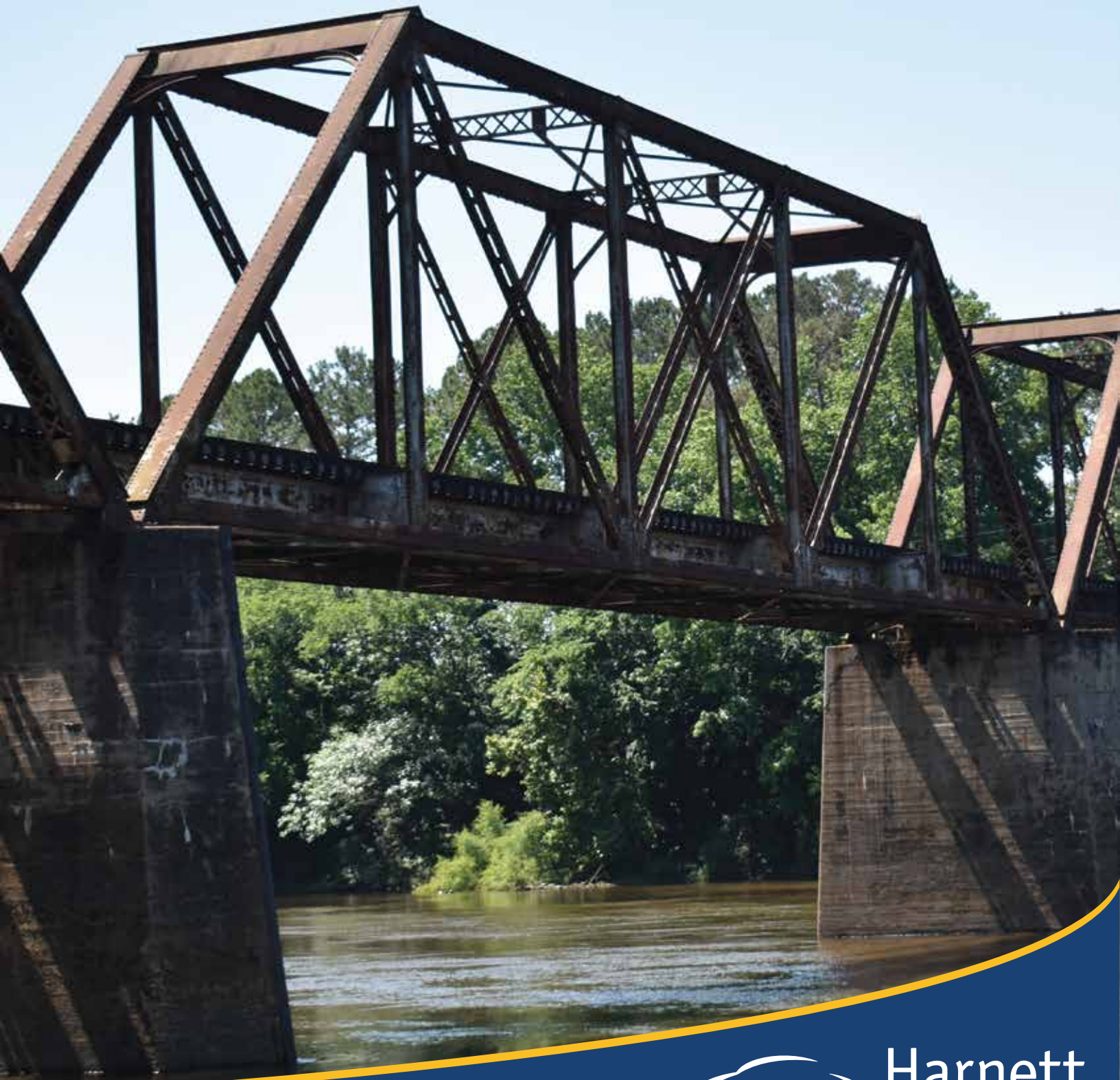


HARNETT COUNTY

# 2025 MID-YEAR REPORT



AUGUST 2025



Harnett  
COUNTY  
NORTH CAROLINA

# 2025 MID-YEAR REPORT

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## Board of Elections

- Processed and verified over 140,000 voter registration applications, excluding incomplete forms. Completed regular voter roll maintenance, including removals due to felony convictions, deceased voters, and state-reported relocations.
- Hosted the County's first-ever Election Worker Appreciation event, with over 100 attendees.
- Facilitated four (4) public input sessions regarding proposed precinct boundary adjustments.
- Successfully petitioned and received approval from the State Board of Elections to divide the Barbecue and Anderson Creek precincts to improve accessibility and voter experience.
- Directed the relocation of the Board of Elections office to a new facility with no service interruptions.

## Capital Projects / Construction / Renovation

- Completed interior renovations on the 2nd floor of the Department of Social Services building.
- Renovated the concessions building and restrooms at Neill's Creek Park.
- Upgraded the front entrance and concessions area at the Boone Trail Community Center and Gymnasium.
- Renovated the former Board of Elections building to create office space for Solid Waste, Fleet Services, and Capital Projects staff.
- Completed renovations to the kitchen space at Cooperative Extension to enhance functionality and usability.

## Cooperative Extension

- The Educational Kitchen was completed and is now actively used for Family and Consumer Sciences and 4-H cooking programs.
- Harnett County was awarded seven (7) NC AgVentures Grants out of 10 submissions, securing a total of \$42,270 to support agricultural innovation.
- A new Field Crops Agent position was established during this review period to enhance agricultural education and support.
- Partnered with the Health Department to host the Girls Are Great program.
- Harnett County 4-H Summer Fun registered over 200 individual slots, while our Family and Consumer Sciences, Community and Rural Development, and NC A&T 4-H Agent collaborated to launch the Bright Pathways Summer Camp Series, adding another 150 slots focused on reaching underserved youth.
- Approximately 16 Harnett County School Food Service employees earned certification in Safe Plates, a food safety training program for managers.



## County Manager's Office

- The Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) quarterly updates were submitted with zero discrepancies, reflecting strong fiscal oversight and compliance. Through this grant, Harnett County was able to:
  - Provide funding to 43 nonprofit organizations, supporting a wide range of community-focused initiatives.
  - Offer additional funding assistance to five (5) nonprofits, further enhancing their ability to serve residents.





## PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- During the Board of Commissioners retreat in December 2024, County Manager Brent Trout presented the Strategic Plan for FY2026. This information reviewed the Goals, Objectives and the alignment of Key Strategic Actions. The Board of Commissioners agreed to the update and directed staff to update the Strategic Plan.
- TEAM Harnett completed business plan updates for the upcoming Fiscal year. Business plans related to the Strategic Plan and the TEAM Harnett Performance Management plan shows how the departments relate to the business of the County.
- Staff finalized the review of the software subscription and implementation costs for the performance management process to be automated. Work to begin in the first quarter of FY2026.
- For FY2025, TEAM Harnett reviewed (42) Key Strategic Actions and Other Strategic Actions directly related to the Harnett County Strategic Plan.
- Status of 42 action items as of June 30, 2025:
  - 10% are pending action
  - 52% are in-process
  - 38% are completed

## OPIOID TASK FORCE

- Supported Recovery Alive in Dunn, which currently houses four (4) individuals in long-term recovery from opioid addiction.
- Successfully conducted monthly and quarterly meetings of the Opioid Task Force, fostering collaboration and strategic planning.
- Secured funding for Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) to support uninsured and underinsured individuals struggling with opioid addiction.
- Partnered with North Carolina Harm Reduction, which provided assistance to over 30 individuals affected by opioid-related addiction.
- Four (4) residents received assistance and are now maintaining long-term recovery.
- One (1) individual was referred to a recovery program in Tennessee, where they completed treatment, graduated, gained employment, and have since welcomed a child, marking a powerful success story of recovery and resilience.

## Development Services

### PLANNING DIVISION

- The update to Harnett County’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan was adopted on April 26, 2025. Prior to adoption, the planning team performed extensive community engagement and outreach which included:
  - Four (4) public open houses
  - 1,792 survey responses
  - Two (2) community events
  - 12+ meetings with steering committees, stakeholders, and civic groups
  - Five update briefings to the Planning Board & County Commissioners
- The Planning team has reviewed 436 projects, to include:
  - 34 final subdivision plats (consisting of 1,493 lots)
  - 20 preliminary subdivision maps (consisting of 1,791 lots)
  - 15 commercial site plans

### CENTRAL PERMITTING CENTER

- Successfully processed 3,101 permitting applications and 1,209 water tap/meter applications.
- Completed first round of cross training for newly hired staff.
- Revised permit forms to simplify the land use and building application process.
- Continued efforts to educate applicants about the County’s on-line capabilities and availability to access permitting and inspection information remotely.

### INSPECTION DIVISION

- Successfully conducted 14,738 field inspections.
- Completed 1,121 building plan reviews.
- John Kokoszka obtained a Building Level II Standard Certificate.
- Daniel Floyd earned a Mechanical and Electrical I Standard Certificate.

### Economic Development

- Created two (2) initiatives in conjunction with Harnett Economic Development Corporation (HEDC):
  - The Harnett County Jobs Campaign aims to create 1,000 new jobs by the end of 2030, offering wages at or above 125% of the County’s average, as set by the North Carolina Department of Commerce.
  - The Industrial Land Program encourages collaboration with private landowners to complete Due Diligence on their property in an effort to transition available land to a market-ready site for industrial users.
- Secured \$148,500 in public and private financial commitments to largely be used for product development activities, including the Industrial Land Program.
- Edgerton Industrial Park – Site 1 - Engineering design was awarded and completed, now showing two (2) distinct developable areas that can support an industrial building of up to 100,000 SF and 10,000 SF respectively.
- Harnett 95 Industrial Center (Harnett 95) – Complete a Reverse Site Selection Report via Global Location Strategies (GLS) that yielded a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) Analysis, a Target Industry Analysis, Location Benchmarking, and a Gap + Improvement Analysis. The report will guide future product development and business attraction activities.
- Launched Strong Roots, New Growth, Harnett County’s Economic Development marketing video.



## Emergency Services

- On May 16, 2025, Harnett County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) implemented the Whole Blood program. This advancement allows us to provide evidence-based, life-saving treatment to patients experiencing hypovolemic shock, marking a significant step forward in our capabilities and positive patient outcomes.
- Through a coordinated effort between the EMS billing company (EMS/MC), Compliance and the field staff the department implemented targeted training and follow ups on accurate Patient Care Report (PCR) documentation and billing information obtained. As a result, returned PCR's due to documentation or billing errors dropped by 19.3% from January 1, 2025, to June 30, 2025. This resulted in accelerating reimbursement timelines.
- Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) has been drafted and templated with initial drafted plans being conducted for the Emergency Services and Information Technology departments. Further departments to be conducted upon training sessions.
- Successful Shearon Harris demonstration with positive feedback noted by Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA). Additionally, new decontamination equipment is being deployed and demonstrated.
- Engaged in cross-training of all Administrative and Billing Staff to ensure continuity of operations in the event of staff absences and/or turnover.
- Eliminated month-long delays in financial reporting to ensure more timely information is provided and trained in various ways to report information as accurately as possible.
- Received the 2025 Smoke Alarm Saturday and Smoke Alarm Canvassing Grant from NC Office of State of Fire Marshal.
- New Fire Investigation Case Management Software (Blazestack) has been configured and was implemented on July 1.
- Completed occupant data entry and scheduled inspections in new inspection software for all occupants (businesses) 250+ hours of data entry.

## Facilities Management

- The following facility improvement projects were completed:
  - Repaved and milled the parking lot serving Development Services/ Information Technology.
  - Replaced two (2) obsolete chiller pumps at the Courthouse.
  - Installed new sidewalks around the Government Complex.
  - Painted interior walls and installed new flooring for Tax Department and Register of Deeds offices.
  - Painted interior walls and flooring upgrades for the Health Department.
  - Installed new ADA-compliant parking spaces at Benhaven Library.





## Finance

- Additional Finance staff members obtained North Carolina Finance Officer certification.
- Modified departmental deposit process to enable more efficient bank reconciliation.
- Started implementation of Tyler ERP bid module and Tyler ERP employee expense module.
- Implemented enhanced cross training within the Finance department.
- Implemented DocuSign as a part of various Finance process improvements.
- Updated the travel authorization process.
- Implemented new vendor request portal.

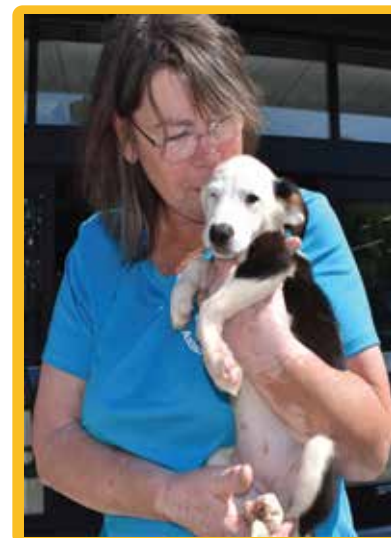
## Fleet

- Completed 854 vehicle work orders across 372 vehicles.
- Completed a full rebuild of a HARTS/Transportation van as part of an expansion request.
- Purchased new rolling jacks for the shop's middle lift to address safety concerns.
- Sold 36 surplus vehicles, two (2) surplus trailers and nine (9) pieces of equipment on GovDeals online auction platform for \$174,322.00.
- Fleet staff removed all equipment and decals, and prepared each vehicle for auction.
- The online auctions received 2,161 bids, 30,816 hits and 10,140 visitors.
- Acquired seven (7) vehicles during this period that have been added to the Fleet Replacement Program

## General Services

### ANIMAL SERVICES REPORT

- A total of 1,268 rabies vaccinations were administered, representing an 18.39% increase compared to 1,071 vaccinations during the previous period from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.
- 1,465 animals were taken into the shelter, representing a 7.2% increase from 1,359 animals admitted during the previous period of January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.
- The number of adoptions increased to 894, marking an 18.1% increase from 732 adoptions recorded from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.
- The mid-year euthanasia rate decreased to 38.9%, down 5.39% from the rate of 44.29% in the prior reporting period.
- Additionally, nine (9) adoption events and three (3) public education campaigns are contributing to our efforts to improve these outcomes



### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Through the United States Department of Agriculture Housing Preservation Grant 23, three (3) homes repairs were completed, with total expenditures of \$49,486 including administration, i.e. ads. Grant Balance: \$35,514 as of July 1.

## HARNETT AREA RURAL TRANSIT SYSTEM (HARTS)

- The percentage of denials decreased by 59.9% January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025.
- The Carolina Public Transportation Association (CPTA) Bus Rodeo Team secured 5th place out of 28 teams on April 26, 2025.
- The North Harnett Transit study was completed and presented to the Board of Commissioners on May 19, 2025.
- The driver turn-over rate decreased 23% compared to the same period last year.

## YOUTH SERVICES

- Program admissions: 30 total (25 in Community Service and 5 in Teen Court).
- Terminations: 50 total (45 in Community Service and 8 in Teen Court).
- Total Served:
  - 12 youth participated in Teen Court.
  - 45 youth completed community service.



## GIS

- Completed 13,789 data updates and additions.
- The custom parcel tool created and implemented saves over \$18,000.
- Upgraded the Arc Enterprise.
- Upgraded the E-911/GeoComm from Legacy to geoMSAG.
- Assisted Board of Elections with voter precinct splits in Western Harnett.
- Created new applications (app) for Board of Elections district and polling place changes and property tax revenue for the Tax Department.
- Assisted the Health Department with updating mosquito spraying areas for the state.
- Continued improvement and support for tracking Naloxone distribution for Narcotics Task Force.
- Created the Town of Lillington City Limits app and also a Yard and Bulky Waste Collection app.

## Harnett Regional Jetport (HRJ)

### OPERATIONS

- Increased operations by 12.79% from 32,167 in FY24 to 36,279 in FY25.
- Increased based aircraft.
- Increased customer service by opening communication between Airport Advisory Board and Director.
- Strengthened relationships between HRJ staff and based aircraft owners.
- Purchased Kubota UTV to assist maintaining the grounds of HRJ.

### FACILITIES

- Began corporate area development with design (grant funded), geotechnical studies, and obtained Harnett County Board of Commissioners approval to begin project.
- Began Pre-NEPA environmental studies for runway expansion.
- Worked with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to begin non-directional beacon decommissioning which is outdated technology and expensive to maintain.



## Harnett Regional Water (HRW)

- The North Harnett Wastewater Plant upgrades are 45% completed. The total project costs \$112M, and is currently removing sludge from the lagoons around the plant.
- A pilot study for polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) removal is currently underway at the Harnett Water Treatment Plant. Granular activated carbon, ionic exchange and resin alternative is being studied. The study will provide a recommendation to implement by the 2031 PFAS treatment mandates.
- The Angle Property (42 acres) was purchased on June 30 for the new Northeast Harnett Water Treatment Plant in Erwin.
- Request for Proposals were sent out for the Erwin Water Treatment Plant, which are due by July 30, 2025.
- The St. Matthews Utility Extension is 80% completed on the water project and 65% completed on the sewer design.
- The Lead and Copper Compliance program was funded with \$1M SRF with \$600,000 in principal forgiveness, and \$400,000 loan.
- Waiting on easement from Fort Bragg for the Southwest Wastewater improvements. This project will make sewer improvements to the Hwy 87 corridor.
- Eclipsed \$50M in total revenues.

## Health Department (HCHD)

### Clinical Services:

- The Clinical Services team established a program goal to improve health outcomes and safety by increasing outreach events in that community that promote awareness of available services. During this current first half, outreach events grew by 5.75%.

### Health Education:

- The health education team set a program goal to execute a minimum of four (4) public health communication and marketing campaigns to promote healthy lifestyles. In the last fiscal year, five (5) campaigns were successfully completed. Between January and June 2025, the team launched the following promotions, reaching thousands of individuals:
- QuitlineNC Promotion – February 2025:
  - 60 Radio Ads on 99.1 FM.
  - Seven (7) social media posts reaching 1,254 people.
- American Heart Month – February 2025:
  - Seven (7) social media posts. Post Reach – 3,723; Number of likes – 64; Shares – nine (9).
  - One (1) newspaper article in the Daily Record on 1/8/2025.
- Girls are Great – April 2025:
  - 13 social media posts. Post Reach – 6,034; Number of Likes -57; Shares – 33.
  - Three (3) Newspaper ads in the Daily Record.
  - Two (2) newspaper articles in the Daily Record – 3/18/2025 & 4/22/2025.
  - WPYB radio interview.

### Sharps Kiosk:

- In February 2025, HCHD installed a sharps disposal kiosk as part of a harm reduction strategy aimed to decrease improper disposal of sharps. Since installation of the unit, 36 gallons of sharps have been disposed of safely.



#### Go Red Lunch and Learn - Tuesday, February 18th:

- In recognition of American Heart Month, HCHD partnered with Cape Fear Valley Harnett Healthcare to host Go Red Lunch and Learn featuring Dr. Amol Bahekar, cardiologist with Cape Fear Heart and Vascular Specialists.
  - Outcome: Approximately 100 people attended the program. 90% reported increased knowledge of heart disease.

#### Girls are Great & Teen Girls Conference - Saturday, April 12th:

- The “Girls are Great” conference, serving girls ages 9-16, focused on the physical and emotional changes that take place during puberty.
  - Outcome: Approximately 90 people attended the program. 89% of girls/teens indicated that they learned something new in the puberty session.

#### Environmental Health:

- Environmental Health (EH) established a dedicated plan review room to improve efficiency of all restaurants, pool, remodel, and related plan reviews. The space is equipped with ample room and updated technology to streamline and accelerate the review process.

#### Mobile Free Pharmacy Event - Friday, June 20th:

- In partnership with NC Med Assist and Alliance Health, this community outreach initiative provided over-the-counter medications, fresh produce, and valuable health resources to residents. These efforts reflect the ongoing commitment to improving community health and ensuring that all residents have access to the medications and support they need.
  - A total of 1,034 individuals were served during the event, with 945 receiving services on-site and 89 served through homebound outreach.
  - Among those served, 17.46% were uninsured, highlighting the important role this program plays in supporting individuals without access to healthcare resources.

#### 2025 Senior Health and Safety Fair - Thursday, May 8th:

- The Harnett County Division on Aging welcomed approximately 150 seniors and 25 vendors to the Dunn Community Center. The Health Department’s Mobile Unit was on-site, offering free Naloxone kits and COVID-19 test kits. The fair provided an opportunity for seniors to access resources, connect with service providers, and engage with their community.

## Human Resources

- The Harnett Management Academy celebrated its first graduating class on April 15, recognizing 18 employees for successfully completing the program.
- Hosted 22 department HR liaisons at Harnett Regional Jetport for a HR Best Practices session.
- Completed a successful Open Enrollment in May for the 2025-2026 plan year.
- 140 employees participated through in-person enrollment sessions with Mark III.
- 471 employees utilized the Selerix online self-service portal.
  - Remaining employees opted for passive enrollment.
- Organized a variety of Employee Wellness Events including healthy cooking classes, corn hole tournament, National Fruit Day, and a kick ball tournament.
- Conducted 12 new hire orientation sessions, leading to the successful onboarding of 129 new employees.
- Conducted NEOGOV Online Hiring Center (OHC)/Dashboard Training review during the HR liaison retreat at the Jetport on June 11, 2025. We distributed training material to the departments.
- Issued a Request for Proposal for a workers compensation third party administrator. Specialized Contract Administrators, LLC was selected as the County's new provider.
- Successfully implemented the Offboarding Portal in NEOGOV.



## Information Technology

- Remodeled the 911 Center and upgraded the network and computer infrastructure.
- Installed 326 devices including personal computers, scanners, iPads and signature pads.
- Migrated over one third of the County to Webex Cloud Voice system.
- Audio-visual upgrades were completed at the Resource Center and Library building and Cooperative Extension conference room.
- Core network switch refreshes at Emergency Services, Sheriff's Office, and Health Department.
- Completed the 2025 Health Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) audit.
- Relocated DSS, Board of Elections, Solid Waste, Fleet and Capital Projects employees.
- Added security upgrades, cameras, and badge access door locking system to the Alexander building for Board of Elections.
- Responded to 5,383 technical requests.





## Legal

- Received 190 public records requests with an average response time of nine (9) days.
- Reviewed 363 contracts and change orders through DocuSign.
- Heard 96 appeals for violations of the County's School Bus Stop Arm Ordinance.

## Library

- Awarded four (4) Libraries Transforming Communities (LTC) ADA Compliance Grants in the amount of \$10,000 for Angier, Benhaven, Coats, and Dunn Public Libraries.
- Awarded Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Grant for Bookmobile and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology.
- Created Strategic Plan Implementation teams and framework.
- 2,795 registered participants for the Summer Reading Program. 320,000 collective minutes read.
- Implemented system wide staffing software and converted/trained staff.
- Programming:
  - Total number of public programs: 868 (an 8% increase compared to the same period last year).
  - Total public program attendance: 19,754 (reflecting a 2% increase).
- Circulation (loans):
  - Physical items: 177,296 items circulated (26% increase).
  - Digital items (eBooks/audiobooks): 48,242 (33% increase).
- Computer usage:
  - 7,894 public computer terminal uses (16% decrease).
- New patron registrations:
  - 3,279





## Parks and Recreation

- Improved park experiences with new amenities including scoreboards at Neill's Creek Park, Benhaven Gymnasium and Boone Trail Gymnasiums, adding Pickleball lines to Boone Trail and Benhaven gymnasiums for indoor play, and began construction of new dugouts at Boone Trail Community Center and a new picnic shelter at Cape Fear Shiner Park.
- Launched new programming at Benhaven and Boone Trail Community Centers, including Socca Tots for Toddlers and a Summer Camp Program at Benhaven; Movie in the Park events were hosted at Erwin Mill and Benhaven Community Center, and a partnership with the Harnett Arts Council introduced the Tree Ring Painting program to Anderson Creek Park.
- Began construction on two (2) water access sites along the Upper Little River to add to the blueway system.
- Submitted an application for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund grant to enhance Phase 1 of the Neills Creek Park renovation.
- Launched the Master Planning process for a future park in Northwest Harnett along Oakridge River Road and started exploring greenways from Lillington to Dunn-Erwin Rail Trail with commencement of a Greenway Feasibility Study.
- Executed a contract for timber thinning at Anderson Creek Park to support park improvement and long leaf pine habitat benefits.
- Rented ballfields, picnic shelters, gymnasiums, and meeting spaces for a total of 752.5 hours.
- Conducted a citizen feedback survey to gauge satisfaction on parks and programs. Overall ratings were above average.
- Hosted events for Carolina Charter Academy, I9 Sports, Lillington Parks and Recreation, Western Harnett Youth Recreation, and Wake Futbol Club.
- Hosted a multi-county meeting for Strategic Planning for Triangle Trails Initiative.
- Harnett County Parks welcomed over 296,000 visitors from January through June.

## Public Information Office

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- We have seen significant growth in social media compared to (Jan- June 2024) analytics.
  - Facebook engagement increased by 87.1% rising from 45,000 interactions (Jan-June 2024) to over 84,000. This includes likes, comments, shares, and other interactions.
  - Facebook followers grew by 10.3%, from 13,000 to more than 15,000 followers.
  - Instagram followers increased by 63.7% from 1,700 to over 1,900.
  - Instagram engagements have increased 51.1% reflecting a stronger connection with our audience and more effective content delivery.

### TOWN HALLS

- Assisted in leading the effort for the planning, promotion, and execution of five (5) Board of Commissioners Town Hall meetings in March, May, and June, resulting in: 30 attendees on March 11, 23 attendees on May 7, 24 attendees on May 13, 9 attendees on May 22, and 7 attendees on June 3.



### CITIZEN NEWSLETTER

- We received 124 new subscribers to the County's monthly citizen newsletter between January and June, indicating a growing interest in staying informed.
- Our Citizen newsletter continues to perform strong with an average open rate of 37.8%.

### WEBSITE

- In the first half of the year, the County website attracted over 91,000 visits and generated over 122,000 page views with the most popular being Animal Services, GIS, and Register of Deeds.

### Register of Deeds

- From January 1 through June 30, 2025, Harnett County has seen a notable increase in several key service areas:
  - Excise tax revenue rose by 14.63%, totaling \$988,121.94 compared to \$862,041.78 during the same period in 2024.
  - Marriage licenses issued increased to 531, up from 423 in the first half of 2024.
  - Statewide certified birth copies rose to 460, compared to 360 issued during the same timeframe last year.
  - Certified death copies increased to 14, up from 10 in the first half of 2024.
- A total of 73 Thank-A-Vet ID cards were issued between January 1 and June 30, 2025.
- Staff is certified through the NC Association of Registers of Deeds.





## Social Services

- Three (3) Department of Social Services (DSS) supervisors completed the Harnett County Management Academy.
- Harnett County's most recent initiation rate for Child Protective Services (CPS) assessments was 94%, which exceeded the state rate of 93%.
- Foster Care's monthly contacts with children in care average over 98% (Federal requirement is 95%) and 93% of the contacts are in the home (Federal requirement is 75%).
- 14 adoptions have been completed in 2025.
- The DSS Food and Nutrition Unit:
  - Served 1,748 Food and Nutrition clients.
  - Received 4,245 Food and Nutrition applications.
  - Approved 2,573 Food and Nutrition applications.
  - Completed 4,934 Food and Nutrition reviews.
  - Issued \$18,826,090 in Food and Nutrition benefits.
- The DSS Family and Children's Medicaid Unit:
  - Served 948 clients.
  - Received 3,603 F/C Medicaid applications.
  - Approved 1,881 F/C Medicaid applications.
  - Completed 8,881 F/C Medicaid recertifications.
- The DSS Adult Medicaid Unit:
  - Served 1,087 clients.
  - Received 1,024 Adult Medicaid applications.
  - Approved 440 Adult Medicaid applications.
  - Completed 2,205 Adult Medicaid recertifications.
- All Income Maintenance Units maintained a 95% timeliness rate for all programs. This is part of the DSS MOU with the state.
- Child Support surpassed their collection goal of \$9.3 million set by the state and collected a total of \$9,745,224 for FY24/25.
- DSS formed a Quality and Training Unit to ensure quality assurance in our Medicaid and Food and Nutrition units.
- Our Program Integrity staff are working with the Sheriff's Office and their detectives on fraud cases with a value of over \$10,000. Two cases have been referred.
- Adult Services completed and passed Mid-Carolina In-Home Aid monitoring in February 2025.
- The Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP) received 1,440 applications and approved 932, in the amount totaling \$637,500 including auto LIEAP applications.
- Completed a total of 329 Work First Family Assistance applications at 100% timeliness.

## Soil and Water Conservation District

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Stream Debris Removal: Secured \$140,755 from North Carolina Department of Agriculture to support stream debris removal projects allowing for unrestricted water flow and easing lowland flooding during heavy rain events. This work also restores ability for families to navigate safely by kayak for recreational purposes.
- Agriculture Cost Share Programs: Provided \$78,920 to Harnett County farmers for installation of conservation practices via the NC Agriculture Cost Share Program saving 751 tons of soil affecting 790 acres.
- Conservation Equipment Rental Program: 231 no-till acres planted using two (2) District's No-Till Grain Drills. Average planting per rental is nine (9) acres (\$90) vs the cost of a same model grain drill is \$33,000. Secured a grant from the NC Foundation for Soil and Water Conservation in the amount of \$19,596 to assist in purchasing a new Land Pride no-till grain drill to promote conservation tillage.
- Community Conservation Assistance Program: Secured \$10,000 for the Town of Erwin to conduct a feasibility study supporting the stream restoration project in Porter Park protecting both water quality and citizen safety.
- Farmland Preservation: 574 newly enrolled acres in the Voluntary Agricultural District (VAD) with a total enrollment of 27,378 acres including 704 total land parcels. The VAD program increases awareness of agriculture within our communities, helps negate disputes with non-farming neighbors, and encourages the economic health of agriculture.

### CONSERVATION EDUCATION

- Keep Harnett Beautiful: 509 volunteers participated in the April Spring Litter Sweep, working over 1,350 hours valued at \$46,967. 27 cleanups completed on 53 roadways collecting over 1,900 bags and over 850 large items such as tires and mattresses.
- NC Envirothon Program: Provided educational support and sponsorship for five (5) Envirothon teams all advancing from Area level to State level competition (25 students). One (1) team finished as the high scoring team in the wildlife division at the State competition.
- Other Youth Teaching Events: 404 students (field days, classroom presentations, workshops, camps).
- Adult Teaching/Speaking events: 300 adults (farmer/landowner meetings, Soil Water Conservation District (SWCD) area meetings, SWCD professional development events).

## Solid Waste

- Coordinated a public event for safe hazardous waste disposal and secure document shredding.
- Oversaw the completion of the Dunn-Erwin Landfill cell expansion project.
- Implemented extended Saturday operating hours at the Anderson Creek and Dunn-Erwin landfills.
- Created Request for Proposal (RFP) and received bids for the Northwest Convenience Center project.

## Tax Department

- Collections Division staff increased past due real estate collection rate by 57%.
- Administration staff attended meetings with all senior citizen centers in Harnett County to provide information on tax relief programs. These meetings were attended by a total of 345 Harnett County senior citizens.
- Revaluation staff completed 51,786 site visits in preparation for Reappraisal 2026.
- Personal Property Division staff completed site visits for over 4,200 mobile homes in preparation for personal property mobile home Reappraisal 2026.

## Veterans Services

- Three (3) Veterans Services Officers attended accreditation training in Durham, NC with the North Carolina Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NCDMVA) March 18-21.
- Hosted the Memorial Day Ceremony on May 26th.
- Hosted the dedication ceremony on May 31st in the Veterans Park for the new Charters of Freedom.

## Workforce Development

- Staff provided employer engagement support to a diverse group of businesses, assisting with a variety of workforce and service needs. Employers include: Habor Freight Tools-Erwin, Economy Cleaners, Kidds Place Too, Cathis Farm NC Veterans Farm, Sapphire Candles, Mcleod Homes Services, Phillip's Towing Services, H&H Products, Town of Lillington, William Enterprise and Mac Brothers Mechanical Heating & Air.
- Hosted several successful hiring events to connect local employers with job seekers.
- Partnered with the new Habor Freight Tools in Erwin to host six (6) hiring events.
- Hosted the Multi-Employer Hiring Event & Resources Fair on April 30, 2025, that included (18) employers. A total of (46) job seekers attended.
- From January 1 through June 30, 2025:
  - Staff provided 347 services to employers.
  - 170 internal job orders were posted.
  - 409 new individuals were registered in NCWorks.
  - 3,082 services were provided to customers.
  - Referred 394 individuals to jobs.
  - Served 31 veterans, with six (6) completing occupational skill training, one (1) placed in on-the-job training, one (1) placed in work experience, and five (5) were placed in employment.
- The American Rescue Plan Act provided:
  - Substance Use Disorder Support- A total of four (4) individuals were served:
    - one (1) with on-the job training.
    - one (1) work base learning.
    - two (2) occupational skill training.
  - Small Business Support- a total of 10 individuals were served:
    - Three (3) received on-the job-training.
    - Five (5) participated in work experiences.
    - Two (2) were placed in direct hire opportunities.
  - Justice involved (Re-entry)- six (6) individuals were served:
    - One (1) work base learning.
    - Three (3) occupational skills training.
    - One (1) received on-the job training.
    - One (1) secured employment through direct hire.