



Annual Report
2011-2012

Celebrating **30 years**
of building a better Alabama

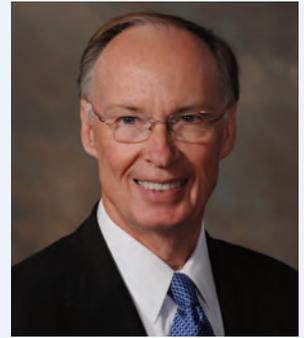
TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message from the Governor	ii
A Message from the ADECA Director	iii
ADECA Organizational Chart	iv/v
ADECA Legislative Oversight Commission	vi
<i>Community and Economic Development Division</i>	1
Community Development Block Grant / Emergency Solutions Grant Unit	1
Community Services Block Grant Unit	2
Appalachian Regional Commission Unit	3
Delta Regional Authority	4
Recreation and Conservation Unit	5
Alabama Advantage	7
Other CED Programs	7
<i>Workforce Development Division</i>	8
History and Timeline	10 & 11
<i>Office of Water Resources</i>	12
<i>Energy Division</i>	15
<i>Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division</i>	18
<i>Long-Term Community Recovery Unit</i>	19
<i>Surplus Property Division</i>	20
<i>Communications and Information Division</i>	21
<i>Support Sections</i>	22
Audit Section	22
Financial Services Section	22
Human Resources Section	22
Information Services Section	22
Legal Section	22
ADECA through the years	23
Federal Receipts and Disbursements	24 & 25
Get Connected to ADECA Services	26

Robert Bentley
GOVERNOR



State of Alabama



ROBERT BENTLEY
GOVERNOR

A Message from Governor Robert Bentley

Congratulations to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs on thirty years of excellent service to Alabama!

As a Tuscaloosa resident, a former member of the legislature and now as governor, I have grown increasingly aware of the vital contributions made by ADECA employees. Put simply, the department's programs have made Alabama a much better place to live, work and play.

The diversity of ADECA's programs ensures that every Alabamian benefits: from safer streets and highways made possible by funds for increased law enforcement presence; from job training and other workforce development programs; from new or improved parks, playgrounds and a wide variety of challenging recreation trails; from expanded availability of clean water and sanitary sewer systems in rural communities; from infrastructure improvements that help businesses create new jobs; from reduced utility bills made possible by weatherization and energy efficiency measures; and from other programs, too numerous to list.

Beyond its prescribed duties, ADECA has undertaken additional responsibilities in times of need. Director Jim Byard Jr. and his staff have eagerly and energetically stepped forward — as individual citizens and dedicated state employees — when our neighbors were hurting and in need of assistance. ADECA is at the forefront when disaster strikes Alabama and remains involved long after others leave. Countless disaster victims are extremely grateful, and so am I.

I commend ADECA for its years of service to Alabama, and I look forward to working with the department to build an even greater record of achievement in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Bentley".

Robert Bentley
Governor

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROBERT BENTLEY
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS



Jim Byard, Jr.
DIRECTOR

Thirty years ago, sandwiched between legislative resolutions congratulating Hewitt-Trussville High School's wrestling team on winning the 4A state championship and another urging Alabamians to buy only American-made goods, something very significant happened: The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs was born.

While ADECA would not become an official state agency until Gov. George Wallace's signature seven days later, the groundwork was set in place for a department tailored to address many unmet needs of counties and communities.

The legislation consolidated five agencies and offices with similar missions into a single department: the Alabama Department of Energy, the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency, and the state offices of Highway and Traffic Safety, State Planning and Federal Programs, and Employment and Training. The merger prevented duplication of services, permitted greater professionalism, encouraged communication and saved taxpayer money.

Seven governors have sat in the Capitol building since ADECA's launch in March 1983. Seventeen people have served as director or acting director, including Bill Rushton who was the first to lead ADECA. I am honored and humbled as the eighteenth director to walk some of the paths blazed by those men and women, many of whom I have met and hold in the highest regard.

While much has changed in life and government during that 30-year-span, ADECA's devotion to improving our state has not. We always look for better ways to serve, which makes me especially proud to be a part of ADECA, and I know staff members feel the same. Our department is able to be on the forefront of solving problems because ADECA employees are hard at work in the background ensuring that programs are implemented in a manner that provides maximum benefit for Alabamians.

Our goal at ADECA is to respond effectively to changing conditions and build on the achievements of those who came before. If effort, dedication plus love for Alabama and its people is the formula for success, then the next 30 years could be even brighter than the last.

I invite you to contact me, or any of ADECA's divisions, with questions or suggestions about how we might better serve you and your community.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim Byard, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jim Byard, Jr.
ADECA Director

Energy Division

Terri Adams, Division Chief

- State Energy Program (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act)
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program
- Energy Emergency and Assurance Program
- Industrial Energy Efficiency Program
- Local Government Energy Loan Program
- Energy Efficiency in Rural Water Systems
- Building Energy Codes Program
- Biomass Energy Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program
- Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program
- State Buildings Energy Efficiency Program
- Alternative Transportation Fuels Program
- Energy Efficient Homes Program
- School Retrofit Program
- Energy Education Program
- Renewable Energy Program
- ENERGY STAR® Program
- Weatherization Assistance Program

Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division

Bill Babington, Division Chief

- Family Violence and Victims' Programs
- Juvenile Justice
- Highway Traffic Safety
- Corrections
- Law Enforcement Programs

Workforce Development Division

Steve Walkley, Division Chief

- Workforce Investment Act
- Career Readiness Certificate Initiative
- Alabama's Career Center System
- Alabama Customized Employment Program
- Focused Industry Training
- Incumbent Worker Training
- Rapid Response
- Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development

Community and Economic Development Division

Bea Forniss, Division Chief

- Economic Development
- Planning Grants
- Community Action Agencies
- Land & Water Conservation Fund
- Enterprise Communities
- Alabama Advantage
- Special Projects
- Emergency Solutions Grants
- Community Food and Nutrition
- Delta Regional Authority
- Minority Business Enterprises
- Community Enhancement
- Community Service Block Grants
- Recreational Trails Program
- Appalachian Regional Commission
- Gulf Opportunity Zone Credit Program
- Alabama Enterprise Zones
- Competitive Grants
- Community and Economic Development Technical Assistance



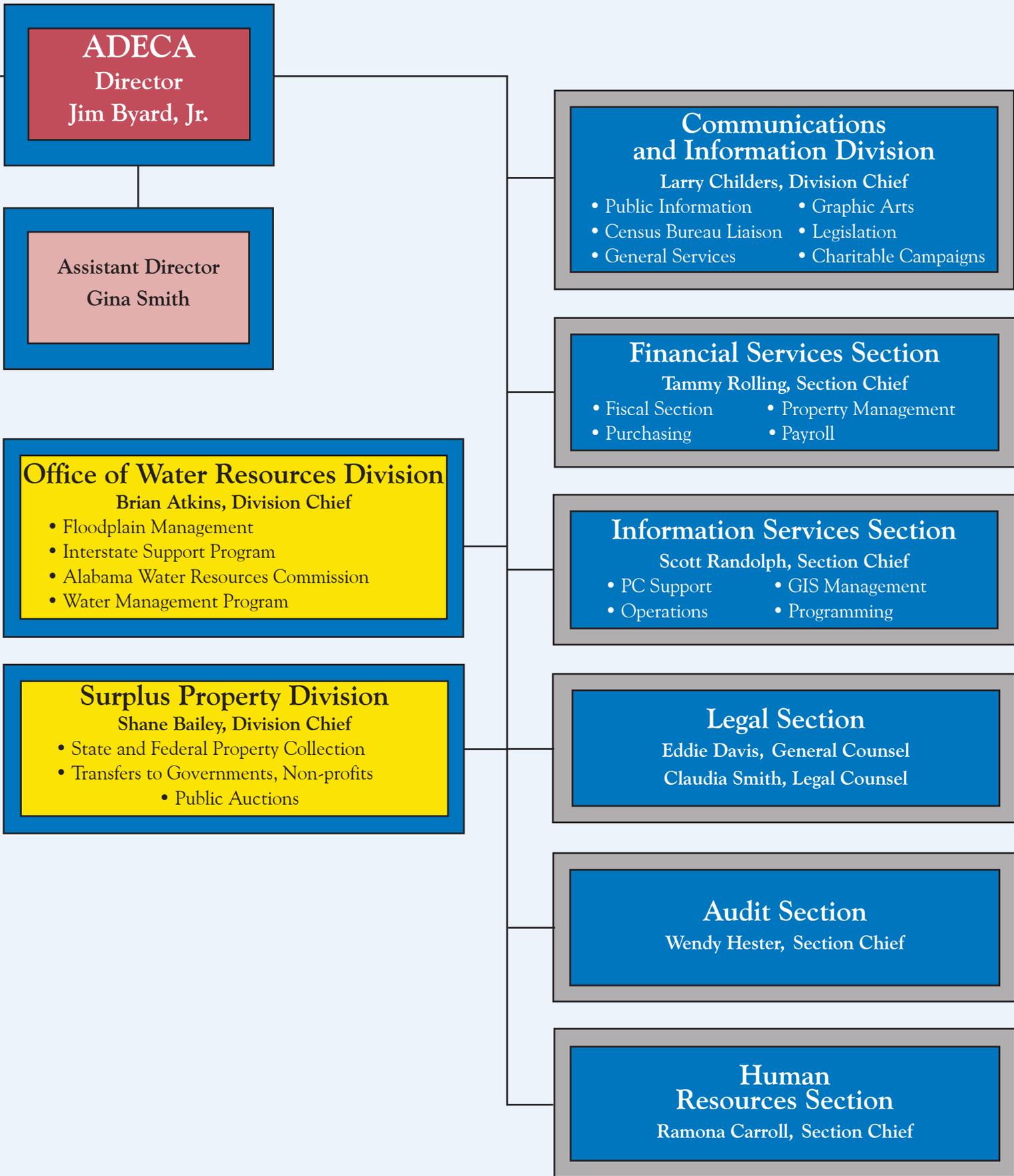
Granting Entities



Support Entities



Other Entities



Legislative Oversight Commission

The Legislative Oversight Commission was a part of the 1983 Act which created the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs—Act 83-194. The commission is composed of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance and Taxation, three members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

Senate



Chairperson
Arthur Orr



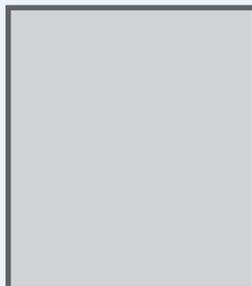
Phil Williams



Billy Beasley



Bryan Taylor

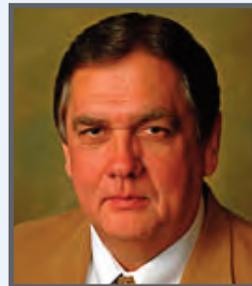


Vacant

House



Vice Chairperson
Jack Williams



Steve Hurst



Pebblin Warren



Steve Clouse



Jim Barton

Community and Economic Development

Following a recent reorganization, ADECA's Community and Economic Development Division has become the department's most diverse division. Drawing from a number of funding sources, programs brought under the CED umbrella can often work cooperatively, combining resources to meet the special needs of Alabama communities and residents more effectively.

The Community Development Block Grant Program provides resources that help communities improve infrastructure, attract industries and new jobs, remove blighted structures and, in some instances, overcome natural disasters.

Also under the wing of CED, the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Delta Regional Authority offer grants and services to improve life within their designated coverage areas and sometimes can supplement CDBG projects.

Another CED unit, the Community Services Block Grant program assists low-income residents to improve their lives through education, employment and home finance skills.

The Recreation and Conservation Unit supports community development by funding outdoor parks, playgrounds and a variety of trails.

Through varied means, each CED program seeks to make Alabama communities better places to live.

CDBG funding assists Alabama with tornado disaster recovery

On behalf of Governor Robert Bentley, ADECA sought and received extraordinary CDBG funding to help with recovery from the series of deadly tornadoes that swept the state in April 2011. Overall, Alabama received \$55.5 million in disaster funding provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, with a major portion going directly to Jefferson County and the cities of Birmingham and Tuscaloosa. ADECA received the remainder of the funds and the department was able to provide \$24.7 million in disaster relief funds to assist the smaller Alabama communities hit by the tornadoes.

In December, Governor Bentley awarded grants and loans totaling \$15.7 million to nine Alabama communities to help them continue the long clean-up and recovery process. The town of Hackleburg, one of the hardest hit communities, received \$4.78 million to rebuild a downtown that was devastated by the storm. Moulton in Lawrence County and the East Franklin community in Franklin County each received funding to rebuild volunteer fire stations that were heavily damaged or destroyed.

ADECA also set aside \$8 million of the CDBG funding to assist residents within the 30-

county area affected by the storms to repair or rebuild their homes. Residents who could provide proof of tornado damage during the outbreak were eligible to apply for up to \$25,000. Funds also were available to assist with the rebuilding and repairing of multi-family apartments and complexes.

Congress created the CDBG program to fund projects that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income families and individuals, but more often than not, the benefits extend to the entire community. CDBG projects in Alabama provide a major means for Alabama counties and municipalities to improve overall quality of life and encourage job creation.

ADECA structures Alabama's CDBG program to ensure that the most deserving communities receive



CDBG funding enables Alabama municipalities and counties to make infrastructure improvements like this drainage project in Rainbow City.

funding. Competitive annual CDBG awards are broken down into three categories: county, large city and small city.

Another CDBG category is community enhancement that is available to all communities and funds projects such as community and senior centers, recreational facilities and fire protection. Planning grants, also funded

from the state's CDBG allocation, help communities prepare for anticipated growth and future developments affecting their areas.

In 2012, Governor Bentley awarded \$12.67 million in competitive CDBG funds. Projects included improving or extending water and sewer services, improving roads and drainage, demolition of unsafe and dilapidated structures and constructing senior centers and community civic centers.

CDBG funds also helped communities to attract or expand businesses, creating jobs and improving local economies. A \$400,000 grant to the Lawrence County Commission provided infrastructure improvements at an industrial park enabling the Jack Daniel Distillery to build a cooperage that will eventually employ 225 people. A \$300,000 grant to the city of Jasper helped widen and resurface a road adjacent to newly built Interstate 22, making it possible to build a large refueling station and encourage other commerce at the I-22 interchange. Other commu-

nity development projects provided communities with a grocery store or pharmacy, creating jobs and a local source of tax revenue for local governments.

Community Service Block Grants help low-income residents achieve better quality of life and obtain self sufficiency

Community Service Block Grants awarded through ADECA provide funding to assist thousands of Alabama's low-income residents. The program's long-term goal is to help these residents, through a variety of assistance programs and community activities, to secure gainful employment and improve their quality of life.

ADECA receives CSBG funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and works with 21 community action agencies to deliver services throughout Alabama. The agencies offer services that vary depending on the specific needs of the communities they serve. Typical services include parenting classes, transitional housing, summer youth programs, financial literacy classes and emergency food and shelter. During the fiscal year, ADECA distributed \$11,745,421 to assist approximately 336,000 Alabamians who needed assistance and met the qualification requirements.

In fall 2012, ADECA Director Jim Byard Jr.

CDBG has been a part of ADECA's history

President Gerald Ford signed legislation creating Community Development Block Grants in 1974. The program was part of a movement to permit greater local discretion over the expenditure of federal funds. Instead of the federal government mandating specific activities and projects, decisions were shifted to the state and local levels.

From the outset, Alabama's CDBG program was administered by the Office of State Planning and Federal Programs, one of the original five state offices that merged to create the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs in 1983. In the late 1980s Governor Guy Hunt's administration sought to place greater emphasis on economic development by creating the Planning and Economic Development Division within ADECA and transferring to it responsibility for the state CDBG program.

Community Service program began in 1981

Alabama's Community Service Block Grant program started in 1981 when the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services discontinued funding local community action programs directly and instead began allocating money to the states. Upon ADECA's creation in 1983, Governor George Wallace designated the department to administer and distribute CSBG funds to Alabama's Community Action Agencies. ADECA allocated funding to each agency in proportion to the size of the local population and the number of people living below the poverty level within the agency's service area.

CSBG was originally part of ADECA's State Planning and Federal Programs Division before moving to the Community Services Division. The latter division managed Weatherization assistance and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance, two programs also administered locally by community action agencies.

Today, CSBG is part of ADECA's Community and Economic Development Division.

travelled to the 21 local community action offices that provide program management for designated service regions. Byard scheduled the visits to meet the staff and get a detailed look at the assistance they provide to low-income residents. To continue the dialogue started during these visits, Byard announced the creation of an advisory group that would work to strengthen the partnership between ADECA and the state's regional community action agencies.

Appalachian Regional Commission seeks to improve communities in north and central Alabama

Improving living conditions in the nation's Appalachian Mountain region, which includes much of Alabama, is the mission of the Appalachian Regional Commission.

In 2012, the 37 Alabama counties represented in the 13-state ARC region, received \$5.29 million in grants that focused on economic development projects and education. ARC grants also assisted many Alabama communities in their continuing recovery from the series of tornadoes that struck the state in April 2011 devastating many communities.

ARC grants often serve as supplemental or companion funding for other ADECA-administered programs, particularly Community Development Block Grants. ARC and CDBG programs have related aims and fund similar projects and programs.

A \$300,000 ARC grant accompanied by \$400,000 in CDBG funding assisted Lawrence County with infrastructure development that enabled the Jack Daniel Distillery to construct a cooperage and hire 120 new employees. The ARC and CDBG programs also combined to help ThyssenKrupp Materials of North America build a 100,000-square-foot processing and distribution center and bring new jobs to Bibb County.

ARC funding boosted economic development and commerce in Alabama in other ways. For example, the Alabama International Trade Center trained employees from about 25 Alabama companies to effectively market and sell their products internationally, thanks to a \$129,755 ARC grant. In addition, ARC made it possible for the University of Alabama's Center for Economic Development to work with nine east Alabama communities to develop a regional tourism plan supported by a \$60,000 grant for promotion. Each of the communities had interesting attractions, but the grant gave local leaders and merchant groups the funds and strategy required for increasing tourism.

Alabama's ARC program merged education with economic development with a \$40,000 grant enabling the Shoals Culinary Academy in Florence to establish a 16-week culinary training program for high school students who did poorly in academics and were can-

ARC created by Congress in the 1960s

The Appalachian Regional Commission was created by Congress in 1965 with the goal of improving living standards in Appalachian America. Federal attention focused on the area because it lagged behind much of the nation in education, health and economic opportunities. Slow development was attributed in part to isolation caused by a lack of sufficient roads and highways in the region.

ARC was originally part of the state's Federal Programs Coordinating Committee and then it moved to the Alabama Development Office. When ADO was split, ARC became part of the Office of State Planning and Federal Programs which merged into ADECA in 1983. ARC operated directly under the ADECA director's office until recently when it became part of the Community and Economic Development Division.

Bonnie Durham coordinated ARC programs in Alabama almost from its creation and was the dean of ARC state program managers at the time of her retirement in January following 23 years at ADECA. Associates from the ARC region met last October and recalled her devotion to her job, the people that benefitted and her colleagues within ARC.

"She has a heart for doing for others. That has been her calling," said ARC program analyst David Hughes.



Gov. Robert Bentley participated in a program congratulating Bonnie Durham on her retirement.

didates for dropping out of school. The training program exposes students to a career they may wish to pursue.

The academy, which got its start with ARC support, has helped a number of culinary entrepreneurs to mass-produce and market their food products. It has been featured on national television, including NBC's Today Show.

Delta Regional Authority is improving quality of life in Alabama's Black Belt

Alabama's Black Belt Region continues to lag behind the rest of the state in a number of critical measures, but programs of the Delta Regional Authority, whose coverage area includes most of the Black Belt, are helping with some of the prerequisites for restoring the vibrancy of the region.

In 2012 about 250 National Guard members and reservists involved in the medical profession provided more than 30,000 free medical, dental and optometric examinations and treatments for residents living in the region. During the 10-day Operation "Alabama Black Belt 2012," sponsored by DRA, medical clinics were set up in four Black Belt communities. Some of those receiving treatment, including many children, had never visited a doctor or dentist.

"A healthy Delta population means a strong, productive workforce, which improves our communities and increases opportunity in the Delta Region," said Chris Masingill, federal co-chairman of ARC, who along with Governor Robert Bentley visited the clinics during operation.

DRA, which covers 240 counties and parishes in eight states including 20 Alabama counties, conducted similar clinics throughout its region. In addition to offering medical services, Guardsmen and reservists also assisted Alabama communities with infrastructure improvements like repairing damaged sewer lines and performing maintenance on police and fire vehicles.



Military medical personnel performed free health services for residents in several Black Belt counties.

DRA modeled after ARC program

Congress created the Delta Regional Authority in 2000 to improve the lives of people living in an eight-state region, including most of Alabama's Black Belt.

Modeled after the Appalachian Regional Commission, DRA goals are to improve health-care access and medical facilities, education, job training and employment opportunities primarily in the small and rural communities that make up most of the region.

ADECA was already administering the Appalachian Regional Commission program when DRA was formed; because of similarities in the two programs, the department was a natural choice for managing DRA. To improve coordination and efficiency, in 2012 the ADECA director named a single manager to handle both the DRA and ARC projects for Alabama.

A federal co-chairman appointed by the president leads DRA but the program relies on local participation to pinpoint and address the needs in each member state. The director of ADECA represents the Alabama governor on many DRA matters.

DRA also awarded about \$1 million in community development grants to encourage new industries to locate in the region or to help existing businesses grow. A \$500,000 grant to the city of Thomasville in Marengo County assisted expansion of Lakeside Steel and the creation of 80 new jobs. A \$300,000 grant helped the Wilcox County Industrial Development Authority purchase property for the construction of GD Copper USA in Pine Hill. The firm, a producer of copper tubing, will employ about 300 people initially. Company officials project that within a few years after production begins, their workforce could almost double — an important boost for a county with the state's highest unemployment rate.

A DRA-sanctioned study released in late 2012 confirmed that small businesses are the largest producer of jobs in the Delta Region and the Black Belt.

Conducted by the Douglas C. Greene Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Southwest Missouri State University, the study found that businesses with nine or fewer employees provided 91 percent of net new jobs in the Delta Region during the past 19 years—a finding that underscores the need to encourage and assist small-business development in the Black Belt.

“Our partnership with DRA and local officials is one way to ensure that small businesses and entrepreneurs receive the encouragement, know-how and assistance they need to get off the ground and stay in business,” ADECA Director Jim Byard Jr. said.

Recreation and Conservation provides more than trails

Recreation is not the only focus of ADECA’s Recreation and Conservation Unit. Adventurous projects funded by the unit’s two programs, Recreational Trails and the Land and Water Conservation Fund, are producing positive results that go beyond the health benefits of outdoor recreation.

Studies by the Outdoor Industry Foundation and others indicate that outdoor activities create not only healthy people, but also robust economies.

In 2012, ADECA awarded \$1.5 million in grants from the Recreational Trails Program and \$625,000



Recreation trails like Orr Park in Montevallo encourage fitness and the outdoors.

in LWCF grants. Some of the funding went to projects with the potential to significantly boost local economies and provide jobs.

One of the unit’s largest projects, the Coldwater Mountain biking trail near Anniston, has been open less than a year—and much is yet to be developed—but experts are already projecting that it will become a mecca for mountain bikers from throughout the United States.

The property, part of the Forever Wild Land Trust managed by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, ultimately will include about 60 miles of trails, built largely by volunteers. Representatives of Subaru/International Mountain Biking Association told the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce last year that a bicycle trail user will spend about \$39 to \$133 per day in a community located near a trail, and dedicated bikers might travel across the country to visit a site offering 50 to 60 miles of trails.

Recreation programs are ADECA newcomers

The Land and Water Conservation Fund and Recreational Trails are two federal programs that have enhanced recreation in Alabama, each with distinct histories and backgrounds.

Congress created the LWCF in 1965 to meet the nation’s growing demand for outdoor recreation venues, especially in states without a national park. The program is funded primarily from oil and gas lease revenues generated from federal lands and is administered by the National Park Service.

ADECA assumed responsibility for administering the program in 1988 in response to a recommendation of the Alabama Management Improvement Program, an initiative of Governor Guy Hunt to improve state government operations and efficiency and to save taxpayer funds.

Recreational Trails, a program of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration, funds projects to construct and rehabilitate trails for pedestrians as well as for motorized and non-motorized vehicles. Congress created the program in 1998, but a similar program has existed since 1993.

The governor of each state designates an agency to oversee the Recreational Trails Program, and ADECA has been the Alabama program manager since its inception. Each state is required to maintain a trail advisory committee with representatives for both motorized and non-motorized trail users. Annual funding is allocated to each state according to a formula: Half of the appropriation is divided evenly among the states and the other half is distributed in proportion to the estimated amount of fuel used in each state for off-road vehicle travel.

Last year more than 450 people from across the nation traveled to participate in a trail event at Oak Mountain State Park near Birmingham. Like Coldwater Mountain, the 25-mile-long bicycle trail system at Oak Mountain was built and is maintained by volunteers, in this case led by the Birmingham Urban Mountain Pedalers organization. A similar bike trail project constructed by volunteers and aided by a Recreational Trails grant is located at Chewacla State Park near Auburn.

Mountain-bike trail developers and supporters say that Alabama has an advantage over many other states because our warm climate permits pedaling activities almost year-round. Experts also note that Alabama's bike trails, unlike those in some other states, are located near urban areas, helping attract more local bike enthusiasts and giving visitors easy access to food, lodging and other necessities.

Major park and recreational developments at Red Mountain Park in Birmingham and at TOPTRAILS in Talladega, both funded by ADECA, also have the potential to be significant attractions. When it is completed, Red Mountain will offer a variety of recreational activities. While TOPTRAILS is primarily devoted to off-road motorized vehicles at present, developers have plans to diversify the park to include hiking, horseback riding, camping, fishing, paintball and an indoor shooting range.

The University of Alabama Center for Economic Development is developing a comprehensive study that should provide a clearer picture of the economic impact of all types of trails in Alabama.

While many parks and trails have the potential to enhance economies, other rewards are more subtle. The facilities often serve as gathering spots for activities ranging from reunions to major community events. Parks and trails also can be a vital source of community pride, offering silent testimony about a community's self-image, its history and its culture.

A \$50,000 LWCF grant to Phenix City is providing an aquatic playground for youth and it complements the city's plans to develop water recreation along the bordering Chattahoochee River. The Blount County Commission was awarded a \$20,000 LWCF grant to renovate an outdoor theater enhancing the already majestic, historic and scenic Palisades Park, a major recreation area for the county.

This year ADECA provided the city of Opelika with a Recreational Trail grant to build a nature park and trail on land donated to the city while Eu-faula was awarded \$32,000 to build a greenhouse and outdoor classroom adjacent to its Yoholo-Micco trail, a previous recipient of Recreational Trail funding.

In addition to administering grants, the Recreation and Conservation Unit helped promote recreation by serving as a host for the Alabama Trails Conference in Jacksonville last November. The conference provided an opportunity for recreation enthusiasts of all types to join planners, developers and government representatives to exchange information, share ideas and discuss their vision for Alabama.



The development of mountain biking trails at Coldwater Mountain near Anniston draws visitors from throughout the country and is a boost to the local economy.



Volunteers built and maintain many of the bike trails at Oak Mountain State Park.

Alabama Advantage touts benefits of living in Alabama

The Alabama Advantage program, once a magnet for attracting retirees and visitors to Alabama, has broadened its focus as the state continues to attract more and more automobile and other manufacturers.

The program, which produces an annual magazine, now serves as a beacon to draw skilled labor to the state to help meet the need for employees in production plants and high-tech industry. The program also maintains a website: www.alabamaadvantage.com that enables viewers to obtain more information on the program, Alabama communities and the magazine.

The state is by no means turning its back on attracting tourists and retirees to live in the state. Supporters of the program note that retirees who move to Alabama contribute greatly to their communities through tax dollars and through the often hidden benefit of volunteerism. Visitors also contribute to state and local economies through numerous means.

The Alabama Advantage program conducts two expositions annually; one in winter and another in mid-summer at the state Capitol building in Montgomery.

The program began in 1987 and carries on with its mission today.



ADECA Director Jim Byard Jr., U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus and state Sen. Bryan Taylor thanked Alabama service people during a program of the Alabama Advantage.

Other CED programs encourage success in work and living

The **Office of Minority Business Enterprise** provides assistance and guidance to small minority and women-owned businesses and issues certifications to these businesses, which may assist them in bidding certain contracts.

The **Alabama Enterprise Zone Act** provides tax incentives for businesses that locate within designated “Enterprise Zones” that have been established to assist economically depressed communities. Twenty-five counties and three cities make up Alabama’s Enterprise Zones.

Emergency Solutions Grants help upgrade, maintain and operate emergency shelters for the homeless and victims of domestic violence. The program exists to assist persons in danger of losing their homes and to ensure persons without a place to live are afforded some type of shelter.

The **State Small Business Credit Initiative** provides low-interest loans for small businesses. The loans typically range from \$100,000 to \$250,000 and can be used for start-up costs, equipment, working capital and more. The program’s goal is to encourage small business development and job creation.

The **Neighborhood Stabilization Program** helps communities and neighborhoods where homes are being lost to foreclosure and abandonment. Using NSP funding, houses are bought, renovated if necessary, and sold to qualified buyers. In many instances in Alabama, organizations like Habitat for Humanity acquire the houses and make them available for their clients.

ConnectingALABAMA, an initiative to increase the availability of high-speed Internet access throughout Alabama, received administrative support from ADECA during the fiscal year. The state established the program in 2008 to provide Alabama schools, medical facilities, businesses and industries with access to broadband services to improve education and health care and to make rural areas more attractive for industrial development.

Workforce Development

Workforce Development Division helps workers qualify for jobs

As the state and nation continues the slow climb out of the economic downturn, job opportunities are increasing. Many new positions are in growing industries like health care, aerospace, automotive, hospitality and steel; however, many of these jobs require specialized skills. The mission of ADECA's Workforce Development Division is to help Alabamians develop the skills and obtain the training needed to qualify for these jobs and perform high quality, reliable work for their employers.

Through the Workforce Investment Act, the division provides job training assistance for youth, adults and workers who have been laid off. The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration allocates WIA funding to the state, and ADECA funds the state's network of 45 Alabama Career Center locations to provide local services.

In 2012, ADECA's WDD awarded funds to support several programs to help out-of-school youth learn the specialized skills needed for long-term employment.

One such program in west Alabama is the Certified Nursing Assistant Program. Offered by the University of West Alabama in Livingston, the short-term training program combines classroom learning with work experience to prepare participants for jobs in health care facilities in Choctaw, Greene, Pickens and Sumter counties. A \$107,367 grant administered by the division is helping 48 students complete the course. The participants will immediately qualify for jobs in a field that is expected to grow 21-35 percent over the next decade.

For those who lose their jobs due to a business closing, the path back to economic stability can be daunting. ADECA funds and coordinates a multi-agency Rapid Response Team that travels to the site of a plant closing or layoff to assist affected employees. The team meets with employees individually and in groups to explain how to file for unemployment compensation, explain options for health insurance and retirement fund management, and assist with other immediate needs. The team also introduces workers to the free job search assistance available through Alabama Career Centers and the opportunities for job training to qualify for careers in a new industry.

WDD maintains a full-service career center on wheels that is sometimes dispatched to sites of layoffs and plant closings when immediate assistance is needed. The unit also travels to career fairs and other events as well as sites impacted by natural disasters.

An initiative that helps workers earn a paycheck while learning a new career is On-the-Job Training, which is divided into three programs to help employers save on the costs of training. The New Hire and Performance-based programs reimburse employers up to 50 percent of the wages paid to a trainee for six to 26 weeks based on the employee's skill level and the occupation for which they are being trained. The National Emergency Grant program helps people who have been unemployed for longer than four months. Companies may be reimbursed up to 90 percent of the wages paid to trainees based on the number of people employed by the business.

To keep jobs in Alabama, it is important that our businesses maintain the ability to compete globally. The Incumbent Worker Training program helps Alabama businesses train current employees in new skills to streamline work, reduce waste, enhance safety, improve time management and eliminate unnecessary expenses. The skills help the businesses better compete in the global economy. In fiscal year 2012, Incumbent Worker Training grants totaling \$218,300 were awarded to nine companies.

Program prepares Alabamians for jobs in energy-related fields

The Alabama Energy Sector Partnership program is preparing Alabamians to qualify for jobs in emerging industries focused on renewable energy and energy efficiency. ADECA awarded grants totaling \$5.3 million for 11 programs across the state that teach the skills needed to qualify for employment in one of five energy-related areas: energy-efficient construction and retrofits, renewable electric power, energy-efficient and advanced-drive-train vehicle manufacturing, biofuels and energy-efficiency assessment. The program is funded by an allocation to Alabama from the U.S. Department of Labor.

As of November 2012, 2,304 participants have been enrolled in training programs funded by the Alabama Energy Sector Partnership.

With a \$458,300 grant awarded through the program, Drake State Technical College in Huntsville constructed a learning lab in which students can observe how renewable energy technology works and learn to install, operate and make adjustments to energy efficient equipment. The lab is powered completely “off grid” with all the electricity generated through 12 solar panels installed on the roof, said Dr. John Reutter, Drake State’s planning and development director.

“The purpose of this lab is to help train students using field experience and to showcase the benefits of ‘green’ energy for the public,” Reutter said, “We’ve had a lot of interest, not just from students, but from the public at large, too. They’re very interested in ways to save money on electricity.”



Drake State constructed a learning lab involving renewable energy.

WDD programs help disaster victims get back to work

Natural and man-made disasters can not only destroy property, but also jobs. In 2012 several communities continued to take advantage of a \$10 million National Emergency Grant obtained by the Workforce Development Division in the immediate aftermath of the April 2011 tornadoes. ADECA used the funds to give a helping hand to hard-hit communities and workers who found themselves unemployed after the storm. The grants funded temporary work for approximately 700 people to clear storm debris. In 2012, many workers continued assisting with demolition, repair, renovation and reconstruction of public facilities within the affected communities.

Workforce Development Division began as separate agency before ADECA was created

The Workforce Development Division began as a separate agency called the Office of Employment and Training. The office was one of the five state agencies combined to form ADECA and began operating as the Employment and Training Division in 1983, a difficult time when the Alabama unemployment rate hovered around 14 percent.

At the time, the state was phasing out programs operated under the old federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act and quickly phasing in new programs and responsibilities under the new Job Training Partnership Act, which gave states additional responsibilities for designing and administering their own employment and job training programs.

Assistance offered under the new act including training for dislocated workers, an on-the-job training program, classroom training to help adults learn job skills and a summer youth employment program.

In 1998, Congress passed the Workforce Investment Act as a replacement for the Job Training Partnership Act. The Workforce Investment Act authorized services at a local level for dislocated workers, adult job seekers and youth. The division was and continues to be responsible for developing and organizing administrative strategies to implement WIA.

The division integrated several employment, training and career development components with the assistance of the State Workforce Investment Board and local Workforce Investment Boards which work with the division to design and implement programs tailored toward the employment needs of their areas. Alabama’s career center locations were made the primary source for residents to access assistance from WIA programs.

The division’s name was later changed to the Workforce Development Division to reflect the state’s commitment to working with employers to train workers to qualify for high-growth, high-demand jobs.

ADECA History

ADECA created to consolidate programs; improve efficiency

Legislative records do not indicate whether it was raining on February 24, 1983, but reports say the Alabama Legislature, meeting in special session, designed a new administrative umbrella that day.

The Legislature created the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, bringing together a number of agencies, offices and programs under a single department. Because it covered so many programs, media reports described ADECA as “an umbrella agency.”

To form ADECA, the Office of State Planning and Federal Programs, the Alabama Department of Energy, the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency, the Office of Highway and Traffic Safety and the Office of Employment and Training were joined. A legislative oversight committee was created to monitor the new department.

Gov. George Wallace signed the measure, House Bill 36 and it was designated as Act No. 83-194 by the Secretary of State, and ADECA became official on March 1, 1983.

If you do not remember this momentous event, perhaps you recall checking out a new soft drink just introduced in Montgomery called Diet Coke, or maybe you were following the Birmingham Stallions, a new professional team in the United States Football League. Radio and the new music video channel MTV were dominated by Michael Jackson’s big hits: “Billie Jean,” “Beat It” and “Thriller.”

In the realm of state government, however, creating this new department within the Office of the Governor and directly under the governor’s supervision was an important development that had valuable benefits for Alabama taxpayers, according to first ADECA Director Bill Rushton.

“The consolidation of the five state agencies into one department has saved the state hundreds of thousands of dollars in administrative costs and duplication of employees and services,” Rushton said.

Despite being administratively unified, ADECA’s divisions were housed throughout Montgomery, including several buildings off Norman Bridge Road. In 1991, completion of the seven-story Alabama Center for Commerce on Adams Avenue finally brought ADECA programs together to occupy three floors of the building.

ADECA has managed a number of diverse programs over the years, each with a common goal: strengthening Alabama communities. There are core programs that have always been the heartbeat of the agency, including the Community Development Block Grant that supports vital infrastructure and economic development initiatives. Workforce development, law enforcement assistance and energy efficiency programs are other core functions that span ADECA’s three-decade history.

Initially, ADECA administered a coastal program that included management of the Weeks Bay Estuary in Baldwin County and voluntary cleanup measures for the state’s beaches and sand dunes. The programs still exist but under different state agencies.

ADECA often has had to retool and respond to urgent needs that have arisen to confront Alabama. Within a month after the department was created, a tornado struck Cullman County and ADECA personnel responded with support to help the county to recover. In 1986, ADECA took on a special project to help needy residents by transporting and distributing 150,000 pounds of field peas grown by the Alabama Department of Corrections.

Through the years, ADECA has provided millions of dollars to help Alabama communities make preparations that enabled businesses to create tens of thousands of jobs for Alabamians. At the same time, the department has found the resources to help communities respond to a wide variety of local emergencies.

Weather disasters, like the hurricanes that assault Alabama’s gulf coast, are among the situations that have received special attention throughout ADECA’s history. Recently, the Office of Long-Term Community Recovery was established to provide ongoing help to communities hit by deadly tornadoes in April 2011.

As for the weather on that February day in 1983: Overall It was a pleasant 60-degree day, but a few thunderstorms reminded folks that it is always good to have an umbrella.

ADECA Timeline Highlights

1983

Legislature creates ADECA

1984

Surplus Property Becomes part of ADECA

1987

Community Services Division established

LETS Division formed



A young Jeff Sessions helps with the Coastal Cleanup Program. The program was part of ADECA until the late 1990s

1998

Workforce Investment Act created by Congress

1993

Recreational Trails Program begins

1991

Office of Water Resources Created. Becomes permanent part of ADECA in 1993

1988

ADECA moves into Center for Commerce Building

Land and Water Conservation Fund comes to ADECA

The Center for Commerce becomes the new home for ADECA in 1991 bringing the agency under one roof



2000

Congress establishes Delta Regional Authority

2003

OWR assumes flood-plain management role

2011

Gov. Robert Bentley issues Executive Order establishing ADECA as lead agency in disaster recovery.

Long-Term Community Recovery formed at ADECA

Office of Water Resources

Group working toward comprehensive water management plan

A vital natural resource, Alabama's fresh water must be protected and managed to maintain a plentiful supply for current and future residents, businesses and industries. ADECA's Office of Water Resources works to ensure that Alabama's ground and surface water resources are managed in the best interest of the state by recommending policies, conducting technical studies, implementing programs and representing Alabama's interstate water interests.

As Alabama's population grows and our economy expands, so does the demand for water. While the state currently has abundant water resources, they are not limitless. As we harness this resource for the needs of today, we must do so with an eye toward tomorrow. Recent periods of drought have highlighted the need for responsible water management plans.

To develop an overview of water issues and activities, Governor Robert Bentley in 2011 called together four agencies of state government with water-resource responsibilities. Following a preliminary briefing from the group, the Governor decided in April 2012 to continue and expand this work by formalizing the Alabama Water Agencies Working Group. OWR is playing a central role in the group along with representatives from the Geological Survey of Alabama, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management and the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries.

The group prepared a report that identified and summarized a dozen key water issues and policy options, and they concluded that Alabama would need a water management plan to address the issues responsibly and effectively.

Governor Bentley directed the working group to recommend a strategic action plan and timeline for implementing a statewide water management plan. He set a Dec. 1, 2013 due date for the plan in order to give the group time to create a comprehensive database of Alabama's water resources and conduct meetings to gather input from stakeholders interested in water resource issues. Six subcommittees are helping carry out the group's responsibilities: Legal, Database, Stakeholder, Legislation, Reporting and Public Information.

ADECA hosts a website for the group at www.adeca.alabama.gov/awawg.

OWR monitors drought conditions

For much of the state, 2012 was drier than normal. Throughout the year, OWR closely monitored rain amounts and extended forecasts to keep local water systems, pulp and paper mills and other major users of

Office of Water Resources marks 20 years

While ADECA is celebrating 30 years in 2013, the Office of Water Resources is marking 20 years as a permanent part of the department.

The Office of Water Resources' origins trace back to the late 1980s when interstate water disputes and droughts increased awareness that state government needed to monitor water availability and track how much water we use as a state.

In 1989, Governor Guy Hunt appointed the Alabama Water Resources Study Commission to thoroughly examine and make policy recommendations about how best to manage the state's long-term water needs. In a 1990 report, the study commission recommended the establishment of a state office of water resources within ADECA to collect and analyze water data, develop long-term water use plans and act on behalf of the state in interstate water conflicts.

On Aug. 7, 1991, Governor Hunt acted on the recommendation and issued an executive order creating the Office of Water Resources as a new division of ADECA. The Alabama Water Resources Act in 1993 established OWR as a permanent division of ADECA, authorized a wide array of water quantity programs and established the Alabama Water Resources Commission. The commission advises OWR, makes policy recommendations to the Governor and Legislature and adopts rules and regulations for programs implemented by OWR.

In 2003, OWR assumed the responsibilities of managing state government's role in the floodplain management program. The program was a new initiative by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to work with states to develop digital floodplain maps.

water informed of the drought situation through briefings and presentations.

As part of the Alabama Drought Management Plan, OWR convened the Alabama Drought Planning and Assessment Team and the Drought Monitoring and Impact Group to analyze climatic, meteorological, hydrological and soil moisture data to determine the severity of drought conditions in various regions of the state. OWR also contributed to the development of the U.S. Drought Monitor map released each week, ensuring that it accurately reflected conditions for the Alabama portion of the map.

Based on analysis by the Monitoring and Impact Group, OWR issued periodic drought advisory declarations for the state in 2012. The advisories summarized conditions and urged public water systems to closely monitor the situation and review their water conservation plans in the event that conditions worsened. By Sept. 28, most of the state had recovered, but portions of east central Alabama remained in drought advisory and watch status.

To mitigate the potential effects of a drought, OWR staff encouraged water conservation and collected information on water-use restrictions implemented by local water authorities. OWR coordinated with Alabama Power Company, the Tennessee Valley Authority and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to manage water in reservoir systems as efficiently as possible.

The division worked with state and federal agencies to investigate citizen inquiries and issues related to low-water conditions. The office also worked with federal, state and local groups to maintain a network of gauges that measure water flow in several streams and rivers providing valuable data about the condition of Alabama's water resources.

OWR's Water Management Unit routinely collects water data from municipal water systems, industrial facilities, irrigators and other users of large amounts of water to create a clear picture of water use throughout the state.

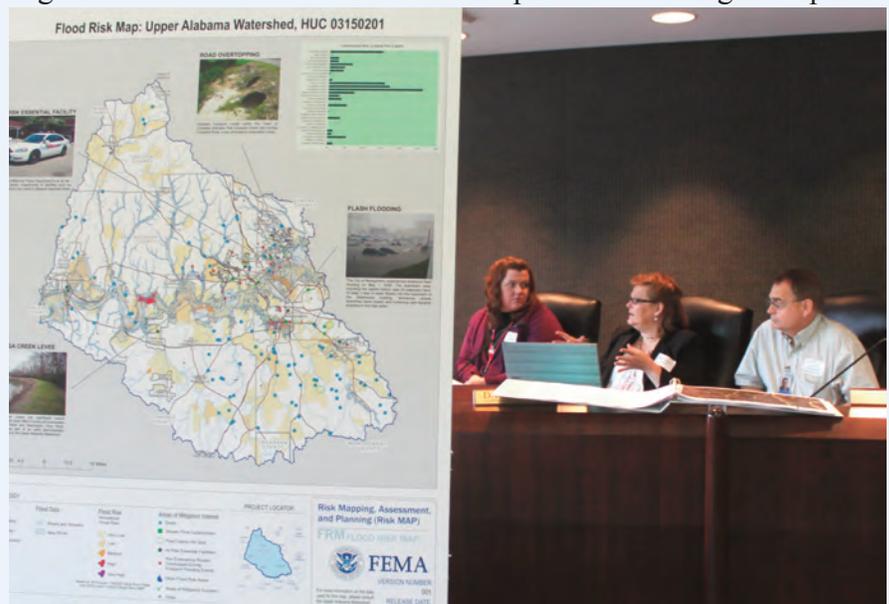
Floodplain Management safeguards properties

Another OWR unit helps protect residents from potential economic devastation caused by a force of nature that can be just as destructive as drought: flooding.

OWR's Floodplain Management Unit comprises two Federal Emergency Management Agency-funded programs: the National Flood Insurance Program and the Flood Mapping Program. The unit, with support from FEMA, creates maps of the state to designate flood-risk zones. The maps are used by the Flood Insurance Program, which makes insurance available and affordable to owners of homes and buildings in areas at risk of flooding. Since 2003, OWR has secured approximately \$45 million in FEMA funding to support the Flood Insurance Program in Alabama and has updated digital floodplain maps in all 67 counties.

An important component of maintaining accurate data is the continuous incorporation of changes to special flood hazard areas caused by development or other physical alterations in a floodplain. In 2012, OWR embarked on a new multi-year flood study and mapping project in 28 counties.

Strong sea surges from hurricanes and storms can cause as much damage to structures along Alabama's coast as high winds. In 2012, OWR continued a project to map the water boundaries of Mobile and Baldwin counties to determine areas most likely to be impacted by coastal storm surges, rising water and floods. The maps will reflect new surge data and provide more detailed and reliable coastal hazard information than the previous study



OWR conducted several flood map updates to help city and county officials prepare for potential floods in their communities.

completed in 1983. The project also will provide updated inland flood hazard data for the counties.

Interstate Support Unit represents Alabama's interests in water disputes

OWR's Interstate Support Unit supports the Governor in negotiations and litigation required to protect our state's water interests. The unit has provided extensive technical analysis of water allocation issues related to the long-standing dispute with Georgia and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over water withdrawals from two large reservoirs located in Georgia, Lake Lanier and Lake Allatoona. Excessive withdrawals adversely affect water flows in Alabama.



Celebrating 30 years *of building a better Alabama*

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

ADECA Directors

Bill Rushton	Feb. 25, 1983- Jan. 16, 1987
Edgar Welden	Jan. 20, 1987- July 20, 1987
Fred Braswell III	July 20, 1987- Dec. 31, 1989
David Rumbarger	Jan. 1, 1990- Oct. 15, 1991
Gene Anderson	Oct. 16, 1991- April 27, 1993
Alice McKinney (Acting)	April 27, 1993- May 26, 1993
David Hooks	May 27, 1993- Jan. 16, 1995
Alice McKinney (Acting)	Jan. 16, 1995- Jan. 22, 1995
Robert Lunsford	Jan. 23, 1995- Nov. 22, 1996
Ed Gardner	Nov. 23, 1996- Jan. 17, 1999
Dewayne Freeman	Feb. 1, 1999- June 15, 2000
Nick Bailey (Acting)	May 25, 2000- June 17, 2001
Norm Davis	June 18, 2001- March 31, 2002
Anne Payne	April 1, 2002- Jan. 17, 2003
John Harrison	Jan. 21, 2003- May, 15, 2005
Bill Johnson (Acting)	May 16, 2005- Nov. 17, 2005
Bill Johnson	Nov. 18, 2005- June 29, 2009
Doni Ingram*	June 29, 2009- Jan. 18, 2011
Jim Byard Jr.	Jan. 19, 2011- Present

*Part of Mrs. Ingram's term was as acting director

Energy

Alabama adopts first statewide building and energy codes

As the State Energy Office, the mission of ADECA's Energy Division is to help Alabamians reduce energy consumption by increasing energy efficiency and adopting renewable-energy technologies.

As governments, schools, businesses and residents look for ways to stretch tight budgets, the Energy Division is helping them discover that energy savings equals cost savings. Thanks to the first ever statewide building codes adopted in 2012, energy efficiency requirements are being incorporated into all new construction.

Created by the Legislature in 2010, the Alabama Energy and Residential Codes Board voted last February to establish standards based on the 2009 International Residential Code and the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. Alabama's codes took effect Oct. 1 and apply to all new construction and substantial renovations. By incorporating energy efficiency measures in the design and construction of homes and commercial buildings, homeowners and businesses will benefit from reduced utility bills.

Working with trade groups, ADECA organized workshops for local code officials, municipal building inspectors, contractors, architects and other professionals involved in the building industry to educate them about the new building codes. The Energy Division also produced guidebooks and information packets to help construction industry professionals comply with the new codes.



Energy worked with Alabama Power to conduct workshops on making state buildings energy efficient.

Division leads effort to improve energy efficiency of state government buildings

To increase efficiency and reduce expenses, Governor Bentley issued an executive order in November 2011 requiring state agencies to cut their energy consumption by 30 percent from 2005 levels by 2015. By working toward that goal, state government will cut \$5.4 million in utility expenses over the next four years.

The executive order gave the Energy Division responsibility for leading the effort. The division is training and advising a designated energy officer at each state agency to identify potential energy savings, implement and monitor energy savings strategies, and compile progress reports. ADECA arranged for Alabama Power Company to provide several free training sessions throughout 2012 to instruct energy officers to conduct energy audits. The energy officers also were trained to analyze their agency's energy bills to verify that they are correct and billed at the most advantageous rate for the agency.

State Energy Program helps governments, schools save energy, money

The Alabama Department of Corrections is already realizing significant energy savings thanks to a recently completed project that included dozens of energy upgrades to 32 correctional facilities across the

state. A portion of the project was funded by a \$20.1 million grant awarded by ADECA in 2009 with funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Corrections officials estimate the upgrades are saving the department \$1.3 million annually.

Each year, ADECA uses State Energy Program funds allocated to Alabama by the U.S. Department of Energy to help governments and schools reduce energy expenses. Reports show that every \$1 of State Energy Program funds awarded results in \$13 of energy savings.

The division uses a portion of the funds to help K-12 schools replace old inefficient equipment with models that save energy. Over the years, 123 schools have received funding for upgrades, saving more than \$1 million in energy costs per year.

In 2012, a grant to the Talladega County Board of Education replaced 31 heating, ventilation and air conditioning units in 17 schools, saving more than \$75,000 in energy costs per year. With another grant, the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind replaced more than 6,000 light fixtures in 19 buildings with energy efficient models that are expected to save the institute \$20,000 a year.

While these grants help save energy in school buildings, ADECA's Energy Education Program provides resources and opportunities for students to learn about energy conservation measures that also can be used outside the classroom. Many students share the energy saving measures they learn at school to help their families reduce utility bills at home.

To spread the word about energy savings at home, the Energy Division participated in several homeowners expos around the state in 2012. At the Home Energy Expo at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, division staff provided tips and ideas to help base personnel save energy and cut utility costs at home.

Weatherization provides financial relief for low-income families

Paying high home energy bills for heating and cooling can be a significant challenge for low-income residents. The Alabama Weatherization Program gives relief to many low-income residents by making their homes more energy efficient. In 2012, ADECA awarded \$23.8 million to weatherize 3,032 Alabama homes. The funding was allocated to the state by the U.S. Department of Energy.

ADECA provided the funds to a network of community action and other agencies that administer the program and take applications locally. Houses that qualify for weatherization assistance are tested to determine the most cost-effective measures needed. Typical improvements include adding extra insulation, sealing leaks in ductwork and door frames and performing repairs and tune-ups to heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment.

One-time assistance to help pay high heating and cooling bills is available through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Priority for assistance is given to households with children under 5 years old, the elderly and people with a mental or physical disability. ADECA received \$47 million from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for LIHEAP in fiscal year 2012, assisting 91,909 families.



ADECA's Energy Division participated in several programs like this one at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery to demonstrate energy-efficient products.

Loan, audit programs help businesses increase energy efficiency

ADECA also helps Alabama businesses reduce expenses by offering low-interest-rate financing for energy-saving projects through the AlabamaSAVES revolving loan program. Since its start in 2011, 17 projects totaling \$14.3 million have been funded through the program, saving a total of \$3.9 million in energy costs per year.

Additional help for businesses is offered through a partnership with the Alabama Technology Network and The University of Alabama Industrial Assessment Center. Manufacturing companies receive free assessments to help identify energy-saving opportunities in their facilities. The assessments are funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office.

AlabamaSAVES and the industrial energy efficiency program are part of the Alabama E3 initiative, a partnership of federal and state agencies, utility companies, manufacturers and other groups working together to support sustainability and energy efficiency in manufacturing.

Energy was one of five agencies that merged to form ADECA in 1983

From its beginning as the Alabama Department of Energy, the Energy Division's main mission has been to encourage the conservation and efficient use of energy and to encourage development of renewable energy technologies.

Three U.S. Department of Energy programs formed the basis of the Alabama Department of Energy in the late 1970s. The department administered the State Energy Conservation Plan, which started in 1978 and funded energy efficiency and renewable energy projects throughout the state.

The Institutional Conservation Program was established in 1979 and provided assistance to help schools, hospitals and municipal and county governments become more energy efficient. Started in 1977, Alabama's Weatherization Assistance Program helped reduce the energy bills of low income residents by making repairs and improvements to increase the energy efficiency of their homes.

The Department of Energy was one of five agencies merged to form ADECA and became the Energy Division upon the department's establishment in 1983.

In 1986, the division received \$43 million as part of money awarded to Alabama and other states as restitution from oil companies for violations of federal price controls. The oil overcharge funds and interest earned from the settlement have been used for years to fund additional energy projects in Alabama.

In 1987, the division was renamed the Science, Technology and Energy Division as part of a reorganization of ADECA by Governor Guy Hunt. The new division focused on the development of science and technology and transferring it to the private sector for use in economic development. Emphasis also was placed on developing state policies on energy, science and technology.

As part of this new focus, the division became home to the Alabama Research Institute in 1988. Governed by a board of directors, the institute awarded grants for science and technology research at Alabama's colleges and universities.

In 1996, the U.S. Department of Energy combined the State Energy Conservation Program and Institutional Conservation Program to form the State Energy Program, which continues to be the primary source of funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects in Alabama.

Emphasizing its role as the State Energy Office, the division returned to the name Energy Division in 2008.



Energy has participated in many Earth Day festivities over the years like this one on the Capitol grounds.

Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety

Yellow Dot Program enhances LETS' effort to reduce traffic deaths

Saving lives is the goal of the Alabama Yellow Dot program. Supported by ADECA's Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division and launched in 2009, the program has grown steadily to cover 49 of Alabama's 67 counties as of November 2012.

The program entails placing a yellow decal on a vehicle's back window to alert first responders to check the glove box for medical history and prescription information. Immediate access to a crash victim's medical background enables responders to consider the individual's health history when providing emergency medical care.

To recognize the program's success, the national Governor's Highway Safety Association presented Yellow Dot with the Peter K. O'Rourke Special Achievement Award at the group's 2012 annual conference.

Lora Weaver of the Northeast Alabama Traffic Safety Office accepted the award on behalf of Alabama's outstanding program, which serves as a model for communities across the nation. Weaver initiated Yellow Dot in Etowah County and continues leading development and expansion into additional counties.

This year, ADECA awarded a \$110,000 grant to support Yellow Dot's expansion. Funding for the grant comes from the State of Alabama Traffic Safety Trust Fund, an account that receives fines paid by individuals found guilty of driving without a license or with a suspended or revoked license.

LETS also administers grants that fund overtime pay for patrol officers enabling them to participate in highway safety campaigns including "Click it or Ticket" and "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over." During the campaigns, more officers are out on patrol to enforce seatbelt and sobriety laws on Alabama roads. ADECA administered grants totaling \$4.7 million to support traffic safety initiatives in fiscal year 2012.

The division also supports the operations of drug and violent crime task forces around the state. These units arrest and assist in the prosecution of drug offenders. Over the years, the units have seized large quantities of illegal drugs and dismantled dangerous methamphetamine laboratories, which pose a threat to both neighborhoods and the environment. ADECA administered \$4.8 million in grants to support drug and violent crime task forces in fiscal year 2012.

Bulletproof vests provide a vital layer of protection for law enforcement officers. LETS grants helped state and local law enforcement agencies purchase new or replacement ballistic vests that can protect officers from both gunfire and knife attacks. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, officers wearing a protective vest are 14 times more likely to survive a gunshot compared with unprotected officers. ADECA awarded grants totaling \$59,076 for purchasing bulletproof vests in fiscal year 2012.

Domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse victims throughout Alabama receive vital help from local nonprofit shelters supported by ADECA grants. The agencies provide safe shelter for victims and their children. Court advocates help prepare victims for court appearances and help them seek protection orders. Some shelters and advocacy organizations also provide forensic interviewers who question young victims in non-threatening environments designed to help them feel at ease. ADECA administered grants totaling \$10.3 million to support Alabama victims of violence and abuse in 2012.

ADECA provides support to local Juvenile Justice programs that help troubled Alabama youth turn their lives around, make wiser decisions and become productive citizens. ADECA administered grants totaling \$1.6 million for these programs in the 2012 fiscal year.



The Yellow Dot program keys emergency technicians on a driver's medical history in cases of automobile crashes and mishaps.

ADECA included highway safety and law enforcement support from the beginning

The legislative act creating ADECA in 1983 transferred the Office of Highway and Traffic Safety and the Alabama Law Enforcement Planning Agency to the new department where they operated as two separate divisions.

Designated by the governor to administer programs to reduce Alabama vehicle crashes and fatalities, the Highway and Traffic Safety Division awarded grants to state agencies, local governments and a university to combat drunken driving, increase seatbelt safety and maintain traffic records.

In 1984, the Law Enforcement and Planning Division broadened its focus with the availability of new federal funds. The Victims of Crime Act funded grants for shelters and other nonprofit agencies to assist victims of child abuse, domestic violence and sexual assault. The division also began funding local law enforcement agencies to battle violent crime with Justice Assistance Act grants.

In 1986, the division began administering the Federal Anti-drug Program in Alabama, permitting ADECA to fund local law enforcement efforts to battle the sale, use and distribution of illegal drugs.

In a move to improve efficiency in 1987, Governor Guy Hunt merged the two divisions to form what is now ADECA's Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division.

Long-Term Community Recovery

Long-Term Community Recovery continues to aid tornado-torn areas

The tornadoes that struck Alabama on April 11, 2011 lasted only a few minutes, but some of the destruction, especially for people who lost loved ones, will last a lifetime. Although most of the destroyed property and public facilities can be repaired or replaced eventually, it requires resources and often consumes a lot of the calendar.

"I think the biggest thing that people are having to learn is that long-term community recovery is just that – long term. It's not overnight; it's a process," said Rocky Milliman, state coordinator for Long-Term Community Recovery, a program established by the governor and supported by ADECA.

The recovery process began even before the initial debris removal efforts were completed.

Soon after the tornadoes struck, Governor Bentley signed an executive order naming ADECA as the state's lead recovery agency. When the governor created Long-Term Community Recovery, it seemed appropriate to match it up with ADECA because several divisions already were assisting the recovery through their own programs and ADECA resources could be used to enhance Long-Term Community Recovery's efforts.

Long-Term Community Recovery worked closely with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to secure more than \$112 million in recovery funds and supported ADECA's efforts to Community Development Block Grants to help with recovery. Appalachian Regional Commission grants, managed in Alabama by ADECA, provided funds to build safe rooms and shelters, improve emergency warning systems and repair infrastructure damaged by the storms.

When ADECA launched its new website in 2012, a dedicated area was set up for Long-Term Community Recovery (www.adeca.alabama.gov/ltrc) to provide information about task force meetings and to give residents a place to find information on local representatives, contacts and the adopted recovery plans for each specific area.

In addition to meeting regularly with affected communities, Long-Term Community Recovery continues to seek supplemental resources to aid in rebuilding and preparing for powerful storms in the future. Donated time and expertise can be just as valuable as cash; for example, students from Auburn University were enlisted to help design plans for a new grocery store, fire station, public library and city hall for Cordova.

"The greatest asset has been the network these communities have established," said Milliman referring to local churches, faith-based organizations and others who have been instrumental in providing help.

To raise money for the communities, special fundraising events have been organized, such as the "Bo Bikes Bama" event where sports legend Bo Jackson biked 300 miles through the affected communities, raising more than \$600,000.

Surplus Property

Surplus Property Division helps local governments, nonprofits and some small businesses acquire needed equipment

Having the correct equipment to do a job is always important, but large items like backhoe tractors, dump trucks and other heavy equipment can be prohibitively expensive for agencies and groups with limited budgets. Locating good used equipment often presents its own share of problems.

In 2012, ADECA's Surplus Property Division provided a solution for many. The division obtained several pieces of large earth-moving equipment used in Iraq as part of the military draw-down. Much of the large equipment was purchased by local governments and qualifying small businesses who otherwise wouldn't have been able to afford it.

"It's just been a godsend for us," said Stephanie Rolin, co-owner and operator of S. Rolin Inc., an Atmore construction company. "We're a small business and we have to watch every dollar. We could never have purchased all the large equipment without help from Surplus Property."

Ms. Rolin purchased several pieces of equipment from Surplus Property ranging from small items like office furniture to larger ones like a small dozer for moving trailers. The construction company qualifies as a disadvantaged small business under the federal Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development Program. Businesses may be classified as disadvantaged if they are owned by women, minorities, veterans or persons with disabilities. Those that qualify for the program are eligible to obtain items directly from Surplus Property.

"Every piece of furniture in our office is from Surplus," Rolin said. "It's saved us so much money in having to pay either rent costs or buying the equipment new."

Surplus Property, which maintains warehouses in Montgomery and Morgan Counties, obtains equipment and supplies from state and federal agencies, including U.S. military bases. The division also receives property

Surplus Property joined ADECA in 1984

Shortly after its creation in 1983, ADECA was given responsibility for collecting and distributing federal surplus property donated to Alabama. In 1984, the Legislature transferred the responsibility for state surplus property from the State Finance Department to ADECA. The two entities were combined as the State/Federal Surplus Property Assistance Division which became operational Oct. 15, 1984.

Distribution centers in Gadsden and Clanton were closed and all items moved to a new location in Montgomery. Former Surplus Chief John Graham said at the time that the combination of the two offices saved the state money and provided a larger selection of surplus property under one roof.

ADECA operates warehouses in Montgomery and Eva.

abandoned by travelers at security checkpoints of several airports in the Southeastern U.S.

ADECA makes surplus property available year-round to Alabama's local governments, certain nonprofit agencies and qualifying small businesses at a much lower cost compared to buying new items. Typical Surplus Property items include office furniture and equipment, cars, trucks, tractors, and sometimes even fire trucks and ambulances.

Property that is not transferred or sold to government entities or nonprofit agencies is available at public auction several times each year and on websites such as GSA Auctions and GovDeals. Funds collected from these sales and auctions are transferred to the state's General Fund, after expenses.



Surplus conducts several public auctions throughout the year.

Communications and Information

CID expands ADECA's information outlets to reach larger audience

Communication methods have changed radically in recent years with websites and social media becoming major sources of information for many people. ADECA's Communications and Information Division is adapting to ensure that ADECA conveys news and information about its programs effectively to state residents using new media opportunities.

In 2012, ADECA launched a revamped website. The redesigned website's navigation was streamlined so general users can quickly get a basic idea of each division's function while grant recipients and local officials can still access detailed technical information and documents on specific program pages. From the site's main page, visitors can easily locate news releases, individual division pages, contact information and notices about ADECA meetings and events. The redesign was done entirely in-house with CID taking responsibility for the content of the site while ADECA's Information Services Section handled the project's technical aspects.

A notable difference in the way the new site functions is the immediate availability of news releases. Previously, news releases could take as long as 24 hours to upload to the site and were provided as downloadable Microsoft Word documents. Now, releases are available within minutes and appear in a separate web page with no need for downloading.

The new site also includes a link to ADECA's Twitter feed that allows CID to provide instant updates about ADECA news and events.

CID's central responsibility is to provide public accountability for the state and federal funds administered



CID staffers assist at Emergency Management headquarters in Clanton during natural disasters.

CID tells ADECA's history every day

From ADECA's start, communicating news and information about the department's programs was a priority. Responsibility for all internal and external communications was assigned to Norm Ridenhour in the Director's Office. In the mid 1980s, communications and the graphic arts section merged to create the Special Projects and External Affairs Division. The division provided computer services for the department, maintaining an IBM System 38 mainframe that was used by employees for fiscal management, personnel, job training, inventory control and word processing.

In 1991, the division got its current name, Communications and Information Division, and became responsible for all public relations, graphic arts, library services and publications, including "Inside ADECA," an internal staff newsletter.

As computers became smaller and more common, CID's Technical Services section grew to support each division's hardware and software and provide training to employees. In 1993, Technical Services became a separate ADECA unit and was renamed Information Services.

In 1999, CID began serving as a liaison to the U.S. Census Bureau to help ensure a more complete population count in Alabama and to verify municipal annexation and boundary records.

by the department. The division posts announcements of grant awards online, and writes and distributes releases for news media outlets across the state. CID also provides advance notification to members of the Alabama Legislature of grant awards that affect their districts. Every year, CID receives and answers hundreds of requests for information about ADECA programs, events and grants.

The Graphic Arts Unit provides additional support for ADECA programs by designing and printing handbooks, brochures, reports, forms, posters, signs and other materials. The General Services Unit processes mail and parcels, delivers interoffice correspondence, manages fleet vehicles and maintains necessary supplies for the department.

Support Services

Support sections provide backbone of ADECA programs

Behind the scenes, five support sections turn the cogs that keep ADECA programs running properly, providing guidance and services that strengthen and improve each program.

ADECA awards hundreds of grants annually, each with specific guidelines and regulations. ADECA's **Audit Section** helps ensure rules are followed and taxpayer money is spent appropriately. Audit staff provide training and help grant recipients understand all requirements and financial regulations so that on-going projects are conducted properly and recipients remain eligible for future funding.

Attorneys in ADECA's **Legal Section** guide employees, program managers and grant recipients to ensure legal and ethical requirements are met. They represent the department in any litigation, appear in court as necessary and review all contracts and other legal documents. The section monitors changes in state and federal laws or regulations affecting ADECA and advise the department accordingly.

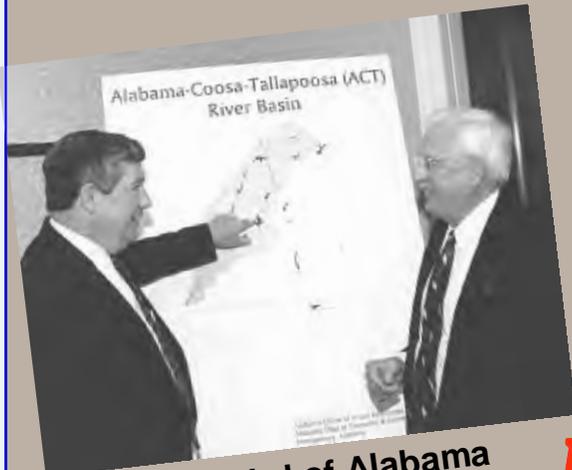
ADECA's **Financial Services Section** tracks the hundreds of millions of dollars in taxpayer funds for which the department is responsible, handling accounting services,

budgeting, purchasing, payroll, property management and employee travel expenses. Their careful financial management provides detailed documentation that creates a full public record and keeps ADECA within budget.

ADECA's **Information Services Section** keeps the lines of communication open—literally—by maintaining computer and telecommunications equipment. During the past year, the section assisted the Communications and Information Division to develop and launch a new ADECA website. The section's **Geographic Information Systems Development Unit** provides data mapping services.

Qualified, knowledgeable staff keep ADECA programs operating efficiently, and the **Human Resources Section** ensures departmental personnel needs are met with capable employees. The section develops and updates job descriptions and works with the Alabama State Personnel Department to make sure candidates are properly qualified for the jobs they seek. The section handles transfers and promotions and they provide guidance to supervisors regarding employee evaluations and benefits.

Celebrating **30 years** of building a better Alabama



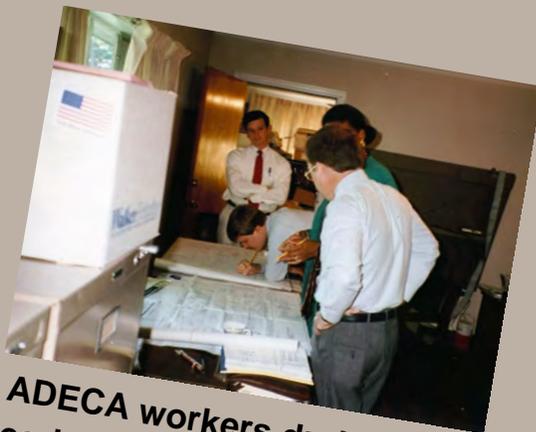
Richard Laird of Alabama and Bob Kerr of Georgia discuss water sources



Refinishing furniture during the early years of state Surplus

ADECA

through the years



ADECA workers during the early years at its Norman Bridge Road location



ADECA moves into the Center for Commerce building in 1991



Gov. Robert Bentley announces disaster funding for north Alabama communities impacted by tornadoes in April 2011

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

2011-2012 Federal Receipts and Disbursements

Highlight indicates ARRA programs.

Federal Grantor/Program Title	Receipts	Expenditures
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE		
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program - ARRA	466,448	467,201
State Broadband Data and Development Grant Program - ARRA	735,583	736,223
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT		
Community Development Block Grants/State's Program	33,906,903	33,909,131
Emergency Solutions Grant Program	1,676,630	1,681,531
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	1,361,325	1,361,325
Community Development Block Grants/State's Program - ARRA	336,077	336,077
Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program - ARRA	1,646,835	1,646,835
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR		
U S Geological Survey_Research and Data Collection	13,410	72,544
Outdoor Recreation_Acquisition, Development and Planning	671,382	671,382
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		
Sexual Assault Services Formula Program	174,375	174,375
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	575,240	754,931
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention_Allocation to States	523,730	521,592
Title V_Delinquency Prevention Program	58,950	58,877
Crime Victim Assistance	6,001,698	5,997,115
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	2,199,858	2,202,848
Violence Against Women Formula Grants - ARRA	217,011	212,783
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners	434,646	426,817
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	141,894	135,204
Project Safe Neighborhoods	173,675	176,390
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program	145,142	145,516
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	7,488,322	4,823,923
Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program	337,637	336,648
Anti-Gang Initiative	24,897	24,953
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program - ARRA	550,130	706,022
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR		
WIA Adult Program	11,059,546	11,002,393
WIA Youth Activities	10,190,231	10,110,925
WIA Youth Activities - ARRA		
WIA Dislocated Workers	1,150,732	1,167,412
WIA Dislocated Workers - ARRA	648,636	655,618
Community Based Job Training Grants	271,498	271,785
Program of Competitive Grants for Worker Training and Placement High Growth and Emerging Industry Sectors - ARRA	1,898,276	1,905,019
WIA National Emergency Grants	5,104,897	5,095,298
WIA Dislocated Worker Formula Grants	12,395,693	12,517,757
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		
Recreational Trails Program	1,838,623	1,850,214
State and Community Highway Safety	3,508,686	3,571,555
Alcohol Impaired Driving Countermeasures Incentive Grants	705,169	661,938

Federal Grantor/Program Title	Receipts	Expenditures
Occupant Protection Incentive Grants	343,469	342,323
Safety Belt Performance Grants	40,720	8,109
State Traffic Safety Information System Improvement Grants	460,113	460,113
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION		
Appalachian Area Development	571,546	571,546
Appalachian Research, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration	114,677	90,812
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION		
Donation of Federal Surplus Personal Property	22,635,394	17,282,424
	value of property - not cash received	
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY		
Petroleum Violation Escrow	1,618	1,414,288
State Energy Program	626,988	625,946
State Energy Program - ARRA	11,515,666	11,524,506
Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons	267,344	235,093
Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons - ARRA	23,645,225	23,621,482
State Energy Program Special Projects	6,164	5,915
State Energy Program Special Projects - ARRA	63,385	63,385
Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability, Research, Development and Analysis - ARRA	142,785	142,785
Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program (EEARP) - ARRA	9,595	9,595
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG) - ARRA	3,381,014	3,381,541
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities_State Grants	9,382	9,927
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance	48,778,788	48,896,340
Community Services Block Grant	11,167,770	11,189,300
Family Violence Prevention and Services/Grants for Battered Women's Shelters	1,538,748	1,474,598
Community Services Block Grant - ARRA	(12,899)	
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY		
Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE)	197,388	201,699
National Dam Safety Program	49,446	47,974
Cooperating Technical Partners	4,774,340	4,775,511
TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS	238,962,450	232,765,369

Get Connected to ADECA Services

ADECA (<i>Main number</i>)	(334) 242-5100
(<i>Director's Office</i>)	(334) 242-5591
Community and Economic Development Division (CED)	(334) 242-5370
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	(334) 242-0492
Emergency Solutions Grant Unit	(334) 353-0288
Community Services Block Grant Unit (CSBG)	(334) 353-4909
Alabama Advantage	(334) 242-5469
Appalachian Regional Commission Unit (ARC)	(334) 242-5469
Recreation and Conservation Unit	(334) 242-5483
Workforce Development Division (WDD) (<i>Main number</i>)	(334) 242-5300
Workforce Investment Area/One Stop Unit	
Workforce Initiatives Unit	
State Programs and Divisional Budget Management Unit	
State Reporting and Technical Assistance Unit	
State Planning/Rapid Response Unit	
Program Integrity Unit	
Alabama CPR Network Community Prison Re-entry Unit	
Workforce Boards	
Office of Water Resources Division (OWR) (<i>Main number</i>)	(344) 242-4991
Water Management Unit	
Technical Support Unit	
Interstate Water Issues Unit	
Floodplain Management Unit	
Energy Division (ED) (<i>Main number</i>)	(334) 242-5292
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Unit	
LIHEAP/Weatherization Unit	
Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division (LETS) (<i>Main number</i>)	(334) 242-5897
Grants Management Unit	
Program Integrity Unit	
Surplus Property Division (SPD) (<i>Main number</i>)	(334) 284-0577
Administrative Unit	
Maintenance and Repair Unit	
Sales Unit	
Eva Unit	(256) 796-4434
Communications and Information Division (CID) (<i>Main number</i>)	(334) 242-5525
Public Information Unit	
Graphic Arts Unit	
General Services Unit	
Audit Section	(334) 242-5195
Financial Services Section	(334) 242-5729
Human Resources Section	(334) 242-5251
Information Services Section	(334) 242-5529
Legal Section	(334) 242-5255
Long-Term Community Recovery Unit	(334) 353-3719



Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

www.adeca.alabama.gov

401 Adams Avenue

P. O. Box 5690

Montgomery, Alabama 36103-5690

334-242-5100