



Dear Friends,

The first words of our 2015 Annual Report must be thank you. Because of your generosity, 2015 was a record-breaking year. Together, we:

- Gave more grant funds in 2015 than in any previous year, totaling \$1.1 million invested to create opportunities for the citizens and communities of Appalachian Ohio; and
- Created 24 new funds to support nonprofit missions in our region, more than in any other year!

To show our appreciation and keep the momentum going, this year's report is designed differently. While it offers the standard information you have come to expect, our focus was to create a report that reaches forward, providing inspiration and support to you in your personal journey as a changemaker.

You will find a special section designed to support your family's personal reflection and charitable dreaming on page 14. We have tried these questions at the dinner table with our families and found the conversations to be very meaningful.

We have also heard from many of you that you would like a primer on the types of funds available through the Foundation. Towards that end, you will find a menu of giving opportunities on page 16.

Within the spirit of a report that reaches forward, we want to share that our theme for 2016 will be: **What's Closest to Your Heart?** This is the question we have for you and all who care about our region. Please know, as you identify your own charitable dreams, **we stand ready to support your success.**

We close this letter where we began, with our thanks to you. As you each give to what is closest to your heart, you are creating an abundance of possibility for the citizens and communities of our region. We could not be more excited for the future or more grateful for your visionary generosity.

Sincerely,

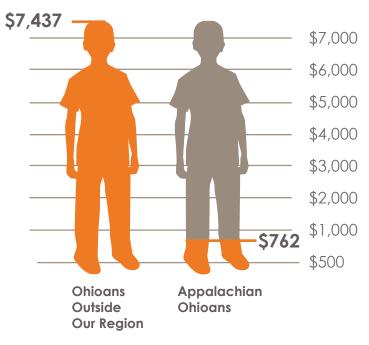
Ronald Strickmaker, Board Chair

Cara Dingus Brook, President & CEO



OUR CHALLENGE

Philanthropic Dollars Per Capita



Source: Foundation Center 2015

Appalachian Ohio's Philanthropy Gap

Appalachian Ohio is in the midst of a battle with generational poverty. A great many of our citizens face barriers to educational, economic, and essential quality of life opportunities. At the root of these many challenges, we find an undercapitalization in philanthropic support thwarts efforts to solve deeply-rooted challenges.

If we look at the availability of philanthropic assets statewide, we find our citizens have access to \$762 in per capita philanthropic support while Ohioans outside of our region have access to \$7,437. This means fewer scholarships available to our graduating seniors, fewer programs to help struggling families, less support for public safety concerns, and less investment in and exposure to the arts in all forms.

Closing the philanthropy gap in our region will unleash the potential of our region's changemakers. When we, as donors, choose to invest in the areas closest to our hearts, our philanthropic actions will combine to have the effect of improving every aspect of the region's quality of life.

As we close the philanthropy gap, our region's communities and citizens will have the support necessary for solving generational challenges. It is this promise that drives FAO's goal of raising \$100 million in new philanthropy by 2030.

MEASURING RESULTS

Follow our region's progress in the **Regional Opportunity Scorecard** and look for the newlyreleased 2015 edition March 1, on our website at **www.AppalachianOhio.org**.

OUR BLUEPRINT

Our region's challenges are complex and interwoven. Solving them requires a holistic approach.



The Pillars of Prosperity

As a foundation for our region, we have learned five areas of investment are essential to growing and sustaining a prosperous Appalachian Ohio. At FAO, we call these the *Pillars of Prosperity*.

As a grantmaker working in close partnership with local citizens and communities across our region, we are continually discovering good ideas that have the potential to help not only one community, but many communities and citizens.

In 2014, we finally had the opportunity to establish five new, regional grantmaking endowments. These new funds are designed to inspire and support projects that are simultaneously transformative, sustainable, and likely to impact communities.

With a new fund for each Pillar, we are now working to grow the funds. We are grateful to have a little help: **because of a matching grant from Ohio CAT**, **gifts to FAO's Pillar funds will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to** \$100,000. The Education Pillar has already met its match, and the question now remains: which fund will you help cross the finish line next?

The Pillars are FAO's guiding blueprint for how philanthropic investment can transform the future of our region. They are a way for us to all work together to strategically grow the varied resources and support our communities, schools, and nonprofits need to not only generate transformative change, but maintain and leverage our results.

A HEART FOR EVERY PILLAR

Jo Ellen Diehl Yeary's gift is creating "an incubator for possibilities throughout Appalachian Ohio."

There's a feeling you get driving home through the hills of Appalachian Ohio. It's a feeling of welcome, of warmth, of being grounded. For Jo Ellen Diehl Yeary, it happens every time she crosses the Ohio River on her drive from Charleston, West Virginia, to Meigs County.

"I've known for a long time that I gain strength when I go home among the hills. It's always reminded me of the song we learned in Girl Scouts, 'Peace, I ask of thee o' river,'" shares Jo Ellen. "It brings me back to the beginning. It brings me home to a source of comfort."

Having grown up in Pomeroy, Jo Ellen remembers an idyllic childhood where all she had to do was prop her bike on a tree and wait for the other children in the neighborhood to see her and hurry out to play. It was a close community where everybody watched over one another, but she knew even then that there was great need in her community and in the wider Appalachian Ohio region.

Through FAO, Jo Ellen found another way of going back to her home among the hills. When a friend introduced Jo Ellen to FAO, she saw a way to make a difference in Meigs County as well as across the region. She joined FAO's *I'm a Child of Appalachia*® Network and then became one of FAO's inaugural philanthropic shareholders because she saw FAO as "an incubator for possibilities throughout Appalachian Ohio."

She recognized the role philanthropy could play, especially through the *Pillars of Prosperity*. Jo Ellen sees the Pillars as deeply interwoven and essential to progress. "You don't have education without exposure to culture and the arts. You're not an educated person without that. Then that educated person needs a viable economy. They're all so interrelated, they can't be divided."



"Obviously I took so much good from Meigs County and I want to give back to the place where it started for me. We stand upon the shoulders of those that came before us. Giving back is my way of saying thank you to those shoulders I stand upon."

~ Jo Ellen Diehl Yeary

A HEART FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Shirley McClelland's gifts are bringing the world closer together.

When Shirley McClelland of Lancaster thinks about what is closest to her heart, many things come to mind. With interests in education and the arts, environmental protection and conservation, women's issues, and Central and South American culture, Shirley has nearly as many passions as roles in her daily life. Fortunately, this busy yoga teacher, farm wife, organic gardener, and mother has found a way to give back to everything she cares about through her donor-advised fund.

"Having a donor-advised fund at FAO allows me to do more than just write a check," explained Shirley. "It allows me to stay involved with my passions while giving back to the community."

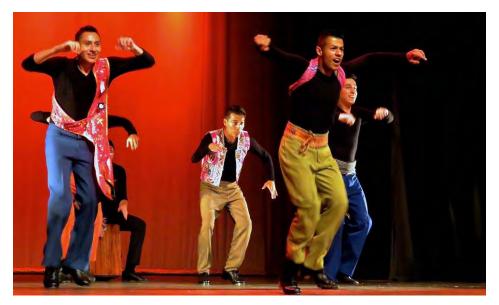
This past fall, Shirley's passions coalesced around performances by ADU Proyecto Universal. Shirley discovered ADU, a Peruvian performance group that uses dance, music, and percussion to create performance art, on one of her many trips to South America. **She was sure that ADU's mission to lead outreach programs to at-risk youth in Lima, Peru, would resonate in Appalachian Ohio.**

Thanks to a grant from the McClelland Fund, ADU toured Appalachian Ohio, performing for students and communities throughout the region, creating a two-way cultural exchange. **During their time in Appalachian Ohio, ADU performed for over 4,000 students and adults in the region.**

"I have a passion for international causes and the Foundation makes it easy for me to give to multiple organizations throughout the year," added Shirley. "The Foundation does the hard part managing the day-to-day details of the fund. I get to focus on the fun part—supporting the causes I care about most."

"You don't need a lot of resources to make an investment in your community. A little bit of money and a lot of love can go a long way when it comes to something you care about."

~ Shirley McClelland



ADU performed at FAO's Legacy Reception in September at Stuart's Opera House.

A HEART FOR ALMA MATER

Cambridge City Schools Alumni are pioneering a new model for giving back.

What if you could give back to your high school the way people give back to their colleges? What if parents and community members could invest in the education of all children in a district in ways that help teachers try something novel, introduce students to new experiences, or fill in gaps in equipment or opportunity? In Cambridge, a group of alumni came together to create a fund that does just that—the **Cambridge City Schools Alumni and Friends Educational Fund**.

The Fund began when a group of alumni noticed many of the things they treasured from their time in school weren't offered to students anymore, including field trips or musical instruments. Remembering these formative experiences, this group of alumni set to work. In their first five years, and with the support of community partners, they have grown the Fund from \$5,000 to nearly \$50,000 while giving out more than \$17,000 in grants.

In its mission to promote academic and classroom enrichment, the Fund has supported students with handson science experiences, technology programs to better equip classrooms, and reading programs for middle schoolers.

During a reading program called Book Bandits, the Fund made a trip to Barnes & Noble in Columbus to provide students access to a large selection of books and to experience the world outside of Guernsey County. Alumni were surprised to hear this was one of the first times

most of the students had experienced an escalator.

The community has rallied behind students through financial gifts as well as gifts of time and talent. Paired with FAO's expertise, the Fund and its committee are able to stay focused on enhancing the academic experience of students in Cambridge City Schools and serving the community.



The Fund has introduced students to hands-on science lessons.

"FAO's professional expertise in investing and managing our funds for the future of the school and students brings us peace of mind that our work today will last forever."

~ Maribeth Wright, Cambridge Committee Member



At FAO, the Cambridge City Schools Alumni and Friends Educational Fund serves as a model for how a community of residents, alums, parents, and friends can grow resources to support education. As part of the *Education Pillar*, FAO will be partnering with the Cambridge City Schools Alumni and Friends Educational Fund to design and pilot an accelerated growth plan for the fund, so more can be achieved quickly.

Local school districts can join FAO's *Education Pillar* efforts to inspire and support the growth of permanent philanthropic resources for their school through the establishment of a School Endowment Fund.

Schools are often the beneficiary of gifts or bequests from individuals and organizations that want to give back and support their alma mater. Due to state mandates and restrictions, schools are limited in how they can invest those resources for the greatest impact. School Endowment Funds are designed to forever benefit a school or district by providing more flexible funds to enhance educational programs, offer new experiences to students, and encourage teacher development opportunities.



IS THERE A FUND FOR YOUR SCHOOL?

A school system fund can be opened through a gift of \$10,000. If your district is not listed below and you would like to create opportunities for your alma mater please contact us at 740.753.1111. Here's where FAO is partnering with communities and alums right now:

Batavia School Foundation Fund
Cambridge City Schools Alumni and Friends
Educational Fund
Citizens for Rolling Hills School Endowment Fund
Friends of East Guernsey Education Fund
Harrison Hills City School District Fund
New Haven School Fund
Southern Perry County Academic Endowment Fund
West Union Schools Alumni and Friends Educational Fund

A HEART FOR COMMUNITY

Tom Johnson is leaving a legacy that will impact his community for generations to come.

When the attacks of 9/11 happened, Tom Johnson was living and working in London, England, at a banking job that had him traveling all over the world. Tom had worked in the World Trade Center. He had always planned to return to Somerset in Perry County, where he grew up and his father had been the mayor, but hadn't yet found the time. In 2001, however, he decided it was time to slow down and return to his hometown and his family to see how he could make a difference.

When Tom arrived in Somerset, he set to work immediately, joining community organizations and writing grants for the Village of Somerset to help it get stimulus funding. Over time, he has become the Mayor of Somerset and a volunteer with the **Community Foundation for Perry County**, all of which has led to his commitment of a gift in his will to his Perry County community.

"Even when I was overseas I wanted to make a planned gift that would benefit the community I was from," said Tom. "The only vehicle I had was my will, but my goal was a permanent endowment so it would be around for the community's benefit for a longer period of time."

When Tom arrived in Perry County, he realized that the county was not receiving nearly as many resources as other areas and he saw that it was in part because of the philanthropy gap. He soon learned that others wanted to start a community foundation for the county as well, so, together they reached out to FAO to launch the Community Foundation for Perry County. With this foundation, everyone with a heart for the county would have a permanent and lasting way to invest in Perry County. For Tom, that has meant leaving a gift in his will so he can continue to make a difference in Perry County for generations to come.



Photo Credit: Ohio Government Telecommunications

"It's a gift you give yourself in a way, and it doesn't have to be a fortune. When you step back and take time to plan a legacy, it's a rewarding process."

~ Tom Johnson

A HEART FOR KIDS

Hazel Syphers dreamed that every child in Morgan County would have a present to open on Christmas morning.

FAO introduced you to Hazel Syphers and the Morgan Foundation's Christmas Wish for Kids Fund in the 2015 *Growing Home Gazette*. Hazel wanted to make sure every child in Morgan County had a present to open on Christmas morning. With a gift in her will to the **Morgan Foundation** at FAO, Hazel's dream became a reality.

Thanks to the Morgan Foundation's committee, as well as a number of community partners, more than 220 children in Morgan County received a Christmas gift this year who would not have otherwise. Morgan Foundation committee members wrapped and delivered presents to local service organizations to be shared with local families.

Aleena Nichols of Community Action Head Start delivers books, easels, and Kindles to kids who would normally not receive a Christmas gift in Morgan County.

The youngest children in Morgan County received books to inspire a love of reading; elementary age children were given easels to unleash their imaginations; and the oldest group of children received Kindles to encourage a love of reading and support their education.

A sense of joy and excitement spread throughout Morgan County as presents were purchased, wrapped, gifted, and opened. Hazel would be happy to know her dream became a reality and kids across Morgan County had gifts to open on Christmas morning.



Wrapped and ready for Santa to deliver.

community forward and bring the joy of the season to so many kids."

~ Becky Jarvis, Morgan Foundation

A HEART FOR CELEBRATING SERVICE

The Jenco Foundation Fund honors Father Jenco's legacy by recognizing outstanding citizens who go above and beyond to make a difference.

Father Lawrence Martin Jenco was known for his ability to create community in the most challenging of circumstances. It is this legacy of creating community and serving others that the **Jenco Foundation Fund** at FAO was created to honor. Through the support of a volunteer committee and an annual award each year, the Fund upholds our region's unsung heroes for the work they do to improve Appalachian Ohio's quality of life.

One of the 2015 recipients, Donna Sue Groves, has spent decades of her life creating community in Appalachian Ohio by honoring an Appalachian art form. When she and her mother moved to Adams County, Donna Sue decided to beautify a barn on her property with a quilt square to celebrate her mother's passion for quilting. She soon realized this one square could lead to many others.

Today, visitors can find more than 7,000 quilt squares in 45 states and three Canadian provinces. The driving trails have brought visitors to the area to tour the squares, enjoy the region, and experience Donna Sue's beloved Appalachian Ohio communities, but it has been within the communities themselves where a real difference has been made.

Donna Sue was one of five citizens recognized with the 2015 Jenco Award in 2016. Also honored for their service were: Bill Crawford of Columbiana County, Margaret Fredericks of Washington County, Jodie Hunt of Lawrence County, Nancy Sams of Washington County, and Iva Sisson of Meigs County.



The 2015 Jenco Award recipients are joined by members of the Jenco Foundation Fund committee at the 2015 Legacy Reception, where awardees were recognized for contributions to their communities in the service of others.

NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR A JENCO AWARD

The Jenco Foundation Fund's Award honors everyday citizens in Appalachian Ohio who go above and beyond in their service to the region and its people. Know someone who deserves to be recognized? A public call for nominations goes out each spring!

Sign up for FAO's e-newletter at www.AppalachianOhio.org to hear when nominations open!

A HEART FOR THE ARTS

Stuart's Opera House established an endowment fund to ensure generation of success.

Stuart's Opera House is known not only as a leader in the arts, but also for its incredible resiliency. This regional jewel has not simply endured for 130 years, it has grown its commitment to legendary and innovative performances, to educating students in the arts, and to supporting its community.

Stuart's Opera House first opened its doors in Nelsonville in 1879, serving as a center of community activity for more than four decades before closing when movies drew audiences. In the 1970s, passionate volunteers restored the Opera House as a local and cultural touchstone.

Through two fires, the theater emerged as a premier performing arts center for all of Appalachian Ohio. With the establishment of the **Stuart's Opera House Endowment Fund** at FAO, Stuart's is planning for a long future.

Despite the 2015 fire, Stuart's will soon begin construction to expand the current Opera House to include rehearsal space, studios, events, and educational programs. Having raised \$4 million in its capital campaign, attention now turns to growing the Stuart's Opera House Endowment Fund to ensure long-term financial stability and enable Stuart's team to continue expanding its offerings.

Stuart's board members plan to raise \$2 million for the endowment fund. Pairing the endowment with its history of rising up stronger from any challenge, Stuart's will safeguard its role as a regional leader in the arts community and a center for public expression for generations.

"It's so easy for nonprofits to delay starting an endowment fund when they are busy focusing on day-to-day operations. Looking to the future is so difficult when you are focused on making it to tomorrow. But, without an endowment fund in place for the future, all of today's hard work could be in vain."

~ Tim Peacock, Executive Director, Stuart's Opera House



Students arrive for Stuart's after-school educational program.

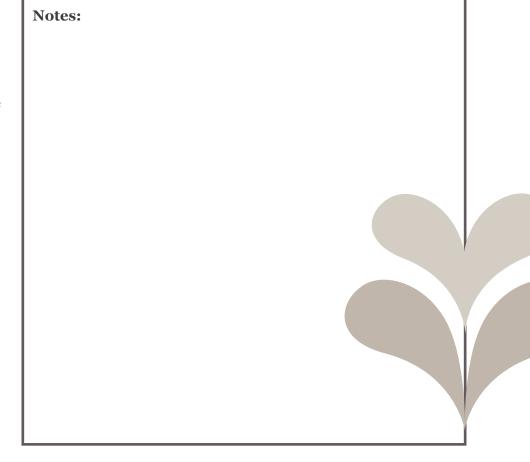
Photo Credit: Sarah Wanda





We offer the questions below as a resource to support your personal reflection and dreaming on **What's Closest to Your Heart.**While these questions are useful for individual reflection, as well as discussion with an FAO staff member, we have also found them to be sparks for meaningful family conversations and discussions among couples.

- 1. What opportunities have made the biggest difference to you in your life? Which of these opportunities do you want your gifts to create for others?
- 2. What do you see as missing in your community, or in the lives of the region's citizens? How can new gifts make a difference?
- 3. Which organizations or causes need permanent support?
- **4. Are there any individuals you want to honor or remember through your giving?** Likewise, are there any special occasions or chapters in your life story that you would like to commemorate with a gift?
- 5. Are there any traditions, beliefs, or family stories you would like your giving to pass on to future generations?







FAO'S PILLARS OF PROSPERITY FUNDS

Endowment funds that support FAO's grantmaking in areas fundamental to a vibrant Appalachian Ohio: Education, Health & Human Services, Community & Economic Development, Arts & Culture, and Environmental Stewardship.

FAO'S SHARES FOR GROWTH FUND

Funds FAO will spend to advance programmatic initiatives in the *Pillars of Prosperity* areas while FAO is building permanent endowment. The first focus of grants will be to projects that are transformative, sustainable, and likely to help many communities.

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Funds FAO will direct to meet the greatest needs and opportunities in the region. Often, donors give unrestricted gifts through their estate, annual I'm a Child of Appalachia® memberships, or mission sponsorships.

GEOGRAPHIC AND FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

Funds FAO or a local committee will direct to support a single geographic community or area of interest chosen at the time established.

DESIGNATED, ORGANIZATIONAL, AND SCHOOL SYSTEM FUNDS

Funds established to provide support to a specific nonprofit, public organization, or school.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Funds to support students in post-secondary education. Donors have a choice to recommend their own volunteer scholarship selection committee or to assign this task to FAO's Scholarship Review Committee.

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Funds donors create within FAO that function similar to a private or family foundation. Donors can make a gift or gifts to FAO, receive an immediate tax deduction, and then use the fund to support charitable causes they care about far into the future.

FUNDS

as of December 31, 2015

Pillars of Prosperity Funds for FAO grantmaking



Fund



Community & Economic Development Fund



Health & Human Services Fund



Education Fund



GEOGRAPHIC FUNDS

Gallia Community Foundation Fund
Guernsey County Foundation Fund
Harrison County Community
Foundation Fund
Highland County Community Fund
The Jackson County Community
Foundation Fund
Foundation for Meigs County's
Future Fund
Monroe County Community
Foundation Fund
Morgan Foundation Fund
Community Foundation for Perry
County Fund

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

Bill C. Campbell Memorial Endowment Fund Tom and Joyce Johnson Discretionary Endowment Fund

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative Fund Gallia County Fair Relocation Fund Leadership Guernsey Fund Tessa Logan Legacy Fund*
Perry County Historical & Cultural
Arts Society Fund*

William L. Phillips Fund*

Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra Endowment Fund Clovis and Ada M. Strausbaugh Fund

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Anonymous Fund of the Guernsey
County Foundation Family of Funds
Cara and Dominick Brook Family Fund
Chad Clay Memorial Fund
Gallipolis/Gallia County
Bicentennial Fund
Grandma's Gifts Fund
David Hostetler Legacy Fund*
Huffman Family Fund
John and Char Kopchick Legacy Fund

John and Char Kopchick Legacy Fund
Ed and Carla Lowry Family Fund
McClelland Fund
Virgie Lee McLaughlin Fund
JM Morgan Fund
Frank and Esther Ricketts Memorial Fund
Kevin Ritz Family Foundation Fund
Saint Dymphna Fund
The Scholl Family Foundation Fund
The Thelma Grace Smith Family Fund*

Southeastern Ohio Hunger Fund Stockmeister Family Fund Loran and Shirley Stutz Fund Supporting Families Fund Supporting Student Success Fund Tostenson Family Foundation Fund

Tostenson Family Foundation Fund* The Charlie Wilson Family Education Fund*

Sara Lee Stevens-Youngs Family Memorial Fund

CORPORATE DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

Bellisio Foods Foundation Fund
The Chevron Community Fund*
Gulfport Energy Fund
Ohio Valley Bank Foundation Fund*
The Statoil Monroe County
Energy Fund

FIELD OF INTEREST FUNDS

AEP Access to Environmental
Education Fund
Ora E. Anderson Conservation Fund
for Appalachian Ohio
Blake and Underwood Community Fund
Children, Youth and Family Fund

Economic and Community
Development Fund
Emergency Hunger Relief Fund
of Southeast Ohio
Emergency Needs Fund
Entrepreneurship Development Fund
Hazel Post Fisher Community Fund
Gallia County Arts and Culture Fund
Gallia County Downtown

Revitalization Project Fund Helen Grettler "Got Music"

Endowment Fund

Dale Hileman Legacy Fund*
Bob and Ruth Holland Community Fund

Hoops for Heart VFD Fund*

iBELIEVE Foundation Fund ICAN! Classroom Enrichment Fund I'm a Child of Appalachia Contest Fund The Jenco Foundation Fund

Longaberger Fund Robbie and Jack Lyttle Fund to

Support Classroom Teachers

FAO welcomed 24 new funds this year! *Indicates new fund opened between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015.

FUNDS

as of December 31, 2015

Morgan Foundation Christmas Wish for Kids Fund*

Leadership Fund
Donald R. Myers Legacy Fund
to Support Partnership in
Appalachian Ohio
John and Mary Lee Ong Scholarship
for Appalachian Ohio Teachers

Outreach Emergency Disaster Shelter Fund* Partners For Your Health Fund

Perry County Hunger Fund*
September 11 Fund
Somerset Community Fund
Supporting Community Philanthropy
in Appalachian Ohio Fund
Yellow Root Fund for Arts,
Heritage and Culture
Morgan County Youth Development Fund

ORGANIZATIONAL FUNDS

Appalachian Community Visiting Nurse Association Fund The Athens Conservancy Fund Byesville Rotary Fund Chester-Shade Historical Association Fund

The Clay Center of Ohio Endowment Fund*

COAD Appalachian Development Fund
Earthtouch-Lou DeWein
Conservation Stewardship Fund
for the Appalachian Ohio Alliance
Friends of Hocking Hills State Park Fund
The Fund for Appalachian Ohio Resilience
Guernsey County Senior Citizen
Center Fund

Havar Funds
Haven of Hope Endowment Fund

Miriam Hawes Legacy Endowment Fund for the Rolling Hills School District

Hocking Area End of Life Care Fund

Jewett United Methodist Church Endowment*

Kiwanis Coats for Kids Fund*

Paul Knoop Conservation Education Fund for the Appalachian Ohio Alliance

Lewisville and Community Volunteer Fire Department Fund*

The Living Word Outdoor

Drama Endowment Fund

Ohio Appalachian Collaborative 2.0 Fund

Perry County Sportsman Club Endowment Fund*

Rural Action Fund for a Sustainable Future*

Southeast Ohio Regional Medical Center
—Guernsey Health Foundation Fund
Stafford Cemetery Endowment Fund*

Stuart's Opera House Endowment Fund United Seniors of Athens County Fund

United Appeal of Athens County Endowment Fund*

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

AK Steel Foundation Scholarship Fund
Ora E Anderson Scholarship Fund
Bachtel Scholarship Fund
Lee Beckett Legacy Scholarship Fund
Bellisio Foods Scholarship Fund
Catherine Blankenship Scholarship Fund
Briggs Family Scholarship Fund
Murray and Lulu Brown Scholarship Fund
Cambridge High School Class of '57
Scholarship Fund
Cambridge Singers Scholarship Fund

Jenny Cornelius-Woltz Memorial Scholarship Fund Don Coss Memorial Scholarship Fund Jesse, Olema and Ralph Drake Scholarship Fund William and Frances Dunlap Scholarship Fund Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Educational Scholarship Fund John and Elsie Exenkemper Scholarship Fund Jennifer Garrison Public Service Scholarship Fund Zelma Gray Medical School Scholarship Fund **Guernsey County Education** Assistance Grant Fund Bruce and Dolores Hannah

Vincent and Gene Hope Scholarship Fund

Scholarship Fund

Paul and Charlotte Hope

Scholarship Fund

Inspiring & Supporting Philanthropy Award Fund*

Susan K. Ipacs Nursing Legacy
Scholarship Fund
Susan K. Ipacs PN2RN Nursing
Legacy Scholarship Fund
Charlene Joseph Scholarship Fund
Mary Kackley-Brill Scholarship Fund
Commander Lambert Scholarship Fund
Joseph and Marie Lichtenstein
Scholarship Fund
Madison High School Alumni
Scholarship Fund
Donald and Catherine Palmer
Scholarship Fund
Jack and Clara Reho Scholarship Fund
Paul Sayanek Scholarship Fund

Jeff and Jane Schumacher Cox Scholarship Fund Winnie Mae Sharpe Education Scholarship Fund Ben and Alyce Shaver Scholarship Fund Shawnee Alumni Association Scholarship Fund Dr. Allen Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund Charles, Elizabeth, and Robert Woodruff Scholarship Fund Doug Steele Memorial Scholarship Fund Ariana R. Ulloa Scholarship Fund Janet Hursey Koehler Wade Scholarship Fund Wayne White and Bob Evans Legacy Scholarship Fund

SCHOOL FUNDS

Batavia School Foundation Fund*

Cambridge City Schools Alumni and
Friends Educational Fund
Friends of East Guernsey Education Fund
Harrison Hills City School District
Endowment Fund
New Haven School Fund
Citizens for Rolling Hills Schools Fund
Southern Perry County Academic
Endowment Fund
West Union Schools Alumni and
Friends Educational Fund

FAO welcomed 24 new funds this year! *Indicates new fund opened between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015.

A NEW WAY OF GIVING

Because of an innovative "IPO," your gift can make a bigger difference than ever before.

One of the unique characteristics of community foundations like FAO is their sustainability. Fees charged for asset management are used to cover administrative and fundraising costs, providing donors with a great sense of security about the way the funds they give will be managed across generations.

Because FAO started in a nontraditional way without the spark of a large trust or endowment (a story you can read more about on www.AppalachianOhio.org), we did not have the asset base necessary to cover administration so we could launch a \$100 million campaign to address the philanthropy gap in Appalachian Ohio. To overcome this challenge, donors stepped up in 2014 with visionary leadership gifts through a unique campaign we like to call our **Initial Philanthropic Offering (IPO).**

With their gifts of "shares" to FAO, these donors are underwriting FAO's administrative and fundraising expenses for the coming years, as we build the permanent base of assets that will not only cover these expenses far into the future but will be the source of the grants, scholarships, and other support our communities need. What this means

for donors is that as a result of these gifts of shares, FAO can now direct 100% of your gifts to the creation of opportunities in the communities and areas of interest closest to your heart.

Interested in becoming a "shareholder" in FAO's mission?

To keep our region from waiting until FAO has raised \$100 million to receive transformative grant and programmatic investments, FAO is continuing to seek gifts of shares and mission sponsorships. While the IPO shares are underwriting FAO's administrative and fundraising expenses, new shares are beginning to underwrite programmatic activities now, as we work to build lasting endowment.

This new giving opportunity, called **Shares for Growth**, is a movement of donors with the goal of accelerating FAO's ability to make grant investments in the region. The dollars from these new shares are focused on programmatic initiatives with the potential to reach across Appalachian Ohio. Please contact us at 740.753.1111 to learn more.



OUR SHAREHOLDERS









FOUNDING CORNERSTONE PARTNER

Ohio CAT*

CORNERSTONE PARTNERS

AEP Ohio*

Gulfport Energy Corporation*
Ohio University*

INDIVIDUAL SHAREHOLDERS

Greg and Eileen Adams

Anonymous* (11)

Shirley Dunlap Bowser

Mike and Pam Brooks

Stuart and Denise Brooks

Cara and Dominick Brook

Kenner and Margene Bush

Marianne Campbell

Jeffery D. Chaddock

Terry Conner

Susie Conner

Sally Evans

Clay and Alice Graham

Terry Fleming

Michael and Carolina Holtz*

Jack and Bonny Huffman

John and Char Kopchick

Nancy Lahmers and Pete Sanderson

Cathy Mayne Lyttle and Jeff Lyttle in honor

of the Mayne Family

Shirley McClelland

Charles Mechem

Geoff and Denise Morgan

Dave and Valerie Scholl

Guy Spriggs

Rob Stein

Alan and Susan Stockmeister*

Ronald and Calista Strickmaker*

Bruce and Marilyn Wentworth

David Wilhelm

Wilson Family in memory of Congressman

Charlie Wilson

Ryan and Carol Wright

Jo Ellen Diehl Yeary*

Nancy Lusk Zimpher

BUSINESS SHAREHOLDERS

Bellisio Foods

Jack and Sandy Bortle

Hampton Inn and Fairfield Inn & Suites

Chevron*

Columbia Pipeline Group

Duke Energy

Finance Fund

JPMorgan Chase

Kidd Family Foundation, Reliable Staffing

Services, Mt. Zion Animal Clinic

McDonald Hopkins

MPH Hotels*

Ohio Vallev Bank

Peoples Bancorp Foundation

Pioneer Pipe

Rocky Brands

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*Denotes a gift of more than one share.



OUR GRANTS

Because of the many gifts entrusted to FAO, more than 470 grants were given in 2015. As a result, children received books, eyeglasses, field trips, music and dance lessons, warm coats, and backpacks filled with food to take home over the weekend. Grants also provided scholarships to help individuals and advanced nonprofit projects that served entire communities. Grants impacted many across Appalachian Ohio. Here's one story of how a simple grant can change the outlook of our young citizens so that they invest in and care for our region forever:

Thanks to an environmental education mini-grant, through AEP's investment in a fund at FAO, Cub Scout Pack 49 in Jefferson County purchased four tents and nature identification books to introduce these young people to the outdoors. Creating a connection to and understanding of our natural environment will instill a commitment to conservation from an early age, an interest that will span not only their time in the Scouts, but will continue throughout their entire lives.

"Because of this grant, we are now able to get these young scouts into the outdoors, expanding their skills and knowledge of our natural environment. These camping trips ... would not have been possible without this generous support."

~ Dan Dingess, Cub Master Scout Pack 49



A HEART FOR SCHOLARS

Cole Massie has a drive to serve others, and the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio has been a partner along that path. A 2015 graduate of Jackson High School and a current freshman at Syracuse University, Cole's desire to improve the places where he lives earned him a scholarship that has greatly assisted with his post-secondary education.

With his high school English teacher's encouragement, Cole applied for the **Dr. Allen Smith Memorial Scholarship.** The \$5,000 scholarship recognizes outstanding scholarship and community service.

Now, a double major in public relations and public policy studies, Cole remains active in community service. He participates in OrangeSeeds, a community service and leadership organization that completes service projects every weekend in the Syracuse community. Additionally, he maintains his connection to sports while practicing communication through his campus radio station show and writing about Big Ten football. It's clear that wherever his career takes him after school, Cole's passion for serving others will be his guide.



"Philanthropy to me is about making things possible for others—like the Dr. Allen Smith Memorial Scholarship made my education possible. Together, we can work to make places with many, varied needs, like Appalachian Ohio, better for all of us."

~ Cole Massie
Pictured Above

The Dr. Allen Smith Memorial Scholarship

The Dr. Allen Smith Memorial Scholarship was established to honor the memory of the late Dr. L. Allen Smith of Jackson, Ohio, as well as the work and legacy of Dr. Smith's late mother, Mary Ellen Smith. The Dr. Allen Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund awards at least two scholarships each year to graduates of Jackson High School. The Scholastic Award and Community Service Award recognize the accomplishments and service of Dr. Smith and his mother.

"My brother and I had discussions about honoring our mother's memory in the Jackson City School District and Jackson County. With this scholarship fund, I was able to honor both of their memories in a way that has a meaningful impact on our high school and the Jackson community."

~ Dr. Robert Smith

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Foundation is honored to support 45 donor-established scholarship funds in encouraging the region's students. And we take pride in honoring the legacy and story behind each fund.

THE ARIANA R. ULLOA SCHOLARSHIP

Meigs County: Charlea Grant Lawrence County: Shannon Litton

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Continued on Page 25

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WHO WANT TO SUPPORT EDUCATION IN ORDER TO

- Honor a loved one
- Support a career pathway
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Review applications and recommend the students who best represent the donors' intentions.

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OUR STAFF TEAM

- Helps donors decide on scholarship criteria
- Preserves donor wishes in perpetuity
- Recruits community volunteers
- Promotes scholarship availability
- Manages scholarship funds

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January 1 through December 31, 2015

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John McGaughey
Tim McLain
Chris Mooney
John Winnenberg
Kevin Wood

a tailored approach

Thinking about making a difference through FAO? Here are some additional questions to help us tailor your gift to you:

- 1. What assets would you like to give?
 - Knowledge of transformational projects with the potential to help many communities
 - Time spreading the word about FAO or nominating a citizen for FAO's Jenco Award
 - Expertise reviewing scholarship applications or grant requests
 - Goods or services

- Cash
- Appreciated stock
- A gift from my IRA*
- Tangible personal property
- Real estate
- A gift through my will
- Other
- 2. Are you interested in giving a gift today or creating a legacy in your estate for future generations?
- 3. Would you like to create your own named fund or scholarship? Or would you prefer to give jointly with others?
- 4. How active would you like to be with your gift after making it?
- 5. Who else would you like involved in your giving decisions?
- * Individuals age 70 ½ can make a distribution of up to \$100,000 without treating the distribution as taxable income.



STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION HISTORICAL COMPARISON

	December 31, 2015 Unaudited		December 31, 2014 Audited		December 31, 2013 Audited		December 31, 2012 Audited	
ASSETS								
Cash and Cash Equivalents Investments Pledges Receivable and Other Assets Property and Equipment, net	\$	2,233,070 17,234,913 1,322,996 599,893	\$	1,901,421 16,756,856 1,533,290 559,309	\$	1,665,382 13,028,613 166,734 589,234	\$	1,033,958 10,193,890 249,609 663,210
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	21,390,872	\$	20,750,876	\$	15,449,963	\$	12,140,667
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS								
LIABILITIES								
Liabilities	\$	87,711	\$	124,058	\$	50,679	\$	45,888
Organizational Funds Held for Others		2,042,004		1,852,481		1,815,798		1,579,998
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,129,715		1,976,539		1,866,477		1,625,886
NET ASSETS								
Current								
Operating		2,177,415		3,183,641		2,434,474		2,428,546
Donor-Advised and Designated		3,547,277		3,304,735		2,810,133		2,259,408
Board Designated								
Operating Reserve		1,959,330		1,333,208		-		
Operating Endowment		794,831		801,990		748,752		649,608
Endowments		44 < 400		11000				
Pillars of Prosperity		116,422		14,923		-		-
Scholarships L.		4,990,388		5,188,840		4,214,575		2,520,703
Donor-Advised and Field of Interest		3,791,407		3,045,977		1,701,836		1,278,586
FAO Discretionary Grantmaking Funds		1,053,082		1,098,431		1,076,958		994,348
Other TOTAL NET ASSETS		831,005		802,592		596,758		383,582
TOTAL NET ASSETS		19,261,157		18,774,337		13,583,486		10,514,781
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$	21,390,872	\$	20,750,876	\$	15,449,963	\$	12,140,667

OUR TEAM

"I chose FAO because they had the unique combination of competence and kindness."

~ Joe Ipacs, Susan K. Ipacs Nursing Legacy Scholarship Fund Founder

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