WHO IS FAO?
Based in Nelsonville and serving all 32 counties of Appalachian Ohio, the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio (FAO) is a 501(c)(3) regional community foundation creating opportunities across Appalachian Ohio in partnership with our donors. Since 1998, the Foundation has been working with donors who are passionate about Appalachian Ohio, its communities, and its future. We’re here to help donors give back in ways that are meaningful—to them and to our region.

WHAT IS THE PHILANTHROPY GAP?
The philanthropy gap is the inequity between the philanthropic resources available in Appalachian Ohio as compared to the rest of the state of Ohio.

OUR MISSION
To create opportunities for Appalachian Ohio’s citizens and communities by inspiring and supporting philanthropy.

OUR VISION
For the citizens of Appalachian Ohio to live in a region abundant with possibilities.

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www.AppalachianOhio.org

More than 150 charitable funds totaling over $21 million to transform generational poverty into generations of prosperity.

FACT SHEET

PHILANTHROPY GAP
Philanthropic Dollars Per Capita

Source: Foundation Center 2014

OUR WORK
We are here to address issues of regional and community need and grow the permanent resources our communities lack, especially in the areas we believe are vital to Appalachian Ohio’s prosperity. We invest in these areas through strategic leadership, grantmaking, and partnerships:

Pillars of Prosperity at FAO
- Education
- Health & Human Services
- Community & Economic Development
- Arts & Culture
- Environmental Stewardship
FAO was created to serve Appalachian Ohio as a whole while also ensuring every county had access to local philanthropic resources. We partner with communities to create local foundations that benefit from FAO’s support in fundraising, training, and communications as well as through management of the fund’s administration and investments. Communities can focus on what matters most—energizing the community to grow permanent, local resources for their benefit.

GRANTMAKING
In fiscal year 2015, FAO distributed $1,156,971 in grants and scholarships. Since its inception in 1998, FAO has invested more than $7.5 million back into the community through grants and scholarships to nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, community groups, and students in Appalachian Ohio and across the globe. This support achieves meaningful, measurable results and leverages significant investments from other foundations, donors, and grants.

TEAM
Comprising regional professionals with diverse backgrounds, FAO has a dedicated Staff that guides our work.

Cara Dingus Brook, 
President & CEO

Martin Adam
Courtney Giffin
Heather Keeseke
Amy Kettner
Tracy Mann
Caroline Max
Phyllis Moody
Kelly Morman
Maureen Sharkey
Holly Shelton
Megan Wanczyk
Emily Webb

OUR BOARD

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Athens County
StoreFlix!

Vice Chair
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Bricker & Eckler LLP

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Matt Elli
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AXION International, Inc.

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Retired: Ohio Petroleum Council

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Oklahoma
Gulfport Energy Corporation

Alan Stockmeister
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Elemental, LLC; OPM Metals, LLC; Echo Environmental, LLC

David Wilhelm
Franklin/Athens County
Hectate Energy