• The Grady County Archway Partnership Executive Committee conducted their monthly meeting June 14, 2012. Major topics included:
  o Update on two new issue work groups: Community Health and Wellness, Education for a Quality Workforce
  o UGA College of Environment and Design Grady County site visits
  o UGA photography student assigned to Grady County
  o Upcoming economic development studies including Over/Under Study, Asset Mapping, Economic Development Asset Inventory and SAMS Study (Kent Wolfe)

• Request for Higher Education Resources (RHER)—Community landscape and design assistance
  o Conducted site visits with two groups of summer CED students for community projects such as Azalea Park, community gateways and Roddenbery Memorial Library. Collected additional site materials including: blueprints, photographs, maps and plats from Tax Assessor’s office, City of Cairo and Library.

• Archbold Medical Center-Grady General Hospital Administrator LaDon Toole hosted the first meeting of the Community Health and Wellness Issue Work Group. The group was comprised of representatives from a wide range of health and wellness entities including the medical community, health department, fitness clubs, assisted living centers, extension service and others. Laura Gillman, UGA, Archway Partnership Public Health Professional presented a review of the Grady County Health Indicators Report. The group will begin to prioritize several initial goals:
  o Goal #1: Establish a Health Issue Work Group that represents a partnership among healthcare and social service providers to identify and prioritize community-wide issues, challenges, and opportunities that impact the health and wellness/well-being of Grady County residents.

  o Goal #2: Create a community-wide health education and wellness program to help reduce healthcare costs.

  o Goal #3: Improve access to care, particularly prenatal care and education.

• Goal #4: Enhance parks and recreation facilities and programs to promote healthy lifestyles for children and adults to include retirees.

• Dr. Tommy Pharis, Superintendent of Grady County Schools, hosted the Education for a Quality Workforce Issue Group which included representatives from the local business and industry sector as well as teachers and administrators from Cairo High School. The group will work toward three goals:
  Goal #1: Assist the school system in establishing charter schools and/or a College and Career Academy that allows for dual enrollment with Southwest Georgia Technical College and other partners.
Goal #2: Establish a local business and industry advisory board (issue work group) to identify workplace trends, promote opportunities for student learning in the workplace, assist college and career pathway implementation, and seek private funding (or other funding resources) to support educational efforts.

Goal #3: Investigate grants; donations; in-kind gifts of equipment, machinery or training programs; and other funding sources to enhance technology infrastructure.

Media Coverage
- April 25, 2012 The Cairo Messenger, p. B3. *Cairo Women’s Club held meeting, names winner of $500 gas raffle*
- May 30, 2012 The Cairo Messenger, Front page *Archway brings more students in to tackle projects*
- June 6, 2012 The Cairo Messenger, Front page *Citizens coming together to tackle community issues*