
2021 ANNUAL REPORT

BUCKEYE • HILLS
**regional
council**

2021 GENERAL POLICY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ron Moore, President
Lenny Eliason, Vice President
Kevin Ritter, Treasurer

Private Sector, Morgan County
County Commissioner, Athens County
County Commissioner, Washington County

Bill Bolon
Ben Carpenter
Jeff Dennis
Larry Kienzle
Brian Howard
Tim Ihle
Steve Patterson
Brad Peoples
Josh Schlicher
Adam Shriver
Diane Ullom
Gary Waugh

County Commissioner, Monroe County
County Commissioner, Perry County
Private Sector, Perry County
Private Sector Hocking County
Private Sector, Meigs County
County Commissioner, Meigs County
Mayor, City of Athens
County Commissioner, Noble County
Mayor, City of Marietta
County Commissioner, Morgan County
Private Sector, Monroe County
County Commissioner, Hocking County

ATHENS COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Charlie Adkins County Commissioner
Chris Chmiel County Commissioner
Chris Cooper Private Sector
Scott Frank City Manager, Nelsonville
Gary Gooseman Mayor, Amesville
Paul Isherwood Private Sector
Chris Knisely Athens City Council President
Jeff Risner Athens City Council Member
John Simpson Private Sector

HOCKING COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Greg Fraunfelter Mayor, City of Logan
Ken Wilson County Auditor

MEIGS COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Jane Ann Aanestad Private Sector
Don Anderson Mayor, Pomeroy
Jimmy Will County Commissioner

MONROE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Diane Burkhart County Commissioner
Michael Ricer Mayor, Woodsfield

MORGAN COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

John Finley Mayor, McConnelsville
Rick Shriver Private Sector

NOBLE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Misty Wells Mayor, Caldwell

PERRY COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Kent Cannon County Engineer
Eric Emmert Administrator, New Lexington
Tom Johnson Mayor, Somerset
Scott Owen County Commissioner
Fred Redfern Private Sector

WASHINGTON COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

James Booth Washington County Commissioner
David Brown Private Sector
Gary Doan Trustee, Muskingum Township
Mike Lorentz Mayor, Belpre
Geoff Schenkel Council Member, Marietta



A Message

From the Executive Committee President
and Executive Director

While our region continued to rebound from the pandemic in 2021, the many roles and strengths of Buckeye Hills Regional Council were brought to the forefront. As you will find in the following pages, we helped provide much-needed care and support to thousands of older adults across our region. We helped boost economic growth by leveraging critical infrastructure investments and planning for resilience. And we helped improve access to transportation, senior care, and recovery resources. Today, Appalachian Ohio is on the cusp of unprecedented levels of investment from our state and federal partners for all types of community needs. It is most certainly an opportunity for our region. It will also be a challenge. We are confident we can meet that challenge through both continued collaboration and a steady focus on our mission to improve the quality of life for the residents of Southeast Ohio.

Ron Moore
Executive Committee President

Misty Crosby
Executive Director



Buckeye Hills Regional Council facilitated
investments of

**\$81.9
MILLION**

**IN SOUTHEAST OHIO IN
2021**

with local communities and private
businesses leveraging

\$26.1 **\$55.8**
MILLION against **MILLION**
in state and federal funding.

2021 SNAPSHOT

ACROSS FIVE DIVISIONS



Aging
& Disability

\$12.5
MILLION



Community
Development

\$68.9
MILLION



Mapping
& Data

\$73,623



Population
Health

\$118,885



Transportation
Planning

\$272,799

\$81.9 MILLION

378,389

MEALS SERVED

410,951

DIRECT SERVICE HOURS

5,834

SENIORS SERVED

62

PROJECTS

9

WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVED

223

BUSINESSES SERVED

64

MAPS CREATED

12

DATA ANALYSES

84

ITEM REQUESTS

562

CLASSES

2,328

RECOVERY INQUIRIES

60

CONNECTED SENIORS

158

RIDE REFERRALS

23

TRAFFIC COUNTS

30,019

PPE DELIVERIES

**INVESTED IN
SOUTHEAST OHIO IN 2021**



2021 HIGHLIGHTS



CARE & SUPPORT FOR OLDER ADULTS

Despite the continued impacts of the pandemic and staffing transitions, the Buckeye Hills Regional Council Information & Assistance team answered more than 2,000 calls for help and guidance from older adults and their caregivers in 2021. They also assisted 137 individuals in obtaining \$61,623.50 in Medicare Part D savings during the October 15- December 7 Open Enrollment period. Additionally, our Care Management team helped 858 older adults and individuals with disabilities receive cost-effective, in-home care, and 55 individuals receive assisted living care.

ACCESS TO FRESH LOCAL FOOD

The Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program is a collaboration between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Ohio Department of Aging to allow income-eligible seniors the opportunity to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables from participating farmers' markets. While initial enrollment in 2021 was slow as our region reemerged from the first waves of the pandemic, the Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program ended the year strong, serving 2,129 individuals who redeemed coupons for more than \$100,000 in fresh, nutritious produce grown by more than 40 local farmers.

EXPANDING ACCESS TO BROADBAND

At the 2021 State of the Region Conference in May, Buckeye Hills Regional Council and the Buckeye Hills Foundation joined with fellow Appalachian Ohio Local Development Districts to relaunch ConnectingAppalachia.org with support from the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and OhioSE. The resulting mapping and data from the project were shared with local leaders, agency partners, and lawmakers to show the areas in our region in most need of investment. The following August, Buckeye Hills Regional Council announced the hiring of our new broadband staff members. In the fall, our region began to see significant federal investments in broadband from the Appalachian Regional Commission, including in the communities of Athens, Noble, and Monroe counties.



BOOSTING ECONOMIC GROWTH

In January, the Economic Development Administration announced a \$2.2 million investment to accelerate the region's transition from a coal economy through a new initiative called Resilience Initiative for Southeastern and Eastern Ohio (RISE Ohio). RISE Ohio is a two-year program led by Ohio University's Voinovich School, in partnership with the Buckeye Hills Regional Council (BHRC) and Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association (OMEGA), focused on helping communities in an 18-county region make an economic transition to new industries and ensuring continued job creation, as well as economic growth and diversification. The new funding will enable Southeast Ohio communities to engage in Opportunity Zone planning.





ARC INVESTMENTS IN **ACTION**

On July 20, ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin and Executive Director Brandon McBride joined John Carey, director of Ohio Governor's Office of Appalachia, and Julia Hinton, ARC Ohio state program manager, on a tour of Ohio's Local Development Districts to see ARC investments in action. From critical infrastructure to career readiness, recovery-to-work, the creation of a vibrant downtown, and collaboration and strong partnerships, Mrs. Manchin, as well as ARC and GOA leadership, saw the ways these investments are impacting livelihoods and communities across Appalachian Ohio.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS



IMPROVING ACCESS TO **TRANSPORTATION**

2021 was the first full year of the newly created Washington County Mobility Management program. Buckeye Hills' Mobility Management work has since grown to include Monroe and Noble counties, meaning residents in all eight BHRC counties now have access to a Mobility Manager. The roles work to increase awareness of transportation needs, promote coordination of transportation options to meet needs, and build sustainable and healthy communities by integrating transportation into planning and programs. The development of Coordinated Transportation Plans started in these three counties in 2021, with the goal of completing the plans for submission to the Ohio Department of Transportation in 2022.



CONNECTING TO HYBRID CARE

In November, Buckeye Hills Regional Council and Buckeye Hills Support Services announced a partnership with California-based software company HealthJay Inc. in a joint effort to deploy JayPad tablet solutions to older adults in several senior living communities. Hundreds of older adults will benefit from the initiative to address the pressing challenges of social isolation and staffing shortages. This partnership will also put Southeast Ohio on the map as one of the early adopters of smart technology to deliver hybrid senior care. Buckeye Hills Regional Council and Buckeye Hills Support Services are putting the JayPad tablets into the Washington County Home and the upcoming Buckeye Fields independent living community.

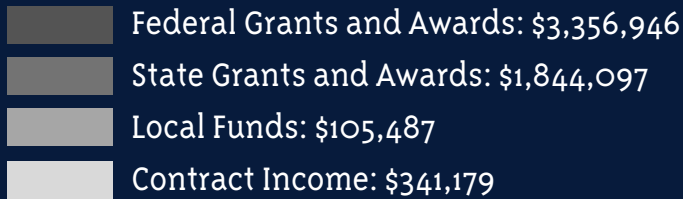


RESOURCES FOR RECOVERY

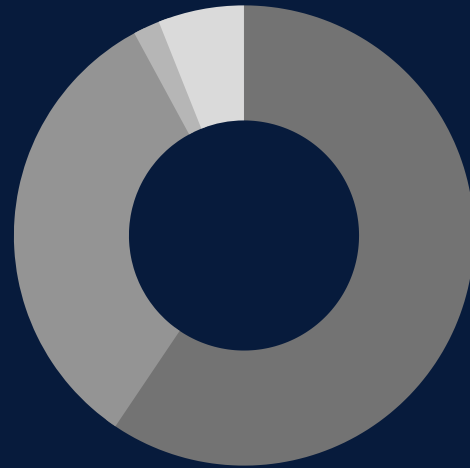
Created to assist individuals in Southeast Ohio affected by substance use disorder, MyRecoveryLink.org received a 2021 Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations in October. Since its launch in July 2020, MyRecoveryLink.org and Buckeye Hills Regional Council's Opioid Resource Navigator have helped more than 2,000 individuals connect with resources to help them through their recovery journey.

2021 OPERATIONS

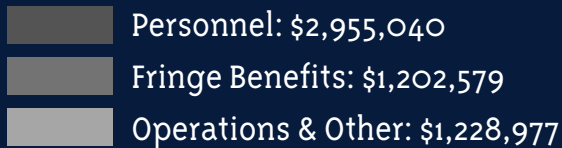
REVENUE



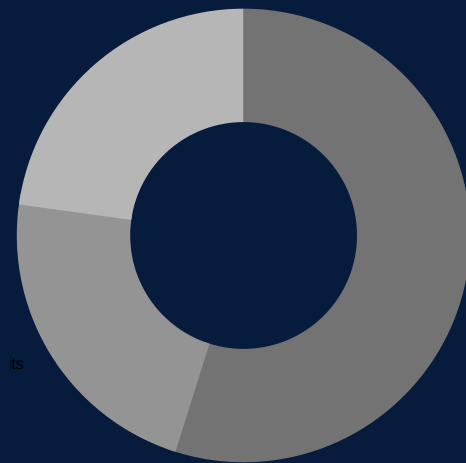
TOTAL: \$5,687,709



EXPENDITURES



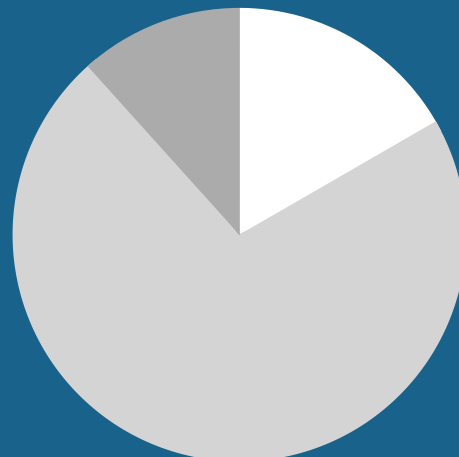
TOTAL: \$5,386,896



BALANCE: \$301,113

EMPLOYEES

In 2021, Buckeye Hills employed 62 staff members.



2021 BUCKEYE HILLS LEAD STAFF

MISTY CROSBY

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ABOUT BUCKEYE HILLS

Buckeye Hills Regional Council serves as a forum through which local communities work cooperatively to improve our region. Founded in 1968, we work closely with government leaders, state and federal partners, and community partners to serve Ohio's Appalachian region.

Our organization is a designated Area Agency on Aging, District Liaison for the Ohio Public Works Commission, Economic Development District, Local Development District, Regional Transportation Planning Organization, and the Southeast Ohio Aging & Disability Resource Center.

Since our inception, Buckeye Hills has brought more than \$1.3 billion in programs and services to Southeast Ohio communities.



1400 PIKE STREET
MARIETTA, OH 45750
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BUCKEYEHILLS.ORG



Improving the quality of life in Southeast Ohio

BUCKEYE HILLS
**regional
council**

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