

Up to \$4 Million Available Through CDBG Program

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program is designed to provide assistance to units of general local government in improving economic opportunities and meeting community revitalization needs, particularly for persons of low and moderate income (LMI). The fall 2010 funding round provides opportunities to apply CDBG funds in two categories – Community Enrichment Programs and Village Renaissance Programs.

The Community Enrichment category is designed to fund facilities, services and other activities that strengthen existing communities and support a high quality of life within the following state priority areas:

- First priority will be given to Workforce Development projects including:
 - ◆ library facilities or computer equipment with broadband capability
 - ◆ Workforce Quick Jobs Training Programs
- Projects creating safe and healthy communities will fall under the second priority; this category can assist with:
 - ◆ public safety facilities in LMI neighborhoods, including police substations, call boxes or other equipment
 - ◆ demolition of dilapidated structures
 - ◆ firefighting facilities or equipment serving LMI residential areas



The Town of Chesnee was recently awarded CDBG funds for Phase 3 of their downtown streetscape project.

- ◆ health clinic facilities in underserved areas
- The third priority addresses obstacles to economic development; such projects include:
 - ◆ Developing energy efficiencies for CDBG eligible public facilities
 - ◆ Brownfield projects or demolition of obsolete buildings
 - ◆ Building re-use/conversion of existing buildings to new eligible uses
 - ◆ Downtown streetscape infrastructure that include a public safety component
 - ◆ Planning for regional infrastructure, smart growth or sustainable development

The Village Renaissance Program category is designed to assist in the development of sustainable communities through revitalization of in-town residential neighborhoods. Projects must incorporate comprehensive strate-

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Olivia Harris Joins Governmental Services Staff



ACOG's Governmental Services Department welcomes Olivia Harris as the new local government specialist.

Olivia Harris comes to ACOG's Governmental Services department from the Pickens County administration. She joins the team as local government specialist, assigned to provide a wide variety of services and technical assistance to the region's six counties and forty-two municipalities.

She obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from Clemson University. Her Masters of Public Administration degree was earned through the Clemson University-University of South Carolina Joint Program. Olivia's career began as Pickens County's research analyst, and she later became the special projects coordinator. Through both of these positions, she gained valuable experience in local government operations, including grant writing, public relations, tourism development, emergency management, policy analysis and budget preparation. Her duties with ACOG include troubleshooting, technical assistance, finance and business license issues, retreat fa-

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Appalachian ADRC Presents An Innovative Web Site

The Appalachian Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) staff has been working since early December to develop a web site to serve as a tool for seniors, caregivers, families, and aging services professionals. This web site is the first of its kind in South Carolina and should prove to be an invaluable resource for its users.

The initial phase of the project began in December 2009. The web site development committee, which consisted of ADRC staff members from various areas of focus, began with designing the initial layout and flow of the web site. One consideration to be acknowledged from the very beginning of the process was that the site be compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, which ensures that the web site is accessible to people with disabilities.

Over the next several months, efforts focused on the development of site content. Content on the site includes information on long-term care and resident advocates; support for people caring for elderly or disabled loved ones and seniors caring for grandchildren; Medicare and Medicaid information; and referrals to resources related to transportation, financial assistance, and housing.

Feedback garnered by a focus group of several caregivers and other consumers preceded a final edit, and the web site launched on June 30. Site visitors may use the **Locate Services** function to view available services for each county in the Appalachian region by categories such as food assistance, emergency assistance, seniors, and mental health. The **Apply for Assistance** section provides information on assistance programs, including eligibility requirements and how to apply. Links to some assistance program applications are also provided. The site also includes a calendar to announce events



in the area such as local health fairs.

To explore the vast array of information available through the new web site, please visit www.scupstateadrc.org.

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gies for linking commercial revitalization successes with improvements to neighborhoods that are generally adjacent to downtown or business centers. Such neighborhoods should be within walking distance to downtown or business centers (typically no more than ½ mile from the downtown or business center).

Each project should involve a five-year, three-phased program of planning and implementation that may be funded with CDBG and/or other funds. Phase 1 requires a neighborhood revitalization plan. Phases 2 and 3 involve activities designed to implement the revitalization plan. Implementation of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization must involve multiple activities including a public safety component. Activities may include infrastructure, public facilities, limited housing improvements, demolition and clearance of vacant and dilapidated properties, and public services such as a crime watch program, drug or gang education or awareness.

For more information, or to discuss a potential CDBG project, contact Dirk Reis or Dan Wagner at the ACOG offices. These application requests are due to the S.C. Department of Commerce on **August 20, 2010**.

More Grandparents Face Challenges of Raising Children

Nine percent of South Carolina's children – nearly 91,000 – live in grandparent-headed households. Of these children living in households headed by grandparents or other senior relatives, 57 percent do not have either parent present. Fifty-seven percent of all South Carolina grandparents are under the age of 60, and 27 percent live in poverty.

The Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) was designed to address these alarming facts and to be an ally to those unselfish seniors who have chosen to care for young relatives and provide them with a home. The FCSP recognizes the overwhelming needs that may exist in these situations and attempts to help in a variety of ways.

Since the needs of a grandparent caregiver are different for every child, the FCSP is fortunate to have some flexibility in how to assist seniors rearing children (SRC). The costs for a child to attend summer camp or expenses associated with school are not the norm for a senior living on a fixed income. The expense of feeding a growing teen can be staggering to someone who can barely pay their own utility bills and grocery expenses. The cost of clothing for a child going through a rapid growth spurt can boggle the mind. Grandparents face dilemmas like these on a daily basis. The Family Caregiver Support Program is designed to assist grandparents, age 55 and up, with caring for grand relatives.

In July 2010, the FCSP will help seniors rearing children prepare for their children's return to school, which is one of the highest stressors for caregivers. The FCSP attempts to support them in a variety of ways. If you are facing a dilemma as a senior rearing grandchildren, please contact us at 1-800-925-4077, 864-242-9733, or by email: brown@scacog.org or swiley@scacog.org.

Honea Path Adopts Updated Zoning Ordinance

On June 14, 2010, the Town of Honea Path adopted an update to the Town's Zoning Ordinance at a second reading by the Town Council. The adoption of this updated ordinance is a culmination of more than



Updates to the Town of Honea Path Zoning Ordinance reduce the number of zoning districts, thereby making the ordinance simpler for residents to understand and for staff to enforce.

a year's effort by the Town Planning Commission and Town Council. The Appalachian Council of Governments assisted the Town with the development of the Zoning Ordinance update. The updates to the existing ordinance are in response to changing conditions within the Town and address the concerns voiced by citizens over the past few years.

The purpose of a zoning ordinance is to establish standards, procedures, and minimum requirements in accordance with the comprehensive plan, to regulate and control the use, bulk, design, and location of land and buildings; the creation and administration of zoning districts; and the general development of real estate in the Town. Unlike a land use plan, the zoning ordinance is a regulatory document addressing the general and supplementary regulations, administrative mechanisms, code compliance, zoning, off-street parking, sign regulations, and landscaping and buffering requirements.

One major change included in the Zoning Ordinance update was combining a portion of the numerous zoning districts defined by the Town's previous ordinance. The Town went from six residential districts to four, from four commercial districts to three and from two industrial districts to one. This consolidation makes the zoning ordinance simpler for residents to understand and for staff to enforce. The Planning Commission and Town Council have adopted an ordinance that is sensitive to the needs of the Town of Honea Path.

Local Volunteers Recognized at Aging 2010 Awards

Almost 40 years ago, the South Carolina Commission on Aging began the annual Aging Awards. On May 4, the Lt. Governor's Office on Aging held Senior Day at the State House in conjunction with the annual Aging Awards. The program began with the annual Wellness Walk around the Capitol Building, followed by a declaration announcing May as "Older South Carolinians Month." Lt. Governor Andre Bauer honored those who give their time to the promotion and service of "seasoned citizens."

"I am truly honored to recognize the dedication and hard work that is represented by the winners of this year's Aging Awards," Lt. Governor Bauer said. "There are hundreds of people across South Carolina that go above and beyond for our seniors – these folks are the best of the best though; they have a true passion for making the lives of seniors better."

The 2010 award categories such as Volunteer Service, Leadership in Aging, and Outstanding Older South Carolinian have been updated to reflect



From left to right, Nancy Hawkins-ACOG, Sandy Wroblewski, Lt. Governor Andre Bauer, Nancy Eaker and Jessica Winters-ACOG

the changing senior demographics and vitality of a very active aging network in South Carolina. State winners were selected from the regional winners nominated from the ten Area Agencies on Aging.

Two volunteers from ACOG's Friendly Visitor Program were named regional winners for the Upstate. This program trains volunteers to go into assisted living and nursing home facilities to visit residents and be their voice.

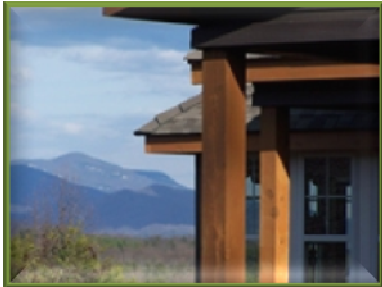
Sandy Wroblewski, from Spartanburg, received the regional award for Volunteer Service. Sandy has always had a passion for working with seniors, which led her to the program in 2007. She visits Mountainview Nursing Home in Spartanburg on a weekly basis to advocate on behalf of seniors. Sandy has also been a volunteer for Mobile Meals, where she provided home-delivered meals and fellowship to Spartanburg County residents.

Nancy Eaker, also from Spartanburg, received the regional award for Outstanding Older South Carolinian. She has been a volunteer for the Friendly Visitor Program since 2006. As president of the Spartanburg AARP Chapter, she coordinates driver safety classes. She is a recipient of the Andrus Award for Community Service in South Carolina. She is also active in the Spartanburg Regional 55+ Program and the Upstate Senior Network.

Each award recipient was given a plaque in honor of their dedication to making the lives of seniors better.

Three Pines View Makes Plans to Expand

Three Pines View, a bed and breakfast owned by Diane and Steve Hayes, recently obtained an ADC loan in order to complete two cottages and provide working capital. Three Pines View is a high-end, boutique bed and breakfast located in Salem, near the banks of Lake Jocassee. The 7,000 square foot facility is situated on an 8.87-acre site and caters to the environmentally conscious traveler looking for elegant accommodations and cuisine.



The ADC recently approved a loan to Three Pines View – a high-end Bed & Breakfast Inn located in Salem.

Rooms include morning kitchens with refrigerators, wine coolers and built in microwaves; gas and wood-burning fireplaces, along with some electric fireplaces to accommodate guests with allergies; private dining/lounge areas on mountain-facing rooms; covered porches with ceiling fans; plush bathrobes; fresh plants and flowers; comfortable sitting areas with lounge chairs and ottomans for two; chess sets & cards; flat screen LCD TVs and DVD players; wireless internet & satellite TV; and yoga mats. The lodge provides an escape for people who want to enjoy the mountain views, water sports, golf, or just the solitude of the setting.

The combination of the certified "green" design and construction, the home-grown, wholesome foods that are served, and the natural setting on the lake are primary draws for visitors. Breakfast is included with your stay, and lunch and dinner are available. The



lodge and rooms are all "non-smoking," and daily rates range from \$175 to \$250 per person.

Diane and Steve are retired from successful real estate careers and enjoy entertaining and cooking, so the Three Pines View is an extension of their passions. For additional information, go to the web site, www.threepinesview.com.



WorkLink Hosts Services Fair

WorkLink Workforce Investment Board hosted a Services Fair on May 22, 2010, to showcase community resources available in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties. The event featured a "smoke house" from the Pendleton Fire Department and offered free health screenings provided through The Salem Lions Club, Baptist Easley Hospital, and Kool Smiles. More than 30 agencies gathered in the Student Center at Tri-County Technical College to share their services.

The Services Fair was provided through WorkLink Workforce Investment Board's Youth Council as a way to facilitate collaboration and the delivery of services for all youth and their families, with a goal of educational, workplace and personal success.

WorkLink Offers Training Grants for Employers

WorkLink Workforce Investment Board is now accepting applications for the Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) program. IWT grants are available for businesses in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Counties.

Incumbent Worker Training grants allow employers that have at least one employee and are current on all South Carolina state tax obligations to upgrade the skills of their current workforce through reimbursable training services and expenses. These grants are filled on a first-come, first-served basis, and priority will be given to businesses in the automotive, advanced manufacturing, energy, or bioscience industries.

Guidelines and applications are available by contacting Jimmy Pennell, WorkLink Business Services Representative, at (864) 646-5899 or jpen-nell@worklinkweb.com. Applications and guidelines can also be accessed online at <http://www.worklinkweb.com/employer-s-4.php>.

Completed applications should be mailed to Jimmy Pennell, WorkLink, 511 Westinghouse Road, Pendleton, SC 29670. All applications postmarked by the deadline of Thursday, July 15, will be reviewed by a committee of the WorkLink Workforce Investment Board.

WorkLink is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

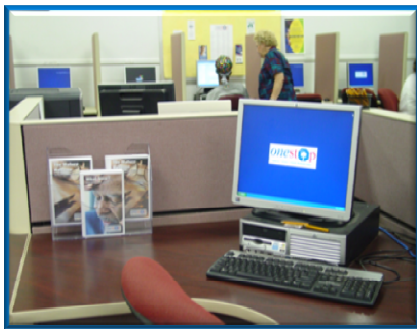
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cilitation and general public administration.

Newly married, she lives in Easley with her husband, Ashley, who works as a mental health counselor. Olivia and Ashley enjoy hiking, biking and yard work. Their family also includes two cats, a German Shepherd and two Boxers, and they also volunteer for Dogs for Autism.

WorkLink Launches Access Points for Job Seekers

WorkLink Workforce Investment Board has established Access Points for job search services at local libraries, adult education centers, and other community centers. As part of the Sharing How Access to Resources Empowers (SHARE) Network, these Access Points offer access to a computer, through which job seekers will find online links to several of the core services or job seeker services available



Access Points offer job seekers the ability to utilize services available at OneStop Workforce Centers.

at OneStop Workforce Centers in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens Counties.

Access Points are available from any location via <http://www.worklinkweb.com/access-point/> and are designed as self-service activities. Job seekers are encouraged to help themselves to these online resources and may be referred to the OneStop Workforce Centers for additional assistance and the full range of core services.

Job seekers accessing the online resources can retrieve information relevant to various stages of their job search, from filing for unemployment insurance to understanding their skills and interests. Tutorials and templates are available for creating a resumé and cover letter, and links help entrepreneurial job seekers explore working from home or starting their

own business. The services also include information on basic computer skills and educational opportunities.

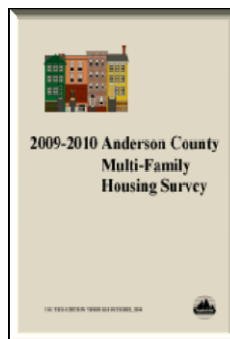
To establish an Access Point in Anderson, Oconee, or Pickens Counties, contact Amy Jessee, WorkLink Outreach and Grant Writing Coordinator, at ajessee@worklinkweb.com or (864) 646-1468.

2009-2010 Anderson Multi-Family Housing Survey Now Available

The Appalachian Council of Governments has completed research and production of the *2009-10 Anderson County Multi-Family Housing Survey*.

This unique report contains an inventory and analysis of all known conventional and income-dependent apartment properties with 24 or more units. This information is widely used by real estate developers and appraisers, property managers, and property service providers.

The ACOG produces this one-of-a-kind survey biennially for Anderson and Spartanburg Counties, and annually for Greenville County. The report is available for purchase in both digital and printed format. For more information, or to purchase a copy of this publication, visit our web site at <http://www.scacog.org/is/onlinepubs/Catalog.htm>, or contact the Information Services Department at 864-242-9733.



The 2009-10 Multi-Family Housing Survey is just one of the ACOG's many region-relevant reports.

Census Estimates Indicate An Influx of New Residents

According to 2009 population estimates recently released by the U.S. Census Bureau, the ACOG region continues to experience steady growth. The 2009 population estimate of 1,167,523 represents a 13.5 percent increase since the 2000 Census, which is in line with the entire state's population growth for the same period. Not surprisingly, the larger counties of Anderson, Greenville and Spartanburg experienced the highest individual growth rates of 11.6 percent, 18.9 percent and 13.0 percent, respectively.

An influx of persons moving into the area played a significant role in the population increase across the region. Approximately 70 percent of the increase was attributed to net migration, while only 30 percent was attributed to natural increase. These figures suggest that the Upstate's low cost of living and abundant cultural and recreational assets, along with its pro-business climate and diverse range of existing industries, serve as a beacon for new residents and businesses alike.

The 2009 estimates also suggest that our region is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse. Though the resident population of whites and African-Americans experienced stable growth, the representation of other races in the population saw more notable changes, as presented in the following table. The percentage of persons claiming Hispanic¹ ethnicity almost doubled between 2000 and 2009, and is now estimated to exceed 65,000. It should be noted, however, that other factors such as improved enumeration methods may have also played a role in this increase.

Since 2000 the ACOG region's population has gotten somewhat older. According to the 2000 Census, approximately 12.5 percent of the total population was over the age of 65, as compared to 13.7 percent in 2009. Each county in the region experienced an increase in the percent of total population over age 65. Most notable was the increase in Oconee County, which is widely recognized as a retirement destination. Oconee County's population age 65+ represented 15.6 percent of its total population in 2000, as compared to an estimated 18.8 percent in 2009.

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VIEWPOINT

Appalachian Council of Governments
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	White	Black or African-American	American Indian & Alaska Native	Asian	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Two or More Races	Hispanic or Latino ¹ (of any race)
Census 2000	832,669	174,458	2,308	11,675	350	7,203	33,282
2009 Estimates	933,507	197,551	3,947	19,087	633	12,798	65,315
% Growth, 2000-2009	12.1%	13.2%	71.0%	63.5%	80.9%	77.7%	96.2%

Source: U. S. Census Bureau

¹ Hispanic represents ethnicity, and is not a separate racial category. The population count for Hispanics may include persons of any race.

The Population Estimates Program publishes total resident population estimates and demographic components of change (births, deaths, and migration) each year. They also publish the estimates by demographic characteristics (age, sex, race, and Hispanic origin) for the nation, states, and counties. These estimates are used in federal funding allocations, as denominators for vital rates and per capita time series, as survey controls, and in monitoring recent demographic changes.

For questions regarding these and other demographic statistics for the region, please contact the ACOG Information Services Department.

School's Out, Summer Employment's In

The Summer Youth Employment Program, administered by WorkLink Workforce Investment Board, is available for a second summer.

Funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the program will provide a work-readiness/soft skills class and work experience for area youth. Participants will receive a stipend of \$50 for each of the two classes completed and \$7.25 for each hour of work experience in local businesses and nonprofit organizations.

The 2010 in-school program, managed by Anderson School District 4 and Hamilton Career Center in Oconee County, plans to serve up to 81 in-school students ages 16 to 21. Palmetto Youth Connections will manage the out-of-school program for up to 75 out-of-school youth ages 17 to 24.

