



Foundation for Appalachian Ohio

Youth-Led Projects | Request for Proposals

A collaboration between FAO and our affiliate foundation partners





FOUNDATION FOR
APPALACHIAN OHIO

About the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio

As a regional community foundation, FAO works with donors whose generosity fuels the work of doers who give their time and talent to ensure the people and communities of Appalachian Ohio flourish.

Because we understand that local philanthropy is vital to community well-being, we partner with 14 geographic affiliate foundations and the regionwide African American Community Fund, all led by local visionaries who are growing philanthropic resources.

From our very beginning, FAO, our supporters and our partners recognized that one of the most powerful ways to create flourishing communities is to encourage the children of Appalachia – our next generation of community builders – to believe in their potential and to empower them to succeed. We believe everyone, of every age, has a gift that matters to the future of Appalachian Ohio, whether a financial investment, an innovative idea or a commitment to serve.

Investing in Appalachian Ohio's youngest leaders

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, FAO is partnering with our affiliate foundations to fund projects led by youth under age 18 that benefit their neighbors, their schools and/or their communities. As we invest in the good work our young people are doing today, we will help build their resiliency while inspiring them to embrace roles as changemakers committed to creating strong, vibrant communities they – and future children of Appalachian Ohio – want to call home.

OUR MISSION

We seek to unleash the potential within Appalachian Ohio by growing and leveraging gifts that advance sustained transformation.

OUR VISION

Appalachian Ohio is abundant in possibility for all who call our region home, today and in perpetuity.

OUR IMPACT



1,550+ grants, scholarships and fellowships totaling **\$9.5 million** awarded in 2023



700+ donor-established funds



\$122 million in charitable assets

The Opportunity

Up to \$75,000 in grant funding is available to support youth leadership of projects advancing opportunities in one or more of FAO's five Pillars of Prosperity funding areas.



Arts & Culture



Community and
Economic Development



Education



Environmental
Stewardship



Health and
Human Services

Grant requests should be **between \$250 and \$2,500**, but larger requests will be considered based on potential impact.

Applications open Tuesday, Aug. 20, and close Tuesday, Oct. 1. Additional information and the application are available at www.AppalachianOhio.org/youth-led-grants.

Eligibility and criteria

Grant requests must be for projects developed and implemented by youth, working in fiscal partnership with a nonprofit, school or public organization. Projects must impact communities in the areas served by our affiliate foundations, as listed to the right.

Through our African American Community Fund, youth-led projects that are Black-led or Black-serving across all 32 Appalachian Ohio counties are also eligible for this grant opportunity.

FAO staff are available to answer questions about potential projects and the application process and to help identify partners and fiscal sponsors.

- Gallia County
- Guernsey County
- Harrison County
- Highland County
- Hocking County
- Jackson County
- Lawrence County
- Meigs County
- Monroe County
- Morgan County
- Nelsonville and/or the surrounding communities of Buchtel, Carbon Hill and Murray City
- Noble County
- Perry County
- Vinton County

Eligible applicants and projects might include, but are not limited to:

- Nonprofit organizations established and led by youth under age 18
- Student-led organizations that are subsets of larger community or service organizations, including those embedded in local schools or school districts (e.g., National Honor Society, Beta Club)
- Service and other community projects led by Scouts (including Eagle Scout or Gold Award projects), 4-H clubs and Trail Life
- Projects developed by youth through leadership programs (but not the leadership programs themselves)
- Senior projects or other activities completed as part of student-led groups or classes
- Class-led projects developed by students with their teacher's support
- Projects led by youth that are programs of other nonprofit organizations or local governments

Youth leadership conferences and related programs developed by adults are not eligible for this grant opportunity.

Projects will be evaluated based on the degree to which they are led by youth and the potential impact on our communities. Funding decisions will be made by leaders of our affiliate foundations.

We highly encourage interested applicants to contact FAO at 740.753.1111 or kmorman@ffao.org prior to completing an application.

Mapping our 2023 youth-led impact in Appalachian Ohio

Awarded

30
Grants

totaling
nearly

\$72K

to youth-led
projects



Ashtabula County (\$700)

Local youth, ages 11-18, became docents who guide visitors through the Hubbard House Underground Railroad Museum.

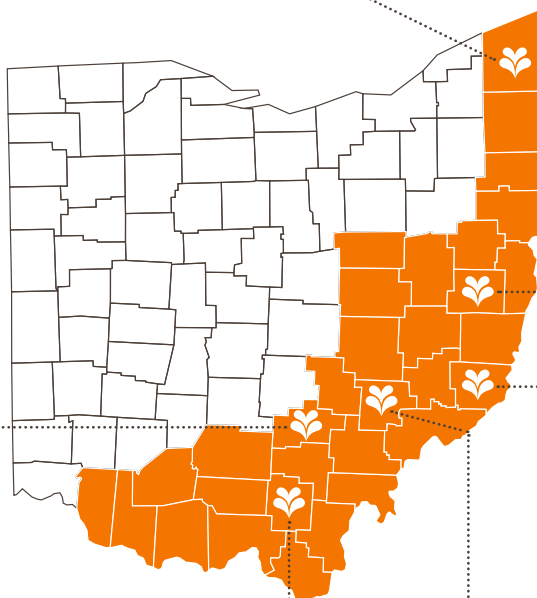


Harrison County (\$5,000)

Four Harrison Central High School seniors teamed with the school's shop class to create the county's first-ever StoryWalk for children.

Hocking County (\$1,000 each project)

Logan High School students hosted community blood drives, conducted staff appreciation events and fabricated donation boxes for local nonprofits.



Monroe County (\$1,500)

A Woodsfield High School student and members of the Woodsfield Girl Scout Troop 31410 teamed up to offer visual arts workshops for youth in grades 4-8.



Jackson County (\$2,500 each nonprofit)

Two nonprofits established by local high school students — Kicks 4 Coats and Southern Ohio Soles Inc. — provided warm coats and footwear to Jackson County youth.



Morgan County (\$5,000)

Students at Morgan Junior High School collected essential non-food items for the Morgan County United Ministries Manna Harvest Food Pantry.

To learn more about what your gifts of time, talent and treasure made possible for the people and communities in our region, check out FAO's 2023 annual report and our 15 affiliate foundations' annual reports: www.AppalachianOhio.org/AnnualReport2023.

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