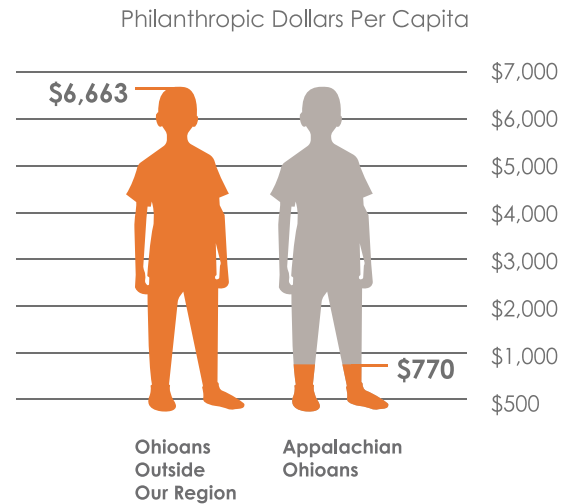


# FY 20 Legislative Report: Closing the Philanthropy Gap in Appalachian Ohio

The Ohio legislature made a groundbreaking \$10M investment in the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO) through the FY 2020 - 2021 biennium budget to help close the philanthropy gap that has long exacerbated the challenges facing the thirty-two counties of Appalachian Ohio.

With nine times fewer philanthropic dollars per capita than the rest of Ohio, Appalachian Ohio's citizens access significantly fewer dollars to support locally-led community development efforts. Our nonprofits struggle to gain the capacity that is needed to make sustainable change, and our students miss far too many opportunities. **The economic and health crisis of COVID-19 and the economic hardships, food scarcity, and isolation that have come with it have made the need for philanthropic dollars even more apparent.**

The legislature's bold and visionary investment launched an incredible groundswell of local giving, **already netting more than a 1:1 return in new, private charitable dollars for the region.** As we approach the end of this first year, we wanted to send this report to express our gratitude. While there is still much to do in the second year of our appropriation, the state's investment, combined with these many new private gifts and the power of endowment, is already growing permanent assets forever dedicated to Appalachian Ohio's communities.



## YEAR 1 HIGHLIGHTS

12,400

368

**12,400 donors** have given and had their gifts matched – **compared to 368 donors who gave in FY19**

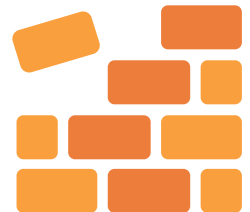


**12 local community foundation funds\*** have grown endowments, including **2 new community funds created because of this match.** Led by local committees and developed in communities that have never had community foundations before, these funds represent significant new local capacity for solving challenges and advancing opportunities.

**116 nonprofit organizations** across our 32 counties have benefitted with support in response to COVID-19 through our Appalachian Ohio Emergency Response Fund. Grants are helping these nonprofits address food access, senior care, wifi connectivity, childcare, healthcare, and more.



**40 nonprofits** used the match to **create or grow endowments** to support their missions.



**\$5.4 MILLION**

in new philanthropy raised between July 1, 2019 and May 15, 2020 to match the State's investment of \$5M.

\* For a full list of community foundation funds and nonprofits that benefitted from the match, see the list on page 3.

Private donors stepped up as a result of the State of Ohio's investment and together your investments made a lot possible this year, including:

### Providing Classroom Supplies and Books

FAO has partnered with national nonprofit First Book to **connect more than 1,000 educators and 33,000 students with classroom supplies, books and other items as well as 300 social-emotional learning kits** to support educators as they help students who have experienced trauma. Educators can register with First Book and FAO at [www.FirstBook.org/FAO](http://www.FirstBook.org/FAO).

### Investing in Youth Through Prevention Initiatives

Over the past year, FAO has supported training for adults working with young people across 9 communities in our region to develop prevention plans. The widespread impact of substance use disorder is known across all of our communities and FAO's investment in young people to lead prevention efforts around substance use disorder and mental health is an **investment in today's challenges as well as our next generation of leaders**. Additionally, FAO is developing a next round of grant investments in the region's youth after doubling the amount available for investment.

### Connecting Donors and Nonprofits Through Online Giving

FAO has developed an online giving platform that will launch this fall that will **help nonprofits connect with donors who care about their missions**. The FAO Cause Connector will be a portal donors can use to find projects they care about, searching by issue, area, or county. It will have a **built-in component to grow endowment for future projects**.

### Growing Nonprofit Capacity

FAO has paired matching dollars with capacity building efforts for nonprofits across the region, including workshops and ongoing guidance on fundraising, grant writing, planned giving, evaluation, and more.

### Launching New Community Funds

**Highland County has launched a new community foundation fund** to grow philanthropic resources for the community and reinvest them through grants. And the match also inspired the **creation of the first African American Community Fund**.

None of us knew when we started the FY 2020 – 2021 budget that COVID-19 and its effects would plunge communities into profound social and economic uncertainty. **But what both FAO and the legislature recognized then was that some communities in our state are far better prepared to meet their most pressing needs than others**. As a result of the legislature's visionary investment in Appalachian Ohio, we began to take very important steps in FY 20-21 to **build the foundation of future success** in this area for Appalachian Ohio. There is much work ahead, but **unprecedented progress was made**.

**We cannot thank you enough.**



Many nonprofit organizations and communities have benefitted from matching dollars in growing endowments to invest in their missions and sustainability. Those listed below are ones that benefitted in FY20. Organizations that created a new endowment fund through match are listed with an \*.

**Community Funds**

African American Community Fund\*  
Community Foundation for Perry County  
Gallia Community Foundation Fund  
Guernsey County Community Fund  
Harrison County Community Foundation Fund  
Highland County Community Foundation Fund\*  
Hocking County Community Fund  
Jackson County Community Foundation Fund  
Meigs County Community Fund  
Monroe County Community Foundation Fund  
Morgan Community Fund  
Nelsonville Community Foundation Fund

**Nonprofits That Grew Endowment with Match**

Appalachian Community Visiting Nurses Association Fund  
Athens Conservancy Endowment Fund\*  
Batavia School Foundation Fund  
Beth Woolum- Caudill Memorial Scholarship to support Jackson City Schools  
Big Red Booster's Legends Football Scholarship to support Steubenville City Schools  
Bishop Educational Gardens Endowment Fund\*  
Byesville Rotary Fund  
Celestial Memorial Library Fund\*  
Clifton and Marie Downs Legacy Fund to support Cambridge City Schools and the Ohio Valley Educational Service Center\*  
Dr. Robert Richmond Twin City Opera House Endowment Fund\*  
Eleanor Naylor Scholarship to support Steubenville High School  
Friends of the Hocking Hills State Park Educational Endowment  
Friends of the Lower Muskingum River Endowment Fund\*  
Guernsey County Senior Citizen Center Fund  
Habitat for Humanity of Southeast Ohio Endowment Fund  
Harrison Central Soccer Fund\*  
Helen B. & William W. Priest Sr. Fund to support Steubenville High School  
Hocking Hills Conservation Endowment Fund\*  
Holy Trinity School Endowment Fund  
Jewett United Methodist Church Endowment Fund  
John W. Clem House Fund\*  
Kevin F. Arnold Memorial Fund to support the Washington County OSU Extension Office  
Landrum Endowment Fund to support the Ross County Board of Developmental Disabilities  
Ludowici Community Foundation Fund\*  
Nada Kerr to Provide Books for Kids in Athens County City School District  
Nelsonville High School Alumni Association Scholarship Fund\*  
Ohio Arts and Crafts Foundation Fund\*  
Paul Knoop Conservation Education Fund for the Appalachian Ohio Alliance  
Peoples Bank Theatre Endowment Fund\*  
Perry County Sportsman Club Endowment Fund  
Rolling Hills Foundation Scholarship Endowment Fund  
Southeastern Ohio Symphony Orchestra Endowment Fund  
Stuart's Opera House Endowment Fund  
The Bowen House Endowment Fund\*  
The Living Word Outdoor Drama Endowment Fund  
The William M. and Janet P. Betcher Memorial Endowment for Library Services  
United Appeal for Athens County Endowment  
United Way of Guernsey, Monroe, and Noble Endowment Fund  
Weissingner Endowment for the Seneca County Humane Society\*  
Wheelersburg Schools Alumni and Friends Fund\*