

## WHO WE ARE

The BCDCOG is a voluntary association of local governments. Our role in the region is to assist leaders in Berkeley, Charleston and Dorchester counties in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit, and coordinating for regional development.

## WHAT WE DO

Through thoughtful planning and partnerships with our members, we work to ensure prosperity for the Tri-County region.

## REGIONAL PLANNING

### HOW WE HELP

We participate in almost every major planning endeavor that impacts the region. These large-scale efforts are an attempt to leverage group resources and avoid duplication and waste.

Through the Charleston Area Transportation Study (CHATS), we also serve as the area's Metropolitan Planning Organization, the local designated recipient of Federal funds for crucial infrastructure projects, such as major highways. Through CHATS we identify infrastructure needs and our members prioritize them for funding in the Transportation Improvement Plan.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Key Regional Plans: Our Region, Our Plan (the region's master plan), Long Range Transportation Plan, Regional Transit Framework Plan, Regional Park-and-Ride Study, Regional Housing Needs Assessment
- \* Major Land-Use Planning Efforts: Neck Area Master Plan, Rethink Folly Road, joint land-use studies, water quality plans, and numerous municipal comprehensive plans
- \* Oversight of public transit programs CARTA and TriCounty Link

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### HOW WE HELP

Acting as a regional clearinghouse, we take part in many of the area's critical economic ventures, helping to create and retain thousands of jobs. By partnering with local economic development agencies, we facilitate financial support via Economic Development Administration (EDA) funding.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \* EDA funding assisted the Charleston Area Convention Center, Volvo Cars USA plant sewer infrastructure, Trident Tech's aeronautical training facility, and many others
- \* We are part of the team that brought Boeing to the area
- \* We provide support for economic development initiatives through grant writing and administrative services

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

### HOW WE HELP

At our three SC Works training centers, we help employers find, recruit, train, and retain qualified employees. We also connect residents with quality jobs through a variety of free employment-related programs, workshops, and resources.

The SC Works Business Services team leverages local and state initiatives to aid in recruitment, training programs, and business retention/expansion efforts. Our On-the-Job Training program, meanwhile, allows companies to train new hires while they work. Employers make all hiring decisions, tailor training, and can be reimbursed up to 75% of hourly wages.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \* In 2017 alone, our centers hosted more than 57,000 visits by residents on their journeys to employment
- \* The Incarcerated Veterans Re-entry program allows down-on-their luck heroes to re-enter society with a purpose, education, training, and a job
- \* Our award-winning Education2Employment program placed nearly 120 at-risk individuals into quality jobs in just two years



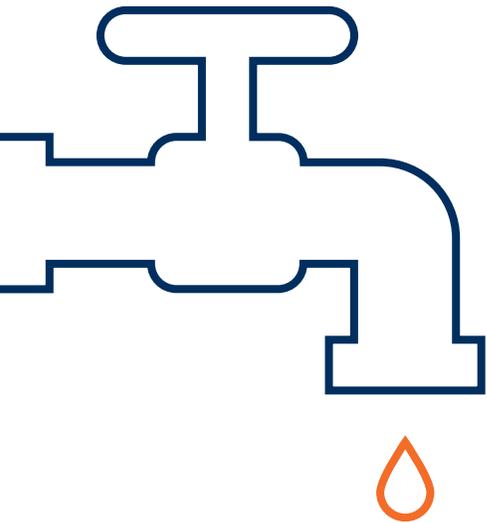
## COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT

### HOW WE HELP

We assist local governments in developing, applying for, and administering Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). The program addresses social and environmental problems in low-income neighborhoods through neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improvement of community facilities.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- \* Facilitated CDBG grants throughout Berkeley and Dorchester counties, from St. Stephen to St. George, that helped with everything from sewer upgrades to playgrounds
- \* Administered CDBG grants for two revitalization investments in Moncks Corner and Hanahan
- \* Our Revolving Loan Fund offers federal funding opportunities to small-business start-ups and expansions, creating jobs while filling capital gaps



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WWW.BCDCOG.COM  
(843) 529-0400

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