

## Upcoming Events

SE4A Conference

**DATE:** August 27-30

**LOCATION:** Asheville, NC

Caddell Conference

**DATE:** August 28

**LOCATION:** Church at Stone River, Decatur, AL

Annual AARC Conference

**DATE:** October 8-11

**LOCATION:** Orange Beach, AL

## Agency Contacts

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# Foundation Makes A Positive Impact

In the spirit of the NARCOG Foundation, NARCOG awarded the Lawrence County Firefighters and Rapid Responders Association (LCFRRA) \$50,000 to be split equally among the ten fire departments operating in Lawrence County, Alabama.

It was left up to the fire departments how they would like to spend their funds. Town Creek Volunteer Fire Department and Red Bank Volunteer Fire Department both used the funds to assist in purchasing a fire truck. Hillsboro Volunteer Fire Department upgraded all of their fire trucks' emergency lights to LED

lights. Moulton Fire Department used its funds to help purchase a vehicle for the fire inspector. Caddo-Midway Fire & Rescue and Chalybeate Fire & Rescue utilized funds to assist with the annual maintenance of their fire apparatus and administrative costs.

"Thank you for this funding. Our department is very busy, and providing this funding meant the difference in making repairs or paying insurance," stated Administrative Chief Darwin Clark.

NARCOG is grateful to have the opportunity to help such important organizations.

Anyone interested in giving

to the NARCOG Foundation can scan the QR code below or visit our website to donate at <https://www.narcog.org/impact/impact-giving>.



Hillsboro VFD trucks new LED lights



Town Creek VFD Fire Truck



Moulton Fire Dept. fire inspector vehicle



Red Bank VFD Fire Truck

**Robby Cantrell | Executive Director**

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**New Hires**

**Heather Eddy**  
Case Manager

**Amy Proctor**  
Case Manager

**McKenzie Newman**  
Case Manager

**Zahne Anderson**  
Case Manager

**Taylor Brann**  
Case Manager

# Gaining AIRS Certification

NARCOG would like to congratulate one of our Information and Referral Specialists, Deann Saint, for passing her AIRS CRS-A/D Exam.

AIRS CRS-A/D stands for Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) Certification for Community Resource Specialist - Aging/Disability (CRS-A/D). This certification is designed for individuals who work directly with clients and caregivers within the aging and/or disabilities area who perform the same skills as Information and Referral Specialists

but also have in-depth knowledge related to their core client group.

AIRS is the professional membership association for community Information and Referral serving the nonprofit and government sectors. Only ~4,400 individuals across the United States hold an AIRS certification, with even fewer holding an AIRS CRS-A/D certification.

NARCOG is proud of Deann and her accomplishments. This certification will only help her better serve her community.



Deann Saint

# Garden City Receives Rebuild Alabama Act Grant

The Town of Garden City in Cullman County was awarded \$250,000 from the Rebuild Alabama Act (RAA) Annual Grant. The first round of awards was released earlier this year, and the second round was just released last week.

The project will rehabilitate CR-26 (Roland Johnson Parkway) in the Town of Garden City, in Cullman County, beginning at the Garden City town limits at the bridge crossing at the Mulberry Fork of the Black Warrior River to 100' west

of CR-532.

This project will resurface 1000 feet of CR-26 (Roland Johnson Parkway) and would include the replacement of deteriorating stormwater drainage facilities at CR-532 and 3rd Street.

It will improve the roadway that receives a high volume of heavy truck traffic. Currently, the road is not in a state of good repair, with numerous crumbling pavement sections along the route.

# Lawrence County Awarded \$1M ARC Grant for First Solar Inc.

The Lawrence County Commission was awarded a \$1 Million Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Grant for First Solar's Infrastructure Improvements Project.

The Lawrence County Commission was recently awarded \$1.5 Million in Community Development Block Grant Economic Development (CDBG-ED) funds which were joined with the \$1 Million ARC Grant for a total of \$2.5 Million for Infrastructure Improvements.

The need for this project targeted by the West Morgan – East Lawrence Water and Sewer Authority is to handle the volume of domestic and industrial sewage from the new First Solar Plant to the Wastewater Treatment Plant, provide safe and reliable access to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), and provide the First Solar Plant with additional redundancy of its fire protection and potable water.

The 4,700 linear feet of 16" Ductile Iron force main from the First Solar pump station to the Mallard Fox West Wastewater Treatment Plant will be installed to sustain the volume of flow that will be coming from the operational First Solar Plant to the Mallard Fox West WWTP.

The entrance road (approximately 3,900 square yards) to the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be improved and paved to allow for the safe passage of chemicals entering and biological solids leaving the expanded plant by truck or trailer.

The 20" water main will be extended 2,300 linear feet from its current termination point near the Jack Daniel Cooperage to the Norfolk Southern Railroad Crossing to provide redundant potable water and fire protection service while ensuring the system's customers continue to receive high-quality service.

The water line extension will con-

tinue south along Cooperage Way from the railroad to Mountain Home Road.

Additionally, to be proactive, the West Morgan – East Lawrence Water and Sewer Authority (WMEL) is currently constructing Phase 1 of the Mallard Fox West WWTP Expansion to meet the sanitary sewer needs of the surrounding area continuously.

Construction began on Phase 1 of the Mallard Fox West WWTP Expansion in late 2020. This expansion will increase the treatment capacity to 1,500,000 GPD.



## Planning Department Events and Deadlines

**July 29, 2023 - August 3, 2023**  
Economic Development Association of Alabama (EDAA) Summer Conference

**August 17, 2023**  
Hartselle Comprehensive Plan Kickoff Open House Workshop at the Sparkman Civic Center

**September 6, 2023**  
Recreational Trails Program (RTP) Grant Deadline

**September 11, 2023 - September 12, 2023**  
Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Appalachia Rises Conference

**September 11, 2023 - September 13, 2023**  
Auburn EDA University Center/ Intensive Economic Development Training Course Week 2

### Career Changes

**Dana Dobson**  
Quality Improvement Specialist

**Warren Taylor**  
Personal Choices Case Manager

### Promotions

**Rena Reynolds**  
Alabama Cares Coordinator

**Brittany Yarbrough**  
Hospital to Home Transition Coordinator

# Help Plan Hartselle

The City of Hartselle is, as of the 2020 Census, home to 15,455 residents. Since then, Hartselle has been named one of the fastest-growing cities in Morgan County. Residential growth also comes with the need to plan for the City's future.

NARCOG is currently working to develop a new comprehensive plan with a selection of the City's leadership, including Hartselle's Mayor, Director of Development, City Planner, Planning Commission, City Council, and Steering Committee. A comprehensive plan assists in guiding the long-term future growth and development

of a city. It addresses issues such as land use, transportation, parks and recreation, economic development, community facilities, and the overall quality of life. The last comprehensive plan for Hartselle was developed in 2012.

Public opinion is the backbone of a comprehensive plan. To recruit public input, NARCOG and City leadership are attending pop-up meet and greets, creating an online survey and a website, hosting public meetings, and much more.

The Kick-Off Open House Meeting will be held on August 17 at the Sparkman Civic Center from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM. During this meeting,

participants will be invited to share their opinions on the future of Hartselle, view maps and zoning, and ask questions. This free come-and-go event will include food trucks outside the civic center.



# Morgan County Senior Health Fair

NARCOG recently assisted in planning a Morgan County Health Fair for senior citizens alongside The Cottages Assisted Living, Hospice of the Valley, and Decatur Home Care. This event was first held in 2012 and has been an excellent resource for older adults to get free health checkups and learn what resources are available to them.

On July 21, senior centers from all over Morgan County, and even a center in Lawrence County, came

to the health fair, with roughly 120 older adults in attendance. Around 40 sponsors and exhibitors also attended, sharing information about their organization.

This event is unique in the fact that all sponsorship and exhibitor fees help fulfill Morgan County senior center wish lists. Each center made a wish list of items they needed or wanted for their facility, created by the senior center manager and active participants. Some items in-

cluded toaster ovens, bookshelves, art supplies, board or card games, printers, vacuums, and more.

In total, this event raised \$5,400. A little over \$2,500 was spent on fulfilling the wish lists, and all remaining funds are being donated to the NARCOG Foundation. NARCOG appreciates The Cottages Assisted Living for donating the rest of the funds to the Foundation and looks forward to helping plan another successful event next year.

### July Anniversaries

**Jacklyn Moore**  
Economic Development Specialist  
1 year of service

**Shelby Selman**  
Planner/GIS  
6 years of service

**Robby Cantrell**  
Executive Director  
11 years of service

