Who We Are
The Appalachia Funders Network is a group of over 80 national, regional, and local funders who work together to build relationships, engage in learning and analysis, and develop partnerships to maximize resources towards more diverse and resilient local economies. We envision a healthy, equitable, and vibrant region that, through strong partnerships, civic engagement, and leadership, preserves our unique assets and provides prosperity for all. Our work is focused in Central Appalachia, the region we define as the Appalachian counties of Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and North Carolina.

Appalachian Transition
Central Appalachia is at an economic crossroads and our actions in the next several years will shape what happens across the region for decades to come. The rapid decline in coal production has led to a shift in public dialogue around the region’s economic future, which presents an urgent opportunity to align the political will and investment necessary to advance the economic transition envisioned by Network members. As a Network, funders have an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate the development of local economies based on promising sectors such as clean energy, local food systems, and health, among others. Our aim is to ensure these opportunities elevate the ingenuity and promise of local solutions.

Network Purpose
The purpose of the Network is to align national, regional, and local funders toward a common vision to accelerate an equitable Appalachian transition. Funders in the Network work together to leverage our combined resources and develop shared strategies for accelerating the Appalachian transition, while understanding and addressing the systemic issues that hold the region back from broader prosperity. We carry out this bold agenda by organizing funders around the following strategies:

- Build trust and relationships among Appalachian funders
- Foster common understanding, analysis, and vision, among Appalachian funders to accelerate the region’s transition.
- Create opportunities for Network members to collaborate across shared interests and across sectors.
- Leverage new resources into the region that helps accelerate the Appalachian transition.

Collaborate and Learn with Us

- **Food Systems**: Learn and partner with food systems funders and practitioners in four sub-regions across Central Appalachia.
- **Strengthening Community Capacity**: Focus on strategies to build capacity in our communities and community foundations.

- **Health**: Develop strategies that address the systemic issues that undermine a culture of health in the region.
- **Energy & Natural Resources**: Develop strategies for funders to support energy sector transition efforts and natural resources in Central Appalachia.

Steering Committee Members

Mary Hunt, Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation; Margo Miller, Appalachian Community Fund; Ray Daffner, Appalachian Regional Commission; Terri Donlin Huesman, Osteopathic Heritage Foundations; Cuong Hoang, Chorus Foundation; Marlo Long, BB&T Reinvestment Act and Community Development Department; Gerry Roll, Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky; Lisa Sharp, USDA Rural Development West Virginia; Lora Smith, Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation; Susan Urano, Athens Foundation; Joe Woody, USDA Rural Development Tennessee

www.AppalachiaFunders.org
AppalachiaFundersNetwork@gmail.com
Below is a list of the Network’s 40 dues-paying member-organizations. The current Network contact list includes over 200 individual funders representing 109 funding organizations who have attended our events or expressed interest in our work.

Appalachian Community Federal Credit Union, Gray, TN
The Alleghany Foundation, Covington, VA
Appalachian Community Fund, Knoxville, TN
Appalachian Regional Commission, Washington, DC
Athens Foundation, Athens, OH
BB&T, Charleston, WV
Berea College Appalachian Fund, Berea, KY
Bernard McDonough Foundation, Parkersburg, WV
Blue Grass Community Foundation, Lexington, KY
blue moon fund, inc., Charlottesville, VA
Casey Family Programs
Chorus Foundation, Boston, MA
Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, Pittsburg, PA
The Community Foundation of Western NC, Asheville, NC
Conservation Fund, Chapel Hill, NC
Dorney-Koppel Family Charitable Foundation, Potomac, MD
East Tennessee Foundation, Knoxville, TN
Educational Foundation of America, Fairfield, CT
Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Cleveland, OH*
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Richmond, VA*
Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky, Louisville, KY
Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky, Chavies, KY
Foundation for Appalachian Ohio, Nelsonville, OH
The Greater Clark Foundation, Winchester, KY
The Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Charleston, WV
Logan Healthcare Foundation, Chapmanville, WV
Marguerite Casey Foundation, Seattle, WA
Marietta Community Foundation, Marietta, OH
Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, Winston-Salem, NC
One Foundation, Beckley, WV
Osteopathic Heritage Foundations, Columbus, OH
Parkersburg Area Community Foundation, Parkersburg, WV
Pew Charitable Trusts – Health Impact Project, Washington, DC
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Princeton, NJ
Rockefeller Family Fund, New York, NY
Sacharuna Foundation, The Plains, VA
Sisters Health Fund, Parkersburg, WV
The Thompson Charitable Foundation, Knoxville, TN
USDA Rural Development*
Virginia Community Capital, Richmond, VA

* USDA Rural Development is restricted from paying annual dues, but contributes in-kind and financial support on our Steering Committee and significant representation at annual Gatherings.
* The Federal Reserve Banks are restricted from paying annual dues, but contributes in-kind and financial support to our working groups, face-to-face meetings, and the annual Gathering.