Q: What is the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio?
A: FAO is a regional community foundation serving the twenty-nine counties of Appalachian Ohio. It is a 501(c)3 tax exempt nonprofit organization governed by a regional board. FAO’s mission is to enhance quality of life in Appalachian Ohio. FAO accomplishes this mission by Fostering Access to Opportunity.

Q: What is FAO’s vision?
A: FAO’s vision is to ensure Appalachian Ohio becomes a region where citizens have access to everything necessary to achieve a high quality of life; a place with leading educational systems, meaningful jobs, excellent health care, plentiful cultural experiences and wise stewardship of natural resources.

Q: What is FAO doing to realize this vision?
A: FAO is working to grow Appalachian Ohio’s philanthropic capacity, educational opportunities and pride.

Philanthropic capacity
Appalachian Ohio’s communities do not have access to the philanthropic resources necessary to address the challenges and opportunities they face. The region accounts for roughly 15% of Ohio’s population but holds around 2% of Ohio’s grantmaking assets. Within this 2%, the region’s assets are restricted for single communities or initiatives. Furthermore, the region receives only 1% of the corporate grants given in Ohio. FAO is working to grow and nurture philanthropy - e.g. strategic charitable giving - to assist the region in achieving FAO’s vision.

FAO is growing regional funds to support community efforts to enhance quality of life. These funds will provide resources for many communities and organizations in the region to access educational, health, cultural and conservation opportunities. While growing these regional resources, we are also helping local communities grow funds to address their unique needs and opportunities, including community and school system endowments.

Educational Opportunities
Education is essential to overcoming generational poverty and to creating and sustaining a vibrant economy and high quality of life. Appalachian Ohio is seeing educational advancement, but it has not achieved the same levels of attainment and success found in the rest of the state, which is an alarming concern, given the dynamics of our global economy and the ever-increasing national struggle to remain economically competitive.

Of those aged 25-34 in Appalachian Ohio, just over 14% have graduated from college, compared to a national rate of 28%. FAO is working to close this education gap and position the region as a national leader in educational attainment while also supporting the region in developing an education system that maximizes our region’s strengths and is globally competitive.

Regional Pride
Perceptions can significantly shape reality. Because Appalachian Ohio has experienced generations of poverty and isolation, we must work diligently to change the shape perceptions regarding our region’s ability to overcome these struggles to become a vibrant contributor to Ohio’s economy and overall success.

FAO is committed to publicly celebrating the traditions, legacies, artistry, generosity and appreciation for natural beauty that are inherent to our region’s culture. We do this to shine a light on the reality that our region is a place of many assets and much potential, and to replace negative stereotypes with positive expectations necessary for success.

Q: What will success look like?
A: FAO is in its tenth year of service to Appalachian Ohio. As FAO anticipates the work of the next ten years, it has set the following targets:

1. Significantly increase the philanthropic resources available to support the region. This includes growing FAO’s assets from $5 million in charitable funds to $32 million in charitable funds, and growing the right mix of philanthropic resources to support our region, including:
   - Local funds held for the benefit of communities so all counties have access to a source of sustained philanthropy to meet unique local needs and opportunities.
   - Regional funds to support communities across Appalachian Ohio in efforts to enhance quality-of-life.
   - A strategic portfolio of educational investment funds addressing barriers and opportunities faced in our region, including: mini-grants, large grants, scholarships, school system endowments and funding to enable leadership and convening activities and support to educators.

2. Help Appalachian Ohio not only overcome current educational attainment gaps, but lead the nation in participation in post-secondary education. To achieve this goal, FAO plans to:
   - Facilitate funding to hundreds of community-based efforts that open doors of educational opportunity for thousands of youth.
   - Support and nurture community-based education collaborations.
   - Grow permanent funds to support educational access and success, including scholarships and school system endowments.

3. Increase regional pride to produce a climate in Appalachian Ohio that is ripe for success.

External to Appalachian Ohio will be known as a region of opportunity – as a region inhabited by educated, innovative people who are proud of their rich heritage and hopeful for their future – and as a region where people are actively employing talents, treasure and time in productive and fulfilling ways.

Within the region, all citizens - especially youth - will expect success, and they will understand that a “people” network is accessible to them to ensure no barriers to success stand in their way.

Q: What are FAO’s strategies?

1. Nurturing Philanthropy
   by growing permanent funds and resources to enhance quality of life.

2. Creating Educational Opportunities
   by helping the region leverage collective strengths to overcome barriers, promote innovation and secure funding to solve problems and realize opportunities. FAO serves as the region’s convener, fundraiser and partner in educational success.

3. Promoting Regional Pride
   by championing the region’s assets to create positive expectations and by networking those passionate about the region to create relationships and funds that support the region’s progress. FAO promotes regional pride through its signature I’m a Child of Appalachia® program, which includes a public relations campaign, programing in schools and a growing network of donors - the I’m a Child of Appalachia Network® (ICAN!).

2 Educational Attainment in Appalachia, Appalachian Regional Commission, www.arc.org
The core of FAO’s business as a foundation for our region is to provide charitable stewardship and fund management that enables donors to make the most of the financial gifts they make. Essentially, FAO is an umbrella of funds to support charitable activities in the Appalachian Ohio region.

FAO’s funds are established by individuals, families, businesses and nonprofits. They are created with a variety of gifts, including: cash, bequests, property or other assets. Further, FAO’s funds are advised in several different ways. For example, some are advised by regional committees and others by local committees or by the donors who established them.

While the tools of philanthropy often appears technical and cumbersome, FAO works to simplify the process of giving so donors can focus on what matters to them - making a difference. FAO has many resources to assist donors in leveraging and maximizing charitable contributions.

**Designated**

Designated Funds are created to support specific nonprofit organizations, efforts or communities. These funds are frequently advised by the organizations or communities they benefit. Creating an endowed designated fund to support a favorite charity, such as a senior chain, provides donors a way to create lasting support for causes they care about without adding administrative burden to these organizations.

Non-endowed designated funds:

- Leadership Guernsey
- The Athens Conservancy Fund
- The Guernsey County Foundation Fund
- Havar Fund
- Gallipolis/Gallia County Bicentennial Fund

Endowed designated funds:

- COAD Appalachian Development Fund
- Appalachian Community Visiting Nurses Association
- Hocking Area End of Life Care Fund
- DEVOTE Fund
- Future Generations Fund
- SPUR Fund
- Guernsey County Senior Citizen Center Fund
- United Seniors of Athens County
- New Haven School Fund
- The Guernsey County Foundation Endowment Fund
- The Morgan County Foundation Endowment Fund
- Byesville Rotary Fund
- Havar Endowed Fund
- Haven of Hope Endowment Fund

**Scholarship**

Scholarship Funds are created to support individuals in educational pursuits. Currently, donors can choose the option of having their fund advised by FAO’s scholarship committee, which includes representation from around the region, or the option of establishing an advisory committee unique to the scholarship fund they have established.

- Ariana R. Ulloa Scholarship Fund
- Bob Evans Memorial Fund for Scholarships
- Bellisio Scholarship Fund
- Forest Bachel Scholarship Fund
- Cambridge High School Class of 1957 Scholarship
- Madison High School Alumni Scholarship
- Mary Mackley-Brill Scholarship
- Winnie Mae Sharpe Education Scholarship Fund
- Ora E. Anderson Scholarship Fund
- Cambridge Singers Scholarship Fund
- Jenny Cornelius-Wolzt Memorial Scholarship
- Wayne E. White Scholarship Fund
- Doug Steele Memorial Scholarship Fund
- Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship

**Field-of-Interest**

FAO Field-of-Interest Funds are created to provide grants through FAO that address challenges and opportunities shared by many communities in Appalachian Ohio. Currently, FAO has funds to support the areas of interest listed below. Grants from these funds are advised by FAO’s grants committee and professional staff. Any donor can give to these funds, or create a fund within these broader areas to target specific interests. The majority of FAO’s field-of-interest funds are endowed, permanent sources of regional funding.

- Access to Education Mini-Grants Fund
- Economic & Community Development Fund
- Leadership Fund
- Support to Children, Youth and Families Fund

**Endowments**

The Foundation for Appalachian Ohio Endowment is a growing fund that provides a permanent source of funding to support FAO in its mission to enrich quality of life in Appalachian Ohio.

- Haven of Hope Endowment Fund
- Byesville Rotary Fund
- Havar Endowed Fund
- New Haven School Fund
- The Guernsey County Foundation Endowment Fund
- The Morgan County Foundation Endowment Fund
- Emergency Needs Fund

**Donor Advised**

Donor Advised Funds are created to support donors in taking a more “hands on” approach to giving, by suggesting organizations to receive grants. Many donors find assistance from FAO staff to be helpful in making the greatest impact with their funds, and many have found the impacts of giving as a family to have great meaning.

- St. Dymphna Fund
- Southeast Ohio Hunger Relief Fund (advised by group of donors, including faith based entities)
- Kevin Ritz Family Foundation Fund
- Huffman Family Donor Advised Fund
- Virgie Lee McLaughlin Fund
- Sara Lee Stevens-Young Memorial Fund

**Health and Human Services**

- Support to Children, Youth & Families Fund

**Arts, Heritage and Cultural Interests**

- Yellow Root Fund

**Conservation**

- AEP Access to Environmental Education & Stewardship Fund

**Basic Needs**

- September 11 Fund
- Emergency Needs Fund

- The Ora E. Anderson Conservation Fund for Appalachian Ohio
- The Donald R. Myers Fund to Support Partnership in Appalachian Ohio

**Legacy**

Legacy Funds are created to celebrate the memory of loved ones. The following legacy funds operate like field-of-interest funds at FAO with the exception that FAO seeks guidance on grant investments from external fund committees formed to support and direct activities of these funds.

- The Ora E. Anderson Conservation Fund for Appalachian Ohio
- The Donald R. Myers Fund to Support Partnership in Appalachian Ohio

A basic charitable fund at FAO can be opened with a $10,000 contribution. Endowed funds exist into perpetuity, with the earnings and interests of these funds providing a permanent stream of support. Many FAO donors say establishing a permanent fund - or planning to establish one through their will - is one of the most meaningful life experiences they’ve had.
Helping Local Communities Develop Funds

While the communities in our region share many of the same needs, particularly around educational access, they all also have unique needs and aspirations. FAO helps communities develop their local philanthropic capacity with fund management assistance, counsel, networking and encouragement.

Q: Why do many communities in Appalachian Ohio lack foundations?

A: Managing a community foundation is an administratively burdensome process, requiring significant expertise. Without a large base of assets, it is difficult for communities to provide staff to support and strategically invest charitable funds. Many communities in Appalachian Ohio do not have large bases of charitable assets and must pursue non-traditional approaches to growing community grantmaking, often mixing together many gifts and talents.

This is where a regional foundation can help. By taking on most of the administrative burden, FAO provides communities with options and capacity for practicing the most meaningful parts of philanthropy: giving and growing charitable dollars.

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Q: What are Families of Funds at FAO?

A: Families of funds are clusters of charitable funds placed with FAO that are designated for a certain geographic community. Families of funds are a relatively new concept FAO has implemented in order to provide communities in our region the ability to receive the benefits of locally-driven community philanthropy. FAO has piloted the approach in Guernsey County, Ohio, through support from the Ford Foundation and others. In the summer of 2008, FAO partnered with the Morgan County Community Improvement Corporation in opening a fund for Morgan County. FAO is now assisting several other communities that are organizing to create families of funds.

Q: How do Families of Funds work?

A: Each family of funds has an “engine” fund advised by a board of local community members. The mission of this board is to develop grant resources to meet local needs and encourage others in the community to practice charitable giving. Those they encourage often create scholarships or other funds for specific local causes or organizations.

By clustering the funds, the community creates energy for giving and attracts additional investment. FAO assists by assuming the administrative responsibilities of fund management.

Q: What are School System Endowments?

A: School system endowments are permanent sources of funds to support educational activities of school systems. The funds are typically advised by community members and alumni, who work to prioritize the fund’s uses to meet local needs, in order to provide meaningful financial support to teachers, administrators and students.

Morgan County Creates Fund to Enhance Economic Development

In the summer of 2007, the Morgan County Community Improvement Corporation established the Morgan County Community Foundation Fund. Here is what local leaders had to say at a meeting commemorating the opening:

“The Community Improvement Corporation has created 450 new jobs in the last 18 months. This economic success is phenomenal, and in order to sustain it, we need to also develop the arts and cultural aspects of our community. That is what the Morgan Community Foundation is designed to do for us. It will be a powerful leveraging and sustaining element to our economy.”

Mike Workman, Director of the Morgan County Community Improvement Corporation

“Our goal to grow this fund to a million dollars in three years is not far fetched. There are a lot of people in the community who are very successful. I think people are going to start making gifts because this fund has opportunity to make good things happen.”

Mayor John Wells with the City of McConnsville

“Economic development is not going to give you everything. You need cultural development along with it. Without it, you are not going anywhere.”

Mayor Richard Wetzel from the Village of Chesterhill

Guernsey County Celebrates Million Dollar Milestone & Embarks on Endowments

In the fall of 2007, the Guernsey County Family of Funds, a collection of charitable funds benefiting Guernsey County that is held with FAO, grew to $1 million in charitable assets. Today, the Guernsey County Family of Funds encompasses 15 separate funds and annually awards more than $27,000 in scholarships.

One exciting development for the Guernsey County Family of Funds in the last year was the establishment of the Citizens for Rolling Hills Endowment Fund, which will support educational activities for children in the Rolling Hills School District. The fund will provide grants in all educational areas, with an initial emphasis on enhancing math and science capacities and providing resources not currently supplied through public support.

The Citizens for Rolling Hills Endowment Fund made its first grants this year, supporting an “exploring science” program for second, third and fourth graders and also the purchase of scientific calculators for algebra students. These investments make a big difference in a time when the average school teacher spends up to $1,000 out of pocket per year on school supplies and enrichment materials.

With the Citizens for Rolling Hills Endowment Fund as an example, the Guernsey County Family of Funds is supporting donors in beginning school system endowments for other districts in Guernsey, and FAO is supporting other communities around the region in replicating the model.

The Guernsey County Family of Funds: The Cambridge Foundation Guernsey County Foundation Fund McManus-Shepard Fund Kevin Rite Family Foundation Fund Guernsey County Senior Citizen Citizen Leadership Guernsey Fund

The Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship Fund was created in late 2007 through a bequest to the Guernsey County Family of Funds. This spring, it awarded 16 scholarships, totaling $19,000.

Jamie Bates, a 2008 recipient of the Ellwood Scholarship met with the FAO Board to discuss the difference the scholarship made to her. “I am from a farming family, and though I always dreamed of going to college, I would not have been able to do this scholarship.” Jamie is attending Muskingum College and is majoring in Neuroscience.

New Funds at FAO

Regional Fund Continues Economic Development

As the fund grows, it will also provide grant money to increase awareness of mental health. Some examples of how funds might be awarded include for community events such as public speakers or workshops and educational activities at public and private secondary schools.

At this point, all distributions from the fund will be concentrated in Gallia, Tuscarawas and Coshocton counties. Christine is from Gallia, Frank is from Tuscarawas and they reside in Coshocton. They welcome the contributions of others to expand the ability of the fund to impact other communities in Appalachian Ohio.

Another “new day” in hunger relief came to our region in late summer of 2008. After a trip to southeastern Ohio – where he saw over 700 cars lined up in Logan, Ohio for a food distribution from the Smith Chapel – Jeff Davidson was inspired to make a change. As a result of that trip, Davidson and his wife, Helen, who live in Dublin, Ohio, have started the Southeast Ohio Hunger Fund. Distributions from this fund are being used to assist food pantries in the region with bulk purchases in collaboration with a network of faith-based entities. The Davids welcome and are actively seeking contributions to their fund.

A “New Day” and New Fund Addressing Hunger in Appalachian Ohio

More than 80% of Appalachian Ohio’s population lives below the poverty line. In ten of the region’s counties, one out of every three individuals is served by food pantries. While FAO is typically focused on long-term, sustained efforts, the crisis of food shortages that hit food pantries this year called for immediate, focused attention on long-term, sustained efforts. While he saw over 700 cars lined up in Logan, Ohio for a food distribution from the Smith Chapel – Jeff Davidson was inspired to make a change. As a result of that trip, Davidson and his wife, Helen, who live in Dublin, Ohio, have started the Southeast Ohio Hunger Fund. Distributions from this fund are being used to assist food pantries in the region with bulk purchases in collaboration with a network of faith-based entities. The Davids welcome and are actively seeking contributions to their fund.

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Regional Fund Will Continue Naturalist’s Legacy

On April 7, 2008, the family of the late Donald Myers - daughter, Kelly; stepson, John; wife, Linda; and son, Eric - pose for a picture after a memorial service, where the new legacy fund at FAO was announced. Pictured from left to right: Lisa Duvall, the governor's office; State Rep. Mark Oney; State Rep. Allen Seyer; Hocking County Commissioner, David Hall; Congressman, Bill Posey; Columbus Gas representative, Gay Frick; the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio President, Cara Dimpus Brooks; and Dale Herrman, executive director of the Eastern Ohio Development Alliance.

The late Donald Myers was a passionate advocate for Appalachian Ohio who dedicated himself to improving the region, especially by championing its needs and bringing community leaders together for partnership and educational opportunities. When he passed away unexpectedly in April 2008, many people felt his loss deeply. As a way to continue Myers’ legacy, several of his colleagues partnered with FAO to establish the Donnell Myers Fund to Support Partnership in Appalachian Ohio. Columbus Gas of Ohio contributed the initial $10,000 to open the fund. The fund in Myers’ name will provide a permanent source of funding to support the region’s nonprofit and government organizations in collaborative activities that benefit quality of life. Investments from the fund will be advised by a committee of private and public sector leaders from around the region, including representation from two organizations Mr. Myers led, the Ohio Mid-Eastern Development Association and the Eastern Ohio Development Alliance. The committee’s initial goal is to utilize the fund to initiate and support efforts that address basic needs of children living in poverty, with a focus on education.

New St. Dymphna Fund

Addressing Mental Health Barriers in Appalachian Ohio

Orna Anderson was a well-known and loved advocate for the environment whose passion for conservation and the natural world influenced thousands of people. Anderson’s dedication to preserving the natural beauty of Appalachian Ohio dated back to the 1930s, when he was a young reporter covering the establishment of the Wayne National Forest. Over the next seven decades, Anderson was a tireless advocate for conservation and a keen observer of nature, authoring several essays and poems and carving replicas of the birds to share his passion with others.

As a result of that trip, Davidson and his wife, Helen, who live in Dublin, Ohio, have started the Southeast Ohio Hunger Fund. Distributions from this fund are being used to assist food pantries in the region with bulk purchases in collaboration with a network of faith-based entities. The Davids welcome and are actively seeking contributions to their fund.

When he passed away in 2008 at the age of 94, his family and friends decided to continue his legacy of helping people to appreciate the natural world, by beginning an endowed fund to support such activities.

The Ora E. Anderson Conservation Fund for Appalachian Ohio – which has received contributions from across the state and the region’s cultural and environmental history. Through this fund, Anderson’s legacy of celebrating and protecting the natural beauty of Appalachian Ohio continues.

AEP to Support Environmental Education

FAO will draw on the endowment to provide mini-grants to schools and community youth organizations.

In July 2008, American Electric Power committed over half a million dollars to the region through a field-of-interest fund at FAO. This endowed fund will be a permanent source of support for efforts to protect and preserve Appalachian Ohio’s natural resources.

Over the next several years, FAO will draw on the endowment to provide mini-grants to schools and community youth organizations for activities that encourage environmental stewardship and increase awareness of and appreciation for local natural resources. As the endowment grows, so will the size and number of grants available.

In addition to this endowment, AEP will provide $150,000 over four years to support FAO’s growth and efforts to enhance the quality of life in Appalachian Ohio, including support of its I’m a Child of Appalachia® program.

Celebrating a delivery of ground turkey

From left to right, Troy Dugan of World Harvest; Marylou Dulan of the Southeast Ohio Regional Food Bank; Carol Cole, board member for the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio; Bob Rite of World Harvest; Holly Coak, director of donor services and outreach for the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio; Tom Yaskoff of the Southeast Ohio Regional Food Bank; and Jeff Davidson of the Southeast Ohio Hunger Fund.
Encouraging Students to Dream in Perry County

Lynn Bolyard, a guidance counselor at Miller High School in the Southern Local School District, is on a mission to encourage students in one of Ohio’s most economically challenged school districts to “Dream Big,” particularly when it comes to attending college. In a school where the parents of only two students in the 2006 graduating class had bachelor’s degrees, Bolyard finds her personal interventions and encouragement can make a difference in students’ decisions to pursue postsecondary education.

In 2007, Bolyard applied for a $5,000 grant from FAO to create the Southern Local Dream Big Project. The goal of this project is to increase the number of graduates who go to college by making students aware of the myriad career and post-secondary education options available to them.

A shining example of the Dream Big project is seen through a student who had a learning disability but excelled in math and science. With the help of Dream Big, he was able to take the ACT college entrance exam with appropriate accommodations for his learning disability. This resulted in his score increasing from 17 to 26. After this success, Dream Big helped him secure financial assistance for college.

The student now attends a university in the region, where he is studying computer science.

Q: What are FAO’s Goals for its Access to Education Mini-Grants Program?
A: The goal of FAO’s education mini-grants is to open doors of educational opportunity for students by supporting community groups and nonprofit educational access projects. FAO is working to secure small grants in order to increase its mini-grants output to $300,000 over the next three years.

Q: Where does FAO get funding for its Education Access Mini-Grants?
A: FAO uses several sources of funding, including contributions from private individuals and corporate partners, as well as FAO’s Education Grantmaking Endowment.

Q: Who assists FAO on its Education Access Grants?
A: FAO works with a diverse committee of citizens from the region to make decisions. This committee draws from a broad range of experiences and expertise, including from the fields of poverty relief, education, business and nonprofit management.

2007-2008 Grants from FAO

Grants from Ohio University

John Glenn High School Orchestra
- $500

Cambridge Rotary Foundation
- $1,000

Cambridge Area YMCA Development Foundation
- $200

Zanesville Thurday Music Club
- $250

OSU - James Cancer Hospital
- $20,000

Union Local Middle School
- $500

Blaine & Martha Neilty Scholarship Fund
- $500

Miller Middle School
- $500

Athens Middle School
- $500

Fairfield West Elementary
- $500

East Muskingum Student Endowment Fund
- $10,000

WOUB Center for Public Media
- $5,000

Hocking Athens Perry Community Action
- $42,165

National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- $50

John Gee Black Historical Center
- $1,000

French Art Colony
- $1,400

Gallia County Genealogical Society
- $250

Ohio University Office of Research & Sponsored Programs
- $1,000

Casa de Esperanza de los Ninos Foundation
- $50

Since 2005, FAO has focused its discretionary grant capacity to support efforts that encourage and enable students of all ages in our region to access educational experiences. FAO has found relatively small investments – “mini-grants” of $500 to $5,000 – can have a significant impact when fueled by the energy, ideas and passion of this region’s new students and community citizens. Over the last three years, FAO has invested over $193,407 through 76 education-related mini-grants.

2008 FAO Mini-Grants

FAO planted many additional seeds with Access to Education “mini-grants” this year. At the time this report went to press in 2008, FAO had awarded the following mini-grants for projects that support access to education, with plans to award several more grants in the calendar year. The grantees are listed below by county.

Athens - $500 to Athens County Farmer’s Market for Kids Can Cook! Campaign, including summertime cooking classes called the “Farmers Market Lunch Bunch.”
Belmont - $3500 to Ohio State University Extension to provide educational materials for a wellness seminar for high school girls in Belmont County.
Clermont - $1,000 to Batavia Elementary School to provide transportation support to enable low-income children to attend an after school enrichment project.
Columbus - $733 to Community Action Head Start to purchase books for “Head Start Reads,” which will provide 444 children with three free books each over the course of the program year.
Coshocton - $2,500 to Coshocton Head Start to purchase educational software for 20 donated computers, making possible a computerized reading and learning program for preschoolers.
Galia - $1,000 to support the “FACTS/New Opportunities” Gallia Jackson Mentoring Project in providing activities and mentors for “at risk” youth in Gallia and Jackson counties.
Galia - $1,500 to support the Gallia-Vinton Educational Service Center in establishing a Families Reading Every Day Parent Center at Vinton Elementary, where parents can meet and acquire training and materials related to literacy skills.
Hocking - $1,750 to the Juvenile Drug Court for an innovative Reclaiming Futures Initiative that will support at-risk youth in developing socialization behaviors.
Hocking - $1,000 to Wayne College Holmes Center for the College Readiness Partnership, which will encourage individuals to go on for secondary education by providing information about the college experience.
Jackson - $1,250 to Southeast Regional Library Systems to purchase materials to be included in Reading Adventure Treasure Chest kits to encourage literacy and learning.
Lawrence - $2,500 to Frontier Lawrence County Community Action Organization Family Guidance Center to support the YEA After-School Program, which provides a safe, structured environment and mentoring for students.
Meigs - $650 to the Meigs County Retired Seniors Volunteer Program to provide supplies for 14th grade classes to make wall hangings with guidance from senior citizen volunteers through the Scioto Valley Resource Conservation.
Monroe - $1,500 to the Multicultural Genealogical Center to create the Fm a Child of Monroe County program, which will have 5th and 6th graders interview the oldest members of their family, create books and give a school performance.
Muskingum - $1,500 to Zane State College to support Zane State College and partners in offering a series of five college-access workshops for high-school students, including a “College Prep Crash Course” workshop and a “Financial Aid 101” workshop.
Perry - $1,915 to Crooksville High School for the purchase of equipment needed for the “Click it to achieve it” program.
Ross - $875 to the City of Ross on Title I, which will provide a reading program for elementary students.
Scioto - $1,000 to Peachtree Elementary School to purchase educational software for 10 donated computers, making possible a computerized reading and learning program for preschoolers.
Wellington - $1,000 to the Western Reserve Historical Society for a mini-grant to encourage students to participate in the “Farmers Market Lunch Bunch.”

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In 2007, Bolyard applied for a $5,000 grant from FAO to create the Southern Local Dream Big Project. The goal of this project is to increase the number of graduates who go to college by making students aware of the myriad career and post-secondary education options available to them.

FAO awarded funding to Bolyard, and the impact of the grant is evident in the fact that 41 of the 53 seniors who graduated from Miller High School in the spring of 2007 pursued higher education. Also, more students are taking the ACT and attending college, going to both two and four year colleges.

A shining example of the Dream Big project is seen through a student who had a learning disability but excelled in math and science. With the help of Dream Big, he was able to take the ACT college entrance exam with appropriate accommodations for his learning disability. This resulted in his score increasing from 17 to 26. After this success, Dream Big helped him secure financial assistance for college.

The student now attends a university in the region, where he is studying computer science.

FAO grants allow communities to invest in small projects that support access to education, with plans to award several more grants in the calendar year.
Scholarship Recipients 2008 High School FAO Scholarships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship Fund</th>
<th>Recipient Name</th>
<th>High School</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jenny Cornelius-Woltz</td>
<td>Molly Scholl</td>
<td>Forrest Bachtel Scholarship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steven Stewart</td>
<td>Meghan Fedorke</td>
<td>Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Forrest Bachtel Scholarship</td>
<td>Kristina Mason</td>
<td>Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kirk Legar</td>
<td>Emily Box</td>
<td>Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wayne F. White Scholarship</td>
<td>Mary Bowen</td>
<td>One E. Anderson Scholarship</td>
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<td>Bellisio Foods Scholarship</td>
<td>Traci Thompson</td>
<td>Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taryn Stone</td>
<td>Loren West</td>
<td>Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tim Nealey</td>
<td>Sarah Nichols</td>
<td>Lester D. and Thelma I. Ellwood Scholarship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joel Conner, CEO, Bellisio Foods Company Scholarship Celebrated</td>
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</tbody>
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Q: How are FAO scholarship requests reviewed and recommended to FAO’s Board of Trustees?
A: Scholarships should grow to $15,000 - $25,000 before making awards.

Q: How can I establish a Scholarship Fund?
A: Scholarship Funds can be established with a gift of $10,000. Donors can name their fund and work with FAO staff to design criteria and eligibility requirements. Please note, FAO’s policies recommend scholarships should grow to $15,000 - $25,000 before making awards. The threshold that needs to be met depends on how the scholarship will be advised (a higher threshold if the scholarship is drawing on FAO’s committee).
Promoting Pride in Appalachian Ohio

2007 “Child of Appalachia™
Honorees Senator John and Annie Glenn

Appalachian Ohio’s greatest asset is its people, so each year FAO honors outstanding citizens from our region as “Children of Appalachia.” As we honor these individuals for the difference they have made, we share their stories and emphasize how educational opportunities have been important aspects of their lives.

In fall 2007, FAO recognized United States Sena-
tor John Glenn and his wife, Annie, as our I’m a Child of Appalachia™ honorees during the annual I’m a Child of Appalachia™ celebration held in Zanesville, Ohio. The Glenns are natives of Muskingum County and graduates of Muskingum College. Mrs. Glenn, who once struggled with a severe stuttering problem, is an advocate for those who struggle with communicative disorders.

Senator Glenn, who was a fighter pilot in World War II and the Korean conflict, became the first astronaut to orbit the earth in 1962. He later served four terms as a U.S. Senator for Ohio and, at the age of 77, became the oldest human to venture into space. When accepting the recognition, the Glenns spoke of the importance of encouraging Appalachian Ohio students to find their passions and talents and to follow their dreams. “Organizations like the Founders Network are literally changing lives and providing stepping stones to better things through grants and scholarships,” said Senator Glenn. “We have to take responsibility to give our students the education they deserve.”

The Glenns join an ever-growing family of honor-
ees who are from the region and have made a differ-
ce in their communities and the world.

I’m a Child of Appalachia® 2008 Essay Contest

As part of the I’m a Child of Appalachia® public awareness campaign, FAO holds an essay contest each fall for students in grades four through eight. The students respond to a prompt that encourages them to reflect on what they aspire to achieve and what it means to grow up in Appalachian Ohio. By prompting classroom and family discussion in these issues, FAO is working to create posi-
tive expectations for success.

More than 900 students from all 29 counties of Appalachian Ohio submitted entries to the 2007 prompt which asked: “Who in your life has been a positive influence, planting seeds of encouragement for you?” Students and faculty in the English education department of Muskingum College screened the essays and selected one winner and several honorable mentions from each grade level.

Thanks to sponsorship from American Electric Power and Edward Jones, win-
ers in each grade received a $500 savings bond and their teachers received a $500 classroom grant. The top 40 essays were compiled into a booklet, which is available as a PDF document on the Foundation’s Web site www.appalachianohio.org.

Essay contest winners with Senator Glenn and his wife

Top winners of 2007 essay contest where the students answered the ques-
tion, “Who in your life has been a positive influence, planting seeds of encour-
agement for you.” In grade order – 4th Grade: Benjamin Beatty, Fairfield West Elementary, Lawrence County; 5th Grade: Amy Hill Smith, Westview Elementary, Jackson County; 6th Grade: Seth Hardman, Union Local Middle School, Belmont County; 7th Grade: Emily Swackhamer, Miller Middle School, Perry County; 8th Grade: Annie Li, Athens Middle School, Athens County.

Essay Excerpts

“I was talking to her and she was looking at me hard and seemed like she was trying to put it together in her head. I felt I was really listening to her.”

– Fourth grader Peter Manchester in an essay about his grandmother.

“She has taught me… I get to pick what kind of person I want to be. Nobody else can make me be somebody I don’t want to be.”

– Fifth grader Kate Pittman in an essay about her mother.

“The on the side of the barn my mom painted “The Sky is the Limit.” I believe that is true.”

– Sixth grader Samantha Goings in an essay about her mother.

I'M A CHILD OF APPALACHIA

“In today’s fast-paced and technology-driven economy, advanced skills and a lifelong commitment to training are essential to secure and keep a meaningful, living-wage job.”

– Wayne White (1942-2004)

“Appalachians are proud, patriotic, hardworking, honest individuals. However, these attributes are not sufficient for Appalachians to fully participate in the current economic growth our country is experiencing. In today’s fast-paced and technology-driven economy, advanced skills and a lifelong commitment to training are essential to secure and keep a meaningful, living-wage job.”

– Nancy Zimpher

Sometimes my mother was a teacher at my high school, I learned, early on, the value of higher education and the opportunities it can provide. I chose to take advantage of every educational opportu-

– Nancy Zimpher

“Since my mother was a teacher at my high school, I learned, early on, the value of higher education and chose to take advantage of every educational opportu-

– Nancy Zimpher
The I'm a Child of Appalachian Network (ICAN!) is a group of citizens working to accomplish Katie’s vision; to ensure Appalachian Ohio communities have access to opportunities for them to join so they can know of the honorary contribution. A: Yes! FAO donors make gifts in honor of special “Children of Appalachia”. FAO can provide certificates to you and friends who will know what you will be accomplishing as a result of the gifts they are in your retainer for Appalachian Ohio. Because gifts to ICAN! are tax deductible, no direct benefit of remaining benefits are provided. However, FAO is working to develop ICAN! members, keep them updated on FAO’s progress, provide opportunities for them to join social events that celebrate our region, and recognize their membership with a commemorative lapel pin.

A: A child of Appalachia Network gift is a tax-deductible gift.

A: The benefits of joining ICAN! include making a positive change and opening doors of opportunities in our region. By giving to ICAN!, you are providing your gift will be used with strategy and importance to produce the maximum return for Appalachian Ohio. Because gifts to ICAN! are tax-deductible, no direct benefit of remaining benefits are provided. However, FAO is working to develop ICAN! members, keep them updated on FAO’s progress, provide opportunities for them to join social events that celebrate our region, and recognize their membership with a commemorative lapel pin.

A: How can I join ICAN!?

A: You can join ICAN! by providing an annual gift to ICAN! Basic membership begins at $100. Further information about giving levels and opportunities is available on FAO’s website by visiting with FAO staff.

A: What are the benefits of joining ICAN!? Is it a tax-deductible gift?

A: The benefits of joining ICAN! include making a positive change and opening doors of opportunities in our region. By giving to ICAN!, you are providing your gift will be used with strategy and importance to produce the maximum return for Appalachian Ohio. Because gifts to ICAN! are tax-deductible, no direct benefit of remaining benefits are provided. However, FAO is working to develop ICAN! members, keep them updated on FAO’s progress, provide opportunities for them to join social events that celebrate our region, and recognize their membership with a commemorative lapel pin.

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