Archway Operations Coordinator Matt Bishop, Archway graduate assistant Megan Miller, and Archway Professional Ilka McConnell facilitated a community input meeting with the Hart County Recreation Department and the Hart County Recreation Advisory Board. Archway is working with the Recreation Department to assist with developing and documenting their first-ever long-term plan with community input. Approximately 40 community members attended and shared their ideas related to recreation in Hart County. Recreation Advisory Board members served as table facilitators. We are concurrently administering an online and paper survey to collect feedback. A second community meeting will be held on May 31.

In partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, Hartwell Downtown Development Authority, Hart County Historical Society, Quilters from the Hart, and several other public and private supporters submitted a $3200 grant application to Hart EMC Foundation’s Operation Round Up to begin a Hart County Quilt Trail. The Hart County Quilt Trail will highlight historic, agri-tourism, and other special sites within Hart County with painted signs of heritage quilt blocks. If the grant is funded, the money will help kick off the project in Hart County with supplies and marketing materials. The Hart County Quilt Trail will link up with a scenic byway currently being planned by the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission as well as an existing quilt trail in neighboring Franklin County and other quilt trails in counties in Northeast Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Eastern Tennessee.