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Greetings during this glorious season. This year Lower Savannah Council of Governments marked its 51st year of service to the region. The year provided me an opportunity to look back over the contributions of more than five decades by this organization. I am honored to be the Chairman of an organization dedicated to enhancing regional economic capacity toward growth and development while improving the quality of life for all the citizens of our six-county region.

Let’s not forget that Lower Savannah is part of a statewide network of Councils of Governments that are all working daily to benefit our state as whole. This was reemphasized at the South Carolina Association of Regional Councils (SCARC) annual meeting, with the introduction of new branding and the name change to the South Carolina Association of Councils of Governments. The cumulative impact of COG programs in South Carolina is impressive.

Over the years, Lower Savannah has consistently been a leader among Councils of Governments in South Carolina and has contributed significantly to the total impact of the state’s Councils. The Aging Caregiver Assistance program has exceeded expectations. Savannah River Site Retiree Assistance Program is the only one of its kind in the state. The Workforce Development and Housing Programs both received additional funding due to innovative work efforts. During the year, through the efforts of the board and staff, the COG has continued to provide educational opportunities to elected officials on changes in the laws such as ethics and FOIA, by hosting planning webinars and bringing relevant speakers to our board meetings. From worker training to aging programs, community development activities to regional planning, transit, tourism promotion and more, the past year has been yet another period of significant accomplishment and contribution to our region by Lower Savannah Council of Governments. We have accepted our leadership role willingly and fulfilled it proudly.

As we move into the future, we do so with appreciation to the dedicated leaders of our region who serve diligently on our board in order to sustain the vision of the creators of the Lower Savannah Council of Governments. I humbly honor the dedication of the Directors and COG staff who work daily to transform these visions into reality.

Respectfully,

Larry Haynes, Chairman
Board of Directors
Bamberg County
Message from the Executive Director

2018 was the LSCOG’s 51st year of serving the governments and citizens of the region. Over the course of the year we have strived to work with our communities to address both auspicious projects, like the development of the new Nursing School at Orangeburg – Calhoun Technical College, and somber events, like the closing of four BI-LO grocery stores in the region (Bamberg, Barnwell, St. Matthews and Warrenville). The staff of the Lower Savannah COG is constantly working with our counties and municipalities to provide technical assistance and funding in the areas of Aging, Workforce, Economic Development, Planning, Housing and Transit and Transportation. Working with our funders and partner organizations, our goal continues to be enhancing the quality of life in our region.

This past year under the leadership of Chairman Johnny Ravenell and Chairman Larry Haynes the COG was able to meet both internal and external challenges and to develop new programs to serve the region. Two of our new programs were recognized by the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) as award-winning projects. First, the Jump Start program provided summer jobs and “soft-skill” experiences for over 50 underserved rising seniors in all 6 counties in the region. Second, the Dementia Dialogues® program trained service providers and family members on how better to care for individuals living with dementia. Both of these programs will continue into 2019, and we are grateful for the involvement and support of our local school districts and the caregiver community.

I became the vice-chairman for the ARTS Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) in 2018. The MPO administers U.S. Department of Transportation, FHWA funds for transportation and transit programs on both sides of the Savannah River. Through the MPO, the COG sought and received additional urban transit funding for disabled and elderly citizens. The funds expanded service to the entire urban area of Aiken County, and for many, it eliminated the transit cost to get to doctors’ appointments, dialysis, etc. Keeping with transit, through the assistance of Aiken County Councilman Hightower and Aiken City Councilwoman Price, two additional runs on the Best Friends Express’ Red Line began in September. The ridership response has been dramatic. Over 50% of patrons are using the added service to get to and from employment.

I am extremely grateful to lead this organization as it makes a difference in the lives of residents in the region. Our programs reach into every community in the region, and LSCOG will continue to focus on assisting local governments and residents in 2019 and beyond. As always, if there is something the LSCOG can help you and your community with please let us know.

Best wishes,

Bill
Executive Director
About LSCOG

Working together to advance our region

Lower Savannah Council of Governments (LSCOG) is one of ten regional organizations in South Carolina which coordinates cooperative development among local governments. Regional planning organizations are associations of local governments that seek regional solutions for common problems. COGs strengthen the individual and collective power of member counties and municipalities and help identify regional opportunities. They provide guidance and act as advisors when needed, but do not have authority over member counties. COGs are the middleman between local governments and public agencies to secure funding, promote projects and encourage growth on a regional level.

LSCOG, established in 1967, serves Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun and Orangeburg counties. The COG is governed by a Board of Directors, composed of thirty-nine members, whom are appointed by participating county governments. The Board set policy and provide direction to the COG’s programs, with guidance from the Executive Director and COG staff.

Our programs are divided into six departments: Administration; Aging, Disability and Transportation; Housing; Planning, Community and Economic Development; Tourism; and Workforce Development. Staff assist the aging population of the region; administer regional transportation programs; plan for future land use in communities; provide grant writing and administration services; provide workforce training and development; and much more. All of our programs and services help local governments best serve their constituents.

Programs are funded through a variety of sources, including federal and state grants, and contributions from local governments. Major funding sources include the Economic Development Administration, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, SC Department of Transportation, SC Department of Commerce, Lieutenant Governor’s Office on Aging, Older Americans Act and SC Department of Employment and Workforce.
region. Partners include the United Way of Aiken County, Savannah River Site Redevelopment Authority, Savannah River Site Retiree Association, school districts across the region and many others.

Like our sister-organizations across the state, Lower Savannah Council of Governments continually promotes a greater understanding of regional issues and opportunities. We encourage our partners and local governments to work together to enhance efficiency and effectiveness, and search for innovative ways to improve the quality of life for residents. Our staff and board are committed to ensuring that all six counties’ needs are served.

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While it may not always be easy to explain or understand what Lower Savannah Council of Governments is, you can always find traces of how it touches the lives and serves the people of the Lower Savannah region.”

Johnny Ravenell
17-18 Board of Directors Chairman
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Board of Directors 2018-2019

Larry Haynes
Chairman
Bamberg County

Dorothy Riley
Vice Chairman
Allendale County

Andrew Siders
Treasurer
Aiken County

Roger Boyd
Aiken County

Danny Feagin
Aiken County

Willar Hightower
Aiken County

Lessie Price
Aiken County

Kathy Rawls
Aiken County

John Simmons
Aiken County

Thomas H. Williams
Aiken County

Terri Boone
Allendale County

Larry Cohen
Allendale County

William Robinson
Allendale County

Dawan Smith
Allendale County

Theresa Taylor
Allendale County

Jerry Bell
Bamberg County

Clint Carter
Bamberg County

Sharon Hammond
Bamberg County

Dr. Gerald Wright
Bamberg County

Shawn Hanks
Bamberg County

Freddie Houston
Barnwell County

Lowell Jowers
Barnwell County

David Kenner
Barnwell County
2017-2018 Highlights

50th Anniversary
At the end of 2017, LSCOG celebrated our 50th Anniversary. The celebration included a speech from Lieutenant Governor Kevin Bryant and a toast by Board Chairman Larry Haynes.

Additional BFE Runs
The Best Friend Express added two new runs to the Red Route (from the Northside of Aiken through the Whiskey Road corridor) in September 2018. These runs were identified in the Transit Development Plan, created by Tindale-Oliver, as a community need to give riders flexibility with their work schedules and more opportunities to shop. The Red Route now offers five runs. A week of free fares kicked-off the new runs to encourage ridership.

Revolving Loan Fund Partnership
In June 2018, the Board of Directors voted to transfer the entire Revolving Loan Fund to Catawba Council of Governments. The SC Revolving Loan Fund Collaboration began in 2013, but LSCOG retained some local government loans that have since been repaid. Catawba COG assumed ownership of the RLF Program for our region, and continues to market the program to our six counties. The RLF Program provides loans to new and expanding businesses for the purpose of increasing local tax base and creating jobs.

NADO Innovation Award
LSCOG won two NADO Innovation awards at NADO’s 2018 Annual Training Conference in October. These awards recognize member organizations that demonstrate innovative approaches to regional development. The Aging, Disability and Transportation division won an award for the Dementia Dialogues® training event, and Workforce Development won an award for the Summer Jumpstart program.

COG Rebranding Initiative
LSCOG implemented a marketing campaign and rebranding initiative to increase awareness of our services and to ensure conformity in our marketing efforts. The campaign has resulted in a new building sign, a revamped bimonthly e-newsletter and a Facebook page (like us at www.Facebook.com/LowerSavannahCOG).
## 2017-2018 Budget Summary

### FY 17-18 Revenue by Source

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCE</th>
<th>AMOUNT ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>6,719,390</td>
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<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>2,466,341</td>
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<td>Regional</td>
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<td>Contracts</td>
<td>218,246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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FY 17-18 REVENUE BY PROGRAM

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<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>AMOUNT ($)</th>
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<td>WIOA</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADTRC - Aging</td>
<td>3,119,083</td>
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<td>ADTRC - Caregiver</td>
<td>715,573</td>
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<td>ADTRC - Transit</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADTRC - Other (&lt;1%)</td>
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<td>PCED - Planning</td>
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<td>PCED - Housing Consortia</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCED - CDBG/Economic Development</td>
<td>163,801</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tourism</td>
<td>370,445</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>179,526</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Administration

LSCOG’s administrative staff is responsible for the day-to-day functions of the COG. The administration department supports other COG departments to ensure smooth and efficient running of all programs and activities. The Executive Director provides leadership and guidance for all staff while working to achieve our overall mission. The Executive Director reports directly to the Board of Directors. Tasks include hiring new staff, handling agency finances, preparing board meeting information and COG marketing.

2017-2018 Program Achievements

- Executed the COG’s 50th Anniversary Celebration in December 2017.
- Completed a zero findings audit for the 2016-2017 fiscal year.
- Executive Director is the vice chair of the Augusta Regional Transportation Study (ARTS) Metropolitan Planning Organization.
- Redesigned the bimonthly COG e-newsletter, COGnizance.
- Created a Facebook page, www.Facebook.com/LowerSavannahCOG.
- Unveiled a new COG building sign.
- Partnered with Catawba COG to administer the Revolving Load Fund for our region.
- Completed a marketing inventory to streamline marketing activities between all departments and spot opportunities for collaborative campaigns.

www.lscog.org
Facebook.com/LowerSavannahCOG

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

William Molnar, Ph.D.  Executive Director
Nora Sanders  Assistant Executive Director
Anna Coffey  Admin Assistant/Marketing Coordinator
Brenda Holman  Receptionist
Frances Owens  Finance Director
Kelley Hayes  Finance Clerk/Benefits Administrator
Deloris Williams  Finance Clerk
### Aging, Disability & Transportation Resource Center (ADTRC)

Lower Savannah Council of Governments operates South Carolina’s only Aging, Disability and Transportation Resource Center. The Resource Center’s mission is to inform and assist people in our region with topics related to aging, disabilities, family caregiving, benefits and transportation.

#### 2017-2018 Program Achievements

- Gave 26,420 clients program information or services.
- Set a new program milestone, writing 574 caregiver respite and Alzheimer grants with 476 caregivers using $559,736.33. This was a funding record, spending 98.6% of increased respite and Alzheimer funding.
- Caregiver staff achieved an average of a one-week turnaround from application to receiving vouchers.
- Conducted 2,291 meal service assessments for seniors, exceeding target goal of 2,200.
- Created the first Long-Term Care Ombudsman quarterly newsletter, Avenues of Advocacy, for purpose of systematic advocacy.
- Visited 100% of the region’s licensed nursing homes and public Community Residential Care facilities each quarter. These visits are opportunities for ombudsman staff to promote the ombudsman program and educate residents about their rights.
- Achieved zero findings for the Federal Transit Administration’s Triennial Transit Review of the Best Friend Express/DAR Aiken County service. In 20 years, LSCOG is the third agency to achieve this feat.
- Added 12:30 pm and 4:30 pm runs to Best Friend Express’s RED Route, which runs from the Northside of Aiken through the Whiskey Road corridor.
- Won a 2018 NADO Innovation Award for Dementia Dialogues® training event.

#### ADTRC STAFF

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lee Willing</td>
<td>Human Services Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Beth Fields</td>
<td>Aging &amp; Disability Programs Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Garen</td>
<td>LTC Ombudsman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Mitchell</td>
<td>Transit Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bria Adams</td>
<td>HS Programs Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Al-Jabere</td>
<td>Customer Care Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikki Cannon</td>
<td>HS Programs Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vickie Jackson</td>
<td>Mobility Management Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Longfellow</td>
<td>Caregiver Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Luttrull</td>
<td>Grants Compliance Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rewa Stack</td>
<td>HS Programs Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sabrina Ussery</td>
<td>HS Programs Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laureen Feinman</td>
<td>SRSRA Resource Center Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Heim</td>
<td>MAP Coordinator</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### ADTRC ACHIEVEMENTS by the numbers

- **2,291** Medicare prescription savings
- **$388,613.92**
- **10,855** SRSRA retiree Medicare savings
- **$557,607**
- **306** friendly visits to long-term care facilities
- **17,133** information and referral assistance contacts
- **34,056** Best Friend Express/DAR passenger trips
- **$681,468** Medication Assistance Program client savings
- **522,347** home-delivered meals provided
- **$559,736.33** provided for caregiver respite
Planning, Community Development & Economic Development (PCED)

The PCED division assists local governments with planning, developing and implementing projects that improve the quality of life for residents. The Planning department helps with the development of comprehensive planning programs for cities, towns and counties, maintains the regional Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), and assists counties and municipalities with finding funding sources. Community development staff primarily work with governments in the region to develop, apply and administer Community Development Block Grants. Community development also manages the Regional Housing Consortium, which aids participating jurisdictions with implementing affordable housing strategies. Economic development staff work with the Economic Development Administration to secure EDA grants for the region and maintain the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). All three departments work closely with local, state and federal governments to make the Lower Savannah region a better place.

2017-2018 Program Achievements

- Aided the Town of Holly Hill with creating its updated 2018-2028 Comprehensive Plan in June 2018. The plan includes an updated Current Land Use Map and Future Land Use Map, along with recommendations for strategies the town can take to encourage appropriate growth and development.
- Presented design renderings for the US 278 at US 321 intersection streetscape improvement project in Fairfax in March 2018. The $2.5 million project is being funded through SCDOT’s Guideshare Program.
- Presented design for the US 278 at SC 300 intersection improvement project in Barnwell County in February 2018. This project will correct existing roadway geometry to improve safety and reduce potential for crashes.
- Construction continued on the Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College’s new Nursing and Health Sciences building. The facility will help train the skilled workforce needed for the expanding medical industry in the region (pictured below).
1. Demolished 28 residential structures that had become a haven for criminal activity in the Greendale neighborhood in the Town of New Ellenton.

2. Demolished Old Allendale County Jail which had become an eyesore for the Town of Allendale (pictured above). The area was restored to green space with the potential for a new park.

• Completed two demolition projects in our region.

• Compiled the five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to identify and promote projects that strengthen the regional economy.

• Partnered with the Edisto Habitat for Humanity for the Lower Savannah Regional Housing Consortium to create affordable homebuyer opportunities that are sustainable environments for families to thrive.

• Programmed $43,254,000 in transportation projects in the region using the COG Guideshare program.

• Have a total of $13,823,110 in Community Development Block Grant and Economic Development Administration projects in the region.

• Hosted four Municipal Association of SC’s Elected Officials Training events to educate local elected officials on the tools to ensure their municipality operates responsibly, efficiently and effectively.

• Hosted three continuing education webcasts sponsored by the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC).

• Began procurement process for professional consultant services to conduct the required five-year update to LSCOG’s Long-Range Transportation Plan. The update is being funded through LSCOG’s Guideshare Program.

• Lower Savannah Regional Housing Consortia received $1.3 million in Housing and Urban Development (HUD) HOME funds.

PCED STAFF
Amanda Sievers  Regional Planner
Emory Langston  Community Development Manager
Yolonda Buchanan  Housing Coordinator
Melissa Freitas  Community Development Grants Coordinator
Pedro Lopez De Victoria  Associate Planner
Thoroughbred Country Tourism

The mission of Thoroughbred Country is to market the four-county region of Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg and Barnwell as a tourism destination, and to support and encourage the development of local tourism services and programs, thereby providing economic benefits to the area. To achieve its mission, Thoroughbred Country produces a visitor guide, advertises to niche markets and hosts travel media.

2017-2018 Program Achievements

- Redesigned and published the 2018 Thoroughbred Country visitor guide.
- Distributed 12,530 visitor guides in fiscal year 2017-2018 across the US.
- Launched a Facebook pay-per-click campaign. The boosted posts reached 213,810 people.
- Partnered with Laurie Rowe Communications (LRC) to host members of the travel media. Journalists included were from Florida, Georgia and South Carolina. Working with LRC has resulted in 42 published articles generating $1,740,360 total estimated value. www.travelmediapressroom.com
- Partnered with four other SC tourism regions to produce a South Carolina’s Best Peaches and Berries guide featuring local growers.
- Introduced golfers to the region with the assistance of the Mountains to Midlands Alliance using digital and print media, FAM (familiarization) tours, e-blasts and travel shows.
- Attended the 2018 South Carolina Governor’s Conference on Tourism & Travel on Hilton Head Island. Several new media contacts were made, and follow-up materials and visits were coordinated.

TOURISM STAFF

Mary Ann Keisler  Marketing/Tourism Director
Patrick Caldwell  Tourism Assistant
Lauren Carver  Tourism Assistant II

Workforce Development

The Lower Savannah Workforce Development division administers workforce investment activities that aim to improve the quality of the workforce and enhance productivity and competitiveness of the six-county region. WD staff operate 6 SC Works centers, which provide workforce information and training opportunities to workers, job seekers and employers.

2017-2018 Program Achievements

- Entered into a WIOA Apprenticeship Model for the area technical colleges and Apprenticeship Carolina.
- Partnered with Aiken County Public School District for the Aiken Works Initiative, which helps Aiken County students develop employable skill sets.
- Participated in 10 rapid response events. Rapid response events assist workers being laid-off with finding new employment.
- Initiated meetings with local healthcare providers to link WIOA medically-based Occupational Skills Training to On-the-Job training and work experiences.
- Hosted Youth Forums at Aiken Technical College and Denmark Technical College for a total of 331 youth being introduced to expanding occupations with the Lower Savannah Region (photo below, center)
- Began a digital marketing campaign, which includes TV and radio commercials aired throughout the region and online advertisements responsible for an 8% increase in traffic to the SC Works Centers.
- Initiated a direct-mail marketing campaign targeting employers in the region.
- Had 54 participants in the Summer Jumpstart Program, a program which won the LSCOG a 2018 NADO Innovation Award.

WD STAFF

André Anderson
Sally Sharpe
Wendy Mahuron
Megan Helmig
Karen Bedgood
Christine Chandler
Tina McKerley

WD Administrator
SC Works Supervisor
Business Services Mgr.
WD Finance Director
Youth Coordinator
SCWOS Coordinator
Business Services Rep.

www.LowerSavannahWDA.org
Facebook.com/LowerSavannahWDA
@LSCOG_WD
Programs by County

Lower Savannah Council of Governments serves six counties: Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun and Orangeburg. All six counties help to fund our programs, and receive a positive return on investment. Representatives from each county make up our Board of Directors, who act as the final decision makers for the COG.

Aiken County
- Performed 729 meal service assessments for seniors in Aiken County.
- Ombudsman staff made 141 friendly facility visits to long-term care facilities.
- Provided $268,983.39 for caregiver respite to Aiken County residents.
- Received 9,181 calls for transit services.
- Completed a Transit Development Plan for the Best Friend Express, which includes a ten-year planning document with strategies for continued transit development.
- Partnered with the United Way of Aiken County for the Medication Assistance Program. MAP aids Aiken County residents in finding free or low-cost prescription medication.
- Had 1,202 clients for the SRS Retiree Association.
- Programmed $3,225,000 in transportation projects across the county through the COG Guideshare program.
- Completed the Greendale demolition project in the Town of New Ellenton.
- Had 23,287 visitors to the Aiken SC Works Center.
- Held 65 hiring/business events at the Aiken SC Works Center.
- Hosted a WD Youth Forum at Aiken Technical College.
- Partnered with Aiken County Public Schools for the Aiken Works Initiative.

Total return on investment $42

Allendale County
- Performed 116 meal service assessments for seniors in Allendale County.
- Ombudsman staff made 16 friendly facility visits to long-term care facilities.
- Provided $27,955.01 for caregiver respite to Allendale County residents.
- Received 1,125 calls for transit services.
- Programmed $12,130,000 in transportation projects across the county through the COG Guideshare program.
- Have an ongoing Planning and Zoning Technical Assistance contract with Allendale County to provide planning and development assistance as needed.
- Completed the Old Allendale County Jail demolition project in the Town of Allendale.
- Had 1,864 visitors to the Allendale SC Works Center.
- Held two hiring/business events at the Allendale SC Works Center.

Total return on investment $175
Bamberg County
• Performed 235 meal service assessments for seniors in Bamberg County.
• Ombudsman staff made 23 friendly facility visits to long-term care facilities.
• Provided $31,392.51 for caregiver respite to Bamberg County residents.
• Programmed $3,050,000 in transportation projects across the county through the COG Guideshare program.
• Have a Comprehensive Planning Program update contract with Bamberg County to provide planning assistance related to the ten-year updates to the County’s Comprehensive Planning Program.
• Continued work on the Highway 321 Streetscape Improvement project and the Westside Water Improvement project, both in the City of Denmark.
• Had 1,580 visitors to the Bamberg SC Works Center.
• Held a hiring/business event at the Bamberg SC Works Center.
• Hosted a WD Youth Forum at Denmark Technical College.
• Participated in the Denmark Tech Spring Career and College Expo.
• Organized two Rapid Response events for Masonite and Bi-Lo. Rapid response events assist workers being laid-off with finding new employment.

Total return on investment $143

Barnwell County
• Performed 249 meal service assessments for seniors in Barnwell County.
• Ombudsman staff made 12 friendly facility visits to long-term care facilities.
• Provided $31,172.36 for caregiver respite to Barnwell County residents.
• Had 100 clients for the SRS Retiree Association.
• Programmed $8,868,000 in transportation projects across the county through the COG Guideshare program.
• Partnership of the Lower Savannah Regional Housing Consortia provided $96,000 to the Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) Southern Carolina CDC purchased and rehabbed two affordable housing units.
• Had 7,252 visitors to the Barnwell SC Works Center.
• Held 21 hiring/business events at the Barnwell SC Works Center.
• Organized two Rapid Response events for Brabham Oil and Bi-Lo. Rapid response events assist workers being laid-off with finding new employment.

Total return on investment $142
Calhoun County

• Performed 238 meal service assessments for seniors in Calhoun County.
• Ombudsman staff made 12 friendly facility visits to long-term care facilities.
• Provided $19,580.41 for caregiver respite to Calhoun County residents.
• Programmed $2,486,000 in transportation projects across the county through the COG Guideshare program.
• Continued work on the Drainage Improvement project in the Town of Cameron.
• Had 191 visitors to the Calhoun SC Works Center.
• Held a hiring/business event at the Calhoun SC Works Center.
• Partnered with Calhoun County Library to host computer classes for job seekers.
• Participated in joint (Calhoun and Orangeburg counties) healthcare employment event in June 2018.
• Organized a Rapid Response event for Bi-Lo. Rapid response events assist workers being laid-off with finding new employment.
• Conducted a Presentation about Workforce Development services with Calhoun County Rotary Club.

| Total return on investment | $100 |

Orangeburg County

• Performed 724 meal service assessments for seniors in Orangeburg County.
• Ombudsman staff made 102 friendly facility visits to long-term care facilities.
• Provided $180,652.65 for caregiver respite to Orangeburg County residents.
• Programmed $13,495,000 in transportation projects across the county through the COG Guideshare program.
• Have a Comprehensive Planning Program update contract with Orangeburg County to provide planning assistance related to the ten-year updates to the County’s Comprehensive Planning Program. This project will include the County’s first parcel land use map.
• Continued work on the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades project in the Town of Branchville; the Boswell Street demolition project in the City of Orangeburg; and the Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College New Health Sciences Building on the main campus of OC Tech.
• Partnership of the Lower Savannah Regional Housing Consortia provided $290,000 to the Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) New America CDC in the construction of two affordable housing duplex units.
• Continue to partner with Orangeburg County as the lead county for the Lower Savannah Regional Housing Consortia.
• Had 22,518 visitors to the Orangeburg SC Works Center.
• Held 255 hiring/business events at the Orangeburg SC Works Center.
• Participated in joint (Calhoun and Orangeburg counties) healthcare employment event in June 2018.
• Organized a Rapid Response event for Orangeburg Regional Medical Center. Rapid response events assist workers being laid-off with finding new employment.

<p>| Total return on investment | $94 |</p>
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Aiken County (Aiken)</th>
<th>Aiken County (Allendale)</th>
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<th>Barnwell County (Barnwell)</th>
<th>Calhoun County (Calhoun)</th>
<th>Orangeburg County (Orangeburg)</th>
<th>Regional Programs (Regional)</th>
<th>Total Funds Received (By Program)</th>
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Updated 11/2018
Advisory Boards & Committees

ADTRC Advisory Committee

Aiken County
William Price
Kathy Rawls
Cindy Raybould
John Veldman

Allendale County
Larry Cohen
Barbara Lewis

Barnwell County
Beverly Ashley
Susan Jenkins
Marsha Sandifer

Calhoun County
Jerome Ford
Shayla Jenkins

Orangeburg County
Jimmy Boland
Janie Cooper-Smith

Transportation Advisory Committee

Aiken County
Teresa Crain
Joel Duke
Camille Furgiuele
Lequan “LJ” Peterson *

Allendale County
Larry Cohen
Joe Mole *
Bill Robinson
Catherine Russell

Barnwell County
Tim Bennett *
Ben Kinlaw
Curtis Hogg
Freddie Houston

Calhoun County
Ted Felder *
Elaine Golden
Roger Hill
Boyce Till

Orangeburg County
Janie Cooper-Smith
John McLauchlin
Harold Young

* Alternate

HOME Technical Review Committee

Aiken County
Kevin Price
Brian Sanders

Allendale County
Shekinah Washington

Barnwell County
Evelyn Coker

Calhoun County
Tyrone Dantzler

Orangeburg County
Willie Owens
Harold Young

Tourism Advisory Committee

Aiken County
Ashley Havird
Marylin Kline
Mandy Nelson

Allendale County
Terri Boone
Lottie Lewis

Barnwell County
Vivian Alston
Bob Cothran
Lynn McEwen
Eddie Richburg

Ex-Officio Members
Jerry Bell
Jonathan Larry
Aaron Chavous
Liana Orr
Joy Raintree
Elizabeth Ringus
Terri Smith
Lill Stoltzfus
Andrea Wright
Workforce Development Board

Aiken County
Dee Crawford
Forest Mahan
Catie McCauley
Lesse Price
Deborah White

Allendale County
Darainey Hudson
Donella Robinson

Bamberg County
Tereresa Hannibal
Donald Parler
Renee Ritter

Barnwell County
Jeanette Murray
Sarah Walker

Calhoun County
Pat Black, Jr.

Orangeburg County
Kenisha Grimes
Curtis Randolph
W. “Billy” Reynolds, Jr.
C.W. “Bill” Welch

Youth Council Committee

Aiken County
LaLita Ashley
Dee Crawford
Patrick Keating
Jeanette Murray
Lesse Price
James Randall
Steven Simmons

Allendale County
Stephanie Williams-Rouse

Bamberg County
Omoniyi Amoran
Rebecca Bodiford
Teresa Pope

Barnwell County
Joye Hallman
Doris Jamison

Calhoun County
Carmen Landy

Orangeburg County
Lori Bennett
Joni McDaniel
Renee Ritter

Past Board of Directors Chairpersons

1983-1984  Charles L. Riley *  2009-2010  Thomas L. Williams
1984-1985  M. Rudy Grooms  2010-2011  Roger L. Hill
1985-1986  Fay Hatcher  2011-2012  Janie Cooper-Smith
1988-1989  F. Pickens Williams, Jr.  2014-2015  Ronnie Young
1992-1993  W. E. Smoak *
Looking Forward

In 2017-2018 fiscal year, LSCOG exceeded goals, developed new partnerships and welcomed fresh opportunities. We made strides during our 50th year that we will build upon for years to come. All of our departments are analyzing last year’s accomplishments so they can replicate successful events and programs in the future, and use the year-end data as a jumping off point for new goals. We are eager to improve upon the last fiscal year and share our services with more markets.

In the coming year, we will continue to provide reliable service to our member counties and continue working to improve the quality of life for our residents. We are looking at new technologies and opportunities to best assist local governments, including expanding our marketing efforts across all programs, finding modern ways for information sharing, seeking out new partnerships and outreach opportunities and looking at innovative problem-solving. We are also watching legislation and federal/state budgets that impact our programs, services and member counties.

The COG has many exciting projects and programs planned across all of our departments in the upcoming year. We are keeping LSCOG’s vision in mind and working towards a bright future for the Lower Savannah region, one that is filled with collaboration and cooperation. Our goal for the next year is to continue being a comprehensive resource for local governments and to make the region a better place to live, work and play. Our staff and Board of Directors welcome another year of serving Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun and Orangeburg counties.

Our vision is to be a nationally recognized, comprehensive resource that facilitates regional issues through innovative and cooperative partnerships.

Unity | Vision | Innovation