Accomplishments

Community Branding
Nine teams of students from the UGA Grady College of Journalism provided media kits to various organizations in Grady County. The kits will be used to better promote local tourism, and included recommendations for traditional and social media, as well as online presence improvements. Each topic received a SWOT analysis and recommendations for addressing marketing and promotional gaps.

Engineering Capstone Projects
Three groups of students from the UGA College of Engineering presented their initial findings for their Senior Capstone Design Project sites in Grady County - a) conceptual wastewater system for the City of Whigham and b) Heritage Industrial Complex Analysis for the Cairo-Grady County Joint Development Authority, and c) conceptual Water distribution plan at Tired Creek Lake for the Grady County Commission. Each group presented their respective client with three initial options; clients will select their preferred option and a full design will be completed during the spring 2016 semester.

Ongoing Efforts

Community Resource Database
Two student teams from a class in the Terry College of Business Management Information System’s department provided a framework for a searchable database using Grady County's existing Community Resource Guide. The initial interface drafts still need adjustments before roll out to the community; however that back-end database work is complete.

College and Career Academy Update
The Education/Business & Industry Issue Work Group continues to focus on the Cairo High School College and Career Academy. Focus continues to be on pathway alignment with curriculum and higher education programs as well as branding and marking for the new “Academy Concept” that will kick off with the formation of a 9th Grady Academy at Cairo High School in 2016.

Representatives from the Cairo High School College & Career Academy, Southern Regional Technical College, and Bainbridge State College continue to “map” higher education pathways and existing articulation agreements. The project goal is to create an easy to reference educational/promotional piece that can be used by students, parents, and high school counselors to discuss post-secondary programs.

Cairo Train Depot
Progress continues in the interior re-design of the City of Cairo Train Depot. This project involves collaboration between the city of Cairo, Archway Partnership Downtown Issue Work Group and the Lamar Dodd School of Art and is an action item in the downtown renaissance plan. Archway Operations Coordinator Sharon Liggett has met with Thom Houser a faculty member from LDSOA who is working on the designs.
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. In prior years, over 20 different health and wellness providers offer activities, information and educational exhibits at this family-friendly festival. Tammy Harlow, Director of Nursing for Grady General Hospital, will serve as event chair. The event is tentatively planned for Saturday, April 30 at Davis Park in downtown Cairo.

Teen Pregnancy Prevention Issue Work Group
Representatives from the College of Public Health, College of Pharmacy, Department of Biology, a representative from the Grady Archway Teen Pregnancy Prevention Issue Work Group, and the Georgia Coalition for Adolescent Power and Potential (GCAAP) will meet in Athens in January to discuss a potential research project on the effectiveness of the FLASH Comprehensive Sexual Education Curriculum in Grady County.

College and Career Academy Promotion
A public relations class from the UGA Grady College of Journalism has selected Cairo High School for a project to develop a comprehensive media kit for use in promoting the College and Career Academy.