

## PGS DIVISION WILL HOST MOBILE WORKSHOP AT THE GEORGIA BIKE-WALK-LIVE SUMMIT

On November 18th, the NEGRC's Planning & Government Services (PGS) staff will lead an interactive mobile workshop for the **Georgia Bike-Walk-Live Summit** in partnership with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). Participants will be utilizing wheelchairs to conduct an audit of select sidewalks in downtown Athens on North Thomas Street. This informative mobile workshop serves to draw attention to wheelchair accessibility while also teaching how to collect data and implement solutions to improve active transportation conditions for all people living in the community.

The 2023 Georgia Bike-Walk-Live Summit is presented by **Bike Law Georgia** at the Graduate in Athens, GA. The Summit begins with a welcome event, followed by pedestrian safety curriculums and crash screening analysis programs, including fun and informative mobile workshops throughout Athens.

The mobile workshop, led by the NEGRC's PGS staff, will provide an interactive approach to disability awareness.

Registration for the Georgia Bike-Walk-Live Summit is now open.



*Georgia Bike-Walk-Live Summit flyer*

## PGS TEAM ATTENDS GEORGIA PLANNING ASSOCIATION FALL CONFERENCE

On September 20th, the NEGRC's Planning & Government Services (PGS) staff members Carol Flaute and Phillip Jones traveled to Savannah to attend the Georgia Planning Association's (GPA) Fall Conference. With the theme of 'Building a Resilient Future,' planners from across Georgia shared innovative solutions to the myriad of issues local governments face, including economic development, housing, climate change, and more.

This conference also provided an opportunity for our community planners to meet with peers at the local, regional, and state levels of government; fostering connections and sharing ideas. In addition to the sessions held at the De Soto Hotel, NEGRC planners also participated in various mobile workshops covering topics such as freight management, active transportation practices, environmental conservation, and agri-tourism.



*Mobile workshop in Savannah, Georgia at the Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference*

## ARC AWARDS GRANT TO MADISON COUNTY FOR WATER STUDY

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) recently awarded Madison County \$77,000 to conduct a feasibility study into options for the county's long-term water and wastewater delivery systems. This planning study will provide an overall framework for the county's water system by identifying the county's water needs, future water sources, and ways to prioritize funding for projects to accommodate the expected growth of the county. The grant application was developed and submitted by the NEGRC's Planning & Government Services (PGS) staff on behalf of Madison County and at their request.

Four NEGRC counties are eligible for ARC funding opportunities: Barrow, Elbert, Jackson, and Madison. For any questions regarding these opportunities, contact **Mark Beatty** at [mbeatty@negrc.org](mailto:mbeatty@negrc.org) or **(706) 369-5650**.

## THE CAREGIVER OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION

The Northeast Georgia Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Care-Net will host its annual "Caregiver of the Year" Celebration at Trumps' Catering on November 8, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. Trumps' Catering is located at 2026 South Milledge Avenue B, Athens, Georgia 30605.

The "Caregiver of the Year" Award recognizes selfless acts, compassion, empathy, effort, and extraordinary commitment of caregivers toward those who need their care. We believe it is essential to honor those who sacrifice their own resources, time, comfort, and sometimes livelihoods for the good of others. To be eligible for the award, a caregiver must be currently providing care or must have provided care within the past year.

The Award Categories are as follows:

### Family Caregiver Award

Nominees accepted:

- Any family member who provides assistance to a person with a disability, chronic illness, or other condition requiring support and assistance to have a full life in the community.
- A non-relative, but perceived as family, such as neighbor or friend.

### Para-Professional Caregiver Award

Nominees accepted:

- Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)
- Therapy aide
- Home Health Aide
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Nurse's Aide/Patient Care Technician
- Direct Support Caregiver (companion/sitter)



## Volunteer Caregiver Award

### Nominees Accepted:

- A volunteer who has completed at least one year of service caring for an individual or individuals in a capacity that aids and/or improves their life. For example, Hospice Volunteer, Church Volunteer, and Volunteer with an Association such as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's.
- A volunteer who has been involved in an event or situation that has made a real difference in the life of a care receiver or their family.

For questions or additional information, please contact **Toshia Lewis**, NEGRC Quality Assurance Senior Manager, at **1(888)808-8020 ext. 103** or via email at **tlewis@negrc.org**.

The October 2023 graduates received certification in OSHA 10, Lean Six-Sigma White Belt, First Aid/CPR/AED, Basic Forklift Operation, and American Welding Society (AWS Certification). These young individuals are now prepared to enter the workforce and are actively interviewing for jobs with local companies. Funding is provided through WorkSource Northeast Georgia, thanks to a USDOL WORC ARC grant and a United Way of Northeast Georgia grant.

For information on this training and other programs offered under the oversight of the Northeast Georgia Workforce Development Board, please contact the **NEGRC Workforce Development Division** at **(706) 369-5703**.

## FOOTHILLS/NEGRC BARROW WELDREADY GRADUATION



*Pictured: E. Boren, K. Corkery, A. Ortiz-Mora, A. Rodriguez, W. Smart, J. Smith, C. Venegas, D. Wake, J. Winslett*

Congratulations to the nine recent graduates of the Foothills Barrow/WorkSource Northeast Georgia WeldReady course, held at the Foothills Sims-Barrow County Campus. This collaboration involved Foothills Regional High School, the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission/WorkSource Georgia, and Workforce Innovators, Inc. The training provided ten weeks of instruction in welding and related employment preparation.



# Update

## REGIONAL MEETINGS NOVEMBER

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3 <sup>rd</sup>	10:00 a.m.	Senior Center Director's Meeting	NEGRC
7 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 a.m.	NEGA AAA Public Hearing	Oconee County Senior Center
8 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 a.m.	NEGA-Care-Net Caregivers of the Year Celebration	Trumps Catering
8 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 p.m.	Northeast Georgia Regional Solid Waste Management Authority	NEGRC Atrium
8 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>		Georgia Association of Regional Commissions Annual Conference	St. Simons Island
15 <sup>th</sup>	11:00 a.m.	Upper Oconee Basin Water Authority	Bear Creek Water Reservoir & Treatment Plant
16 <sup>th</sup>	Noon	NEGRC Council Meeting	Trumps Catering
23 <sup>rd</sup> & 24 <sup>th</sup>	All Day	Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday	