



# 2023 Annual Report & 2024 Personal Planner

*Hyundai brings new  
Metaplant to  
Bryan County!*





***The Coastal Regional Commission is governed by  
10 counties and 35 cities that are known as  
the Coastal Region of Georgia***

**Bryan County**

Pembroke  
Richmond Hill

**Bulloch County**

Brooklet  
Portal  
Register  
Statesboro

**Camden County**

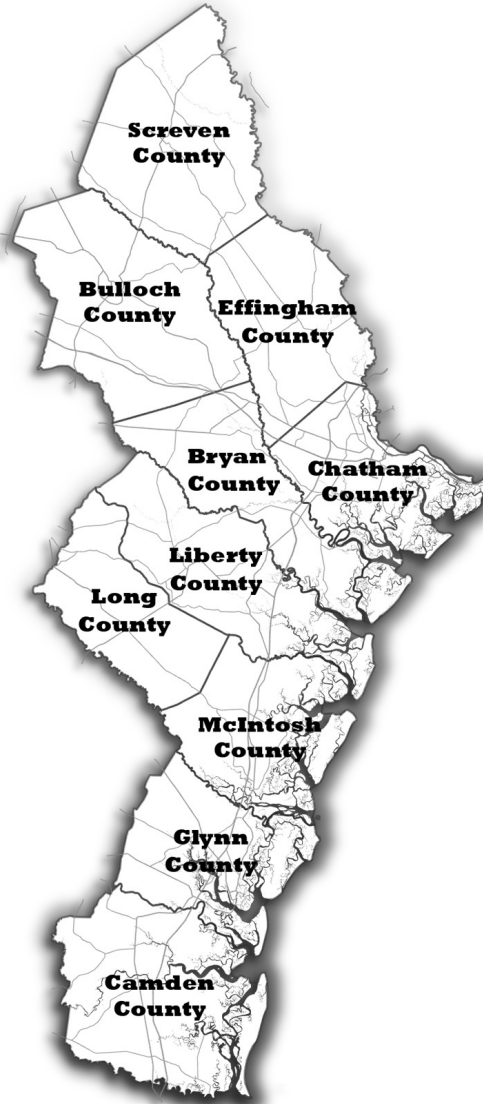
Kingsland  
St. Marys  
Woodbine

**Chatham County**

Bloomington  
Garden City  
Pooler  
Port Wentworth  
Savannah  
Thunderbolt  
Tybee Island  
Vernonburg

**Effingham County**

Guyton  
Rincon  
Springfield



**Glynn County**

Brunswick

**Liberty County**

Allenhurst  
Flemington  
Gumbranch  
Hinesville  
Midway  
Riceboro  
Walthourville

**Long County**

Ludowici

**McIntosh County**

Darien

**Screven County**

Hiltonia  
Newington  
Oliver  
Rocky Ford  
Sylvania

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



On August 9th, I informed the CRC Council of my intent to retire as Executive Director of the Coastal Regional Commission (CRC) in March 2024. While I look forward to retirement, this was a very difficult decision. The guidance and friendship of the Council members over the last 16 years has been a blessing.

I have had the distinct honor of being hired three times by this agency. I was initially hired in 1980 as an intern for what was then the Coastal Area Planning and Development Commission (CAPDC). My time as an undergraduate intern greatly influenced my decision to pursue a graduate degree and enter public service. In 2008, I was hired as Executive Director for the Coastal Regional Development Center (CGRDC). A year later in 2009, I was formally rehired in the same position when the CGRDC became the CRC as part of the statewide realignment of Georgia's Regional Commissions.

I have been consistently proud of the integrity and accomplishments of this agency. My colleagues have always given their very best care to our clients. It is clear that the health and success of our customers and communities are at the forefront of the decisions made by the Council and staff. I credit the high quality of our Council leadership and our staff for the sustained success of the agency.

Our 10-county region will face continued challenges and opportunities. I am confident that the CRC will continue to provide the needed leadership, collaboration, and support to our member governments, and the residents of coastal Georgia. I plan to work up until my retirement date and am fully committed to assisting with the agency's transition to the next Executive Director to ensure a smooth transition.

My family and I sincerely thank the Council for the many opportunities that I have experienced working and living here in coastal Georgia. I have genuinely enjoyed my work and will miss you and my coworkers in retirement.

Again, I have truly enjoyed working here. I will miss the Council, my coworkers, and our clients a great deal. I wish you all nothing but the best for the future.

Sincerely,

Allen Burns  
Executive Director





# CRC COUNCIL MEMBER DIRECTORY

## **BRYAN COUNTY**

Chairman Carter Infinger  
Bryan Co. Commission

Councilman Steve Scholar  
City of Richmond Hill

Steven Asplund  
Non-Public

## **BULLOCH COUNTY**

Commissioner Anthony Simmons  
Bulloch Co. Commission

Mayor Jonathan McCollar  
City of Statesboro

Allen Amason  
Non-Public

Walter Gibson  
Non-Public

## **CAMDEN COUNTY**

Commissioner Lannie Brant  
Camden Co. Commission

Councilwoman Kristy Chance  
City of Kingsland

Craig Root  
Non-Public

## **CHATHAM COUNTY**

Commissioner Chester Ellis  
Chatham Co. Commission

Mayor Van Johnson, II  
City of Savannah

Chris Blaine  
Non-Public

Sabrina Kent  
Non-Public

Tanet Myers  
Non-Public

## **EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

Commissioner Reggie Loper  
Effingham Co. Commission

Mayor Ken Lee  
City of Rincon

Rebecca Boston  
Non-Public

## **GLYNN COUNTY**

Commissioner Sammy Tostensen  
Glynn Co. Commission

Commissioner Julie Martin  
City of Brunswick

Jones Hooks  
Non-Public

Shaw McVeigh  
Non-Public

## **LIBERTY COUNTY**

Chairman Donald Lovette  
Liberty Co. Commission

Mayor Allen Brown  
City of Hinesville

Richard Hayes  
Non-Public

## **LONG COUNTY**

Chairman Robert Parker  
Long Co. Commission

Councilwoman Mary Hamilton  
City of Ludowici

Tammy Goober  
Non-Public

## **MCINTOSH COUNTY**

Commissioner Kate Karwacki  
McIntosh Co. Commission

Mayor Hugh "Bubba" Hodge  
City of Darien

Vacant  
Non-Public

## **SCREVEN COUNTY**

Commissioner Rosa Romeo  
Screven Co. Commission

Mayor Preston Dees  
City of Sylvania

William Bland, Jr.  
Non-Public

## **STATE OF GEORGIA APPOINTMENTS**

Tom Ratcliffe

Dan Coty

Chap Bennett

Jason Coley

Vacant

## **EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Chris Fletcher

Fort Stewart

Dina McKain

Fort Stewart

Dorothy Glisson

Screven County

# 2024 CRC COUNCIL OFFICERS



**Ken Lee**  
CRC Council  
Chairman  
Mayor of Rincon



**Rosa Romeo**  
CRC Council  
Vice Chairman  
Commissioner  
Screven County  
Commission



**Steven Asplund**  
CRC Council  
Secretary  
Bryan County  
Non-Public

## IN MEMORY OF:



**Herb Jones, Effingham County Non-Public Representative**, ended his 16-year tenure as a member of the Coastal Georgia Regional Development Center Board and the Coastal Regional Commission Council at the end of our Fiscal Year (June 30th). Several of those years he had perfect attendance, including the last four years. Sadly, Herb passed away on September 16th. Herb was a faithful dedicated servant to the citizens of coastal Georgia and our Council, and will be greatly missed.

We are excited to present the 2023 Annual Report of the Coastal Regional Commission (CRC) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. This report highlights the activities of the CRC during the previous year.

FY23 ushered in a new wave of hope, possibilities, and growth across the coastal region. Last year's announcement of Hyundai's plan to build an electric vehicle manufacturing plant in Bryan County has literally changed the landscape of the region. The past three years taught us how to live with COVID and its numerous variants. Now we brace ourselves for the impact and rapid demand for manufacturing, warehousing, and residential living spaces.

Our Planning and Government Services department is helping our communities plan for responsible growth and access grant resources to address growing local needs. Our Transportation department strategizes with state partners to provide workforce transit and public transit solutions. And our Aging Services department steadily assists families by providing supports that allow caregivers to keep working while elderly parents receive care at home or in safe community settings.

We remain committed to supporting the coastal region communities as we strive to help make it a better place to live, work, and play.

Sincerely,

Dionne Lovett  
Assistant Executive Director



Jason Coley  
Chairman, 2023



## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Administrative Services Department is the service-oriented backbone of the CRC that provides a lasting professional impression through **secretarial, public relations, human resources, and maintenance** operations.

The **Secretary/Receptionist** is now responsible for **signing out vehicles to employees** and keeping up with the mileage and advising when maintenance is needed. This year, she **produced the Annual Report/Calendar**. She also continues to be responsible for requisitioning/ordering supplies; serving as key operator of the copiers and postage machine; assisting departments as needed with various projects; answering the CRC's main phone line and greeting guests and visitors to the CRC office.

The **HR Transit Coordinator** completed CPR Instructor Training and is now a **Certified CPR Instructor** through the American Red Cross. Driver CPR Training can now be conducted in-house and the Coordinator will continue to oversee the other required FTA/GDOT trainings required for drivers. In addition to ensuring the CRC's Drug & Alcohol Policy is followed, FTA required updates and they were made to the **CRC's Transportation Drug & Alcohol Policy** this past year. The Coordinator also continued HR duties involving paperwork for new hire, orientations, terminations, insurance, open enrollment, 401K, defined contribution plans, FMLA, workman's comp, and ensured employee evaluations were completed.

The **Administrative Services Director/HR** handles the agendas, minutes, member appointments and attendance, meeting notices, summations, Bylaws updates, etc., for the CRC Council and Budget & Finance Committee meetings. Annual duties include the update of the **City/County Directory** (available on the CRC's website) and **editing the Annual Report and assisting with the cover design**. HR responsibilities include paperwork for new hires, orientation, terminations, job description updates/creation, insurance, FMLA, employee evaluations, retirement applications, employee service recognition, and updating the Employee Handbook as needed. The position also assists all departments as needed.



*Pine trees planted, in 2019, by the Georgia Forestry Commission are growing nicely at the CRC office.*

# AGING SERVICES



The **Coastal Area Agency on Aging (AAA)** was formed in 1973. The AAA strives to develop a comprehensive, coordinated system of services that promotes the independence and well-being of older adults and those with disabilities and their caregivers, and to provide these individuals with information and access to needed services. We serve the Coastal Region, which includes **Bryan, Bulloch, Camden, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, and McIntosh Counties.**

The AAA remains committed to building lasting partnerships with organizations, private businesses, and local governments to ensure that our most frail and economically disadvantaged elders receive the care and services necessary to sustain health, independence, and dignified lives. The AAA continues its efforts of support services through various programs and initiatives such as: the **Aging Services Advisory Council, Care Transitions, Nutrition and Wellness, Community Outreach, Information and Assistance, and Assistive Technology.**

## Dementia Care Specialist Program (DCSP)

Coastal Georgia welcomed a **Dementia Care Specialist** and a DCSP this year. The mission of the DCSP is to **increase dementia education and awareness, build stronger community partnerships, and support care partners to expand skills and resources** to help people living with dementia. The DCSP has **three pillars** of focus to achieve this mission: 1) **Create a dementia-capable aging network:** Training, Education, Awareness, and Collaboration by providing dementia-specific training for AAA staff, providers, and partners while raising awareness of the importance of early detection and screening; 2) **Create dementia-capable communities** with community outreach and partnerships by providing dementia-specific community education and driving collaboration within the community; and, 3) **Supporting people living with dementia** and their families, providing education, and developing regional capacity to help people with cognitive concerns and their families while encouraging memory screenings and increased access to diagnostic evaluation.



## Innovative Programming

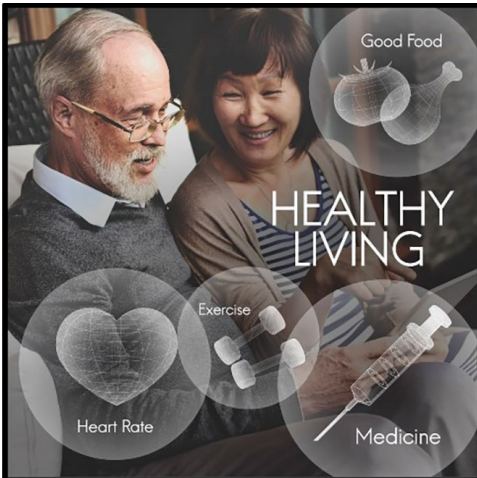
### Case Management Programs

Through a partnership with the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging, the Coastal AAA provides a **telephonic support program** called **Care Consultation**. This evidence-based program is a proven care-coaching solution delivered by phone to adults with health conditions and their family caregivers, empowering both to more effectively manage short- and long-term care needs. Care consultants assess program participants to ensure their concerns are identified, addressed, and prioritized. The care consultants help the clients develop an action plan and provide ongoing support.



## AGING SERVICES

**Support Options** is a grant program through Cares Funding that allows the AAA to provide supportive services to clients traditionally eligible for Older Americans Act-funded programs. This program was developed to assist older adults and allow them to receive **Options Counseling** services and in-home support options. Using a consumer-directed approach, older adults and family caregivers take an active role in deciding on a care plan and service options that best suits their individual situation and circumstances. Support Options is a customer-driven service model that empowers the clients we serve, honors the clients' choice of services, and helps clients remain independent.



The **Southeast Georgia Health System (SGHS)** and the AAA continue their partnership of the **Coastal Care Transitions Program (CCTP)**. This fee-based program is predicated on the evidence-based Bridge Model developed by the Illinois Transitional Care Consortium. It is designed to “reduce the number of readmissions by providing **high-risk older adults** with **care coordination for 30 days after discharge.**” The program is intended to help older adults with chronic conditions from readmitting to the hospital by providing access to community services, resources, education, and coaching. The AAA has assisted **375+ older adults** with Care Transitions services.

### Coastal Living Well Program

As part of our Coastal Living Well initiative, the AAA offers **evidence-based educational workshops** throughout the region. The evidence-based programs have been studied and proven to work. **Wellness Evidence-Based Services (EBS)** have been expanded with the assistance of community partners and volunteers. EBS target **older adults, caregivers, and people with disabilities**. There are several EBS workshops offered through the AAA, which include the following:

- **Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP)**
- **Virtual Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (v-CDSMP)**
- **Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME)**
- **Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP)**
- **Powerful Tools for Caregivers (PTC)**
- **Virtual-Powerful Tools for Caregivers**
- **A Matter of Balance (AMOB)**
- **Virtual A Matter of Balance (v-AMOB)**
- **Virtual-Bingocize**
- **Bingocize**

Face-to-face and virtual workshops are being conducted throughout the region, focusing on engaging older adults and reducing social isolation. Older Adults also receive other group



## AGING SERVICES



activities and virtual wellness activities in senior and neighborhood centers. Some activities include nutrition education, exercise & stretching classes, music-therapy classes, chair exercises, arts & crafts, word searches, crossword puzzles, book clubs, bingo, ceramics, knitting, sewing classes, and field trips. Senior citizens are gradually coming back to the centers. All senior centers are now open; however, some continue to offer virtual options for engaging in social activities. The Coastal Living Well Program helps individuals learn skills to manage their health better while maintaining independence and improving their quality of life.

The AAA has expanded another evidence-based program, Bingocize, within the region. Bingocize is a fall prevention program, which focuses on bingo, exercise, and fall prevention education in a one-hour class. The AAA has trained 20+ Bingocize facilitators in the region.

### Georgia Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program (GSFMNP)



The GSFMNP is federally funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The AAA offered the GSFMNP throughout the region and **served 1,900 older adults in 34 centers**. The AAA achieved a **98% redemption rate**. Vouchers were distributed in **nine counties**, reaching senior centers, adult daycare centers/ adult day-health centers, senior apartments, senior high rises/senior apartment complexes, and one community resource center. The program participants were pleased to receive **vouchers valued at \$50** to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables. The seasonal GSFMNP

is offered **June through September**. This program helps reduce food insecurity by providing access to farm-fresh produce to older adults. The AAA collaborated with **five (5) certified Georgia farmers** who traveled throughout the region.

### Senior Hunger Coalition Initiative

The Coastal Senior Hunger Coalition (CSHC) is a collaborative of various agencies, community partners, universities, senior centers, community centers, faith-based communities, food banks, food pantries, food trucks, farmers, in-home providers, volunteers, and those with vested interests to reduce senior hunger. CSHC met virtually this past year and attended DHS's virtual Annual Senior Hunger Summit. Through this initiative, the AAA issued a **mini grant to Pete Jackson Farms** to implement **four Winter Senior Farmer Markets** and **167 older adults were served**. Winter Farmer's Markets targeted older adults who did not attend a senior center. The markets were held around the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holidays.

### Aging Disability Resource Connection (ADRC)

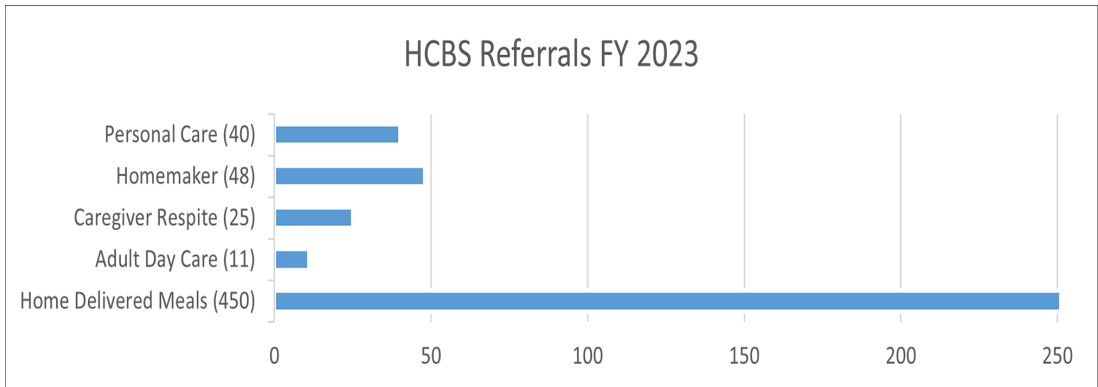
The ADRC is a coordinated system dedicated to providing comprehensive information about publicly and privately financed long-term supports that empower older adults and individuals with



## AGING SERVICES

disabilities to make informed decisions about their well-being. **ADRC Counselors completed 1,072 Telephone Assessments** for individuals seeking services in their homes and community under two different programs.

- **Elderly & Disabled Waiver Program (EDWP) Assessments - 412 Assessments Completed:** This program is funded by Georgia Medicaid through the Georgia Department of Community Health and available to anyone over the age of 21 with a physical disability meeting nursing home level of care. There is currently no wait list for EDWP Services in our region, and clients are referred after assessment and selection of an EDWP Case Management Agency.
- **Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS) Assessments - 660 Assessments Completed:** This program is funded through the Georgia Department of Human Services, Division of Aging Services and is available to anyone 60 and older. There is currently a waitlist for most HCBS programs, and referrals occur when openings are available.



**Nursing Home Transitions** - In 2023, **129** people who were **residents of nursing homes** received **Options Counseling** to learn about services and programs to support them should they leave the nursing home. **Eighteen** individuals **left the Nursing Home** and returned to the community with the assistance of our Transitions Programs.

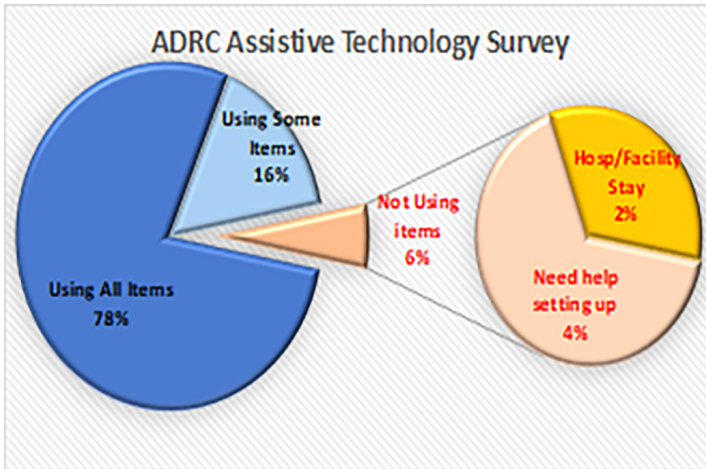
**Information and Referral Assistance** - The ADRC also maintains a detailed database that contains over 23,000 private-pay agencies and publicly funded service programs. Information was provided to **1,428** different individuals requesting information on community resources.

### Assistive Technology Program

The AAA is committed to helping people access technology that helps make everyday life more manageable and leisure time more fun! The AAA houses an **on-site Assistive Technology Lab** set up like a studio apartment, allowing individuals to place their hands on items that assist with mobility, dementia care, vision loss, communication problems, hearing loss, and much more.



# AGING SERVICES



The ADRC continued to provide equipment to callers when tasks like bathing or homemaking were going undone most of the time. Some of the more popular items included: transfer benches, bath chairs, bath lifts, safety rails, bidets, robotic vacuums, long-handled scrub brushes and brooms, washable bed/chair pads, no-contract emergency alert systems, dementia items, and items to combat caregiver stress. Due to increased funding from ARPA, we were able to continue

to address isolation and focus on giving people equipment that enabled them to be independent instead of putting them on a waiting list for a traditional service.

- **254 people** received equipment through the regular assessment process.
  - **62%** of satisfaction surveys were returned.
  - **76.3%** reported they were using all the items provided to them.
  - **87%** reported they were using all or most of the items provided to them.
- **132 people** received equipment through a special consultation process designed to assist those who felt isolated during the pandemic or those with unique health issues.
  - **71%** of satisfaction surveys were returned.
  - **65%** reported they were using all the items provided to them.
  - **87%** reported they were using all or most of the items provided to them.

## Friends of Disabled Adults & Children (FODAC)

FODAC is a statewide and national provider of used home health care equipment, mobility aids, and daily living devices for people with disabilities. Their home office is located in Stone Mountain, Georgia, and they are in the process of opening a satellite office in Savannah in FY24. **Fourteen people** from the coastal region received **28** Home Medical equipment items in FY23. The AAA is also a designated drop-off site for used equipment. Anyone who wishes to donate equipment can drop their items off at the CRC, and equipment is sent to FODAC for repairs and sanitation and then redistributed to those in need.



## Quality Assurance - Customer Feedback

Approximately **542 clients** receiving Home and Community Based services were randomly selected to provide the AAA feedback on the quality of services they received. **More than 187 client satisfaction surveys were completed:** a response rate of 35%. Survey results were favorable, and most clients indicated that the services they received through the AAA improved their overall health or everyday life.



# AGING SERVICES

## Survey Comments

"I would not know what to do without this [ADC]. My Brother loves going..." -**Adult Day Care.**

"If I was at home, I would not eat." -**Congregate Meals.**

"The center is a wonderful place to go. It gives me the opportunity to meet more people." -**Senior Center.**

"I am so happy with what I'm getting. Thank you so much!" -**Home Delivered Meals**

"I am well satisfied with my homemaker. She is a blessing to me." -**Homemaker**

"I am happy with the overall program" -**Personal Care.**

Type of Service	How Satisfied are You with the Services You Receive?			Receiving these Services has Improved my Health or Everyday Life	
	Satisfied	Somewhat Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Yes	No
Congregate Meals	64%	32%	4%	88%	12%
Home Delivered Meals	87%	13%	0%	98%	2%
Senior Center	91%	9%	0%	96%	4%
Homemaker/Personal Care	89%	7%	4%	96%	4%
Adult Day Care	91%	9%	0%	80%	20%
Respite Care	25%	75%	0%	75%	25%

Coastal AAA - Clients Served by Service (FY23)			
Report Period: 07/01/2022 to 06/30/2023			
Summary			
Service	Clients	# Units	Total Cost
Congregate Meals	1,313	123,966	\$1,838,621.75
Home Delivered Meals	1,225	214,620	1,513,311.69
Adult Day Care	78	43,648	371,957.37
Homemaker	109	12,384	308,095.16
Respite Care-In-Home	36	6,568	157,867.00
Personal Care	78	10,787	268,995.75
Case Management	161	1,318	39,561.77
Care Consultation	10	108	2,249.24
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,010</b>	<b>413,399</b>	<b>\$4,500,659.73</b>

Service	Percentage
Congregate Meals	41%
Home Delivered Meals	34%
Adult Day Care	8%
Homemaker	7%
Personal Care	6%
Case Management	3%
Care Consultation	1%

- Congregate Meals
- Home Delivered Meals
- Homemaker
- Adult Day Care
- Personal Care
- Respite Care-In-Home
- Case Management
- Care Consultation

# AGING SERVICES



<b>Coastal Regional Commission of Georgia Aging Services FY23 Budget*</b>	
<b>Service Category</b>	<b>Allocation</b>
Administration	\$885,964.33
Advocacy	23,046.26
Service Coordination	80,854.79
Aging Disability and Resource Connection	414,718.46
Program Development	89,257.60
MDSQ Options Counseling	146,135.00
Money Follows the Person - Transition Coordination	121,131.00
Nursing Home Transitions	51,000.00
Elderly Legal Assistance	120,227.00
Adult Day Care	695,502.73
Caregiver Respite	188,266.75
Homemaker Service	603,118.89
Personal Care Service	354,939.51
Congregate Meals	1,885,746.06
Support Options	300,906.66
Home Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels)	2,230,415.47
Health Promotion/Disease Prevention	122,116.00
Care Consultation	18,433.00
Case Management	187,512.00
Hospital Transitions-Bridge Model	30,000.00
Care Transition Intervention	6,115.00
Material Aid	90,450.96
<b>Total FY23 Budget</b>	<b>\$8,645,857.47</b>

\*Budget reflects one-time COVID/ARPA funding that spans two years.



## PLANNING AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The Planning and Government Services Department (P&GS) serves as the regional voice for **Comprehensive Planning, Economic Development, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)**, working with local government partners to articulate and implement a shared vision for Coastal Georgia. Throughout this year, our team continued to execute this mission throughout the CRC region.

Our team has benefited our communities by offering a diverse, robust toolbox of expertise. From the development of comprehensive plans, maintaining GIS databases for our local governments, or managing various construction projects, our team strives to offer services our local government partners need most.

To successfully implement our service-minded mission, our team understands the value of maintaining and forming new connections with local officials, both new and old, to assist our communities with their planning needs. The team's dedication to our local government partners has resulted in substantial regional impact. Here is a snapshot of our successes this past fiscal year:

### DEVELOPED FIVE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

### ADMINISTERED \$50 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDING

- Community Development Block Grant (**CDBG**; Competitive, Disaster Recovery, and CARES)
- Community HOME Investment Program
- Rural Downtown Redevelopment
- Assistance to Firefighters Grant
- EDA
- USDA Community Facilities Technical Assistance and Training

### SUBMITTED FOUR GRANT APPLICATIONS

- CDBG (Disaster Recovery)
- Community Home Investment Program
- Department of Transportation RAISE Grant
- Southern Crescent Regional Commission, SEID Program

### CONTRACTED TO MANAGE 24 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Affordable Housing
- USDA Community Facilities
- 911 Addressing Management
- Zoning Amendments
- And More!

### FACILITATED 28 DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT (DRIs)

### RESPONDED TO OVER 800 GIS SUPPORT TICKETS

# PLANNING AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES



2023 Planning & Government Services Projects		
Planning	Grants	GIS
Camden County	Chatham County	Camden County
Glynn County	Glynn County	Glynn County
McIntosh County	McIntosh County	Liberty County
City of Darien	City of Darien	Long County
City of Kingsland	City of Riceboro	McIntosh County
City of Riceboro	Town of Newington	City of Hinesville
City of Statesboro	Darien Downtown Development Authority	City of Ludowici
City of St. Marys	Downtown Statesboro Development Authority	City of Sylvania
City of Woodbine	Second Harvest Food Bank	Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor
Town of Thunderbolt		Liberty Consolidated Planning Commission
Tybee Island		UGA, Carl Vinson Institute of Government

## Project Highlights

**Chatham County** has contracted with the CRC to administer roughly **\$25 million in CDBG Funding**. This grant from the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) was awarded to develop a **new Second Harvest Food Bank facility** in the County. Including private investment, this **\$42 million dollar project** will greatly increase Second Harvest's performance outcomes, addressing the increase of food insecurity in the region following the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Additionally, **Glynn County** was awarded a **\$3.5 million-dollar CDBG grant** from DCA to **expand their Second Harvest Food Bank facility**. The CRC is also serving as grant administrator for this project.

Both grants were awarded in 2022, and **construction is expected to be completed by December of 2023**.



Second Harvest Food Bank, Chatham

GIS staff partnered with the **Southern Georgia Regional Commission (SGRC)** to develop a standardized process for participation in **Phase 4 of GDOT's Roadway Element Validation and Mapping Program**. All regional commissions in the State will utilize the standards developed by the CRC and SGRC, with Phase 4 anticipated to begin statewide in January 2024. On the local level, our GIS staff continued to provide **911 data management** and other **GIS services** to **Liberty, Camden, McIntosh, and Long** counties.



## PLANNING AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Lastly, the P&GS staff assisted **Bike Walk Golden Isles** with the development of a **Glynn County Bike and Walk Map** pamphlet. The materials highlight existing bike and pedestrian infrastructure and includes key attractions and safety information.



### Planning for the Future

Looking into the coming year, our team remains committed to fostering new and strengthening existing partnerships with local governments in the region. In addition to providing our regular services, our team has an ambitious agenda for special projects in the coming year. The team will update our **Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy** to capture the abundance of economic development and growth occurring in the region. Additionally, the team will continue work on a **Regional Housing Study** to capture housing data in the region and provide guidance on the challenges confronting communities in providing affordable housing. And lastly, the CRC has partnered with federal, state, and local governments to acquire **updated orthoimagery**. The flight is anticipated to take place in early 2024 with new imagery **delivery expected by the end of 2024**.

Glynn County Bike & Walk Map

With the success of 2023, the P&GS staff is motivated to raise the bar in the coming year. Our team remains dedicated to its service-minded vision, and we look forward to working with our local governments in creating a better future for the communities of coastal Georgia.



# FINANCIAL SERVICES



The mission of the CRC’s Financial Services Department is to provide professional, responsible fiscal management and stewardship with accurate financial reporting encompassing integrity, accountability and exceptional customer service.

The Financial Services Department manages all internal and external financial activities of the CRC. The Department runs all financial operations required for the day-to-day maintenance of the CRC’s finances such as:

- **accounts payable;**
- **accounts receivable;**
- **payroll;**
- **cash management;**
- **capital budgeting;**
- **financial analysis and reporting; and**
- **internal control procedures.**

The Department supports other departments in the CRC by tracking the funding status and expenditure levels of grants received; submitting required reports to grantor agencies; and assuring compliance with federal, state, and local regulations for programs and funding received by the CRC.

The Department plays an integral role in reviewing contracts, bids and proposals; monitoring the status of grants and programs in relation to contractual commitments; preparing requisite financial reports for grantor agencies; and monitoring the performance of subcontractors and their compliance with required guidelines, procedures and reporting.

For the FY23, the **total combined revenues for the CRC was \$14,392,753. Total expenses were \$13,737,206.** The following table shows the revenues and expense for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023:

<b>Revenues &amp; Expenses for the Fiscal Year Ended on June 30, 2023</b>				
<b>Function:</b>	<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Transfers from (to) Other Funds</b>	<b>Excess (deficit)</b>
Aging Services	\$6,728,781	\$6,729,282	\$13,260	\$12,760
Planning & Government Services	911,699	848,163	123,184	186,720
Transportation Services	5,682,079	6,058,158	350,077	(26,002)
General Fund	1,070,195	101,603	(810,897)	157,695
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$14,392,753</b>	<b>\$13,737,206</b>	<b>\$(324,376)</b>	<b>\$331,172</b>



## FINANCIAL SERVICES

The CRC's Fund Balance had a **net increase of \$331,172** and the total **ending fund balance** was **\$4,098,298**. The following table shows the changes in the designated fund balances of the CRC for fiscal year 2023:

<b>Changes in Designated Fund Balances</b>			
<b>Function:</b>	<b>as of FY22</b>	<b>Increase (Decrease)</b>	<b>as of FY23</b>
Aging Services	\$190,641	\$12,760	\$203,401
Planning & Government Services	52,901	186,720	239,621
Transportation Services	267,967	(26,002)	241,965
Non-Spendable-General Fund	166,387	44,338	210,725
Unassigned-General Fund	3,089,230	113,356	3,202,586
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$3,767,126</b>	<b>\$331,171</b>	<b>\$4,098,298</b>

Detailed information concerning the CRC's financial condition can be found in the CRC's 2023 **Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR)**. The purpose of the report is to provide the Council, management, staff, the public and other interested parties with detailed information reflecting the CRC's financial condition. The report also satisfies state law to publish a complete set of financial statements presented in conformity with **Generally Accepted Accounting Principles** (GAAP) and audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by a firm of licensed certified public accountants.

The accounting firm of **McNair, McLemore, Middlebrooks & Co., LLC** audited the CRC's 2023 ACFR. The auditors issued an unmodified (clean) opinion. It was the auditor's opinion that the financial statements of the CRC, for FY23, presented fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the CRC. The auditor's report also noted that the CRC complied with the requirements of major federal awards and that no deficiencies in internal control over compliance were identified. It should also be noted that there were no findings or questioned costs.

The **Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)** awarded a **Certificate of Achievement (COA) for Excellence in Financial Reporting** to the CRC for its ACFR for FY22. This was the **14th consecutive year** the CRC received this prestigious award. In order to be awarded a COA, the CRC has to publish an easily readable and efficiently organized ACFR. The report must satisfy both GAAP and applicable legal requirements. A COA is valid for a period of one year only. We believe that our current ACFR continues to meet the COA Program's requirements and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine eligibility for another certificate.

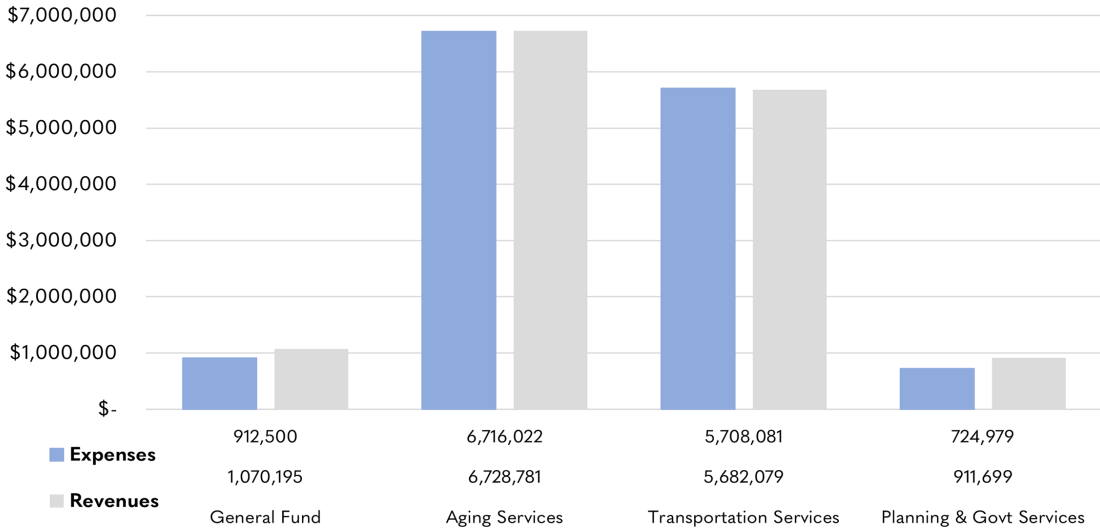
It is the desire of the CRC Council to provide the highest level of service at the most economical cost to its member governments. The CRC actively participates in regional planning with State and Federal agencies, and counties and municipalities within the CRC to maximize services to the region's citizens and to provide those services as economically reasonable as possible.

# FINANCIAL SERVICES

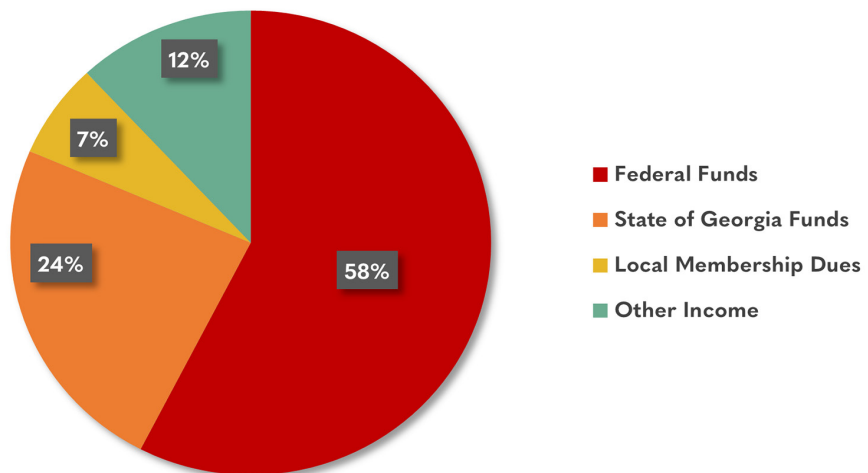


Note: For additional information, a complete copy of the CRC's 2023 ACFR is available on our website at [www.coastalrc.ga.gov](http://www.coastalrc.ga.gov).

## REVENUES & EXPENSES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS



## Revenues by Source - Governmental Activities





# FINANCIAL SERVICES

## COASTAL REGIONAL COMMISSION

### Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023

	General Fund	GA DHS- Area Agency On Aging	GA DCH- Area Agency On Aging	GA DHS- Coordinated Transportation	Section 5311 Rural Public Transit	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>Revenues</b>							
Local government dues	\$ 951,119	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 951,119
Grants and contracts:							
Federal	-	3,397,412	418,062	1,065,007	3,227,733	178,114	8,286,328
State	-	2,245,726	418,104	434,594	158,160	179,857	3,436,441
Other revenues:							
Investment income, net	22,432	-	-	-	-	-	22,432
Contributions/Local	-	-	-	-	748,430	580,332	1,328,762
In-kind revenues	-	222,873	-	48,155	-	-	271,028
Leases	39,972	-	-	-	-	-	39,972
Other Income	56,671	-	-	-	-	-	56,671
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>1,070,194</b>	<b>5,866,011</b>	<b>836,166</b>	<b>1,547,756</b>	<b>4,134,323</b>	<b>938,303</b>	<b>14,392,753</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>							
Direct							
Current operating							
Personal services	439	560,204	545,515	-	2,580,728	488,124	4,175,010
Operating expenditures	101,036	5,144,977	131,148	80,514	1,322,768	241,453	7,021,896
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	1,319,569	-	1,319,569
<b>Total Direct Expenditures</b>	<b>101,475</b>	<b>5,705,181</b>	<b>676,663</b>	<b>80,514</b>	<b>5,223,065</b>	<b>729,577</b>	<b>12,516,475</b>
Indirect cost							
Cost allocation plan	128	163,800	159,503	-	754,579	142,721	1,220,731
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>101,603</b>	<b>5,868,981</b>	<b>836,166</b>	<b>80,514</b>	<b>5,977,644</b>	<b>872,298</b>	<b>13,737,206</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other sources over expenditures	968,591	(2,969)	-	1,467,242	(1,843,321)	66,005	655,547
<b>Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>							
Transfers In (out)	(810,897)	2,969	-	(1,467,242)	1,817,319	133,475	(324,376)
<b>Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)</b>	<b>(810,897)</b>	<b>2,969</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,467,242)</b>	<b>1,817,319</b>	<b>133,475</b>	<b>(324,376)</b>
Net Change in Fund Balance	157,694	-	-	-	(26,002)	199,480	331,172
Fund Balance - Beginning of Year	3,255,617	-	-	-	267,967	243,542	3,767,126
Fund Balance - End of Year	\$ 3,413,311	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 241,965	\$ 443,022	\$ 4,098,298

## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



The purpose of the regional transit service is to provide a coordinated transportation system that addresses the needs of the general public and designated human service agencies. The foundation of the rural, regional coordinated system has provided the framework to directly serve the various components of our regional communities. Our goals are to focus on **customer service, staff development and improved operations.**



Example of the catalytic converter stolen

FY23 has been one of the most challenging years since the inception of the transit program. The **delay in receiving new buses forced us to continue using older buses** that were breaking down and needed **expensive repairs.** In addition, we had **30 catalytic converters stolen** from our bus fleet throughout the region. Unfortunately, even though we had them parked in fenced areas, it did not deter the thieves and they cut through the chain link fences. With **additional funds received from GDOT,** we are **purchasing catalytic converter guards to prevent future thefts,** which will save money in the future. Bids have been received and once a vendor has been selected, the **guards should be installed by the end of September 2023.**

### OPERATIONS

In FY23, we **finally received 16 new buses;** four earmarked for the **Statesboro** system, and **12 distributed throughout the 10-county region.**

Our most **impactful event** for FY23 was the actual implementation of the much-awaited **Statesboro Area Transit (SAT)** system. The **four new buses were wrapped to identify the City system. City staff developed two routes,** serviced by alternating buses operating a hybrid system which has a **“fixed route” pattern with 30+ bus stops throughout the City.**





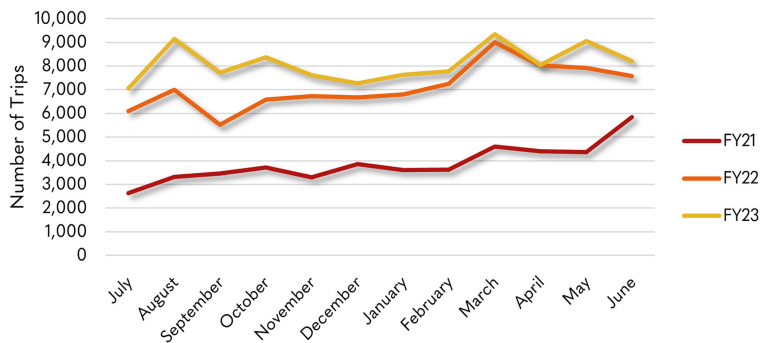
## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Ridership continues to grow as the **City has developed a website and printed literature** to promote the service. The **CRC's Planning Department is working to construct a Google Map** for ease of access by City residents.

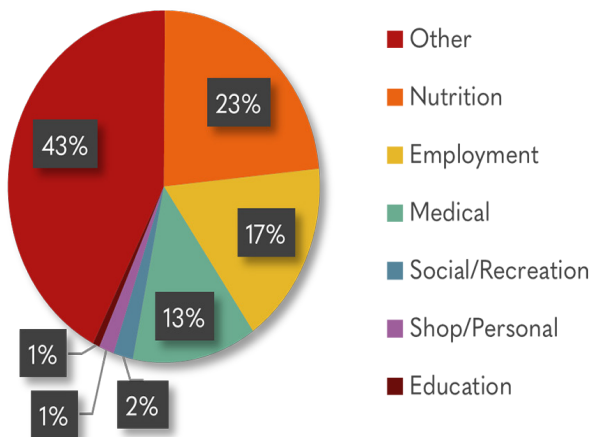
We continue to have discussions regarding a **cooperative agreement with ModivCare to transport some of their clients to medical facilities** in our region. ModivCare would use the current QRyde scheduling system via the CRC Call Center when scheduling customers and pay the CRC on a per trip basis. This partnership would promote **GDOT's new "Let's Ride" campaign** to increase awareness and utilization of Georgia's public transit systems.

Ridership continues to rebound from the dramatic reduction of trips attributed to the COVID pandemic. As the chart illustrates, **provided trips increased by 14%** over the past year, and should continue to increase. **Trip purpose categories** remain constant with **medical, employment,** and access to **Senior centers** as the most dominant.

FY21-FY23 Provided Trips



## FY23 Trip Purpose



## CAPITAL INITIATIVES

The Transportation Program also received **funding for capital improvement initiatives** that will **increase the operating efficiency of the program**. This funding is made possible by GDOT's Transit Trust Fund Program which is funded by the Transit Trust Fund (TTF). During the 2020 legislative session, the Georgia General Assembly passed HB 105 (as codified at O.C.G.A. § 48-13-140) establishing fees on for-hire ground transport service, intended to fund transit projects within the State.

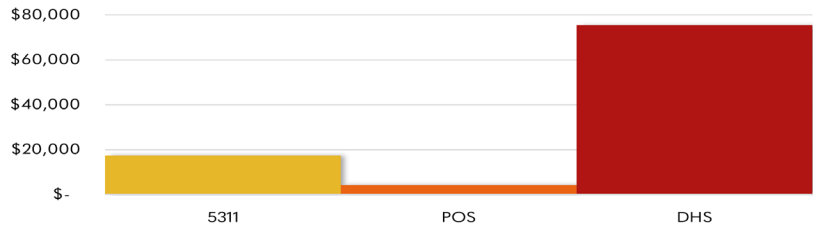
# TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



During the 2021 legislative session, the Georgia General Assembly passed HB 511 (as codified at O.C.G.A. § 48-13-141) establishing the Georgia TTF as a separate fund in the State Treasury, with annual appropriations of

for-hire ground transportation fees. The GDOT Commissioner is the trustee of the Georgia TTF.

**FY23 Trips by Funding Source**



Subsequently, in the FY23 Budget, funds were appropriated to the GDOT TTF, to be dedicated for use by one or more transit providers to fund transit projects. The CRC will use its allocation for several projects to strengthen and complement the regional transportation program.

**One project** will be the construction of a **secure parking area for our buses and agency vehicles at our Darien location.**

This will include a **fenced in permeable parking area with lighting, gate, and installation of new light poles** on the CRC access road. A **mobile light** for our **Savannah office** will also be purchased. In addition, **tablets, mounts, and cameras** will be purchased **for the buses.**

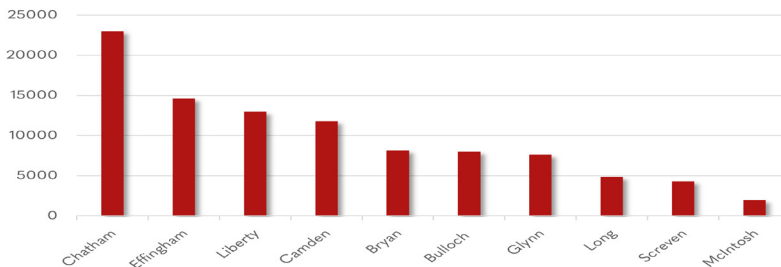
The **second project** will be the **renovation of office space at the Darien facility** to create a **driver training classroom.** Other **capital improvements** include **painting window and door frames, metal doors, and baseboards within the Darien office;** **purchase of computers and related equipment;** a **marketing/**



*Potential location of secure parking area*

**outreach initiative to promote the importance of our regional rural transit program;** and, the integration of the proposed **ModivCare partnership** which will **enhance access to medical services for the region's residents.**

**FY23 Provided Trips By County**



# December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			
3	4	5	6  <i>Georgia Transit Assoc. Conference Athens, GA</i>
10	11	12	13  <i>No CRC Council Meeting</i>
17	18	19	20
24	25  <b>CHRISTMAS DAY CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	26  <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	27
31			





# January 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	<p>1</p> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>	2	3
7	8	<p>9</p> <p><i>ADRC Advisory Council 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i></p>	<p>10</p> <p><i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i></p>
14	<p>15</p> <p><b>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY</b> <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>	16	17
21	22	<p>23</p> <p><i>CRC Aging Services Advisory Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i></p>	<p>24</p> <p><i>HCBS Provider Training Time and Place TBD</i></p>
28	29	30	31



# February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			
4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14 <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28



# March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			
3	4	5	6
10	11	12	13 <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
17	18	19	20
24 31	25 <i>American Society on Aging Conference San Francisco, CA</i>	26 <i>American Society on Aging Conference San Francisco, CA</i>	27 <i>American Society on Aging Conference San Francisco, CA</i>



# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1	2	3
7	8	9 <i>ADRC Advisory Council 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>	10 <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
14	15	16	17
21	22	23 <i>CRC Aging Services Advisory Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>	24
28	29	30	





# May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			1
5	6	7	8  <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
12	13	14	15
19	20  <i>Inform USA (Aging) Grand Rapids, MI</i>	21  <i>Inform USA (Aging) Grand Rapids, MI</i>	22  <i>Inform USA (Aging) Grand Rapids, MI</i>
26	27  <b>MEMORIAL DAY</b> <b>GRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	28	29

# May 2024

## Previous Month

April 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## Next Month

June 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

## Important Dates:

Memorial Day 5/27

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Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4
9	10	11
16	17	18
23 <i>Inform USA (Aging) Grand Rapids, MI</i>	24	25
30	31	

Image: Springfield Ball Park

# June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			
2	3	4	5
9 <i>Georgia Memory Net Summit</i> <i>The Westin Jekyll Island, GA</i>	10 <i>Georgia Memory Net Summit</i> <i>The Westin Jekyll Island, GA</i>	11 <i>Georgia Memory Net Summit</i> <i>The Westin Jekyll Island, GA</i>	12 <i>CRC Council Meeting</i> <i>10:00 a.m.</i> <i>Richmond Hill City Center</i> <i>Georgia Memory Net Summit</i> <i>The Westin Jekyll Island, GA</i>
16	17	18	19 <b>JUNETEENTH</b> <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>
23  <i>End of FY24</i>  30	24	25	26



# July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	1  <i>Start of FY25</i>	2	3
7	8  <i>USAgging Annual Conference and Tradeshow</i>  <i>Time and Place TBD</i>	9  <i>ADRC Advisory Council</i> <i>10:00 a.m.</i> <i>Richmond Hill City Center</i> <hr/> <i>USAgging Annual Conference and Tradeshow</i> <i>Time and Place TBD</i>	10  <i>No CRC Council Meeting</i> <hr/> <i>USAgging Annual Conference and Tradeshow</i> <i>Time and Place TBD</i>
14	15	16	17
21	22	23  <i>CRC Aging Services Advisory Council Meeting 10:00 a.m.</i> <i>Richmond Hill City Center</i>	24
28	29	30	31



# August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			
4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14 <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
18	19	20	21 <i>HCBS Provider Training Time and Place TBD</i>
25	26	27	28





# September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1	2 <b>LABOR DAY</b> <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	3	4
8	9	10	11 <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
15	16	17	18
22	23	24	25
29	30	Notes:	



# October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:		1	2
6	7	8 <i>ADRC Advisory Council 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>	9 <i>CRC Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>
13	14 <b>COLUMBUS DAY</b> <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	15	16
20	21	22 <i>CRC Aging Services Advisory Council Meeting 10:00 a.m. Richmond Hill City Center</i>	23 <i>HCBS Provider Training Time and Place TBD</i>
27	28	29	30



# November 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Notes:			
3	4	5	6
10	<b>VETERANS DAY</b> <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	12	<b>CRC Council Meeting</b> <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <b>Richmond Hill</b> <b>City Center</b>
17	18	19	20
24	25	26	27



# December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1	2	3	4 <i>Georgia Transit Assoc. Conference Columbus, GA</i>
8	9	10	11 <i>No CRC Council Meeting</i>
15	16	17	18
22	23	24 <b>CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>	25 <b>CHRISTMAS DAY CRC OFFICE CLOSED</b>
29	30	31	





## CRC STAFF CONTACT LISTING

Allen Burns	Executive Director	912-514-1598	aburns@crc.ga.gov
Dionne Lovett	Assistant Executive Director	912-514-1602	dlovett@crc.ga.gov
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<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT</b>			
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Chrishonda Grant	HR Transit Coordinator	912-514-1608	cgrant@crc.ga.gov
Katherina Barney	Receptionist/Secretary	912-514-1601	kbarney@crc.ga.gov
<b>AGING SERVICES DEPARTMENT</b>			
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Sarah Jones	ADRC Counselor	912-514-1621	sjones@crc.ga.gov

## CRC STAFF CONTACT LISTING

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Tamara Myers	Fiscal Assistant	912-514-1606	tmyers@crc.ga.gov
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Adrian Flores Garcia	GIS Analyst I	912-514-1642	afloresgarcia@crc.ga.gov
<b>TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT</b>			
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Jimmie Green	Transit Manager	912-352-0084	jgreen@crc.ga.gov
Katie Wells	Operations Specialist	912-352-0084	kwells@crc.ga.gov
Kimyatta Noble	Call Center Supervisor	912-514-1648	knoble@crc.ga.gov
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Kwanjaklyn Johnson	Dispatcher	912-514-1651	kjohnson@crc.ga.gov
Jennifer Holton	Dispatcher	912-514-1649	jholton@crc.ga.gov
Ma'Lisa Knox	Dispatcher	912-514-1647	mknox@crc.ga.gov



# What can we do for you?

## Area Agency on Aging - 1-800-580-6860

- Access to Services - Serves as the single point of entry for public and private services for the elderly, persons with disabilities and their caregivers. Includes Information & Referral Assistance for those wanting to remain independent at home.
- Tools for Life Lab - Demonstrates and provides for both high (and low) tech assistive living devices to help you remain in your home.
- Health & Wellness - Provides programs and activities to senior centers which promote healthy living and well-being.
- Service Coordination - Works with community agencies and contractors to deliver a wide range of services to ensure seniors and caregivers receive the most appropriate services without duplication.
- Contracted Services - Contracts with community providers to deliver home and community based services including: Adult Day Care, Home Delivered Meals, Senior Center Meals, Homemaker Services, Respite Care, Personal Care Assistance, Legal Assistance, Care Coordination, and Medicare Benefits Counseling.

## Planning & Government Services

- Local Comprehensive Plans
- Transportation Plans - Bike & Pedestrian
- Zoning Ordinance/Strategic Planning
- Economic Development/Grant Writing
- Personnel Assessments/Board Retreats
- Web Design
- Design Charette
- Meeting Facilitation
- Parcel Maintenance
- GIS Web Development
- GIS Solution Consulting
- GIS Data Collection
- GIS Technical Assistance
- Mapping - Zoning, Transportation, Utilities, etc.

## Transportation Department Coastal Regional Coaches - 1-866-543-6744

- DHR Coordinated Transportation - Dept. of Human Resources (Human Service Transportation, region-wide)
- Regional Rural Public Transportation - Dept. of Transportation (Sections 5311 and 5317, Demand-response public transportation)
- Purchase of Service Agreements - A dedicated subscription for trips typically with a community based organization that serves a targeted customer base)