2016 STATE & FEDERAL APPALACHIAN RETURN ON INVESTMENT REPORT

APPALACHIAN ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAMS

Strengthening Ohio’s Appalachian Regions

Funding Provided by the Appalachian Regional Commission, Ohio Development Services Agency through the Ohio Governor’s Office of Appalachia and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT)
For 50 years the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has invested in the efforts of its local, regional, and state partners to transform Appalachian communities and advance its mission of helping the region achieve socio-economic parity with the rest of the nation.

Ohio Local Development Districts

- Ohio’s Appalachian counties cover an area larger than the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut & Rhode Island combined.*
- Appalachian Counties Make Up 17% of Ohio’s Total Population.**
- Ohio is home to 4 local development districts (LDDs) serving 32 counties. They administer the federal ARC & Ohio Governor’s Office of Appalachia (GOA) grant programs across the region.

Unique in the 13-state Commission, Ohio enhances the federal ARC investment with a matching State Fund, allowing for increased investment in the state’s 32-county Appalachian region. The project selection includes a grassroots approach that allows local governments to prioritize the state and federal investments.

Ohio Local Development Districts (LDDs) are cost-effective, efficient and focused on leveraging resources to meet the needs of the region.

LDDs help public and private sector leaders develop and implement programs and services that build strong regional economies and communities.

Ohio’s LDDs provide comprehensive regional strategies for community and economic development.

Sources: * Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Kids Count (2001) ** Job and Family Services
In 2016, Ohio’s LDDs administered 50 ARC projects with $61,653,671 in total project costs which resulted in 748.5 new jobs and 1,782.5 jobs retained in the region.

We accomplish this by fostering dynamic partnerships among local governments, building public-private alliances and making strategic investments.

Ohio Local Development Districts secured $45 in direct Appalachian project dollars for every $1 spent on administration.

**ARC INVESTMENT GOALS**

Local districts administer projects to meet the following investment goals:

- Invest in entrepreneurial and business development strategies that strengthen the economy of Appalachian Ohio;
- Increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of residents to work and succeed in Appalachian Ohio;
- Invest in critical infrastructure – especially broadband; transportation, including the Appalachian Development Highway System; and water/wastewater systems;
- Strengthen Appalachia Ohio’s community and economic development potential by leveraging the region’s natural and cultural heritage assets; and
- Build the capacity and skills of current and next-generation leaders and organizations to innovate, collaborate, and advance community and economic development.
**Economic Development**

*BH-HVRDD: Athens Mold & Machine Access Road*

Production resumed at Athens Mold & Machine, a tire mold manufacturing company with 60 jobs located in Athens, Ohio, thanks to a variety of state and federal grants as well as an ARC access road grant. The $500,000 road project provides access to the US 33/50 interchange by industrial businesses and Ohio University. The road supports the redevelopment of the manufacturing zone in central Athens.

**Cultural Heritage Assets**

*BH-HVRDD: People’s Bank Theater*

On behalf of the Peoples Bank Theater in historic downtown Marietta, Ohio, Buckeye Hills received a $250,000 project grant from the Ohio Governor’s Office of Appalachia. This grant was applied to the Hippodrome/Colony Historical Theater Association’s $5 million theater renovation that preserves an historic landmark built in 1919. The 1,000 seat theater is an economic catalyst for regional arts and tourism with an estimated 56,000 annual theater visits.

**Education & Health**

*BH-HVRDD: Washington State Community College - Auto & Diesel Technician Program*

As the region’s only provider of technical education for entry-level automotive, diesel and motorcycle/power sports technicians, the workforce program received a federal ARC grant of $87,900 that will train 75 students over three years. The funding supports equipment enhancements for, and training in, an evolving industry. As technology is becoming increasingly sophisticated, most employers are now requiring post-secondary education.

**Economic Development**

*OVRDC: Corvac Composites*

During fiscal year 2016 the Governor’s Office of Appalachia awarded $250,000 through its Rapid Response program to the CIC of Highland County for the purchase of a trim press to be leased to Corvac Composites, LLC.

This $12,500,000 project was funded with matching dollars from JobsOhio, Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development, Highland County Revolving Loan Fund, Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation, Dayton Power and Light, Corvac Composites, LLC, and a private lender.

This project, located in Greenfield, brings a new employer into a building that had been vacant since 2013. With the rapid response funding, Highland County and their partners helped to bring 175 new jobs to the region.
**EDUCATION & HEALTH**

**OVRDC: Jackson County Health Center**

During fiscal year 2016 the Appalachian Regional Commission awarded $142,715 through its Area Development program to the Community Action Committee (CAC) of Pike County for the purchase of major dental equipment to be housed in their expanding Jackson County Health Center. This $203,879 project was funded with matching dollars from the grantee.

The CAC of Pike County operates numerous health centers in south-central Ohio, allowing affordable access to underserved populations. Jackson County has been designated a low-income health shortage area by the Ohio Department of Health for dental care. Expansion of the Jackson County Health Center will provide residents of Jackson County with adequate dental operatories and a full-time dental staff, regardless of any patient’s ability to pay. It is anticipated that the health center will then be able to serve 1,200 patients with oral health services in the first year of dental operations and create six jobs.

**TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE**

**OVRDC: Haverhill Road**

During fiscal year 2016 the Governor’s Office of Appalachia awarded $250,000 through its Area Development program to the Scioto County Commissioners for improvements to Haverhill Road in the southeastern part of the county. This $724,700 project was funded with matching dollars from the Ohio Department of Transportation, Scioto County Engineer, and Fluor/JEDISO.

This project supports the continued operation of a chemical plant in the county and involves widening of lanes, the addition of shoulders, and a center turn lane to make travel for employees and truck traffic safer and more efficient. This project supported the retention of 51 full-time jobs and the creation of an additional 30 full-time jobs.

**EDUCATION & HEALTH**

**EASTGATE: Ashtabula County Medical Center**

With a $100,000 grant from the Governor’s Office of Appalachia, the Ashtabula County Medical Center (ACMC) will expand access to health care within the region. ACMC opened its state-of-the-art oncology pharmacy, which complies with recently upgraded FDA regulations; opened five new fully-equipped chemotherapy infusion bays, bringing its total to 14; and opened four more private examination rooms. It is anticipated this project will provide 572 patients improved access to health care, 2,300 treatment sessions per year, create six medical professional jobs, and retain nine jobs.
EASTGATE: Warren YWCA STEM Empowerment Lab

With a $105,000 federal ARC grant, the Warren YWCA’s STEM Empowerment Lab constructed a tech-friendly classroom including computers, equipment, and accessible restrooms. This will create an on-site computer technology program that will provide education and training to better prepare students, out-of-school youths, and adults for post-secondary education and job skills. The program will help participants improve math and literacy scores; attain a diploma or GED; learn financial literacy; increase computer skills; and improve job readiness.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EASTGATE: Tech Belt Energy Innovation Center

The Tech Belt Energy Innovation Center (TBEIC) in Warren, Ohio, received an ARC federal grant to develop an energy business incubator. This project will include the purchase of equipment for the Energy Integration and Shared Resource Center laboratory. It will facilitate energy development in the region and bring technology opportunities from across the country and overseas to the district to promote economic growth and high paying jobs. It will serve three incubator residents, three non-incubator residents, two collaborative research and development proposals, as well as create 67 jobs and retain 11 jobs.

INFRASTRUCTURE

OMEGA: Village of Lore City: Wastewater System Improvements

The Village of Lore City is a small residential community in Guernsey County that is served by failing on-lot septic systems. Elevated levels of fecal coliform that significantly exceeded Ohio EPA limits were detected in several locations.

A septic tank effluent pumping system and an extended aeration packaged wastewater treatment plant were identified as the most cost effective and affordable solution. The total estimated project cost is $5.22 million. ARC will invest $200,000 in this critical infrastructure project. The US Army Corps of Engineers, Ohio EPA, the Ohio Water Development Authority, and the CDBG Residential Public Infrastructure Grant Program will also invest in this project.

The ARC investment will benefit 160 households and three businesses. Adverse health and environmental impacts associated with untreated sewage will also be eliminated. Specific outputs include 163 septic systems, 18,334 feet of sanitary sewer lines, and one wastewater treatment plant (0.0744 MGD capacity).
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**OMEGA: Coshocton County Public Private Partnership Rebuilds County Road 12**

The Governor’s Office of Appalachia invested $150,000 for the rehabilitation of County Road 12. This road was severely deteriorated and practically impassable in some sections. The road serves as the primary access for the growing wood products industry and other industries in northeast Coshocton County.

To address this issue, the Coshocton County Port Authority joined with the Governor’s Office of Appalachia, Coshocton County Commissioners and Engineer, Schooler Family Foundation, Coshocton Foundation, Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth, ODOT Jobs and Commerce, and the Northeast Coshocton County Business Community to rebuild 6.45 miles of County Road 12.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**OMEGA: Tuscarawas County: Lawrence Township Industrial Park Retention Basin**

The Lawrence Township Industrial Park is home to 18 businesses, several of which are impacted by flooding during periods of heavy rainfall leading to lost production and additional costs for clean-up. To facilitate expansion plans of two businesses and to keep the other 16 businesses at the industrial park, drainage improvements are needed to alleviate these routine flood events.

A public/private partnership was formed to fund these needed improvements. The Governor’s Office of Appalachia, ODOT Jobs and Commerce, business owners, Lawrence Township Trustees, and the Tuscarawas County Commissioners formed a partnership to fund the necessary improvements.

The Governor’s Office of Appalachia invested $177,600 to facilitate the creation of 54 new jobs and the retention of 206 jobs. Specific outputs include the construction of a 1.67 million gallon retention basin and 80 linear feet of 48-inch culvert. The total project cost of the drainage improvements is approximately $371,200.
Buckeye Hills - Hocking Valley Regional Development District

Executive Director: Misty Casto

Serving - Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties

Also serves as a Regional Transportation Planning Organization & The Area Agency on Aging 8

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Eastgate Regional Council of Governments

Executive Director: James G. Kinnick, P.E.

Serving - Ashtabula, Mahoning and Trumbull Counties

Also serves as a Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization

100 E. Federal Street, Suite 1000 • Youngstown, OH 44503
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Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

Executive Director: Jeannette Wierzbicki, P.E.

Serving - Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum and Tuscarawas Counties

Also serves as a Regional Transportation Planning Organization

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Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

Executive Director: John Hemmings

Serving - Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton Counties

Also serves as a Regional Transportation Planning Organization

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