



FOUNDATION FOR
APPALACHIAN OHIO



Our Second Mountain

Advancing a **F**lourishing **A**ppalachian **O**hio

November 16, 2024

OUR JOURNEY

Our First Mountain Fostered Access to Oppportunity with new infrastructure for philanthropy. Now, every county is supported by a local foundation, the African American Community Fund serves regionwide, and the Pillars of Prosperity are established to support innovation across Appalachian Ohio.

Thanks to your generosity, FAO has awarded \$43 million in grants while growing assets to \$133 million. FAO is known for transformative results – like incubating a regional economic development organization and a mobile vision clinic for children. FAO also makes a difference in the lives of individuals, awarding more than 4,900 scholarships to date.

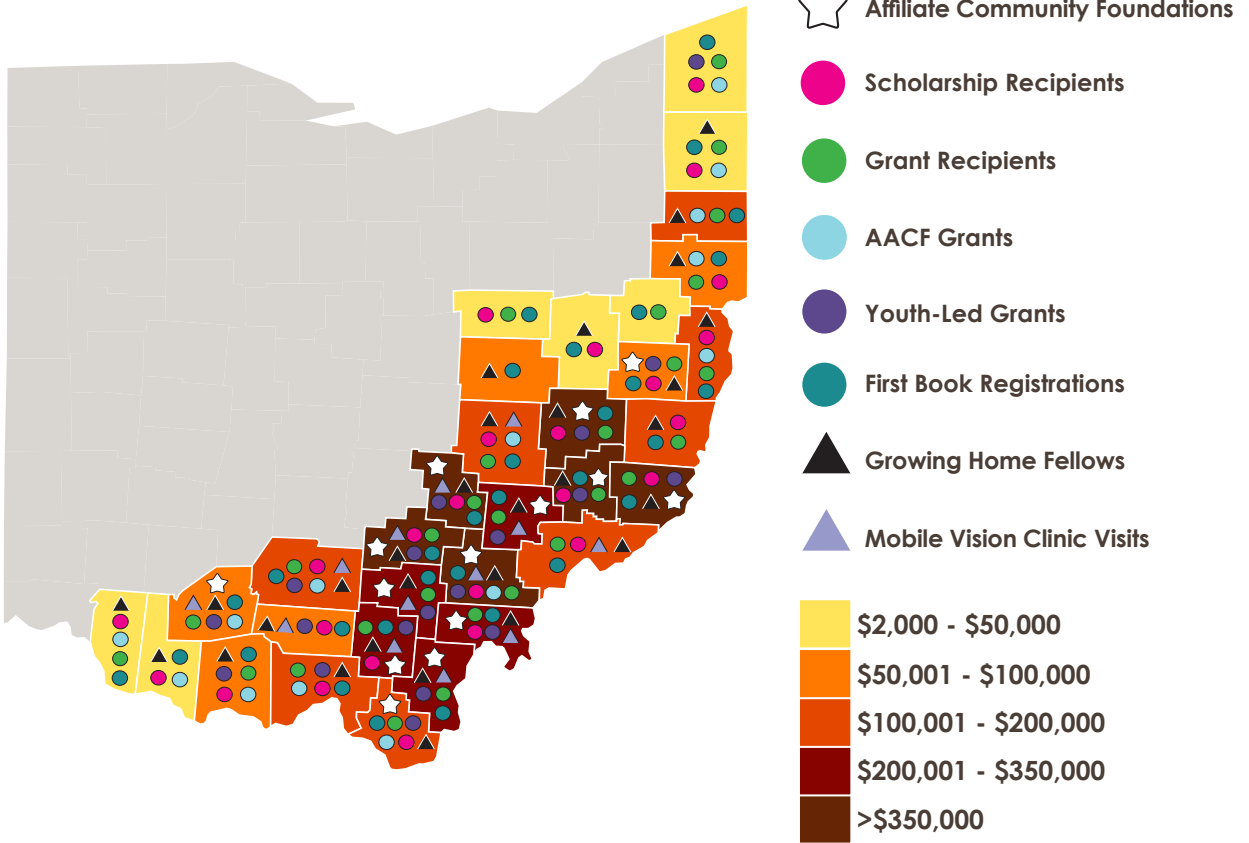
FAO's *Child of Appalachia*® award encourages everyone to make a difference, and our Growing Home Fellowship attracts and supports future leaders – the cornerstone of our region's long-term success.

We've built a strong foundation. But to achieve our region's full potential, we must overcome systemic challenges, including the philanthropy gap and youth outmigration. As we celebrate FAO's first 25 years, we seek to honor our past with a future vision as transformative as our founding vision.

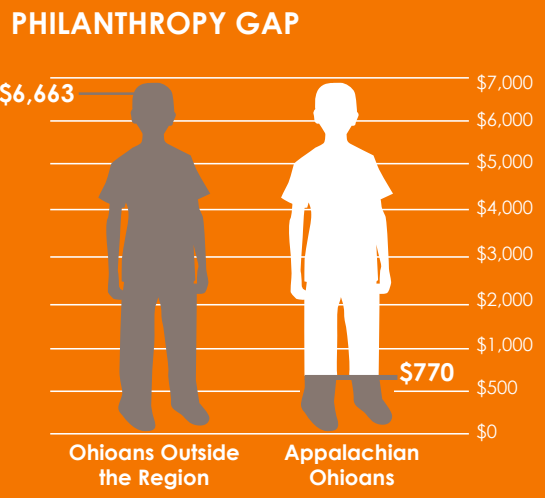
The summit of FAO's Second Mountain is a Flourishing Appalachian Ohio. Our path is investing in community builders, facilitating transformative partnerships, supporting collective giving and leveraging the "science of hope." We invite you to continue the journey with FAO. Join us in experiencing the unparalleled joy of being part of a bright future for Appalachian Ohio.



OUR 2023 IMPACT



- 700+** charitable funds
- \$133M** in assets
- \$9.5M** in 2023 grant funding, benefiting every county in Appalachian Ohio



MISSION

Unleashing the collective potential within Appalachian Ohio
by encouraging and supporting philanthropy.



VISION

Flourishing people and flourishing communities, today and in perpetuity.



VALUES

Love – We love the people, communities and beauty of Appalachian Ohio.

Integrity – We earn and keep your trust.

Inclusivity – We're here to help everyone give a gift for the future of Appalachian Ohio.

Gratitude – We advance with thankfulness for the possibilities others have made possible.

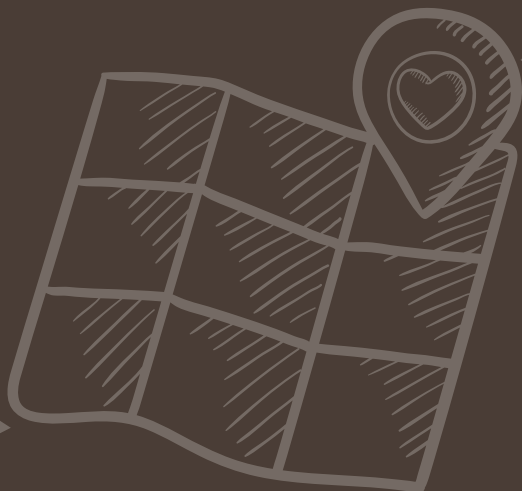
Legacy – We embrace giving that will transcend our lifetime.

Growth – We strive to learn, improve and adapt to make the greatest impact.



APPROACH

Increase, accelerate and sustain the impact of your charitable giving.





Asset-based – We build on strengths and “bright spots” within our communities.



Collective impact – We collaborate to combine resources, ideas and partners to achieve outcomes far greater than we can achieve alone.



Evidence-based – We leverage and grow our knowledge of best practices.



Holistic – We invest across all five Pillars of Prosperity to advance mutually reinforcing and comprehensive solutions.

Hopeful – We deploy the “science of hope” as a force multiplier.



Proximate – We combine local knowledge with subject matter expertise.

Scalable – We leverage regional economies of scale to expand success from community to community.

Transformative – We encourage and support sustainable solutions.



Personal – We work with donors to maximize the impact of their charitable gifts on the communities and programmatic areas closest to their hearts.

THE FIVE PILLARS OF PROSPERITY



ARTS & CULTURE



EDUCATION



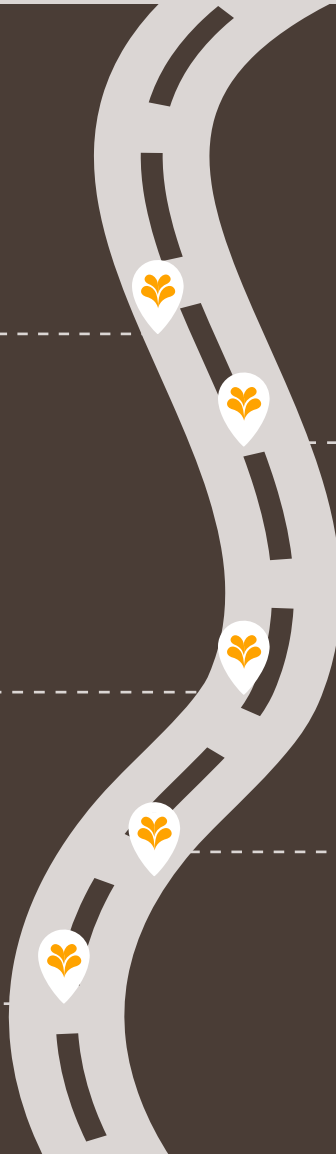
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES



COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



FAO's *I'm a Child of Appalachia*® Fund is an unrestricted endowment that supports FAO's work across the Pillars, fueling innovation and helping to expand bright spots from one community to another. For information on FAO's work in each Pillar, call 740.753.1111.

IN THE LAST **FOUR YEARS**

The Foundation for Appalachian Ohio has:



Invested more than \$25.5 million across 3,000 grants, fellowships and scholarships.



Ensured every county in Appalachian Ohio is supported by a local foundation.



Supported the African American Community Fund in awarding 77 grants to Black-led and Black-serving nonprofit and community organizations in Appalachian Ohio.



Supported donors in creating opportunities for tens of thousands of children by collaborating with partners to scale solutions in education and mobile vision care.



Developed the Growing Home Fellowship to retain, attract and support the success of next-generation community builders regionwide.

THE FOUNDATION OF A FLOURISHING APPALACHIAN OHIO

FAO provides a structure through which charitable giving is turned into meaningful and lasting investment in the individuals, institutions and ideas that create opportunities and advance flourishing in Appalachian Ohio. Our donors create funds that support scholarships, nonprofits, diverse fields of interest and K-12 school systems.

Local in depth

FAO is home to 14 local affiliate foundations that partner with FAO to grow philanthropic resources for their communities. Local affiliate committees make decisions on grant investments while FAO provides back-office services and supports collective impact.

1. Gallia Community Foundation
2. Guernsey County Foundation
3. Harrison County Community Foundation
4. Highland County Community Fund
5. Hocking County Community Fund
6. Jackson County Community Foundation
7. Lawrence County Community Foundation
8. Meigs County Foundation
9. Monroe County Community Foundation
10. Morgan Community Fund
11. Nelsonville Community Foundation
12. Noble County Community Foundation
13. Community Foundation for Perry County
14. Vinton County Community Fund

Regional in reach

Several grantmaking funds – FAO's *I'm a Child of Appalachia*® Fund, our Pillars of Prosperity funds and the African American Community Fund – support opportunities regionwide. These investments build capacity, improve health, create educational opportunities, advance economic development, support environmental stewardship and provide access to arts and cultural experiences.

Supporting your legacy

A tremendous intergenerational wealth transfer is occurring within Appalachian Ohio, with more than \$154 billion projected to transfer between generations over the next 25 years. Establishing a planned gift to benefit the future of our communities and our region can be as simple as providing a bequest in your will noting, "I bequeath ___% of my estate to the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (or to the ___ Fund within the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio)." For more information, contact FAO at 740.753.1111 or info@ffao.org.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Faithfully steward the 700+ charitable funds entrusted to FAO, maintaining low administrative costs through regional economies of scale and maximizing outcomes through expertise and partnerships.

Partner with you in supporting what's closest to your heart. FAO's work with donors starts by asking, "What's closest to your heart?" Informed by your charitable dreams and priorities, we help you envision and create your legacy through funds and planned gifts.

Inspire collective giving to strategic areas of opportunity to advance flourishing in Appalachian Ohio:

- **Invest in emerging and next-generation community builders** through additional Growing Home Fellowships and increased grant support for community service projects led by children and teens.
- **Increase philanthropic capacity in communities with significant disparities** by growing our affiliate foundation partners' annual grantmaking, capturing a set percentage of the intergenerational wealth transfer for our region's communities and nonprofits, and establishing a regional endowment to support collective impact among affiliates.
- **Grow FAO's five Pillars of Prosperity funds** to levels that support annual grant and fellowship opportunities for individuals, institutions and ideas that are having transformative impact throughout Appalachian Ohio.
- **Inspire current and lasting support to advance innovative ideas and bright spots** regionally through our Friends of FAO Fund, an annual giving campaign to support immediate opportunities and needs, and through our *I'm a Child of Appalachia*® endowment, helping to close the philanthropy gap by growing the permanent unrestricted resources for FAO's work long term.



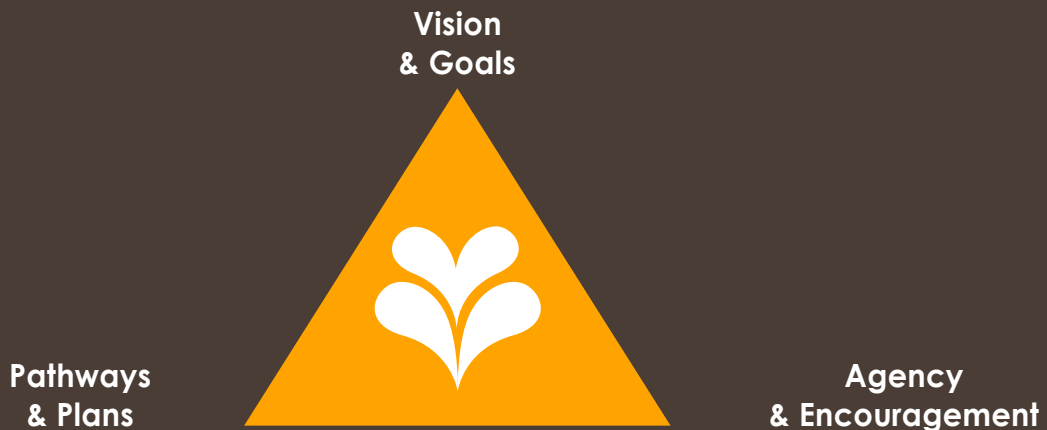
THE SCIENCE OF HOPE

Hope is essential to flourishing. Where hope is rising, well-being is rising, success is rising, and health is rising. The best part? Hope is a cognitive process – a pattern of thinking we can learn and influence.

Hope is measurable, and hope can be increased. When you combine vision with a pathway and a sense of agency, you build hope. We can directly influence the levels of hope within our communities by fostering access to opportunity and by encouraging the patterns of thinking that create hope.

As we look to the future, hope is FAO's guiding indicator – and our fuel. Hope is essential to a Flourishing Appalachian Ohio. We invite everyone to join FAO as we explore new approaches for leveraging the science of hope in our lives and the lives of our communities.

We create and increase hope by focusing on our:



Visual adapted from the works of Casey Gwinn, J.D.; Chan Hellman, Ph.D.; Shane Lopez, Ph.D.; and C.R. Snyder, Ph.D.

OUR GUIDEPOSTS

FAO seeks socio-economic parity for Appalachian Ohio – and a deep sense of well-being for everyone. Our vision is flourishing people and flourishing communities, today and in perpetuity. Many of our outcomes are immeasurable, but data is essential to guiding our success. Three indicators are important guideposts for our Second Mountain journey:

- 1. Rising hope** – 2025 will be a discovery year as we engage our community of givers in developing and testing innovative ways to leverage the “science of hope” as a force multiplier. FAO is grateful to partner with Battelle for Kids (BFK), a national nonprofit with deep expertise in hope-centered education, resilience and systemic transformation. For the past decade, BFK has empowered organizations to harness the science of hope, creating communities that flourish. Their collaboration with Gallup has produced research-based tools to measure hope, making them uniquely positioned to guide hope-driven initiatives. Through this partnership, BFK will offer strategic guidance and a range of measurement tools, resources and professional learning to guide hope-givers across FAO’s network.
- 2. Young adult retention and attraction** – Young people are vital to our vision of a Flourishing Appalachian Ohio, and far too many of our region’s communities struggle with youth outmigration. And, because young adults ages 18-35 are our most mobile population, their choice to stay and live in Appalachian Ohio serves as a proxy measure for the level of opportunity within our communities. FAO is advancing many strategies to develop, retain, attract and leverage the leadership of young community builders across Appalachian Ohio, including our Growing Home Fellowship and grants to K-12 community service projects. We will measure retention and attraction of young adults and monitor evidence that suggests we’ve helped young adults advance meaningful leadership roles within their communities.
- 3. Intergenerational wealth capture for our communities** – FAO engaged Ohio University’s Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service to forecast the pending transfer of wealth between generations in Appalachian Ohio over the next 25 years – the sum is more than \$154 billion. In partnership with our affiliate foundations and nonprofit partners, FAO is supporting strategies to inspire and support planned gifts benefiting the people and communities of Appalachian Ohio. We will measure estimated planned gifts and monitor evidence that suggests we’ve helped our local partners retain wealth for the future of their communities.

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF FAO!

We all have a gift that matters to the future of Appalachian Ohio, and financial gifts have far greater impact when combined. As you give to endowment funds like FAO's *I'm a Child of Appalachia*® Fund, the Pillars of Prosperity and affiliate foundations, we invite you to also give to the Friends of FAO Fund.

The Friends of FAO Fund enables you to have collective and immediate impact. Your gift today will support near-term projects that include:

- **Grant funding for FAO's Growing Home Fellows' projects.** Funding will be awarded through spring and fall "pitch" competitions designed to also increase the fellows' fundraising skills. More than 100 fellows are working across the region and in all Pillar of Prosperity areas.
- **Support for our region's emerging leaders – our K-12 students – in envisioning and implementing community service projects in conjunction with FAO affiliate foundation partners.** This funding will provide young people the opportunity to experience the joy of service and community building and connect them with adult allies who can nurture their development.
- **New opportunities for youth**, including the development of a new regionwide bright spot in Arts & Culture that seeks to bring arts experiences to children during free summer lunch and other programming.
- **Innovation from across the region in developing and piloting new ways to leverage the "science of hope"** to increase well-being and success in our schools, organizations and communities.
- **A new approach to scholarship giving that gives awards to students in eighth grade**, when scholarships can be more influential to students' decisions to pursue postsecondary education.
- **Transformative partnerships** to increase health and wellness, advance economic and community development, support environmental stewardship, and increase educational attainment and success.

A Flourishing Appalachian Ohio is within reach, thanks to your generosity and the power of collective giving. But this work will not be possible without you.

FRIENDS OF FAO **MEMBERSHIP GIVING LEVELS**

As a member of the Friends of FAO, you will receive an annual report highlighting the impact of your gifts and be invited to special gatherings, including opportunities to share your input on our future.

Friends of FAO - Family Membership Levels

\$132+	Friend of FAO
\$1,500+	Community Builder
\$3,200+	Appalachian Champion
\$5,000+	Opportunity Creator
\$10,000+	Transformative Partner
\$32,000+	FAO Shareholder

Friends of FAO - Corporate Membership Levels

\$3,200+	Friend of FAO
\$15,000+	Community Builder
\$32,000+	FAO Shareholder
\$100,000+	Abundance Supporter
\$320,000+	Cornerstone Partner



To join the Friends of FAO, give online using the QR code or mail a check noting "Friends of FAO" to 35 Public Square, Nelsonville, OH 45764. For stock transfer instructions, call 740.753.1111 or email info@ffao.org.



For more information on the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, please visit our website: www.AppalachianOhio.org