



# Appalachian Council of Governments

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points of  
interest:

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

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## Annual Report January-December 2011



30 Century Circle  
PO Box 6668  
Greenville SC 29606  
P. 864-242-9733  
F. 864-242-6957  
[www.scacog.org](http://www.scacog.org)



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#### Publication Information

Editor: Beth Lewis, Information Services Department, [blewis@scacog.org](mailto:blewis@scacog.org)

Executive Editor: Steve Pelissier, ACOG Executive Director,  
[pelissier@scacog.org](mailto:pelissier@scacog.org)

A special thanks to ACOG staff and service providers who contributed reports from calendar year 2011.



## Letter from Chairman Ed Elliott



ACOG Board  
Chairman Ed Elliott

*"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 2011.

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 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.

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 "Ed Elliott". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ed Elliott, 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 2011, 78 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 9,102 seniors and Caregivers in 2001.*

## 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 of 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 2011

### Ombudsman Program

The Ombudsman Program received 1,094 cases on behalf of long term care residents, resulting in 513 investigations of abuse, neglect, exploitation and other issues.

### Family Caregiver Support Program

The Family Caregiver Support Program provided:

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

### Medicare Guidance

- Certified Insurance Counselors provided on-site awareness, education and enrollment assistance to 5,157 Medicare beneficiaries and conducted outreach throughout the region.
- More than 250 applications were completed for the Medicare Savings Program, and over 300 applications were completed for extra help with the Medicare Drug Program.



# Appalachian Development Corporation



Nearly \$600,000 from the Appalachian Loan Fund (ALF) was loaned to regional businesses in 2011, thereby leveraging another \$14.2 million in loans from other programs.

The ADC is a non-profit economic development lending corporation offering multiple financing options that can be structured to meet clients' 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.

## 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.



ACOG welcomed Loretta Dirton to the Finance Department in 2011.

- 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



## Government Services



The Easley City Council conducted their annual planning retreat at ACOG in 2011

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 2011 Services

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

- Received more than 475 formal requests for various types of technical assistance from local governments in the six-county ARC area. Technical support is provided 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
- Facilitated a number of meetings between the City of Greenville and the Parker Fire Special Purpose District negotiating an agreement regarding annexation and payment therefore
- 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
- Continued to host remote live-transmission training sessions for council members in cooperation with the S.C. Municipal Association and S.C. Educational Television
- Continued to arrange and facilitate seven-week basic management/supervisory training programs for lower level and first-time supervisors
- Provided board training, financial advice and assistance for several fire special purpose districts
- Provided human resource personnel to many cities, counties and special purpose districts
- Scheduled various meetings with local administrators and managers to introduce new staff and provide them with much needed information on many topics
- Assisted the City of Belton and Spartanburg County in the recruitment of their city and county administrators. Developed job descriptions and advertising for the positions.

# Grants Services

*Grant applications submitted by ACOG in 2011 garnered \$7,743,043 from EDA, CDBG, ARC, & USDA-RD programs.*

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, along with 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.



This Oconee County neighborhood is just one of many that benefited from infrastructure improvement grants administered by ACOG.

## 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

### 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, as well as providing 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, conducts ESRI training, 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.

## **InfoMentum**

*supported economic development efforts in 2011 that resulted in the announcement of almost \$740 million in capital investments and 5,000 new jobs.*

- Maintained and upgraded **InfoMentum Online**; Innovations in 2011 included:
  - Modification of the format and delivery method of online industrial property flyers
  - Upgrades to the underlying software (Flex API, Business Analyst API, ArcGIS10), access to new data (2011 and 2016 projections), and improvements in functionality
  - Implementation of an online version of the Fact Finder database
- Generated an EDA Technical Assistance grant to implement **InfoMentum Online** throughout the region; each county received benefits from this grant in the amount of \$6250, for a regional total of \$37,500
- Provided planning assistance, custom mapping, and detailed research to the Upstate Alliance for county economic development marketing activities; also maintained socio-economic and property information on the UA web site and continued data and application updates for the Property Navigator application
- 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
- Responded to over 600 requests for statistical information and mapping services for ACOG counties and municipalities; One example included the compilation of detailed socio-economic data for the region to support the Minority Economic Development Institute, which serves as a statewide resource to increase the economic assets of minority individuals and minority-owned businesses
- Maintained **PLAN-A-BIZ**, the on-line mapping and demographic analysis tools to support small business development ([www.planabiz.org](http://www.planabiz.org))

# Planning Services



ACOG staff reviewed 143 Clean Water Act Section 208 compliance applications in 2011.

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

*The Regional Component of the SCDOT 2007 Rural State Transportation Improvement Program includes \$34.5 million allocated for road improvement projects over eight years.*



## 2011 Initiatives

- Continued to implement the Regional Transit Coordination Plan required to meet the Federal Transit Administration's requirements to receive transit funding; provided technical assistance to entities who received Section 5310, 5316, & 5317 funds for the Region totaling over \$760,800
- Coordinated the Federal Clean Water Act Section 208 Water Quality Management Plan activities; ACOG staff reviewed 143 Section 208 compliance applications in 2011.
- Facilitated development of memorandum of understanding between multiple regional sewer service providers and SCDHEC to share the allocation of phosphorus loading limits along the upper portion of the Saluda River; This effort helped the service providers avoid several million dollars in upgrades to meet individual limits at several of the existing facilities.
- Completed update of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Progress Report for the Appalachian Region
- Provided state-required planning education to 258 staff, planning commission, and board of appeals members in communities throughout the region
- Worked with Greenville/Pickens, Spartanburg, and Anderson MPOs, along with other transportation planners in the region, to discuss consequences of non-attainment designation for the region and possible partnerships moving forward to address new regulations if needed
- Worked with SPATS, GPATS, City of Greer, Greenlink, and TATT in examining possible transit linkages along the US 29 corridor between Greenville, Greer, and Spartanburg to include a link to the GSP International Airport

*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.*



## 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 2011, 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.



The 2011 Business & Industry Showcase helped students better answer the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"



900 job seekers attended the 2011 Tri-County Community Job Fair

### *Quick Facts 2011*

**231,923** customers accessed job search services

**161,408** customer visits to SCWorks Centers in Anderson, Liberty, and Seneca

**\$163,860** utilized for Incumbent Worker Training

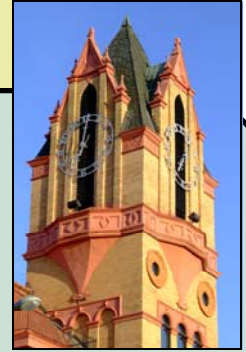
**2,445** job seekers found employment

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

**900** job seekers participated in the 2011 Tri-County Community Job Fair

**5,000** eighth- and ninth-graders attended the Business and Industry showcase through transportation funding provided by the WorkLink Youth Council

# ANDERSON COUNTY



## *A Glimpse at 2011*

**ACOG generated over \$6.6 million for Anderson County during 2011.**

- Leveraged \$947,700 in loans to businesses in Anderson County
- Contracted for \$414,961 in services for older adults in Anderson County, thereby providing 91,960 meals (63,424 home-delivered and 28,536 congregate), 3,317 hours of home care, 182,805 miles of transportation, and 136 hours of legal assistance
- Assisted Anderson County and Anderson Regional Joint Water System with the submission of an EDA grant application for \$2,000,000 in funding for infrastructure improvements to serve the First Quality economic development project
- Assisted Anderson County and Tri-County Tech in the submission of an application for \$500,000 in ARC funds to construct a QuickJobs facility in Anderson
- Worked with Metropolitan Sewer District to submit a pre-application for \$500,000 in ARC funds to allow Metro to take over the Piedmont system at DHEC's request
- Administered the Appalachian Regional Component of the SCDOT 2007 Rural State Transportation Improvement Program for completion of the \$1.3 million lighting project along I-85 at exits 19, 21, and 27
- Served on the Powdersville / US 153 Corridor Improvement Steering Committee and provided assistance in developing a proposal for a 153 Corridor Development Plan
- Continued data and application updates for *InfoMentum Online*, a decision support system for Upstate SC, which includes an interactive mapping application linked to the county economic development website. Also provided technical/research support to the Anderson County Office of Economic Development to assist in their industry recruitment and expansion efforts, which resulted in the announcement of more than \$70 million in capital investments and over 100 new jobs in 2011
- Administered the Anderson HOME Consortium, including development of the Annual Action Plan, CAPER, and 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 rehabilitated 16 homes during 2011 with a total investment of \$423,560.
- 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.

Services to Seniors	\$414,961
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$200,000
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$280,000
Federal Direct Grants (EDA, ARC, CDBG)	\$3,838,848
Workforce Development	\$1,850,200
Transit Funding	\$45,000
<b>Total Funding into Anderson County 2011</b>	<b>\$6,629,009</b>
County's Annual Contribution to ACOG	\$74,948

## ANDERSON COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

### 2011 Highlights



**In 2011,  
for every  
dollar  
invested by  
Anderson  
County,  
ACOG  
programs  
returned  
\$88**

#### **Anderson**

- Moderated a Town Hall meeting for the City of Anderson regarding water rates for residents outside city limits

#### **Belton**

- Facilitated a planning and goal-setting session for the City Council and provided a forum for reviewing policy objectives and planning for the new fiscal year
- Assisted the City with recruitment of a new city administrator
- Provided technical assistance regarding land use planning and zoning matters

#### **Honea Path**

- Provided technical assistance regarding land use planning and zoning matters

#### **Iva**

- Worked with the Town to submit a request for a CDBG grant application for infrastructure improvements

#### **Pendleton**

- Provided technical assistance regarding land use planning and zoning matters

#### **West Pelzer**

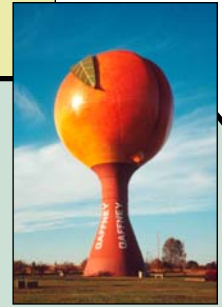
- Provided technical assistance regarding land use planning and zoning matters
- Worked with the Town to submit a request for a CDBG grant application for infrastructure improvements

#### **Williamston**

- Facilitated a planning and goal-setting session for the town council and provided a forum for reviewing policy objectives and planning for the new fiscal year
- Worked with the Town to submit a request for a CDBG grant application for infrastructure improvements
- Provided technical assistance regarding land use planning and zoning matters

# CHEROKEE COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2011*



**Over  
\$1.6 million  
generated  
from ACOG-  
related  
programs  
was directed  
to Cherokee  
County  
during  
2011.**

- Contracted for \$265,828 in services for older adults in Cherokee County, thereby providing 51,578 meals (25,750 home-delivered and 25,828 congregate); 4,648 hours of home care, 82,467 miles of transportation, and 41 hours of legal assistance
- Provided technical assistance to the County on a number of personnel issues
- Continued the administration of grant funded projects, including a \$500,000 CDBG project awarded to the County to extend water lines to the Bear Creek community and a \$278,600 CDBG grant for the Normal Blvd Water Project
- Worked with the County to submit a request for a CDBG application to undertake the River Drive Water Project
- Worked with Cherokee County and the Cherokee County Development Board to submit an application for \$375,000 in ARC funds to upgrade and repave Commerce Drive in the Meadow Creek Industrial Park
- Continued data and application updates for **InfoMentum Online**, a decision support system for Upstate SC, which includes an interactive mapping application linked to the county's economic development website; Also provided technical/research support to the Cherokee County Development Board to assist in their industry recruitment and expansion efforts, which resulted in the announcement of \$17.1 million in capital investments and 245 new jobs in 2011
- Provided staffing to the County Planning Commission and Compliance Board of Appeals to support the administration of the County's Unified Development Standards Ordinance and assisted the planning commission with amendments to the Cherokee County Road Standards Ordinance
- Responded to 60 requests for statistical information, custom maps, or reports for Cherokee County; Among these was assisting the county treasurer's office with an audit by compiling current and historical county socio-economic data.
- 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.

Services to Seniors	\$265,828
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$0
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$0
Federal Direct Grants	\$1,375,000
Rural Transportation Enhancement Program	\$0
<b>Total Funding into Cherokee County 2011</b>	<b>\$1,640,828</b>
County's Annual Contribution to ACOG	\$24,000



# CHEROKEE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES



## 2011 Highlights

### Blacksburg

- Continued the administration of grant funded projects, including a \$277,775 CDBG grant awarded to the Town to demolish two abandoned buildings which pose a safety threat to area residents near the Town's ballpark
- Assisted the Town with grants that will provide \$426,000 in CDBG funds for the Oak Grove Water Project, and \$425,000 in ARC funds for the Highway 5 Water Line project
- Worked with the Town to submit a request for a CDBG application to undertake the Blacksburg Youngs Grove Water Project
- Continued to provide the Town with technical assistance related to community development, planning, and zoning issues
- Assisted the Town with an annexation proposal by preparing two large maps showing all parcels within a 1,000-foot buffer of I-85, from the Broad River to the NC state line

**In 2011,  
for every  
dollar  
invested by  
Cherokee  
County,  
ACOG  
programs  
returned  
\$68**

### Gaffney

- Received approval to administer the Village Renaissance Grant (CDBG) for the City; Began meeting with the City Council and various citizen groups to develop the master plan for a 17-acre tract of land to be a mixed-use development; The intent in the grant is to help develop a master plan to revitalize a downtown area.
- Provided technical assistance to the City on a number of personnel issues
- Developed a Village Renaissance Plan for the Big Mill Village in the City; The plan is the first part of a three-phase project that will help the City apply for two \$500,000 CDBG grants to facilitate community development efforts in the neighborhood.
- Updated elements of the City's Comprehensive Plan as part of 5 year plan review and assisted the City with development of a Transportation Enhancement application
- Continued to provide the City with technical assistance related to community development, planning, and zoning issues



The ACOG will administer a CDBG grant to help develop a master plan to revitalize a downtown area.

# GREENVILLE COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2011*

- Contracted for \$608,468 in services for older adults in Greenville County, thereby providing 69,356 meals (21,074 home-delivered and 48,282 congregate); 4,624 hours of home care, 291,860 miles of transportation, and 887 hours of legal assistance
- Approved \$391,980 in ALF loan funds and leveraged another \$7.7 million in loans to Greenville County businesses
- Served as the convener for the Greenville Region Workforce Collaborative
- Assisted SCTAC in the submission of an application for \$200,000 in ARC funds to undertake energy efficiency improvements to several buildings
- 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 Greenville County at DHEC's request
- Worked with Greenville County Recreation District consultant on the submission of a pre-application for \$250,000 in ARC funds to extend the northern portion of the Swamp Rabbit Trail
- Continued data and application updates for **InfoMentum Online**, a decision support system for Upstate SC, which includes an interactive mapping application linked to the county's economic development website; Also provided technical/research support to the Greenville Area Development Corporation to assist in their industry recruitment and expansion efforts, which resulted in the announcement of \$290.6 million in capital investments and 3,092 new jobs in 2011
- Provided ESRI ArcGIS II training to staff from the Greenville Water System, Parker Sewer District, and Greenville County Redevelopment Authority; Also provided ArcGIS technical support to the Parker Sewer District to streamline and improve their workflow process to update their existing manhole and sewer line data with more precisely located GPS points
- Served on the Greenville County Hazard Mitigation Task Force which is responsible for developing and implementing a Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan that meets FEMA requirements for local governments to become eligible for certain disaster mitigation and relief funding programs
- Provided general technical assistance to the Greenville Transit Authority and served on the GPATS Technical and Study Team Committees
- Administered the Appalachian Regional Component of the SCDOT 2007 Rural State Transportation Improvement Program, which included engineering and right-of-way acquisition for the US 25 / SC 11 interchange project



ACOG worked with the Recreation District to obtain grant funds for the extension of the Swamp Rabbit Trail.

**Almost \$2.5 million generated from ACOG-related programs was directed to Greenville County during 2011.**

Services to Seniors	\$608,468
Small Business & Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$391,980
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$548,772
Federal Direct Grants	\$450,000
Rural Transportation Enhancement Program	\$500,000
<b>Total Funding into Greenville County 2011</b>	<b>\$2,499,220</b>
County's Annual Contribution to ACOG	\$151,759

# GREENVILLE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2011 Highlights

### Greenville

- Coordinated an effort between the City and the Parker Fire and Sewer District to develop an agreement between the two regarding the provision of current and future services to areas annexed into the City
- 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.



ACOG served as a facilitator between the City of Greenville and the Parker Fire & Sewer District to reach an agreement on annexation.

### Mauldin

- 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
- Provided ArcGIS support for the City in reference to redistricting data
- Provided the City with technical assistance related to community development, planning, and zoning issues
- Served on the City's Comprehensive Plan Update Steering Committee and Downtown Master Plan Selection Committees and provided assistance in developing information for the update of their Comprehensive Plan



Mauldin Council members participate in a planning retreat at the ACOG.

### Travelers Rest

- Prepared a radius map and demographic summary for the City to provide population and household demographics within 1-, 3- and 5-mile radii of the City center
- Provided the City with technical assistance related to community development, planning, and zoning issues

For every dollar invested by Greenville County in 2011, ACOG programs generated \$16.

# OCONEE COUNTY

## *A Glimpse at 2011*



- Leveraged \$1 million in loans to businesses in Oconee County
  - Contracted for \$293,452 in services for older adults in Oconee County, thereby providing 91,960 meals (63,424 home-delivered and 28,536 congregate); 3,317 hours of home care, 182,805 miles of transportation, and 66 hours of legal assistance
  - Prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the redevelopment of the former county courthouse and served on a committee to interview potential assistant county administrator candidates
  - Assisted the County and Tri-County Technical College in the administrative activities required for the CDBG grant to construct a workforce training facility on the campus of the Hamilton Career Center in Seneca
  - Worked with the County and the City of Seneca on the administrative tasks regarding a CDBG grant for Phase 3 of the Utica Mill Village sewer upgrade
  - Continued data and application updates for **InfoMentum Online**, a decision support system for Upstate SC, which includes an interactive mapping application linked to the county's economic development website; also provided technical/research support to the Oconee County Economic Development Commission to assist in their industry recruitment and expansion efforts, which resulted in the announcement of \$65.7 million in capital investments and 80 new jobs in 2011
  - 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; coordinated, installed, and launched internal version of Pictometry self hosting site and built web mapping services to enable measurement tools for the images; provided GIS user support as needed; Other activities included GIS support for the county-wide reassessment contractor and the Assessor's office.
- ACOG  
generated  
over \$1.9  
Million for  
Oconee  
County  
during  
2011.**
- Administered the Appalachian Regional Component of the SCDOT 2007 Rural State Transportation Improvement Program, which included continuation of the \$4.5 million project to widen Sheep Farm Road
  - Provided information and technical assistance to the Oconee County Joint Sewer Authority and county administration on wastewater planning issues and the role of the 208 Water Quality Plan
  - Provided technical assistance with the update of the County's transit feasibility study
  - Provided information and technical assistance on planning and zoning to the Oconee County Planning Department in the development of a zoning enabling ordinance
  - 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

## 2011 Highlights



For every dollar that Oconee County invested in ACOG during 2011, \$70 were returned to the County.

### Salem

- Provided technical assistance to the Town related to planning matters

### Seneca

- Worked with the City and Oconee County on the administrative tasks regarding a CDBG grant for Phase 3 of the Utica Mill Village sewer upgrade and assisted in the resubmission of an application for \$500,000 in CDBG funds for Phase 4 of the project

### Walhalla

- Assisted the City in the administration of a \$500,000 CDBG grant for the Chickopee Mills infrastructure upgrade project
- Provided technical assistance to the City on planning matters

### Westminster

- Continued the administrative activities for the \$224,000 CDBG grant awarded to the City to demolish the former Butler Street School, which poses a safety threat to area residents
- Assisted the City in the submission of an application for \$500,000 in ARC funds for the Northern Loop waterline project
- Provided technical assistance to the City on planning matters

### West Union

- Facilitated a council retreat for the Town of West Union
- Continued to work with the Town on a \$110,000 CDBG-funded project to demolish the former West Union school building

Services to Seniors	\$293,452
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$0
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$0
Federal Direct Grants	\$880,195
Workforce Development	\$773,720
<b>Total Funding into Oconee County 2011</b>	<b>\$1,947,367</b>
County's Annual Contribution to ACOG	\$27,951

# PICKENS COUNTY

Services to Seniors	\$308,104
Federal Direct Grants	\$500,000
Workforce Development	\$740,080
Rural Transportation Enhancement Program	\$1,800,000
<b>Total Funding into Pickens County 2011</b>	<b>\$3,348,184</b>
County's Annual Contribution to ACOG	\$45,595



## A Glimpse at 2011

Over \$3.3 Million generated from ACOG-related programs was directed to Pickens County during 2011.

- Leveraged \$123,000 in loans to businesses in Pickens County
- Contracted for \$308,104 in services for older adults in Pickens County, thereby providing 41,822 meals (16,363 home-delivered and 25,459 congregate); 4,003 hours of home care, 109,515 miles of transportation, and 55 hours of legal assistance
- Continued to assist the County and Tri-County Technical College with the administrative activities required for the CDBG grant to construct a workforce training facility on Powdersville Road in Easley and also with the administrative tasks involved for the ARC grant of \$500,000 to construct turn lanes and intersection improvements on Powdersville Road to improve safety at the new Easley campus
- Continued data and application updates for **InfoMentum Online**, a decision support system for Upstate SC, which includes an interactive mapping application linked to the county's economic development website; also provided technical/research support to Alliance Pickens to assist in their industry recruitment and expansion efforts, which resulted in the announcement of \$26.4 million in capital investments and 547 new jobs in 2011

- Provided ESRI ArcGIS training to Alliance Pickens staff and E-911

- Administered the Appalachian Regional Component of the SCDOT 2007 Rural State Transportation Improvement Program, which included continued construction on the intersection and railroad bridge on SC 133 in Clemson; The total project cost is \$6.1 million, of which \$3.5 million is from rural guideshares for the Appalachian Region.



- Provided staff support to the County's Transportation Planning Committee

- 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.

# PICKENS COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

## 2011 Highlights

### Central

- Prepared a redevelopment project plan for the Town for a tax increment financing district
- Worked with the Town to submit a request for a CDBG application to replace an existing fire station and continued the administration of the Town's \$500,000 CDBG grant for the Watkins / Head Street Sewer Upgrade Project
- Provided technical assistance to the Town on land use planning matters

### Clemson

- Worked with the City to submit a request for a CDBG application for a drainage improvement project

### Easley

- Facilitated a City Council planning retreat and provided a forum for Council to review goals and establish budget objectives for the new fiscal year
- Provided technical assistance to the City on land use planning matters



Easley Council Retreat at the COG

### Liberty

- Worked with the City to submit a request for a CDBG application for the Liberty Woodside Sewer Project
- Provided technical assistance to the City on land use planning matters

### Pickens

- Received approval to administer the Village Renaissance CDBG grant for the City, and began meeting with the City Council and various citizen groups to develop the master plan for a mixed-use development plan for revitalization.
- Continued to work with the City on the administrative tasks involved with the award of CDBG-R funds to undertake energy conservation measures in several city-owned buildings
- Provided ESRI ArcGIS training to internal ACOG staff in preparation for an upcoming City of Pickens revitalization project
- Developed a Village Renaissance Plan for the US 178 Gateway Corridor leading into the City; The plan is the first part of a three-phase project that will help the City apply for two \$500,000 CDBG grants to facilitate community development efforts in the neighborhoods along US 178 leading into downtown Pickens.
- Provided staffing to the City of Pickens Planning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Board of Architectural Review along with staff support in the administration of the City's Zoning Ordinance and general planning matters

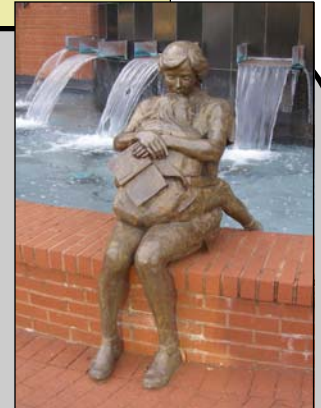
### Six Mile

- Provided technical assistance to the Town on land use planning matters

**In 2011,  
for every  
dollar  
invested  
by Pickens  
County,  
ACOG  
programs  
returned  
\$73**

# SPARTANBURG COUNTY

Services to Seniors	\$512,815
Small Business and Entrepreneurial Loan Program	\$191,250
Private Capital Resulting from Loans	\$267,750
Federal Direct Grants	\$699,000
Transit Funding	\$175,200
<b>Total Funding into Spartanburg County 2011</b>	<b>\$1,846,015</b>
Annual Contribution to ACOG	\$111,436



## *A Glimpse at 2011*

**ACOG  
generated  
over  
\$1.8 Million  
for  
Spartanburg  
County  
during 2011.**

- Approved \$191,250 in ALF loan funds and leveraged another \$5.4 million in loans to Spartanburg County businesses
- Contracted for \$512,815 in services for older adults in Spartanburg County, thereby providing 40,544 meals (7,605 home-delivered and 32,939 congregate); 1,299 hours of home care, 220,517 miles of transportation, and 453 hours of legal assistance
- Provided advice and assistance to the Spartanburg Recreation District on financial and personnel issues
- Assisted Spartanburg County with the recruitment of a new county administrator by preparing a revised job description, job advertisement, potential questions, etc.
- 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.
- Continued data and application updates for **InfoMentum Online**, a decision support system for Upstate SC, which includes an interactive mapping application linked to the county's economic development website; also provided technical/research support to the County Planning Department, as well as the Spartanburg Chamber Economic Futures Group to assist in their industry recruitment and expansion efforts, which resulted in the announcement of \$269.6 million in capital investments and 964 new jobs in 2011
- Administered the Appalachian Regional Component of the SCDOT 2007 Rural State Transportation Improvement Program, which included the second phase of upgrades to SC 9; Right-of-Way acquisition continued using \$1.6 million in rural guideshares from the Appalachian Region.
- Coordinated with Spartanburg GIS to obtain data for use with planning projects; provided GIS support as requested



## SPARTANBURG COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES

### *2011 Highlights*



#### Chesnee

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

#### Cowpens

- Continued to assist the Town in the submission of a CDBG application to Spartanburg County in the amount of \$250,000 to provide funds to construction the Cowpens Community Center and also assisted in the submission of an application for \$99,000 in RBEG funds through the USDA for a farmers market

#### Inman

- Provided technical assistance with regard to planning matters

#### Lyman

- Provided technical assistance with regard to planning matters

#### Pacolet

- Facilitated a retreat for the Town Council and also provided technical assistance with regard to planning matters

#### Reidville

- Facilitated a retreat for the Town related to the establishment of a local police department and municipal court system and also provided technical assistance with regard to planning matters

#### Spartanburg

- Provided technical assistance to the City in the areas of reorganization and municipal court overview. Also assisted the city manager's department through the preparation of a population density map of the six-county ACOG region

#### Wellford

- Continued to work with the City on positioning them to be able to reapply for 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.
- Assisted the City 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

- Provided legislative updates and information to the Woodruff Chamber of Commerce
- Completed work with the City to update their Comprehensive Plan and provided technical assistance with planning matters

For every  
dollar  
invested by  
Spartanburg  
County in  
2011, ACOG  
programs  
returned  
\$16

## Meet the Board 2012

The Board and Staff of the Appalachian Council of Governments looks forward to a productive 2012. 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  
Carthel Crout  
Dennis Claramunt

Eddie Moore  
Mayor Terence Roberts  
Ted Mattison

Francis Crowder  
Rick Laughridge

### Cherokee County

Rep. Dennis C. Moss  
Ed Elliott

Rufus Foster, Jr.  
J. Frank Harris

Mayor Henry Jolly

### Greenville County

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Joe Dill  
Amy Ryberg Doyle  
Lottie Gibson

Dan Rawls  
Wayne McCall  
Don Godbey

Butch Kirven  
David Sudduth  
Rev. Grady Butler

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Bob Winchester

Reg Dexter  
Bennie Cunningham

Ernest Riley

### Pickens County

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Mayor Larry Bagwell

G. Neil Smith  
Tom Hendricks

Trey Whitehurst  
James C. Jackson III

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Jane Hall  
Jan Scalisi  
Loretta Smith

Dale Culbreth  
Mayor Robert Briggs  
Charles "Chet" Morris, Jr.

O'Neal Mintz  
Mayor Junie White  
Elbert S. Tillerson, Sr.





30 Century Circle  
PO Box 6668  
Greenville SC 29606  
P. 864-242-9733  
F. 864-242-6957  
[www.scacog.org](http://www.scacog.org)