Accomplishments

Cairo DDA Training

The Grady County Archway Partnership sponsored a Downtown Development Training taught by the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government. A total of 18 participants representing the Cairo Downtown Development Authority, city planning commission and building officials, chamber of commerce, development authority, merchants, local banker, City of Cairo Manager’s office, City of Whigham, City of Bainbridge DDA, UGA Small Business Development Center and Department of Community Affairs attended the eight hour training. The training explored the role that development authorities serve within the local economic development process. Topics include legal issues, ethics, conflicts of interest, and open records and open meetings requirements. In addition, participants learned the basics of financing development authority operations, incentives, and bonds. The class also addressed strategic planning in community development, project development and management, and emerging issues that affect development authorities.

Ongoing Efforts

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Work Group

The new Teen Pregnancy Prevention Issue Work Group has been collecting pregnancy and health related data, community resources, as well as identifying stakeholders to be invited into the initiative. This work group addresses the community goal of both prevention and improving pre-natal access to services and care.

Cairo Train Depot Re-Design

Progress continues in the interior re-design of the City of Cairo Train Depot. This project is collaboration between the City of Cairo, Archway Partnership Downtown Issue Work Group and the Lamar Dodd School of Art (LDSOA) and is an action item in the downtown renaissance plan. Operations Coordinator Sharon Liggett has met with LDSOA faculty member Thom Houser and the project is scheduled to be completed in September.

College and Career Academy Continues Progress

The Education/Business & Industry Issue Work Group continues to focus on the Cairo High School College and Career Academy. The major activity this month was continuing to identify business and industry partners who could actively participate in the 17 CCA curriculum pathways through site visits, provide content expertise, on-the-job training, internships for students, externships for instructors, job-shadowing, material donations and/or other resources. This initiative enhances student learning opportunities and local work-force development.
Barber Park Revitalization Project-

As part of the overall community health & wellness initiative of improving parks and recreation for fitness/obesity reduction, the County is beginning to pursue a splash pad. CED students spent two summers designing park plans.

Looking Forward

Youth FitFest

The Archway Partnership Community Health and Wellness Issue Work Group will host the third annual Youth FitFest as a strategy to address childhood obesity.