



GT<sup>2</sup> Give Today. Grow Tomorrow.

THANK YOU FOR HELPING US LAUNCH  
GT<sup>2</sup>... GIVE TODAY. GROW TOMORROW.

Being a part of this initiative's pilot is easy. Just remember to:



With your partnership, we are creating opportunities for Appalachian Ohio's citizens and communities by inspiring and supporting philanthropy. Together, we can ensure an Appalachian Ohio abundant in possibility.

1. Look through the projects and pick one (or more)!
2. Let FAO know what project you'd like to support with a gift by responding to the GT<sup>2</sup> email coming to your mailbox the week of September 25, calling FAO at 740.753.1111, or through DonorCentral. The deadline to be a part of GT<sup>2</sup> is October 17.
3. When GT<sup>2</sup> closes, the FAO team will be in touch with you to help coordinate your gift, confirm your chosen projects, and make sure there's no duplication.
4. FAO will put 50% of your gift towards the project closest to your heart today and 50% into the permanent *Pillar of Prosperity* fund that can support similar projects in the future.
5. Share your feedback on GT<sup>2</sup> with FAO.
6. FAO will share a report from the grantee with you upon completion of the project that your gift made possible.

**Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO)**  
FAO's mission is to create opportunities for Appalachian Ohio's citizens and communities by inspiring and supporting philanthropy. Our work to ensure Appalachian Ohio is a region abundant in possibility is only possible because of partnerships with donors like you.

**Want to learn more about GT<sup>2</sup>?**  
Give us a call at 740.753.1111 or email us at [grow@fao.org](mailto:grow@fao.org) for more information or to set up a discussion about how to help programs in your community both today and tomorrow.

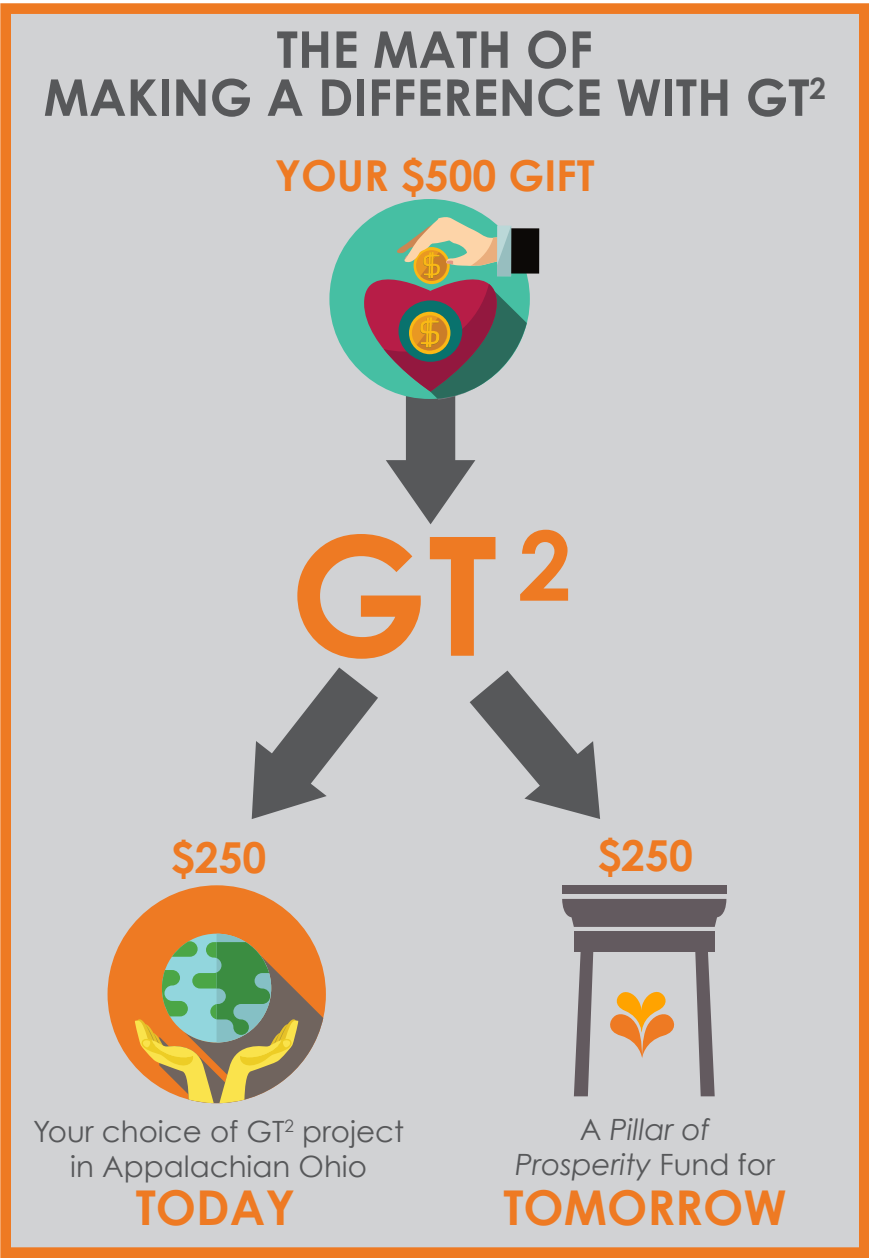
As shareholders, you know the importance of what the *Pillars of Prosperity* will bring to Appalachian Ohio – permanent philanthropic dollars to shrink the philanthropy gap plus the flexible grantmaking dollars to respond to pressing needs and uplift bright spots. The Pillars will be especially powerful because they will be open to all 32 counties across five areas of importance to our communities.

As we work towards this vision, we also know there are nonprofits, schools, and communities working in our region right now on projects that could use our support. At FAO, we are always trying to address the needs of today and tomorrow.

That's where *Give Today. Grow Tomorrow.* comes in. It's a new effort where you can choose the project you want to support today while also growing endowment dollars for the future through the *Pillars of Prosperity*. It is a chance for us all to multiply our impact exponentially. That's why Give Today. Grow Tomorrow. has another name - *GT²*.

FAO is here to connect donors with ways they can make a difference in what's closest to their hearts, or even to help donors explore new avenues for giving. We hear about a lot of projects and initiatives across the region and often think they are projects our donors, shareholders, and other partners would like to know about. **With GT² we now have a way to share these opportunities for making a difference in Appalachian Ohio right now with you.**

But we wouldn't be FAO if we weren't also growing funds for the future. After all, we wish there were more grant dollars for these projects too. The *Pillars of Prosperity* are designed to become a resource that could help to fund a variety of projects across our region, which is why growing the dollars in these regional funds now is so important. Through the power of endowment, they will grow to become the resources our region needs. That's why GT² also includes a permanent component to help grow the Pillars. **Each grant made will support a project today and grow the associated Pillar of Prosperity for a project tomorrow.**



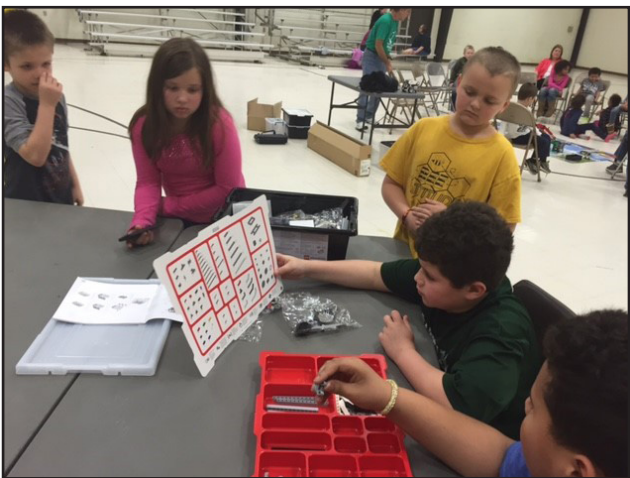
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**UNITED WAY OF THE RIVER CITIES**  
**Students Optimizing Aerial Robotics Skills (SOARS)**  
 County: Lawrence County  
 Pillar: Education *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** Students Optimizing Aerial Robotic Skills (SOARS) is a STEM program conducted by United Way of the River Cities. Delivered weekly during the afterschool program at River Hills Community Center in Ironton, SOARS challenges middle school-aged youth to learn and write computer code that commands robots and drones to perform specific tasks. This grant will enable participants to enter the FIRST LEGO League Challenge to research a real-world problem and apply STEM concepts and imaginative thinking to create a solution.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Exposing students to STEM education at an early age introduces students to possible future careers while engaging them in the critical subjects of science, technology, engineering, and math using real-world scenarios. Additionally, this program provides after-school programming to students; students who are unattended after school often face pressures and lack structure that impacts their overall achievement. This program focuses specifically on students in the Ironton Metropolitan Housing complex who come from families that may find it challenging to pay for after-school programming and enrichment activities.

**Total Grant:** \$600 (\$300 for challenge kit and entry fee and \$300 for the Education Pillar)



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**STUART'S OPERA HOUSE**  
**Appalachian Music Program**  
County: Athens County  
Pillar: Arts & Culture *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** This grant will support the purchase of two banjos for the Appalachian Music Program at Stuart's Opera House. The Appalachian Music Program offers classes in common Appalachian instruments. Students participate in string bands and bluegrass ensembles while learning about the historical development of the music of the region. This program is conducted in partnership with the Athens County Public Libraries.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Students in Appalachian Ohio often do not have access to music education, depriving them of not only a learning opportunity but also a creative outlet. This program fills that gap while educating them on and celebrating Appalachian culture.

**Total Grant:** \$1,000 (\$500 to purchase banjos and \$500 to the Arts & Culture Pillar)



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**You can help us launch this new way to make a difference in Appalachian Ohio.** GT<sup>2</sup> is being piloted with FAO's shareholders as well as those who hold donor-advised funds with FAO. We hope you will find a project that is interesting to you and that you will also share your feedback and thoughts on the initiative ranging from the ease of the process to what types of projects you would like to see in future rounds of GT<sup>2</sup>.

**Want to learn how it will work and get started?**  
Read below for a quick overview then dive right in on the following pages!

## GT<sup>2</sup>. HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- 1.** Read about projects that could use your support today! On the following pages, you will find descriptions of our very first *Give Today. Grow Tomorrow.* projects. These descriptions will explain what the project is all about, where it will take place in our region, and which Pillar area it focuses on.
- 2.** You will see a grant amount at the bottom of the project description. That's what it will take for *Give Today. Grow Tomorrow.* to make this effort possible. Half of the grant will go out immediately to make this project happen now. The other half will go into the related *Pillar of Prosperity* endowment to ensure grants for projects like this in the future.
- 3.** Identify the project (or a few, if you like!) that you'd like to support.
- 4.** Check your inbox in a few days when we send out the GT<sup>2</sup> launch email. You can reply to the email and share which project you'd like to support.
- 5.** See how your gift has made a difference and what we can all make possible when we make our gifts together!

**Do you have a donor-advised fund at FAO? You can make a grant recommendation for a GT<sup>2</sup> project straight through DonorCentral. Just log in as you normally would and you'll see GT<sup>2</sup> on your homepage!**

**Don't forget! The Ohio CAT match is still available for gifts to the Pillars of Prosperity (except in Education, where the match has been met!). That means that the permanent half of your gift will be doubled through Ohio CAT's partnership!**

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# GT² PROJECTS FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP

Multiply the reach of your gifts across generations

## APPALACHIAN MUSE

### Jazz Outreach Program

County: Guernsey County

Pillar: Arts & Culture *Pillar of Prosperity Fund*

**Project Description:** Appalachian Muse will provide students in the Cambridge, Buckeye Trail, and Rolling Hills School Districts in Guernsey County a first-hand jazz experience with professional jazz musicians to learn more about this distinctly American art form. Grant dollars will be used to support the costs of professional jazz musicians to engage over 4,500 students in a week-long enrichment program.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Countless studies have shown music provides students a way to better engage with their education, establishing new passions in their lives while creating brain connections that help with other subjects. But, with recent decreases in school budgets, school music programs are often the first to go. This project represents a partnership between a regional nonprofit and school districts throughout Guernsey County to provide students with access to music education.

**Total Grant:** \$5,000 (\$2,500 to support the Jazz Outreach Program and \$2,500 for the Arts & Culture Pillar)

## APPALACHIAN PEACE & JUSTICE NETWORK

### The Social Justice Network Summit & Community Fair

County: Athens County

Pillar: Community & Economic Development *Pillar of Prosperity Fund*

**Project Description:** The Social Justice Network Summit and Community Fair is a regional networking opportunity for progressive and grassroots organizations (PNGOs). This first-of-its-kind, festival-like event will be a collaboration of all PNGOs in the Athens County area. The event will include children's activities and educational opportunities to learn about area PNGOs and how to get involved. This grant will also support any training needed by community group leaders as they prepare for the Fair.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Nonprofits in our region often struggle to receive the technical assistance and capacity building development necessary to more fully engage with the communities they serve. With this grant, you will provide the training local community leaders need while supporting an event to connect organizations with a broad set of community members.

**Total Grant:** \$3,000 (\$1,500 to support the training and community fair and \$1,500 for the Community & Economic Development Pillar)

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## NELSONVILLE FOOD CUPBOARD

### Cooking & Budgeting Program

County: Athens County

Pillar: Health & Human Services *Pillar of Prosperity Fund*

**Project Description:** The Nelsonville Food Cupboard seeks to offer a series of classes, specifically for its pantry clients. These classes will focus on basic nutrition, primary cooking, essential cooking techniques, how to plan and stretch your food budget, and how to shop and stock your pantry. Many people using the pantry are unfamiliar with basic food knowledge, dietary combinations, and efficient cooking techniques that can stretch their food dollars and enhance the regular food distributions they receive from the Food Cupboard, providing greater diversity and health in their diet. The grant will support the purchase of Good and Cheap: Eat Well on \$4/Day for class participants and basic food items for the class.

**FAO Staff Comments:** This grant will help the Nelsonville Food Cupboard step beyond the simple provision of food to become a more comprehensive provider of health and nutrition. By teaching clients cooking basics as well as how to create and plan meals, the Nelsonville Food Cupboard will help clients today and far beyond their visits to the food pantry. Additionally, the classes will also increase familiarity with food items they might not have previous experience using, increasing their capacity and likeliness of eating a broad variety of foods.

**Total Grant:** \$974 (\$487 to support the cooking class and \$487 to the Health & Human Services Pillar)



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MUSKINGUM COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Library WiFi Park

County: Muskingum County

Pillar: Community & Economic Development *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** The Muskingum County Library System and its Dresden, Ohio branch is looking to create a library WiFi park. This location serves 1,600 residents of Dresden as well surrounding areas. The geography of the area makes internet unreliable even with a cellular connection. The Dresden branch is the only location in the community that offers reliable, fast, and free internet connection. This grant will allow the Dresden branch to expand internet access to the public park next to the library in the heart of the village. By collaborating with the mayor and other community leaders, it became clear that this is an ideal location for outdoor public WiFi and will expand opportunities for innovative events and programs.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Wireless internet is no longer a nice-to-have; it is a need-to-have. By expanding access to reliable, free wireless internet in the community park adjacent to the Dresden Library, more residents will be able to access the internet necessary to conduct basic tasks in our 21<sup>st</sup> century world. It would provide access to WiFi outside of library hours, and will also empower the local community to hold innovative events in the village center that would not be possible without the WiFi access point to power this initiative.

**Total Grant:** \$1,560 (\$780 to support the community WiFi park and \$780 for the Community & Economic Development Pillar)



CLERMONT SENIOR SERVICES INC.

Your Brain on Aging and Health

County: Clermont County

Pillar: Health & Human Services *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** Clermont Senior Services will host a series of workshops dedicated to brain health. Participants in these workshops will learn about healthy brain lifestyles, how memories are made and why you forget, money and dementia, and your brain on aging and health. The series will be free and open to the public. Clermont Senior Services will be on-site to provide follow-up resources for those in need.

**FAO Staff Comments:** With a growing aging population, not only in Appalachian Ohio, but throughout the United States, the subject of brain health is increasingly important for senior citizens as well as other community members, especially caregivers, to learn to navigate and mitigate changes to brain health.

**Total Grant:** \$1,000 (\$500 for workshop delivery and \$500 for the Health & Human Services Pillar)

FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY OF STEUBENVILLE

Hellbender Habitat Analysis and Educational Outreach in the Cross Creek Watershed

County: Jefferson and Harrison Counties

Pillar: Environmental Stewardship *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** The Hellbender salamander is a near-threatened amphibian as identified by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources which lives in the Cross Creek watershed in Jefferson and Harrison counties. This grant will make an analysis of the Hellbender and its watershed habitat possible. The grant will provide for baseline water quality analysis as well as the installation of artificial “Hellbender boxes” to provide suitable breeding habitats to facilitate the reproductive recovery of the local population in Cross Creek. The grant will also provide educational outreach material for classrooms through a partnership between Franciscan University of Steubenville Departments of Biology and Education, the Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Ohio Hellbender Partnership.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Hands-on educational outreach programs are tremendously impactful for students of all ages to put what they learn into action. The Hellbender Habitat Analysis Project will allow students in the Jefferson and Harrison County communities to engage in hands-on educational enrichment while also providing a valuable service to a threatened Appalachian animal.

**Total Grant:** \$4,730 (\$2,365 to the Hellbender Habitat Analysis Project and \$2,365 to the Environmental Stewardship Pillar)

**GUERNSEY COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER, INC.**

**Senior Center Leadership Project**

County: Guernsey County (as well as many others)

Pillar: Health & Human Services *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund



**Project Description:** Senior center leaders are rarely presented the opportunity to partner, share ideas and challenges, and problem solve together. This grant will support two regional workshops to provide increased networking, training, and collaboration opportunities for senior center leaders in nine counties (Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum and Tuscarawas) in Appalachian Ohio.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Throughout the U.S. and Appalachian Ohio, the population is aging and the need for services to support our aging neighbors continues to grow. This grant will provide valuable resources to bring senior center leaders together to share best practices and discuss their services with others in the field. Networking opportunities are often rare in Appalachian Ohio and providing the resources necessary to make this possible will improve senior centers across a number of communities.

**Total Grant:** \$1,000 (\$500 to support the Senior Center Leadership Project and \$500 for the Health & Human Services Pillar)

**HARRISON NORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**Bless Shoe Project**

County: Harrison County

Pillar: Health & Human Services *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** Students at Harrison North Elementary often experience poverty. This means that students often do not have access to proper footwear to wear to school, especially during the winter. Dollars will provide a reliable pair of shoes to students who find themselves in need at Harrison North Elementary School. Through this grant funding, approximately 100 students will have access to a reliable pair of shoes.

**FAO Staff Comments:** FAO staff hears stories from across our region of students who lack access to the most basic essentials that we can take for granted, including a safe, warm pair of shoes that are structurally whole. This grant will allow teachers and administrators on the ground to meet their students' needs in a way that addresses the issue while doing so with the necessary discretion.

**Total Grant:** \$2,000 (\$1,000 to support the purchase of shoes for 100 students and \$1,000 to support the Health & Human Services Pillar)

**HARRISON NORTH ELEMENTARY**

**Underground Railroad Simulation**

County: Harrison County

Pillar: Education *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** Fifth grade students at Harrison North Elementary will visit Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum to participate in the Living History Program. This program takes students back to 1851 to learn about the people, places, and events that made up the Underground Railroad by seeing it through the eyes of a runaway slave as they travel from the south to Canada. Your grant dollars will support the program cost for 45 students.

**FAO Staff Comments:** Making history tangible for students through direct participation in programs like Living History has tremendous power to cement lessons learned while instilling a love for history and its connections to our present day. Often students in our region are not able to participate in field trips that bring their lessons alive because of the costs associated with those trips. Grant dollars for this project will allow students to live what they've learned in the classroom.

**Total Grant:** \$1,870 (\$935 to support the Living History Program cost and \$935 to support the Education Pillar)

**INTER-FAITH ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**Shed & Freezer Acquisition**

County: Adams County

Pillar: Health & Human Services *Pillar of Prosperity* Fund

**Project Description:** The Inter-Faith Assistance Association provides food to those in need in Adams County. The grant will support the construction of a shed and a new freezer. This will create a safer environment for food storage by having a designated location to stock food and will increase the number of people served by the food pantry by having a reliable and larger space to store frozen food.

**FAO Staff Comments:** There is a tremendous need in our region for food security. This grant, rather than simply supporting the purchase of food, will support capital costs to allow for better service delivery, increasing sustainability of the program and allowing more people to be served by the pantry.

**Total Grant:** \$1,058 (\$529 to support the shed and freezer acquisition and \$529 for the Health & Human Services Pillar)