

## Centralina Receives Three National Association of Development Organizations 2022 Impact Awards

Centralina Regional Council received three [2022 Impact Awards](#) from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), a membership association of regional development organizations. The NADO Impact Awards program recognizes regional development organizations for improving the economic and community competitiveness of our nation's regions and local communities. The Centralina initiatives recognized at this year's awards include: 1) **Centralina Regional Dialogue Series** for Communicating Results and Public Engagement, 2) **Centralina Regional Resilience Collaborative** for Emergency Preparedness and Recovery and 3) **Centralina Workforce Development App** for Workforce Development.

### Centralina Regional Resilience Collaborative

The Centralina Regional Resilience Collaborative (RRC) is a replicable and scalable program that leverages the strengths of emergency management leaders, community and non-profit partners, and local government staff to work collaboratively to develop recovery plans and processes to bolster disaster preparedness capacity and economic resilience for the nine-county region. The Centralina Economic Development District partnered with Centralina Regional Council and the nine-county emergency management directors to launch the RRC in April 2021. Since then, the RRC has examined the viability and resiliency of EM disaster recovery plans and economic resilience disparities to ensure greater efficiency in responding to current and future economic shocks in addition to natural and man-made disasters. The RRC also includes a series of peer-to-peer workshops, a GIS Equity & Resilience mapping tool, a customizable Long-Term Recovery Plan template and a Local Leader Disaster Recovery Coordination Guide.

Learn More: [RCC Webpage](#), [RCC Success Story](#)

### Centralina Workforce Development App

The Centralina Workforce Development app provides a central location for clients to access all the life-enhancing services provided by the Centralina Workforce Development Board and NCWorks Career Centers. The innovative app was designed to serve as a one-stop access point for both career seekers and employers to discover valuable opportunities and resources, where they can find everything from hiring events, workshops, and career assessments to employer services, event details and more. In just a year of its launch date, partner organizations have seen a 35% increase in customer traffic in NCWorks Career Centers, a 50% increase in



individuals participating in Centralina Virtual Career Marketplace events around the region, and a 60% increase in career seekers participation and viewership for virtual workshops.

Get the App: Search "NC Centralina" in Google Play or the Apple App Store

## **Centralina Regional Dialogues Series**

The Regional Dialogues Series was a purposeful engagement process developed by the Centralina Regional Council to build new and nurture existing regional relationships amid the disruption caused by COVID-19. Recognizing that the pandemic was threatening economic resilience and quality of life in the rapidly growing region, the Council set out to engage in conversations that would inform their three-year strategic plan and CEDS update. The Series included 11 focus groups with more than 60 participants comprised of local government staff and elected officials, the Centralina Regional Managers group, economic development commission and chamber of commerce staff, college and university staff, and faith community and non-profit leaders. Between the focus groups and existing meetings, Centralina engaged close to 300 people representing different backgrounds and interests from across the Charlotte region. The conversations affirmed critical regional issues, raised awareness of emerging challenges and re-engaged stakeholders who had lost contact with each other during the pandemic.

