sup>st</sup> Century Economic Development Capacity, provides a summary of important regional and county-level economic data that represent a snapshot of current economic conditions. It also emphasizes key areas of economic development that are focused in the region. It serves to promote economic development and opportunity and to assist in guiding economic development decisions for the region.
- Continued to implement the Regional Transit Coordination Plan required to meet the Federal Transit Administration's requirements for receiving transit funding; Provided technical assistance to entities who received Section 5310, 5316, & 5317 funds for the Region totaling over \$650,800
- Coordinated the Federal Clean Water Act Section 208 Water Quality Management Plan activities. COG staff reviewed 93 Section 208 compliance applications in 2012
- Provided state-required planning education to 204 staff, planning commission, and board of appeals members in communities throughout the region. We hosted 38 students in 6 orientation classes and 166 students in 11 continuing education classes.
- Worked with Greenville/Pickens and Spartanburg MPOs to develop an MOU between three agencies to formalize relationships and promote coordination between staff in the development of plans and projects
- Worked with SPATS, GPATS, City of Greer, and Greenlink to examine possible transit linkages along the US 29 corridor between Greenville, Greer, and Spartanburg to include a link to the GSP International Airport.



## Workforce Investment Board

WorkLink Workforce Investment Corporation develops the link between employers and employees in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties. The volunteer board of directors ensures that the local workforce development system is market-driven and responsible in meeting the employment and training needs of businesses and job seekers. The board implements the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 in partnership with local service providers and through a comprehensive workforce development system that provides access points for employment and training services.

WorkLink funds programs for adults, dislocated workers, and youth, and supports employers through on-the-job and incumbent worker training programs. In 2012, WorkLink also offered annual events such as the Tri-County Community Job Fair and the Business & Industry Showcase to connect companies and employees and to ensure that job seekers have the skills they need to find employment.

### Quick Facts 2012

**295,479** customers accessed job search services

**135,324** customer visits to SCWorks Centers in Anderson, Liberty, and Seneca

**2,234** job seekers found employment

**722** workshops and other group activities were held

**5,297** eighth- and ninth-graders attended the Business and Industry showcase through transportation funding provided by the WorkLink Youth Council



The 2012 Business & Industry Showcase helped students better answer the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"



A multitude of job seekers attended the 2012 Tri-County Community Job Fair

*Our goal is to have a fully employed, skilled workforce, and to that end, we help job seekers find the tools to build their careers, and we work with businesses to hire quality employees.*

# ANDERSON COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2012*



- Approved \$562,000 in loans to support local, small, entrepreneurial, and expanding businesses. In addition to the capital investment, these loans supported the creation of 27 new jobs in Anderson County.
- Contracted for \$414,961 in services for older adults in Anderson County, thereby providing home-delivered and congregate meals, assistance with home care and transportation, as well as legal assistance
- Provided various technical assistance to Anderson County municipalities and special purpose districts in the areas of training, finance, management and personnel
- Worked with Anderson County on the submission of an application for ARC funds to construct a spec building on property at the Anderson County Airport; also worked with Anderson County in cooperation with Powdersville Water Company and Easley Combined Utilities on the submission of an ARC application for the Crestview Road Water Project
- Worked with Metropolitan Sewer District to submit a pre-application for \$500,000 in ARC funds to allow Metro to take over the Piedmont sewer system in Anderson and Greenville Counties at DHEC's request
- Worked with Anderson County and Homeland Park Water District to develop a CDBG application for funding of a water line project along Keys Street; the \$500,000 grant was subsequently awarded.
- Provided technical support, custom research, mapping and training to the Anderson County Office of Economic Development to support industry recruitment efforts; One such project was the creation of a map and database showing the vast selection of colleges and universities within a 1-, 2-, 3- and 4-hour drive of Anderson County.
- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**, the online, interactive mapping application linked to the Anderson County Economic Development website; innovations included upgrades to the underlying software, access to new data, improvements in functionality and addition of new map layers.
- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in Anderson County. Maintained the socio-economic data tables and the industrial properties information for the UA website. Continued data and application updates for the Upstate Alliance "Property Navigator" web application, highlighting Anderson County and the region.
- Maintained and improved [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in Anderson County. This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).
- Responded to 116 requests for statistical information, mapping and other services for Anderson County, including compilation of selected socioeconomic data to assist School District 5 with an audit and development of a database application for the City of Anderson Service Center's Parts and Repair Department
- Administered the Anderson HOME Consortium including development of the Annual Action Plan, CAPER, and day-to-day administrative oversight as well as coordination of housing rehabilitation projects in support of the partnership between the City of Anderson, Anderson County, and City of Belton. The Consortium completed rehabilitation of 14 homes during 2012 with a total investment of \$443,890.
- WorkLink collaborated with multiple entities in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties to offer the Business and Industry Showcase and Tri-County Community Job Fair to connect companies and employees and ensure that job seekers have the skills they need to find employment.

*In 2012,  
for every  
dollar  
invested by  
Anderson  
County,  
ACOG  
programs  
returned  
\$54.*



# ANDERSON COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2012 Highlights

### Anderson

- Provided various technical assistance to Anderson County municipalities and special purpose districts in the areas of training, finance, management and personnel
- Worked with the City of Anderson on the submission of an ARC pre-application for the Highway 28 Bypass Water Project
- Continued to administer grant activities for the QuickJobs Development Center Project
- Continued to assist with the administration of the HOME Program.
- Led efforts of the Anderson HOME Consortium to partner with Nehemiah Community Revitalization Corporation to complete the construction of 10 single family homes on McCully Street in the City of Anderson as part of the City's plan for providing affordable housing in their redevelopment areas. The HOME Consortium contributed \$382,647 toward total project cost of \$1.2 million.

### Belton

- Provided technical assistance on land use planning and zoning matters; also worked with the City to begin their Comprehensive Plan Update Process

### Honea Path

- Updated the personnel handbook and provided technical assistance on land use planning and zoning matters

### Iva

- Continued to administer grant activities for the Iva Sewer Upgrade Project

### Pendleton

- Provided technical assistance on land use planning and zoning matter

### West Pelzer

- Continued to administer grant activities for the West Pelzer Water Upgrade Project

### Williamston

- Worked with the City to develop a CDBG application for a sewer line along Church Street and continued to administer grant activities for the Williamston Sewer Upgrade Project
- Assisted Williamston with the review of their budget and provided technical assistance on land use planning and zoning matters

Services to Seniors	\$ 414,961
Federal Direct Grants	\$ 500,000
Workforce Development	\$ 1,720,000
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$ 562,000
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$ 741,840
Transit	\$ 110,000
<b>Total Funding into Anderson County 2012</b>	<b>\$4,048,801</b>
<b>County's Annual Contribution to ACOG</b>	<b>\$ 74,948</b>

# CHEROKEE COUNTY



## *A Glimpse at 2012*

- Contracted for \$339,937 in services for older adults in Cherokee County, thereby providing home-delivered and congregate meals, assistance with home care and transportation, as well as legal assistance
- Provided technical assistance to Cherokee County on a number of personnel issues
- Continued the administration of grant-funded projects, including:
  - a \$278,000 CDBG grant for the Norman Blvd Water Project
  - the River Drive Water Project
  - the Commerce Drive Upgrade project, funded with ARC funds
- Provided technical support, custom research, mapping and training to the Cherokee County Development Board to support industry recruitment efforts. One such project was the creation of a comprehensive map and database of amenities around the Spartanburg-Cherokee Industrial Park in Cowpens to support industry recruitment efforts. The product shows out-of-town workers and visitors that there are many places to eat, places to stay, and things to do in and around Cowpens.
- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**, the online, interactive mapping application linked to the Cherokee County Development Board website. Innovations included upgrades to the underlying software, access to new data, improvements in functionality and addition of new map layers.
  - Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in Cherokee County. Maintained the socio-economic data tables and the industrial properties information for the UA website; Continued data and application updates for the Upstate Alliance "Property Navigator" web application, highlighting Cherokee County and the region
  - Maintained and improved [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in Cherokee County. This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).
  - Responded to 116 requests for statistical information and mapping services for Cherokee County
  - Maintained and updated the Cherokee Public Access GIS Website. Parcel and ownership data updates were processed and made available online when data was received from Cherokee County; Staff incorporated additional features and upgraded the site to a new software framework.
  - Provided staffing to the Cherokee County Planning Commission and Compliance Board of Appeals to support the administration of the County's Unified Development Standards Ordinance.
  - Assisted the County Planning Commission with amendments to the Cherokee County Junk Yard Standards Ordinance

*In 2012,  
for every  
dollar  
invested  
by  
Cherokee  
County,  
ACOG  
programs  
returned  
\$41.*



# CHEROKEE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2012 Highlights

### Blacksburg

- Continued the administration of grant-funded projects, including the Oak Grove / Highway 5 Water Project and the Youngs Grove Water Line Project
- Continued to provide technical assistance related to community development, planning, and zoning issues

### Gaffney

- Provided technical assistance to the City on a number of personnel issues.
- Worked with the City to complete Phase 1 of the grant-funded Village Renaissance project and to apply for Phase 2 funding, which was awarded in the amount of \$550,000
- Continued to provide technical assistance related to community development, planning, and zoning issues



ACOG provides technical assistance to Gaffney and other municipalities on matters related to community development, planning and zoning

Services to Seniors	\$ 339,937
Federal Direct Grants	\$ 550,000
Transit	\$ 50,000
<b>Total Funding into Cherokee County 2012</b>	<b>\$ 939,937</b>
<b>County's Annual Contribution to ACOG</b>	<b>\$ 23,055</b>

# GREENVILLE COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2012*



ACOG staff worked with Greenville County Planning to submit an ARC grant application for "Growing the Food Economy"

- Approved almost \$1.2 million in loans to support local, small, entrepreneurial, and expanding businesses. In addition to the capital investment, 48 Greenville County jobs were positively affected by these funds.
- Contracted for \$662,429 in services for older adults in Greenville County, thereby providing home-delivered and congregate meals, assistance with home care and transportation, as well as legal assistance
- Served as the convener for the Greenville Region Workforce Collaborative; also conducted employee evaluation training for Piedmont Park Fire Department
- Worked with the Metropolitan Sewer District to submit a pre-application for \$500,000 in ARC funds to allow Metro to take over the Piedmont sewer system in Anderson County and Greenville County at DHEC's request; also worked with Greenville Tech staff to discuss a possible EDA grant to establish a business incubator
- Worked with the following groups to develop and submit ARC grant preapplications and or applications:
  - Dream Big Greenville/Greenville Tourism Council for the Reedy Square Project
  - Greenville County Planning for Growing the Food Economy
  - Appalachian Development Corporation for a recap of their RLF and for a Small Loan Fund
  - Furman University for a Poverty Studies Program; a \$40,000 grant was subsequently awarded.
- Met with ARC Federal Co-Chair Gohl, the Department of Commerce Under Secretary for EDA, and an Under Secretary of USDA for Rural Development at ICAR; also met with Congressman Gowdy to discuss the ARC Program and its benefit to the region
- Provided technical support, custom research, mapping and training to the Greenville Area Development Corporation (GADC) to support industry recruitment efforts
- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**. the online, interactive mapping application linked to the GADC website. Innovations include upgrades to the underlying software, access to new data, improvements in functionality and addition of new map layers.
- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in Greenville County.
- Responded to 165 requests for statistical information and mapping services for Greenville County; also coordinated the collection of consumer data for the quarterly *ACCRA Cost of Living Index*, in cooperation with the Greenville Area Development Corporation and the Greenville Chamber of Commerce
- Developed and launched a web mapping tool for Blue Ridge Rural Water to show service area, system components, and infrastructure; This site will be used in-house for strategic planning and inventory; also completed a large mapping project for Public Education Partners of Greenville County (PEPGC).
- Maintained and improved [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in Greenville County; This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).
- Served on the Greenville County Hazard Mitigation Task Force and on the GPATS Technical and Study Team Committees; also provided general technical assistance to the Greenville Transit Authority
- Worked with GPATS MPO staff to coordinate the expansion process of the GPATS MPO boundary as a result of Urban Area designation changes in the 2010 Census updates; also worked with Greenville/Pickens and Spartanburg MPOs to develop an MOU between three agencies to formalize relationships and promote coordination between staff in the development of plans and projects

# GREENVILLE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2012 Highlights

*For every dollar invested by Greenville County, ACOG programs generated \$29.*

### Fountain Inn

- Worked with the City to develop and submit an ARC application for downtown revitalization

### Greenville

- Hosted and maintained the GIS application for Property Prospector, the City's online economic development tool, which is designed to promote industrial, retail, restaurant and office properties within the City.

### Simpsonville

- Prepared questions and a rating scale, and also conducted background searches on potential candidates for the chief of police position with the City

### Travelers Rest

- Prepared a radius map and demographic summary for the City to provide population and household demographics within 3-, 5- and 10-mile radii of the City center
- Worked with Travelers Rest to develop and submit an ARC application for a Performing and Cultural Arts Center; a \$500,000 grant was subsequently awarded



Conceptual Plan for Travelers Rest Performing and Cultural Arts Center

ACOG Aging Services Program	\$662,429
Small Business & Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$1,192,380
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$1,609,713
Federal Direct Grants	\$790,000
Rural Transportation Enhancement Program	\$238,000
Transit Services	50,000
<b>Total Funding into Greenville County 2012</b>	<b>\$4,542,522</b>
<b>County's Annual Contribution to ACOG</b>	<b>\$151,759</b>

# OCONEE COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2012*



- Approved \$320,000 in loans to support local, small, entrepreneurial, and expanding businesses. In addition to the capital investment, these loans supported the creation of 12 new jobs in Oconee County.
- Contracted for \$293,452 in services for older adults in Oconee County, thereby providing meals, home care, transportation, and legal assistance
- Assisted Oconee County, in cooperation with the City of Walhalla and the School District of Oconee County in the submission of an application for ARC funds for the Highway 11 Sewer Line Project; a \$500,000 grant was subsequently awarded.
- Provided technical support, custom research, mapping and training to the Oconee County Economic Development Commission (OCEDC) to support industry recruitment efforts

*For every  
dollar  
invested  
by Oconee  
County,  
ACOG  
programs  
generated  
\$155.*

- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**, the online, interactive mapping application linked to the OCEDC website. Innovations include upgrades to the underlying software, access to new data, improvements in functionality and addition of new map layers.

- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in Oconee County.

- Responded to 70 requests for statistical information and mapping services for Oconee County, including an update of demographic data for Oconee County's transit feasibility study

- Provided extensive GIS Technical support and expertise for GIS and GIS related projects throughout Oconee County; Provided GIS system support and routine maintenance/patches, ESRI software license management and SQL Server backups; Upgraded Pictometry self hosting site applications to the latest version; Implemented ArcGIS Image Server and services for the 2011 aerial imagery internally and via the

public website; Provided individual GIS user support as needed; Other projects included a customized, internal web application for the Assessor's Office and development of a public parcel viewer.

- Maintained and improved [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in Oconee County. This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).

- WorkLink collaborated with multiple entities in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties to offer the Business and Industry Showcase and Tri-County Community Job Fair to connect companies and employees and ensure that job seekers have the skills they need to find employment.

# OCONEE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2012 Highlights



### Salem

- Provided technical assistance to the Town related to planning matters

### Seneca

- Assisted Seneca in the administration of a \$500,000 CDBG grant for Phase 4 of the Utica Mill Village Sewer Upgrade Project

### Walhalla

- Assisted Walhalla in the administration of a \$500,000 CDBG grant for the Chickopee Mills Infrastructure Upgrade Project

### Westminster

- Continued to assist Westminster in the administration of a \$500,000 ARC grant for the Northern Loop Waterline Project
- Provided technical assistance on planning matters

### West Union

- Continued to work with the Town on a \$110,000 CDBG-grant-funded project to demolish the former West Union school building

Rural Transportation System Improvement Funds	\$1,840,000
Federal Direct Grants	\$500,000
Workforce Training	\$829,600
ACOG Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$320,000
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$512,000
Services to Seniors	\$293,542
Transit	\$50,000
<b>Total Funding into Oconee County 2012</b>	<b>\$4,345,142</b>
<b>County's Annual Contribution to ACOG</b>	<b>\$27,951</b>

# PICKENS COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2012*



- Approved \$100,000 in loans to support local, small, entrepreneurial, and expanding businesses.
- Contracted for \$310,000 in services for older adults in Pickens County, thereby providing meals, home care, transportation and legal assistance
- Continued to assist the County and Tri-County Technical College with the administrative activities required for the CDBG grant to construct turn lanes and intersection improvements on Powdersville Road to improve safety at the new Easley campus
- Worked with Clemson University to submit two ARC applications for the SC Coalition for Math and Science
- Provided technical support, custom research, mapping and training to Alliance Pickens to support industry recruitment efforts in Pickens County; Services included preparation of a detailed map and database showing selected educational institutions within a 30-mile radius of an industrial building targeted for an industry prospect, as well as consultation on methodology for conducting a local manufacturers survey.
- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**, the online, interactive mapping application linked to the Alliance Pickens website. Innovations include upgrades to the underlying software, access to new data, improvements in functionality and addition of new map layers.
- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in Pickens County. Maintained the socio-economic data tables and the industrial properties information for the UA website. Continued data and application updates for the Upstate Alliance "Property Navigator" web application, highlighting Pickens County and the region.
- Maintained and improved [www.scupstateadrc.org](http://www.scupstateadrc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in Pickens County; This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).
- Responded to 90 requests for statistical information and mapping services for Pickens County
- Worked with Greenville/Pickens and Spartanburg MPOs to develop an MOU between three agencies to formalize relationships and promote coordination between staff in the development of plans and projects
- WorkLink collaborated with multiple entities in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties to offer the Business and Industry Showcase and Tri-County Community Job Fair to connect companies and employees and ensure that job seekers have the skills they need to find employment.

*For every dollar that Pickens County invested in ACOG during 2012, \$102 were returned to the County.*

# PICKENS COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2012 Highlights

### Central

- Provided technical assistance in general municipal administration, in the areas of training, finance, management and personnel and land use planning matters
- Continued the administration of the Town's \$500,000 CDBG grant for the Watkins/Head Street Sewer Upgrade Project; also assisted the Town in the submission of a CDBG application to purchase a fire truck to enhance fire fighting capabilities in the Town; a grant of \$330,000 was subsequently awarded.

### Easley

- Facilitated a council planning retreat for the City. Provided a forum for council to review goals and establish budget objectives for the new fiscal year; also conducted a municipal court study for the City.
- Provided technical assistance to the City on land use planning matters

### Liberty

- Continued administration of the Town 's grant-funded Woodside Sewer Project; also provided technical assistance to the Town on land use planning matters

### Pickens

- Provided technical assistance in general municipal administration, in the areas of training, finance, management and personnel
- Completed the Village Renaissance master plan and worked with the City to complete Phase 1 of this grant-funded project and to implement Phase 2; also worked with the City to submit an application for ARC funds for the Town Creek Park project; a grant of \$400,000 was subsequently awarded.
- Completed an update of the City's Comprehensive Plan, with a focus on revitalizing the downtown area, developing more parks and addressing the issues of an aging population; also provided staffing to the Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Board of Architectural Review, along with staff support in the administration of the City's Zoning Ordinance



### Six Mile

- Provided technical assistance to the Town in general municipal administration, in the areas of training, finance, management and personnel, and land use planning

Services to Seniors	\$310,200
Federal Direct Grants	\$730,000
Workforce Training	\$820,000
Rural Transportation Enhancement Program	\$2,294,000
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$100,000
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$350,000
Transit	\$50,000
<b>Total Funding into Pickens County 2012</b>	<b>\$4,654,200</b>
<b>County's Annual Contribution to ACOG</b>	<b>\$45,593</b>

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2012*



- Approved \$137,200 in loans through the ADC to support local, small, entrepreneurial, and expanding businesses. In addition to the capital investment, these loans supported the creation of 18 new jobs in Spartanburg County.
- Contracted for \$530,826 in services for older adults in Spartanburg County, thereby providing meals, home care, transportation, and legal assistance
- Provided customer service training for the Spartanburg Recreation District and employee training for USC Upstate; also spoke to the Spartanburg County Municipal Association, providing a legislative update
- Assisted Spartanburg County with the recruitment of a new planning director; also provided information to the Poplar Springs Fire Department regarding proposed amendments in the SC Retirement System

*For every dollar that Spartanburg County invested in ACOG during 2012, \$15 were returned to the County.*

- Continued discussions with officials from Spartanburg Community College on possible ARC and EDA funding to renovate a former school building in downtown Spartanburg for use as a general classroom facility for SCC
- Provided technical support, custom research, mapping and training to the Spartanburg Chamber's Economic Futures Group to support industry recruitment efforts in Spartanburg County; One such project was the creation of a comprehensive map and database of amenities around the Spartanburg-Cherokee Industrial Park in Cowpens to support industry recruitment efforts; The product shows out-of-town workers and visitors that there are many places to eat, places to stay, and things to do in and around Cowpens; also created a map targeting the proposed Inland Port Site in Spartanburg County; Available sites, parks, and buildings were shown at radii of 5-, 10-, and 15-miles surrounding the Inland Port Site; also conducted demographic research for the Spartanburg County Planning Department to assist with an AgriTourism grant application for the ACOG region

- Maintained **InfoMentum Online**, the online, interactive mapping application linked to the Economic Futures Group website; Innovations include upgrades to the

underlying software, access to new data, improvements in functionality and addition of new map layers.

- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the **Upstate Alliance** for economic development marketing activities in Spartanburg County. Maintained the socio-economic data tables and the industrial properties information for the UA website; Continued data and application updates for the Upstate Alliance "Property Navigator" web application, highlighting Spartanburg County and the region
- Maintained and improved [www.scupstateadc.org](http://www.scupstateadc.org), which provides valuable information and tools for aging and disabled citizens, their caregivers, and service providers in Spartanburg County. This website won a 2012 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations.
- Helped develop an MOU between ACOG, GPATS, and SPATS that establishes a formalized working arrangement between the staff's to communicate on a regular basis and improve overall coordination of activities and work programs in the future
- Worked with SPATS, GPATS, City of Greer, and Greenlink to examine possible transit linkages along the US 29 corridor between Greenville, Greer, and Spartanburg to include a link to the GSP International Airport.



# SPARTANBURG COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2012 Highlights

### Chesnee

- Continued to work on the \$500,000 CDBG project to undertake Phase 3 of the City's streetscape efforts

### Cowpens

- Continued to assist in the submission of a CDBG application for \$99,000 in RBEG funds through the USDA for a farmers market

### Duncan

- Updated Duncan's employee handbook and participated in the Duncan Downtown Redevelopment charette

### Inman

- Conducted Sexual Harassment training for Inman Community Fire Department; also provided technical assistance with regard to planning matters

### Lyman

- Provided technical assistance with regard to planning matters

### Pacolet

- Worked with the Town on the submission of an application for ARC funds for the Pacolet River Passage Gateway Project; a grant of \$387,500 was subsequently awarded; also helped the Town with an annexation issue and amendments to the zoning ordinance

### Spartanburg

- Facilitated a retreat for Spartanburg Community Services to discuss low-income housing issues
- Completed analysis and route balancing recommendations for trash and recycle pick-up routes in the City of Spartanburg. Services included standardizing all client address records and converting them for use with street data, generating existing service areas for garbage and recycling pickup, and adjusting routes to achieve a balanced client load for each area

### Wellford

- Continued to work with the City on positioning them for reapplication of a CDBG grant and an ARC grant to construct sewer lines in the Main Street area to alleviate problems residents are having with malfunctioning septic tanks; also assisted the with the submission of an application for ARC funds to renovate an existing building to be used by ReGenesis Health Care to provide medical services to low-income persons

### Woodruff

- Assisted the City with the submission of a CDBG grant application for the Cavins Road Pump Station project; a grant of \$451,350 was subsequently awarded; also provided technical assistance with planning matters

Services to Seniors	\$ 530,826
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$ 137,200
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$ 219,500
Federal Direct Grants	\$ 666,350
Transit	\$ 118,000
<b>Total Funding into Spartanburg County 2012</b>	<b>\$ 1,671,876</b>
<b>Annual Contribution to ACOG</b>	<b>\$ 111,436</b>

## Meet the Board 2013

The Board and Staff of the Appalachian Council of Governments looks forward to a productive 2013. These are challenging times for many local governments and other public agencies.

Please contact us if we can help in any way.

### Anderson County

Sen. William "Billy" O'Dell  
Mack Durham  
Dennis Claramunt

Eddie Moore  
Mayor Terence Roberts  
Rick Laughridge

Francis Crowder  
Ted Mattison

### Cherokee County

Rep. Dennis C. Moss  
Ed Elliott

Rufus Foster, Jr.  
J. Frank Harris

Mayor Henry Jolly

### Greenville County

Lottie Gibson  
Joe Dill  
Amy Ryberg Doyle

Dan Rawls  
Wayne McCall  
Don Godbey

Butch Kirven  
David Sudduth  
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### Oconee County

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Reg Dexter

Ernest Riley

Bob Winchester

Bennie Cunningham

### Pickens County

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Mayor Larry Bagwell

G. Neil Smith  
Tom Hendricks

Trey Whitehurst

### Spartanburg County

Rep. Mike Forrester  
Jane Hall  
Charles "Chet" Morris, Jr.

Dale Culbreth  
Mayor Junie White  
Elbert S. Tillerson, Sr.

O'Neal Mintz  
Jan Scalisi  
Loretta Smith





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