Since 2010, FAO has awarded more than 2,850 scholarships. Every recipient has a story. Here’s one.

Terry and Susie Conner sought to honor their beloved teacher, Lee Beckett. They established the Lee Beckett Legacy Scholarship Fund to support graduates of the district where Lee first inspired them, now Nelsonville-York.

2013 scholarship recipient, Alicia Carter, recently returned to Nelsonville-York as an educator to continue Lee’s legacy of inspiring and supporting philanthropy.

In 2013, Alicia received a Lee Beckett Legacy Scholarship to help continue her education. She went on to become a teacher, and in 2020 was named Nelsonville-York Elementary School Teacher of the Year.

Our Impact in 2019

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

$516,429 awarded through 592 scholarships.

**FUNDS**

$600 FAO funds advanced their charitable goals.

**GRANTS**

$1.54 million awarded through 289 grants across our Pillars of Prosperity.

Our emergency response to COVID-19

$420,000 awarded through emergency response partnerships and grants

151 nonprofits received support from our Emergency Response Fund to connect people with food, cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment, telehealth, childcare, and much more.

With COVID-19 as an opportunity to act on the digital divide in Appalachian Ohio, here’s what we’ve accomplished so far through I’m a Child of Appalachia Fund partnerships:

- 141 access points to schools and community organizations (with more to come!)
- 390 hotspots to libraries
- 1 investment in broadband research and advocacy

Our partnership with First Book matches educators with books for the children they serve. Here’s what the state’s investment in broadband and partnerships and grants made possible:

- 34,000 students with greater access to high-quality classroom supplies, books, and other resources
- 1,010 books distributed through five summer meal sites to support children during the COVID-19 pandemic
- 300 social-emotional learning book kits distributed to educators working with students who have experienced trauma

“A gift to the I’m a Child of Appalachia Fund allowed us to help children access opportunities they might not otherwise have had, and help children develop a more positive self-image.” — Tom Hodson

The Joe Burrow Hunger Relief Fund was created to support the Athens County Food Pantry, building upon the generosity Joe Burrow inspired during his Heisman speech.

African American Community Fund was founded by and for the Black community as one way to create opportunities for African Americans in Appalachian Ohio.

The Meigs County Community Fund matched $300,000 in new gifts—meaning $24,000 more in grants each and every year for Meigs County!

Our emergency response to COVID-19

Three examples of what the match made possible:

- 12,400 donors gave and had their gifts matched
- $5.6 million was raised to match the State’s investment
- 49 new funds were created
- 61 nonprofits grew endowments
- 12 communities grew grantmaking funds, including the new Highland County Community Fund

Opening doors of opportunity for the Children of Appalachia

The Ohio Legislature invested in FAO to match donor investments.

Thanks to the match opportunity made possible by the Ohio Legislature, your gift to the I’m a Child of Appalachia Fund will be matched dollar-for-dollar while matching funds last.

Stay tuned: I’m a Child of Appalachia Fund initiatives underway or coming soon

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Environmental stewardship: Grant awards to help people access nature

Youth resiliency: Ensuring youth are resilient, supported, and encouraged

Civics Education: Educating and equipping strong citizens with our K-12 schools

Youth-led prevention: Empowering youth to lead substance-use prevention

Cause Connector: A new online tool empowering donors to easily identify programs that need support today

Double your gift

Through the IRA charitable rollover, Jan and Tom Hodson are giving to FAO to support our region’s greatest needs and opportunities.

Learn more at www.AppalachianOhio.org/2019Report
To learn more about FAO’s impact in 2019, including complete audited financial information and more about the stories featured in this report, visit www.AppalachianOhio.org/2019Report.

Stay up to date with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio.

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I shall pass this way but once; any good that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being; let me do it now. Let me not defer nor neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.

– Etienne de Grellet, Quaker Missionary

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