



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chatham County Commissioners Proclaim September as Senior Center Month

PITTSBORO, NC – The Chatham County Board of Commissioners has joined communities across the state and nation in designating September 2020 as Senior Center Month.

As noted in the County proclamation, Commissioner Chair Karen Howard urged “the people of Chatham County to observe the month by supporting the work of the Chatham County Council on Aging, and its two centers, during this challenging period of COVID-19 and throughout the year, in service to Chatham County’s growing population of older adults.”

The national theme for this special month is *Senior Centers: Delivering Vital Connections!*



Chatham County Council on Aging volunteers were recently honored during a drive-thru Volunteer Appreciation event. Volunteers were greeted with cheers from Senior Games cheerleaders and staff.

“This theme certainly reflects the vital role senior centers continue to play in promoting healthy aging and preventing social isolation in this time of COVID-19,” remarked Liz Lahti, manager of the Council’s Eastern Center in Pittsboro.

This role includes offering a wide array of virtual and distance programming options and providing an extensive slate of services

beyond the centers’ walls since the Council on Aging’s two State-certified Senior Centers of Excellence closed to the public this past March due to the pandemic.

“There is no question that this has been a difficult time for our participants, volunteers and staff,” commented Dennis Streets, director of the Council on Aging. “But as a nonprofit organization in our 46th year of service to Chatham County seniors and their families, we are still working very hard to assure that all can access and enjoy the benefits of the many services and programs the Council provides.”



“Part of that service,” Streets added, “includes an ongoing commitment to respect and value the diversity of our participants and volunteers.”

As the newest member of the Council on Aging staff, Tiketha Collins shared her excitement as manager of the Western Center. “The dedication I see among my peers is so inspiring, and I am excited to do my part in continuing such an outstanding tradition of caring.”

For information about the work of the Chatham County Council on Aging and its two centers, visit www.chathamcoa.org. People can also call the Eastern Center at 919-542-4512 and the Western Center at 919-742-3975.

The [Chatham County Council on Aging](http://www.chathamcoa.org) is a nonprofit organization celebrating 46 years of serving seniors and their families. Its goal is to help older adults remain living safely at home and stay healthy and active in the community.



The Chatham County Council on Aging partners with Chatham Transit to bring its Senior Centers to older adults in the community through regular deliveries of meals and supplies throughout the pandemic. Since closing its doors due to COVID-19 on March 16, 2020, the Council on Aging has delivered more than 6,380 shelf-stable meals and more than 1,420 frozen meals to Chatham County seniors.

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