



Governor's Office of Appalachia Newsletter

September 2012

Issue 2

A Message from Director Wilson

Over the last few months as I have traveled the region, I have seen and heard increased optimism about the future. Whether it is from the potential oil and gas expansion or the increase in the region's agribusiness industry, the Appalachian region is poised to benefit like never before.

Each year the Governor's Office of Appalachia selects students to attend the *Middle and High School Summer Math-Science-Technology Institute* at the U.S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Ohio was well represented in 2012 by two middle school students, two high school students, and two teachers. This program gives the students and teachers the opportunity to work with math and science professionals in real-world scenarios. Congratulations to the Ohio delegation for completing this seminar.

In July, I traveled to Washington, D.C., to participate in the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Policy Development meeting. At the meeting we discussed community philanthropy, angel funds, capital and credit programs, and the federal transportation bill. As part of our transportation discussion, we have been asked to establish a plan that includes performance metrics to finish construction of designated corridors. I look forward to working with the Ohio Department of Transportation in the coming weeks on Ohio's plan.



Demo of compressed natural gas used in trucks at Yesco Electric Supply

This year we have provided grants for projects that improved community infrastructure as well as improved the quality of life in communities. The projects our office supports have a direct impact on economic development of the region. We have assisted local community and university programs, which includes broadband access and leadership programs. I have set three goals for the office as we end this year and look to next year. First, our team will educate economic development organizations and leaders about the benefits and opportunities in the region. Second, we want to continue to expand broadband access in the region, and third, raise the awareness of positive

programs and projects in the region among state and federal leaders. If we work on achieving these three goals, we will continue to improve the quality of life in the region.

If you have any questions for me or would like more information on Governor's Office of Appalachia programs, please feel free to contact me at Jason.Wilson@development.ohio.gov.

Jason

New Leadership at the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth

As part of Ohio's strategy for economic development, JobsOhio established a network of six regional partners that will work with the project management team to identify job creation, retention, and expansion opportunities. In Appalachia, the 32-county region is represented by TeamNEO to the north, the Appalachian Partnership (APEG) for Economic Growth in the central and southeast, and CincinnatiUSA Partnership in the far western part of the region. While TeamNEO and CincinnatiUSA Partnership are established partners, the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth was established in 2011.

Led by President and CEO John Molinaro, APEG works with the local businesses, economic development officials, and government officials across a 25-county region on economic development initiatives. Mr. Molinaro has more than 30 years of experience with nonprofits, foundations, and government.

Prior to joining APEG, he served as the co-director of the Aspen Institute's Community Strategies Group, which helps communities enhance their economies through innovative economic development strategies. Mr. Molinaro also worked for the West Central Initiative, a hybrid community foundation/community development corporation focused on economic development. As part of the start-up team at the West Central Initiative, he was responsible for the workforce development initiatives of the rural region. Mr. Molinaro has certification from the National Development Council in economic development finance and housing finance. He also has a master's degree in economic development and housing development finance.

If you would like more information about how your community can partner with APEG on economic development initiatives, please contact Mr. Molinaro at jmolinaro@ffao.org.

Tips for Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Applications

In June, Greg Faulkner, program analyst with the ARC in Washington, D.C., met with staff members from the four Appalachian Local Development Districts (Eastgate Regional Council of Governments, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association [OMEGA], and Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission [OVRDC]) and the Office of Community Development (OCD) to review the application requirements and answer questions about the application process. The meeting allowed the OCD and the Local Development District (LDD) staffs to identify key requirements to discuss with applicants.

Among the items discussed was the importance of maps to an application and how they can

support a project.

ARC’s guides for both construction and non-construction projects require that applicants include project maps with each application for ARC funds. The “Guide for Construction Proposals” requests that area map(s) with the project service area are clearly marked and detailed maps or schematics show the route of utility systems, diagrams of building sites, and floodplains. The instruction for non-construction projects is to attach maps as needed to illustrate the project’s service area.

The ARC applications are reviewed by LDD staff, by OCD staff in Columbus, and by ARC staff in Washington, D.C. Providing legible maps to support an application is crucial. Grant writers need to consider how the maps support the application and the overall understanding of the project, as well as how the maps will appear when reproduced, including how the maps will look when printed or copied as black-and-white documents.

Maps that help make a case for a project might include:

- A locator map, sometimes called a vicinity map, to describe a project area that may be unfamiliar to a reviewer within the context of a more familiar location.
- A project area map, which is at a smaller scale and clearly delineates the boundaries of the project--and in some cases, the major components of a project within the surrounding area (If the project area or surrounding area includes a floodplain, it should be included on the map.)
- A service area map, showing the project location and boundaries and also the boundary of the area served by the project (For example, new equipment in a rural hospital may serve a multi-county area, or improvements at a wastewater treatment plant may serve an entire village, township, or district.)
- Detailed maps and schematics are usually prepared by engineers or architects and can help reviewers understand construction projects. (For example, a detailed map of a waterline project would include the route of the line, including road and stream crossings, and the number and location of individual household and business connections.)

Remember, maps included in the application should support the application forms, budget, and narrative and add to a reviewer’s understanding of the project. While maps will differ for every project, make the maps in the application useful, informative, legible, and reproducible.

For more information about ARC applications, contact your Local Development District.

Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC)	Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA)
<i>Counties: Adams, Brown, Clermont, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, *(Fayette)</i>	<i>Counties: Belmont, Carroll, Columbiana, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Jefferson, Muskingum, Tuscarawas</i>
9329 SR 220 East, Suite A Waverly, Ohio 45690-9012 740-947-2853 email: email@ovrdc.org Web site: http://www.ovrdc.org	P.O. Box 130 Cambridge, Ohio 43725-0130 740-439-4471 email: director@omegadistrict.org Web site: http://www.omegadistrict.org
Buckeye Hills–Hocking Valley Regional Development District	Eastgate Regional Council of Governments

Counties: Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, Washington

P.O. Box 520
Reno, Ohio 45773
740-374-9436
email: info@buckeyehills.org
Web site: <http://www.buckeyehills.org>

Counties: Ashtabula, Mahoning, Trumbull

City Centre One Building
100 East Federal Street, Suite 1000
Youngstown, Ohio 44503
330-779-3800
email: moreinfo@eastgatecog.org
Web site: <http://www.eastgatecog.org>

**Note: Fayette County is a non-Appalachian county included within the OVRDC region for other planning and funding purposes.*

Fayette County is not eligible to receive state or federal funds designated for Appalachian counties.

Shale Development Roundtable

On July 19, 2012, the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Community Development, in cooperation with the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA), held a workshop on **Shale Development: State Resources Regional Roundtable** on the campus of [Kent State University at Tuscarawas](#) at the Science and Advanced Technology Center in New Philadelphia, Ohio.

Speakers from state and local government agencies discussed programs and resources available to help communities address issues of concern. Topics included workforce training, affordable housing, and job creating transportation and public infrastructure investments that have been impacted by the growing oil and gas industry.



The workshop also provided an opportunity for local economic development professionals, city and regional planners, as well as elected officials to network with government officials and to engage in dialog to explore reasonable options and solutions. Ohio Department of Development Director Christiane Schmenk and Governor's Office of Appalachia Director Jason Wilson listened to the concerns and suggestions from workshop attendees on ways to help address the issues they face at the local levels.

PowerPoint presentations given during the workshop are posted on the Department's website and a similar workshop is planned for Southeast Ohio in late October.

Ohio Housing Finance Agency Releases Report on Current and Future Housing Needs in Appalachian Region

In mid-May, the Ohio Housing Finance Agency released the findings of a study on the availability of affordable housing in the Appalachian region of Ohio. The study, titled *Affordable Housing Market Study of 32 Appalachian Ohio Counties* was conducted by Vogt Santer Insights under the direction of the Ohio CDC Association and the Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership. The project, part of a larger research project, was funded by OHFA and the Ohio Department of Development.

The multi-phase study assessed the current and anticipated housing needs of Ohio's Appalachian counties. Focusing on multi-family rental housing and low-income home ownership, the assessment included an analysis of the region's housing market, focus group meetings with key stakeholders, and an analysis of regulations and programs impacting the region. Key findings include:

- The majority of the 32 Appalachian Ohio counties are projected to experience less population and household growth over the next five years than the State of Ohio as a whole.
- With the exception of Athens County, which has a large student population at Ohio University, the remaining 31 counties in Appalachian Ohio have lower shares of renter-occupied housing than the State of Ohio.
- All 32 counties have lower shares of senior renter households than the State of Ohio as a whole. However, over the next five years, the region is projected to experience a higher increase (10 percent) in senior renter households than the State of Ohio.
- The region has generally experienced a more severe adverse economic impact during the past few years with a higher unemployment rate compared to more developed areas of the state.
- The demand for affordable, government-subsidized conventional rental housing appears to be relatively strong in the region with occupancy rates of 98 percent or higher in 28 counties.

"This extensive analysis provides a tool to help affordable housing professionals meet the challenges and demand in Appalachia," said Ohio CDC Association Executive Director Nate Coffman. "The data is part of a larger multi-phase effort of the Appalachian Housing Initiative working to identify and overcome the barriers to quality, affordable housing in Appalachian Ohio."

Visit www.ohiohome.org to read the study in its entirety. For more information about the study contact the Ohio Housing Finance Agency at (614) 466-7970.

Broadband Initiative Continues to Grow

Over the summer months, the Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative made great strides to improve access in the region. Two expansion projects were announced, funding opportunities were discussed with regional banks, and a report was released indicating that connectivity has improved in the region over the last year.

At the June meeting, Jason Wilson, Director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia, announced a significant funding award to be granted to two counties in an effort to aid existing broadband expansion plans. Carroll County and Washington County projects have each been granted \$100,000 from the State Appalachian Development Program to assist with their broadband projects.

"I believe the investment in Carroll and Washington counties, along with the work of the Task Force, will make a great impact on the region, and we will continue to see improvements in the number of homes receiving service," said Wilson. "We are making great strides toward our goal, and each step improves the lives of those Ohioans living in the Appalachian region."

The Carroll County project began deploying equipment in early August and the Washington County project is finalizing project details prior to deployment.

In July, Stu Johnson, Executive Director of Connect Ohio, and Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative finance committee members Dave Nadler of Ohio Valley Bank and John Glazer of

TechGROWTH Ohio, met with more than 20 Appalachian area bank CEOs and representatives to discuss funding opportunities for broadband expansion projects and an overview of the Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative's mission.

The Task Force reported that broadband availability in the region is improving. Research conducted by Connect Ohio reveals that in less than a year, 20,419 homes in Ohio's Appalachian region received access or upgraded service. The study also reported that 87.5 percent of households in Appalachian Ohio have access to broadband compared to 84 percent in 2011.

"I'm thrilled to see the improvement in broadband access numbers, especially the concentrated increase in the Appalachia area," said Johnson. "There are several factors that contributed to the increase in access, including Connect Ohio's provider validation efforts, organic expansion and upgrades to telecommunication, cable and wireless network infrastructure, as well as the formation of the Connect Appalachia Broadband task force and the commitment of the members to effectively increase awareness to keep CABI's mission at the forefront of Ohioans' minds."

If you would like more information about the Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative, contact Connect Ohio at (614) 220-0190.

Projects receiving State Appalachian Development Program grants:

Barnesville Hospital (Belmont County) received a \$119,000 grant to purchase state of the art clinical equipment that includes a phacoemulsification unit and accessories, four critical care beds, and one portable x-ray unit. The equipment upgrades will benefit patients in the rural, five-county area.

Beaver Township Trustees (Mahoning County) received a \$175,700 grant to install 4,400 linear feet of waterline in Beaver Township. The project is located along South Range Road near the intersection with State Route 7 and extends east to Woodworth Road. The project will serve 20 households and two businesses and will improve water quality.

Belmont County Port Authority (Belmont County) received a \$75,000 to use with loan funds for the purchase of the Belmont County Memorial USAR Center. The Port Authority will lease the building to MPR Supply Chain Solutions for its transloading project. The project will create more than 50 jobs.

Carroll County Commissioners (Carroll County) received a \$100,000 grant to improve broadband access in the county. Working with Cue Band, LLC, broadband service will be made available to more than 11,000 residents, 440 businesses, 50 community facilities, and 10 schools. The project also will provide access to companies entering the county as a result of the expansion of the oil and gas industry.

City of St. Clairsville (Belmont County) received a \$200,000 grant to construct a 500,000 gallon elevated water tank near the intersection of U.S. Route 40 and Township Highway 678 in the City of St. Clairsville. The project will provide safe and reliable water to more than 5,000 citizens and a



From left to right: John Rataiczak, President, Barnesville Hospital Foundation; David Phillips, CEO, Barnesville Hospital; Director Wilson and Greg DiDonato, Executive Director of OMEGA

95-acre development area.

City of Steubenville (Jefferson County) received a \$150,000 grant to upgrade waterlines in three neighborhoods and commercial areas to provide safe and reliable water for residents. The project also will provide the Trinity Medical Center area with more than 11,000 linear feet of waterline, three watch valves, and three fire hydrants.

City of Uhrichsville (Tuscarawas County) received a \$23,500 grant that will be used to purchase materials for the new roof on the Uhrichsville Clay Museum building, which will anchor the downtown tourism corridor. Upon completion of the building, the space for the museum's summer educational workshops for 3- to 5-year-olds will be doubled. The objective of the project is to increase tourism by linking the Clay Museum, Schoenbrunn Village, and the Dennison Railroad Depot Museum.

Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (Athens County) received a \$15,000 grant to support the Appalachian Leadership Academy programming and facility rentals. The Academy provides professional development programs to members of the community working for community action agencies, nonprofits, and local government agencies.

Green Township Fire Department (Ross County) received a \$15,000 grant to make repairs to the fire station annex. Repairs include electrical upgrades, new flooring, and ADA compliant upgrades. The station's annex is a training center for the fire department as well as for other community organizations.

Harrison County received a \$12,400 grant that will be used with matching funds and in-kind contributions to purchase and install 2,000 linear feet of waterline and related components near State Route 151 west of the Village of Bowerston. The new waterline will serve Hopedale Mining LLC, a coal preparation plant that will create 40 new jobs.

Jefferson Fourth Street Health Center (Jefferson County) received a \$7,500 grant to replace the roof of the center. The project will allow the health center to provide uninterrupted patient care to their 1,500 patients. The center is the only health center that provides free medical service in the county.



From left: GOA Director Jason Wilson, Second Harvest Food Bank President of the Board of Directors Ella Scales and Executive Director Mike Iberis

Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (Pike County) received a \$250,000 grant that will be used to secure new office space, which will be constructed on two acres of land in Seal Township. Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission coordinates federal, state and local resources to encourage development in Adams, Brown, Clermont, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto, and Vinton counties.

Second Harvest Food Bank of the Mahoning Valley (Columbiana County) received a \$17,000 grant to purchase a refurbished truck for the Mobile Pantry Program in Hanover and Franklin townships. The Mobile Pantry Program targets individuals and families in need that do not have access to one of the Food Bank's member relief organizations.

Tri-County Rural Water and Sewer District (Washington County) received a \$250,000 State Appalachian Development grant to use along with loan funds from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Assistance Fund to install approximately 113,000 linear feet of waterline in Palmer Township. The waterlines will be installed along State Route 676; County Roads 6 and 18; and Township Roads 1, 33, 72, 73, 170, and 179. The project will provide safe and affordable drinking water to 76 residents and business.

Village of McConnelsville (Morgan County) received a \$240,000 grant that will be used to upgrade and improve the McConnelsville Wastewater Treatment Plant. The upgrade will benefit 1,200 households.

Village of South Point (Lawrence County) received a \$24,000 grant to purchase materials for improvements to four municipal buildings. The project will replace roofs on three buildings with shingle roofing. The roof on the village fire station will be replaced with shingles and rubber roofing. Upon completion of the roof repairs, interior ceiling repairs will be made in the buildings.

Vinton County Commissioners (Vinton County) received a \$242,400 grant to install 10,000 linear feet of waterline in Clinton and Elk townships. The project will provide an affordable sources of drinking water for residents.

Washington County Commissioners (Washington County) received a \$100,000 grant to increase access to broadband service in the county. The county will contract with six of the County Water Districts to mount broadband equipment on 25 water towers. The project will provide more than 10,000 businesses and residents as well as 72 first responder locations with broadband access.

Washington County Free Clinic, Inc., received a \$21,800 grant that will be used with matching funds from private sources to purchase equipment including one EKG, one high-speed scanner, and seven touchscreen, tablet-style PCs to implement the Free Clinic's electronic health record and training project. The Free Clinic provides primary health care, prescription assistance programs, and limited on-site laboratory services to low-income residents of Washington County. In addition, the Free Clinic provides clinical training for the Marietta College Physician Assistant Training Program and the Washington State Community College Nursing Program.

YMCA East Liverpool, YMCA Wellness Center at St. John Arena (Jefferson County) received a \$30,000 grant to replace an existing turf field with a multifunctional indoor sports court. This will allow the YMCA to provide a variety of indoor youth programs. The YMCA serves more than 4,000 youth in the community.

Zanesville-Muskingum County Port Authority (Muskingum County) received a \$137,600 grant to add a third rail spur at the EastPointe Business Park Rail Transfer Station. Located near Gene Sands Drive and Innovation Way in Washington Township, the project will serve the existing need for unloading bulk materials from train cars as well as address the increased demand for rail-to-truck transloading capabilities.

Events in the Appalachian Region*

October 3, 2012 – Appalachian Regional Commission Meeting, Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, Huntsville, Alabama

October 11, 2012 – Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) Infrastructure Conference, Shawnee State Park Resort and Conference Center in Friendship, Ohio

October 11, 2012 – Mayors' Partnership for Progress Meeting in Marietta, Ohio

October 10, 2012 – Ohio Appalachian Task Force Quarter Meeting, OMEGA offices, 326 Highland Avenue in Cambridge, Ohio

October 19, 2012 – Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD) Board Meeting in Athens, Ohio

October 23-25, 2012 – Ohio Conference of Community Development (OCCD) Fall Quarterly Meeting, Crowne Plaza North in Columbus, Ohio

October 25, 2012 – OVRDC Executive Committee Meeting, Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio

November 7-9, 2012 – 2012 Community Development Conference, Salt Fork Lodge and Conference Center in Cambridge, Ohio

November 15, 2012 – OVRDC Executive Committee Meeting, Pike County Government Center in Waverly, Ohio

November 27-29, 2012 – Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA) and Ohio Capital Corporation for Housing (OCCH) – Ohio Housing Conference, Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio

December 7, 2012 – COAD Board Meeting, Christopher Conference Center in Chillicothe, Ohio

December 13, 2012 – Mayors' Partnership for Progress Meeting, Voinovich School, The Ridges, Building 21 in Athens, Ohio

If you have an event for the calendar listing please contact Ele Garcia in the Office of Community Development at Ele.Garcia@development.ohio.gov

**To attend a meeting listed, please contact the sponsoring organization. Meeting dates may be subject to change.*

Ohio

John R. Kasich
Governor

Department of
Development

Christiane Schmenk
Director

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