

## COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### PEADD HOSTS INAUGURAL DISASTER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

The first meeting of the Pennyriple Area Development District's (PeADD) Disaster Leadership Council (DLC) was held on May 12. Hopkins County Judge Executive Jack Whitfield, Hopkins County Emergency Management Director Nick Bailey, and Christian County Emergency Management Director Randy Graham shared their experiences and insights from the December 10, 2021, tornadoes.

The DLC, established by Disaster Resiliency Coordinator Jaime Embry, brings together senior officials, emergency managers, and community stakeholders. Its mission is to strengthen disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts through collaborative leadership and strategic planning.



### 2025 KAMM REGION I TRAINING HELD AT PENNYRILE ADD OFFICE



On May 28, 2025, the Kentucky Association of Mitigation Managers (KAMM) Region I training was held at the Pennyriple Area Development District (PeADD) office. KAMM members from across Region I gathered for a day of learning, networking, and collaboration focused on key hazard mitigation topics.

Participants engaged with timely and critical subjects, including flood mapping, post-disaster permitting, flood event emergency action planning, and updates in hazard mitigation strategies.

The training featured expert presentations from:

- Alex VanPelt, NFIP Coordinator, Kentucky Division of Water (KY DOW)
- John "JP" Carsons, Senior Planning and Resiliency Consultant, Arcadis
- A compelling video segment produced by Morgan Atkinson, a Kentucky-based documentary filmmaker

Attendees earned six Continuing Education Credits (CECs) while gaining valuable insights to support community resilience and disaster preparedness across Western Kentucky. The session also fostered vital regional collaboration among mitigation professionals and community leaders.

### PEADD LAUNCHES PROFESSIONAL DRONE SERVICES

The Pennyriple Area Development District is now offering professional drone services to support local and regional projects across the Pennyriple region.

GIS Specialist Chris Miller, a certified FAA Part 107 drone pilot, leads the program—ensuring safe, legal, and high-quality operations for both commercial and governmental use.

Available services include aerial photography and video, mapping and surveying, environmental monitoring, land use analysis, and support for economic development projects such as industrial site promotion. Custom services are also available to meet specific project needs.

Rates start at \$125 per hour, with pricing based on the scope and complexity of each request.

This new capability enables PADD to deliver faster, more accurate, and cost-effective data to support planning and development efforts across the region. To learn more or request services, contact Chris Miller or the Community & Economic Development Department.



## UPCOMING GRANT DEADLINES: WATER, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

### Funding for Public Water and Wastewater Systems

The Kentucky Infrastructure Authority has launched the WWATERS Program, established through House Bill 563 during the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly. This new initiative is designed to assist troubled or economically strained public water and wastewater systems in securing financial support.

### DRA SDRF Program Supports Disaster Recovery and Infrastructure Resilience

The Delta Regional Authority (DRA) is offering Supplemental Disaster Recovery Funding (SDRF) to support infrastructure recovery and resilience in counties impacted by federally declared disasters in 2023 and 2024.

### DRA SEDAP Program Funds Economic and Infrastructure Development

The Delta Regional Authority's States Economic Development Assistance Program (SEDAP) offers funding for projects that promote economic growth across the region. Eligible activities include basic public infrastructure improvements, transportation projects that support economic development, business development initiatives, and workforce training or employment-related education—particularly through existing public educational institutions.

### EDA FY2025 Disaster Supplemental Program Supports Long-Term Economic Recovery

The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) is offering funding through its FY2025 Disaster Supplemental Program to help communities rebuild stronger, more resilient local economies following federally declared disasters. This program encourages collaboration with private industry and broad local engagement to ensure lasting impact. This flexible program is designed to meet communities where they are in the recovery process and help drive sustainable economic growth.

For more information or assistance in applying for any of these programs and more, please contact the PeADD Community & Economic Development staff at 270-886-9484 or via email:

- Amy Frogue – [amy.frogue@ky.gov](mailto:amy.frogue@ky.gov)
- Jared Nelson – [jared.nelson@ky.gov](mailto:jared.nelson@ky.gov)
- Brian Jones – [briant.jones@ky.gov](mailto:briant.jones@ky.gov)
- Mike Goode – [mike.goode@ky.gov](mailto:mike.goode@ky.gov)
- Lexie Pendleton – [lexie.pendleton@ky.gov](mailto:lexie.pendleton@ky.gov)



## WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBERS!



Jessica Robinson was recently hired as a new Social Services Case Manager for the HCBW Program. Jessica is a native of Western New York and moved to Kentucky in 2009. She has three children who have brought her much joy and purpose over the years. Jessica is a member of Christ's Church and attends two sister congregations routinely.



Amber P'Pool has recently joined the team as the HCBW Program Support Specialist. She holds a bachelor's degree in Human Services from Murray State University and previously worked at a crisis relief center. Amber lives in Trigg County with her fiancé, daughter, and three dogs. In her spare time, she enjoys watching soccer and reading.



We are pleased to welcome Jessica Davis, serving as the Veteran Directed Care Program Support Specialist. In this role, Jessica will assist with the coordination and administration of services that support veterans who wish to remain independent in their homes and communities. Jessica resides in Hopkins County with her husband and two children. She is a graduate of Murray State University and enjoys spending time with her family, reading and gardening.



Tammy Meredith holds a Bachelor of Social Work from Austin Peay State University and a Master of Social Work from the University of New England. She has a diverse background in the field, including roles in medical social work as a behavioral health referral specialist, prevention services focused on teen populations, and serving as a therapist and program manager with a nonprofit organization supporting military personnel, first responders, and their families. In her personal time, Tammy enjoys reading, crafting, and supporting her daughter's involvement in all-star cheerleading.



Originally from Pembroke, Lexie Pendleton graduated from Murray State University with a bachelor's degree in public health. She previously worked at the Hopkins County Health Department, where she focused on public health education and emergency preparedness. Lexie is excited about this new opportunity to build meaningful connections across the region and make a positive difference in the Pennyrile.

Please join us in welcoming Lexie, Jessica R., Amber, Jessica D., and Tammy to the team. Each brings a unique set of skills and experiences that will strengthen our programs and enhance the services we provide across the region. We look forward to the contributions they will make in their new roles.



## HEALTH & FAMILY SERVICES

### PENNYRILE AAAIL PARTICIPATES IN HOPKINS COUNTY SENIOR CENTER HEALTH FAIR



The Pennyrile Area Agency on Aging and Independent Living (AAAIL) participated in the Hopkins County Senior Center Health Fair on June 25, 2025. The event featured 20 vendors and welcomed up to 50 participants.

Our agency provided information on a variety of aging services and programs, including the Veterans Directed Option, Medicaid Waiver, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Caregiver Support, Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), and Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

For more information about any of these resources, contact the ADRC at 270-886-9484.

### BE THE DIFFERENCE: VOLUNTEER AS A FRIENDLY VISITOR OR CERTIFIED OMBUDSMAN

The Pennyrile Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program is seeking volunteers to bring comfort and advocacy to residents in nursing homes and assisted living facilities.



Friendly Visitors commit just one hour a week to provide companionship to someone who may feel forgotten. With just two hours of training, you can start making a meaningful connection.

Certified Ombudsman Volunteers receive 36 hours of training to advocate for residents' rights and help resolve concerns.

Whether you're retired or simply passionate about helping others, your time can make a lasting impact. Learn more: Call 270-886-9484, email [cindy.tabor@ky.gov](mailto:cindy.tabor@ky.gov), or visit [www.peadd.org](http://www.peadd.org). Together, we can make sure no resident feels alone.

### RHYTHMS, MOVEMENT, AND JOY: DRUMS ALIVE LAUNCHES IN TRIGG COUNTY



The Bridging the Gap pilot program was thrilled to kick off Drums Alive in June at the Trigg County Senior Center! This dynamic wellness program blends the energizing rhythms of drumming with movement to promote both physical fitness and cognitive health. Participants had a great time drumming along to a mix of classic and contemporary tunes, all while engaging in a fun, interactive workout that brought smiles and energy to the room.

### STANDING TOGETHER AGAINST ELDER ABUSE

In recognition of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (June 15), the Pennyrile Area Development District hosted a powerful Lunch & Learn to raise awareness and stand up for our older adults.



We were honored to welcome David Startzman, Deputy Director of the Office of Medicaid Fraud and Abuse Control, as our guest speaker. His insights helped shed light on the ongoing efforts to protect vulnerable Kentuckians.

With around 50 attendees, the event was a meaningful reminder that everyone has a role in preventing elder abuse. Each participant shared a personal message of support, and we captured a group photo to symbolize our collective commitment.

Let's keep the conversation going — Take Your Stand Against Elder Abuse today! To learn more about Elder Abuse programs in the Pennyrile region, visit [www.peadd.org](http://www.peadd.org) or contact Cindy Tabor at 270-886-9484 or email her at [cindy.tabor@ky.gov](mailto:cindy.tabor@ky.gov).

## WORKFORCE SERVICES

### FROM LAYOFF TO LICENSED BARBER: CHRISTOPHER'S CAREER COMEBACK

When Meritor Suspension Systems Company (MSSC) announced layoffs due to manufacturing consolidation, Christopher Parker was among the affected employees. Soon after, MSSC workers were certified for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) by the U.S. Department of Labor, giving them access to career retraining and support services.

Determined to find a stable, in-demand career that also aligned with his passion, Christopher attended a Rapid Response and TRAC orientation hosted by the West Kentucky Workforce Board. There, he connected with a Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Career Coach and shared his longtime dream of becoming a master barber.

With encouragement and guidance, Christopher enrolled in the barbering program at Queen City College in Clarksville, Tennessee. Through a combination of TAA and WIOA funding, he completed his training, earned his apprenticeship license in February 2024, and became a licensed master barber just one year later.

Today, Christopher is living his dream, working as a master barber at The Shop in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. His story is a powerful example of how dedication, support, and a clear plan can turn a challenge into a new beginning.



### SUPPORT | CONNECT | EMPOWER | VETERANS SYMPOSIUM RETURNS THIS FALL



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

**November 3, 2025**  
**10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. EST**  
Kentucky Community & Technical College System Office  
300 N. Main St., Versailles, KY 40383

Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Veterans Employment & Training Symposium (VETS), taking place on Monday, November 3, 2025, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. EST at the Kentucky Community & Technical College System Office in Versailles, KY.

This no-cost event is designed to support and connect veterans with valuable employment and training resources. With limited seating available, early registration is encouraged.

Sponsorship opportunities are also available for those interested in supporting this impactful event. For more information, contact Kendrah Pearson at [kendrah.pearson@kctcs.edu](mailto:kendrah.pearson@kctcs.edu).

### PUTTING YOUNG KENTUCKIANS TO WORK HELPS JAMES LAUNCH MANUFACTURING CAREER



James D. Rucker, a 2024 graduate of Christian County High School, began his journey into the workforce with a goal of finding stable employment in manufacturing. In January 2025, he was hired by Delavan in Elkton, KY, as an Assembler earning \$17 per hour.

Shortly after joining the company, James was referred to the West Kentucky Workforce Board for the Putting Youth Kentuckians to Work (PYK2W) On-the-Job Training program. Through this opportunity, he completed 480 hours of hands-on training, gaining valuable experience in assembling agricultural pumps and hydraulic systems.

James's story highlights how workforce partnerships and training programs can open doors for young adults entering the job market, equipping them with real-world skills and a strong start to their careers.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME (CT)	LOCATION
Tri County Elder Abuse Council Meeting	July 9, 2025	12 PM	PeADD Office & Zoom
Pennyriple Elder Abuse Board of Directors Meeting	July 9, 2025	1 PM	PeADD Office & Zoom
Pennyriple Area Development District Board of Directors Meeting	July 14, 2025	12 PM	PeADD Office & Zoom
Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group	July 15, 2025	11 AM	PeADD Office & Zoom
Pennyriple Grandparent Support Group	July 17, 2025	10 AM	PeADD Office & Zoom
Western Regional Multi-Agency Meeting	July 17, 2025	10 AM	PeADD Office & Zoom
Caregiver Support Group	July 24, 2025	11 AM	Dawson Springs Library 103 West Ramsey St. Dawson Springs
Western Kentucky Senior Suicide Prevention Network	July 24, 2025	1 PM	PeADD Office & Zoom

## PeADD Board of Directors

### CALDWELL COUNTY

Amanda Davenport, Citizen Representative  
Jim Seibert, Mayor of Fredonia  
Brock Thomas, Mayor of Princeton  
William "Kota" Young, Judge/Executive

### CHRISTIAN COUNTY

Jerry Gilliam, Judge/Executive  
Lori Harper, Citizen Representative  
J.R. Knight, Mayor of Hopkinsville  
Tara Rascoe, Citizen Representative  
Verdell Smith, Citizen Representative

### CRITTENDEN COUNTY

D'Anna Browning, Mayor of Marion  
Bart Frazer, Citizen Representative  
Perry Newcom, Judge/Executive  
Dan Wood, Citizen Representative

### HOPKINS COUNTY

Kevin Cotton, Mayor of Madisonville  
Jenny Sewell, Citizen Representative  
Karen Solise, Citizen Representative  
Jack Whitfield, Jr., Judge/Executive

### LIVINGSTON COUNTY

Crissy Carter, Citizen Representative  
Gary Damron, Mayor of Salem  
Bill Hesser, Mayor of Smithland  
Brad Hunter, Citizen Representative  
Michael Williams, Judge/Executive

### LYON COUNTY

Greg Greene, Mayor of Eddyville  
Jaime Green-Smith, Judge/Executive  
Wade White, Citizen Representative  
Lee Wilson, Citizen Representative

### MUHLENBERG COUNTY

Tony Armour, Mayor of Central City  
Eddie DeArmond, Mayor of Greenville  
Randy McCarty, Citizen Representative  
Mack McGehee, Judge/Executive  
Andy Swansey, Citizen Representative

### TODD COUNTY

Arthur Green, Mayor of Elkton  
Todd Mansfield, Judge/Executive  
Martha Jo Ray, Mayor of Trenton  
Michael Smith, Citizen Representative

### TRIGG COUNTY

Stan Humphries, Judge/Executive  
Todd King, Mayor of Cadiz  
Beth Sumner, Citizen Representative  
Todd Wallace, Citizen Representative



[WWW.PEADD.ORG](http://WWW.PEADD.ORG)

## PADD PRESS

An official publication of the

## PENNYRILE AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Jason Vincent, Executive Director

## PeADD Board Officers

Board Chair.....Judge Todd Mansfield  
Vice Chair.....Mayor Kevin Cotton  
Secretary.....Judge Kota Young  
Treasurer.....Mr. Lee Wilson



Pennyriple Area Development District  
300 Hammond Drive  
Hopkinsville, KY 42240  
(270) 886-9484

The preparation of this document was financed with federal, state and local funds under a Joint Funding Agreement.