

**FIRST TENNESSEE DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT  
2ND QUARTER STATUS REPORT  
APRIL - JUNE 2011**

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

- The Hancock County Historical & Genealogical Society was funded for a Federal Historic Preservation Grant for their Old Jail Restoration Project in the amount of \$11,000. The Historical & Genealogical Society received funds to restore the 1860 jail, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The building houses the local Historical & Genealogical Society, a local history museum, and the local Welcome Center.
- During the quarter, the District was very active in administration of 49 funded projects. These projects included funds from the Appalachian Regional Commission, Community Development Block Grant, Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant, Economic Development Administration, Local Parks Recreation Fund, State Industrial Access Road, and Transportation Enhancement Act.
- The U.S. Census Bureau released additional 2010 census of the population data for Tennessee counties and municipalities. New data included age distribution, census tract, block group and block data. Previously released data includes population, racial composition and occupied housing data. The data is available at the District's website [www.ftdd.org](http://www.ftdd.org) under the Regional Statistics/FACTS heading.

**HOUSING PROGRAMS**

- Tennessee Housing Development Agency awarded **Greene County** and the **Town of Greeneville** \$375,000 each in HOME funds for owner occupied housing rehabilitation. Staff attended grantee workshop in Nashville to receive grant documents and instructions.
- Outreach for the THDA Emergency Repair Program was provided by participating in meetings for tornado victims at South Central Elementary School in **Washington County**, Camp Creek Elementary School for **Greene County**, and the Johnson County Court House for **Johnson County**.
- Housing Department staff attended the 2011 HUD Community Partners meeting in Knoxville. Staff participated in sessions about the Community Development Block Grant program and the HOME program.

During this quarter the following projects were completed:

THDA HOME Rehabilitation/Reconstruction Program (7)  
**Johnson County – 2**  
**Town of Unicoi – 2**  
**Hancock County – 3**

THDA Emergency Repair Program for the Elderly (6)

**Washington County – 3**

**Carter County – 1**

**Unicoi County – 2**

Northeast Tennessee/Virginia HOME Consortium Down Payment Assistance (8)

**Kingsport – 5**

**Johnson City – 2**

**Washington County - 1**

Northeast Tennessee/Virginia HOME Consortium Housing Rehabilitation (3)

**Johnson City – 2**

**Washington County - 1**

Johnson City CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program (7)

**Emergency Repair –1**

**Substantial Rehabilitation - 6**

THDA Neighborhood Stabilization Program (1)

**Closed out Bristol, Tennessee Demo Project**

#### **AREA AGENCY ON AGING AND DISABILITY**

- The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Aging was held on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at the Millennium Centre in Johnson City. Two hundred eighty-one participants registered for the event. The keynote speaker was Mitchell Tolle nationally renowned artist, speaker and author from Berea, Kentucky. The daylong conference included the following workshops: “Important Papers”, “The Impact of Chronic Conditions and Diabetes”, “No Place Like Home”, “One Call Club for Seniors”, “Introduction to Eden Alternative”, “The New Health Care Law and You”, “Bed Bugs and Beyond”, “Building and Maintaining Cognitive Skills”, “Targeting Minorities”, “Disaster Preparedness” and “Prevent Those Slips and Falls”.
- The First Tennessee District Senior Olympics were held May 23<sup>rd</sup> through May 27<sup>th</sup> in Johnson City and Kingsport. The Golf Tournament was held on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Cattails at Meadowview. Two hundred sixty athletes participated in the week long events. There were 459 Gold, 185 Silver and 85 Bronze medals awarded for a total of 729. Events offered were Basketball, Bowling, Golf, Horseshoes, Pickleball, Shuffleboard, Swimming, Table Tennis, Track and Field, and Volleyball. Athletes participating in the District games were eligible to advance to the Tennessee Senior Olympics which was held July 22<sup>nd</sup> through July 28<sup>th</sup> in Williamson County (Franklin/Brentwood area).
- The Washington County SALT (Seniors and Law Enforcement Together) Council sponsored a Senior Crime Prevention Academy at the Jonesborough Area Senior Center. Eighty-five seniors participated in the event which was held on Wednesday, June 15, 2011. The event was held in conjunction with World Elder Abuse Awareness Day which is observed annually on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Topics covered at the Academy were: “Identity Theft” presented by FBI Special Agent Drew Scown, “Medicare Fraud” by TBI Special

Agent Barry Carrier, and “Protection from Adult Abuse” by Linda Evans with Adult Protective Services.

- The FTDD participated in the 2011 Washington County Relay for Life event that was held on Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at Indian Trail Middle School. Our team, Mission Possible, consisted of 35 members collecting over \$1,600 for the American Cancer Society.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

During the past quarter of FY 2010-2011, the Environmental Management Program staff worked on several projects that involved many of our local governments. The District assisted or implemented the following projects during the past quarter:

- Attended Ozone Action Partnership Media Day at Eastman Employee Center in Kingsport.
- Coordinated Regional Solid Waste Board meetings in Sullivan, Hawkins, Greene, Carter, Washington, Unicoi and Johnson (Northeast Tennessee). The purpose of the meetings was to provide an update on the 2010 Annual Solid Waste Progress Reports.
- Attended Rural Development Conference in Cookeville.
- Attended Tennessee Development District Association meeting in Nashville.
- Participated in the Carter County Environmental Committee and attended meetings of the Committee.
- Attended Tennessee Solid Waste Conference in Gatlinburg.
- Continued to serve on the Board of Directors of Keep Greene Beautiful, Appalachian RC&D Council and the Recycling Marketing Cooperative for Tennessee and the Planning Committee for the Tennessee Environmental Conference.
- Continued to work with the Sinking Creek Watershed Group.
- Attended meetings of the Carter County Commission Landfill Committee.
- Worked on Watauga CDBG Environmental Review.

Also, the District’s Geographic Information System (GIS) Program was involved in several projects during the quarter which included the following:

- Historical data maps and National Register of Historic Places
- Transportation maps for RPO projects.
- Topographic maps
- Housing rehabilitation Environmental Reviews.

Contact Wendy Hill at 722-5094 for more information on the District’s GIS program and how GIS can help meet the needs of your community. Or visit our website at [ftdd.org/programs/gis](http://ftdd.org/programs/gis).

## **RURAL PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

During the past quarter the First Tennessee RPO staff assisted local transportation representatives and elected officials with numerous requests concerning rural transportation. The RPO was also involved in the following projects and initiatives:

- Worked on Purpose and Need documentation for SR-67, SR-167, SR-107, SR-81, SR-172 and SR-93. Documentation for SR-67 and SR-167 was submitted to TDOT to determine the needs for future study on these routes.
- Participated in several webinars from sponsored by the National Association of Development Organizations concerning the status of new Federal highway legislation.
- Submitted data to Congressman Roe's Washington staff on proposed RPO legislation in the U.S. Senate.
- Prepared project spreadsheet and map for "active" transportation projects in the FTRPO area.
- Attended High Country RPO meeting in Boone, NC.
- Attended Bristol MPO meeting.
- Participated on I-81 Corridor Coalition Conference Calls.
- Attended East Tennessee Development District RPO meetings in Knoxville.

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

- Attended regular board, committee meetings, and other events for the Birthplace of Country Music Alliance; Northeast Tennessee Tourism Association; Tanasi; WIB Youth Council; Appalachia Sustainable Development; Northeast TN Council on Children and Youth; Vision Council for Children & Youth, United Way of Greater **Kingsport**, Tennessee; Education Coalition; FTDD Executive Committee and Semi-Annual Meeting, and Tennessee Association of Community Leadership.
- Participated with NETTA in Technical Assistance meeting in Morristown and District staff with St. John's Mill.
- Tri-Cities TN/VA Regional Leadership Council planning for 2011 Regional Day. Trusteeship Day planning for ENCORE program in **Kingsport**.
- Facilitated **Johnson County/Mountain City** Champion Community Committee Visioning Process.
- Participated on Planning Team for the ARC *Growing The Appalachian Food Economy* Workshop in the **Town of Unicoi**.
- Attended USDA Rural Development Annual Conference, Tennessee Development District Association Annual Meeting, STEM Conference; Kingsport's Straight to the Top Conference
- Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations 2010 Public Infrastructure Inventory Survey update and data entry completed.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Governor's 2011 Economic and Community Development Conference, Nashville, TN, September 22 and 23.
- Governor's 2011 Department of Tourist Development Conference, October 5, 6 and 7, Memphis, TN.
- 2011 Apple Festival in Erwin, October 7 and 8.
- Fall Festival in Sneedville, October 7 and 8.
- Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, October 7 thru 9.
- FTDD 2011 Annual Meeting, Gatlinburg, TN October 21, 22, and 23.