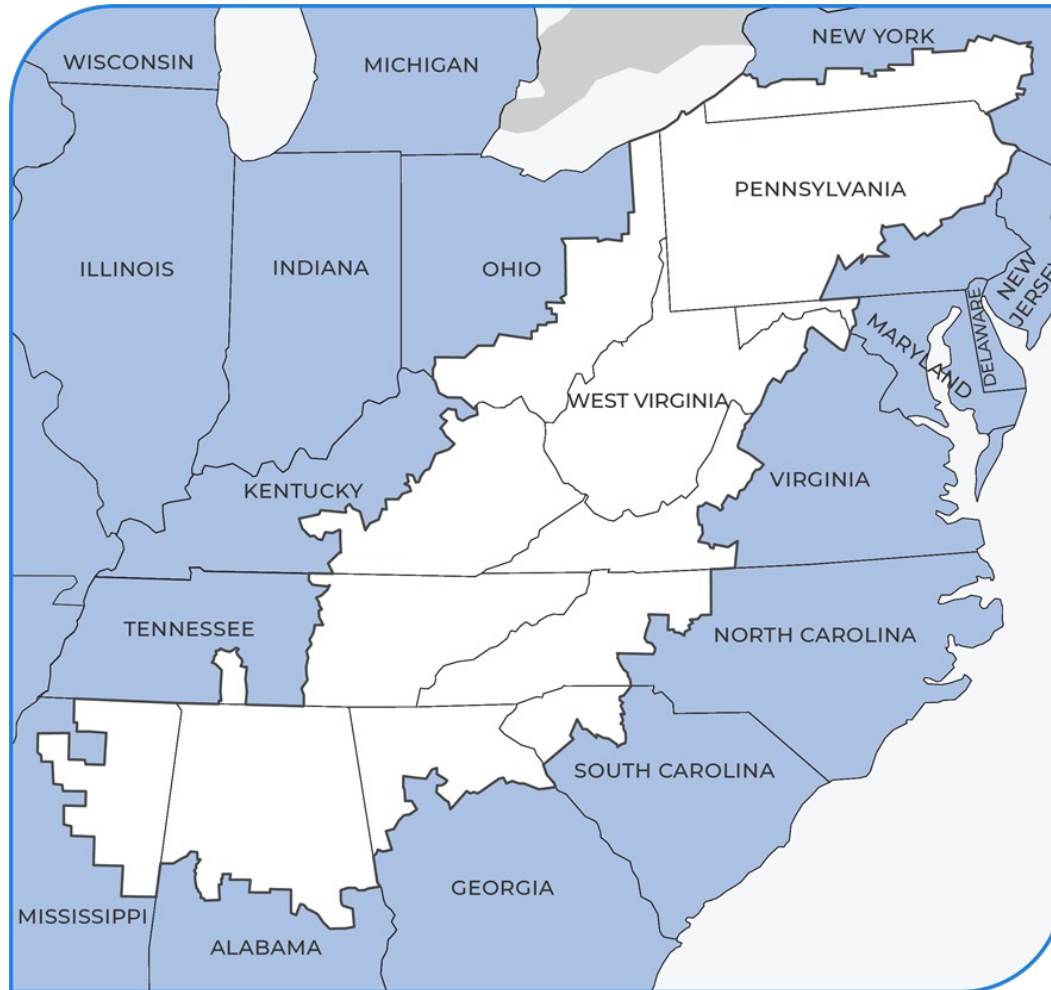




Appalachian Regional Commission

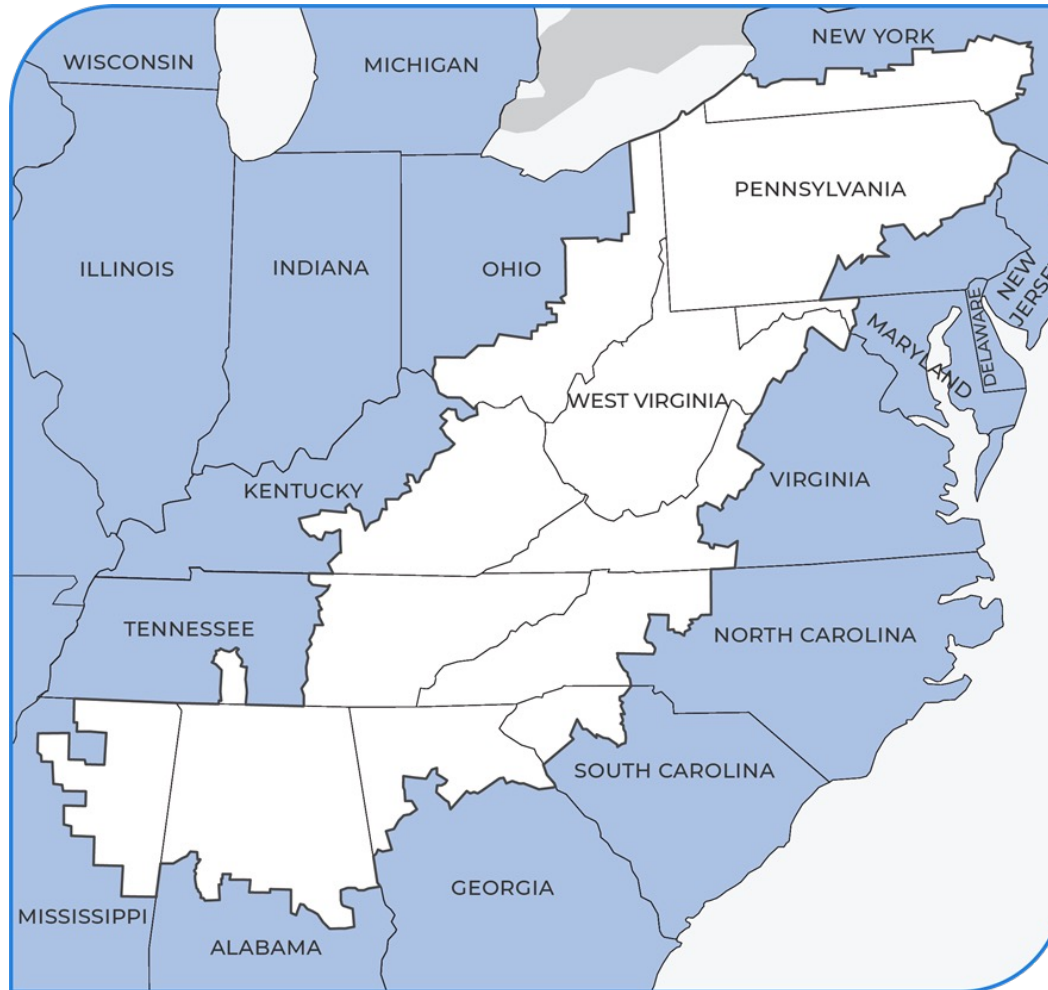
Appalachia Funders Network
April 2023

Appalachian Region



- **13 states**
- **423 counties**
- **206,000 square miles**
- **26 million people**
- **74 local development districts**

Appalachian Regional Commission



ARC VISION STATEMENT

Appalachia is a region of great opportunity that will achieve **socioeconomic parity** with the nation

ARC MISSION STATEMENT

To innovate, partner and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia



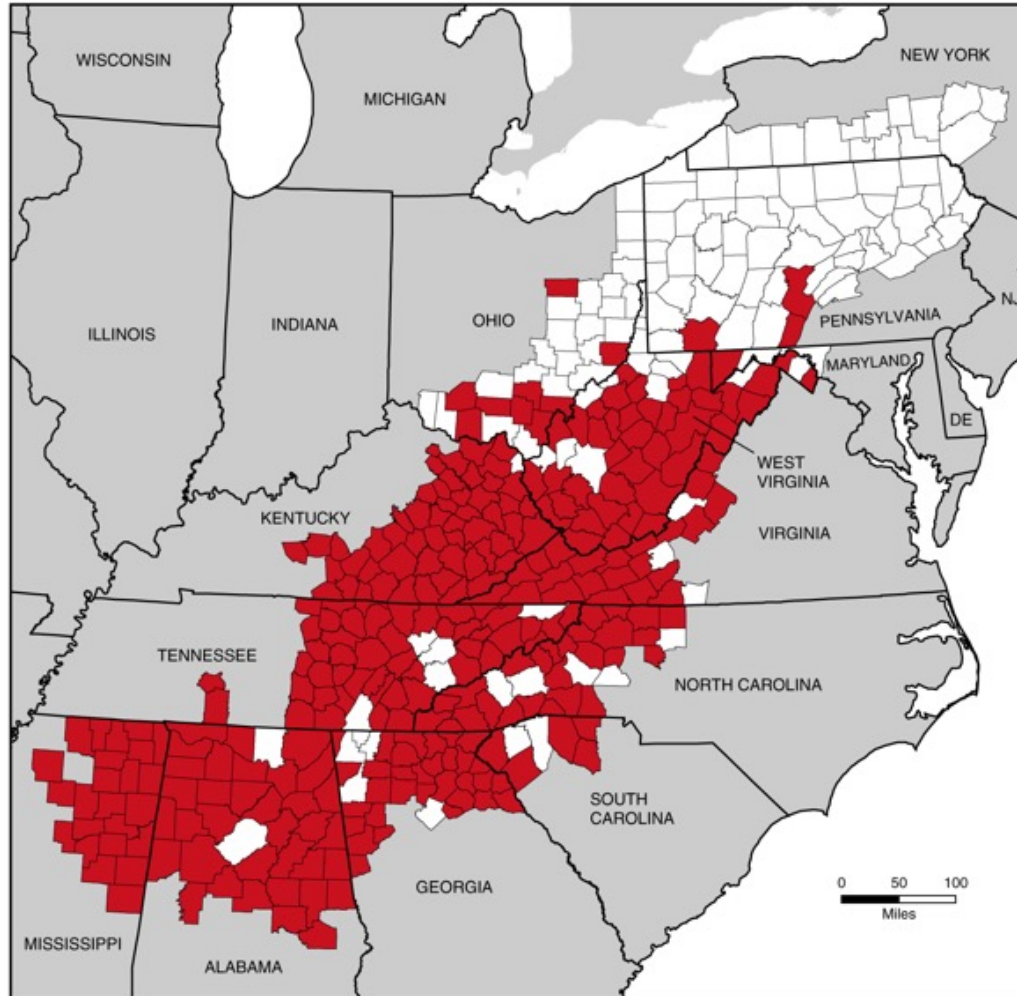
Appalachian
Regional
Commission

High-Poverty Counties in the Appalachian Region

(Counties with Poverty Rates At Least 1.5 Times the U.S. Average)

1960

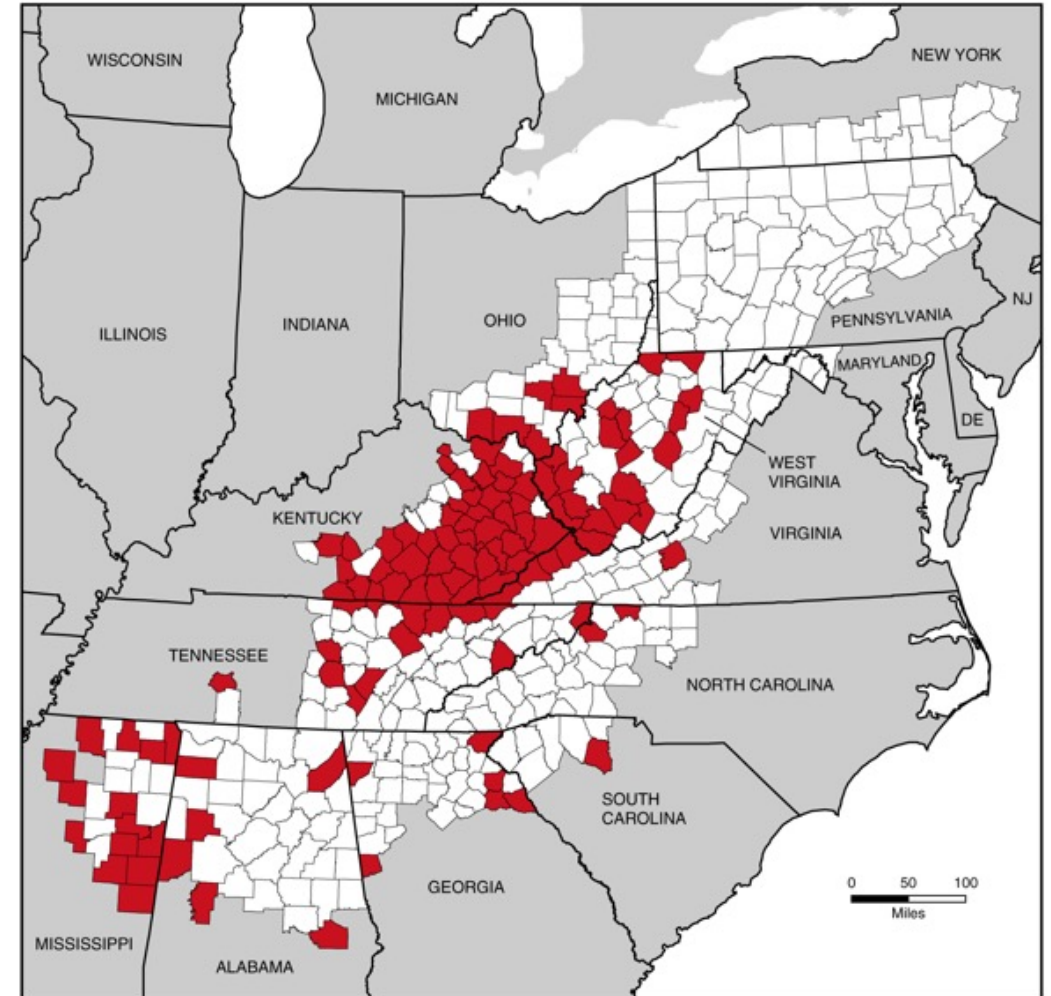
297 High-Poverty Counties



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 1960 Census

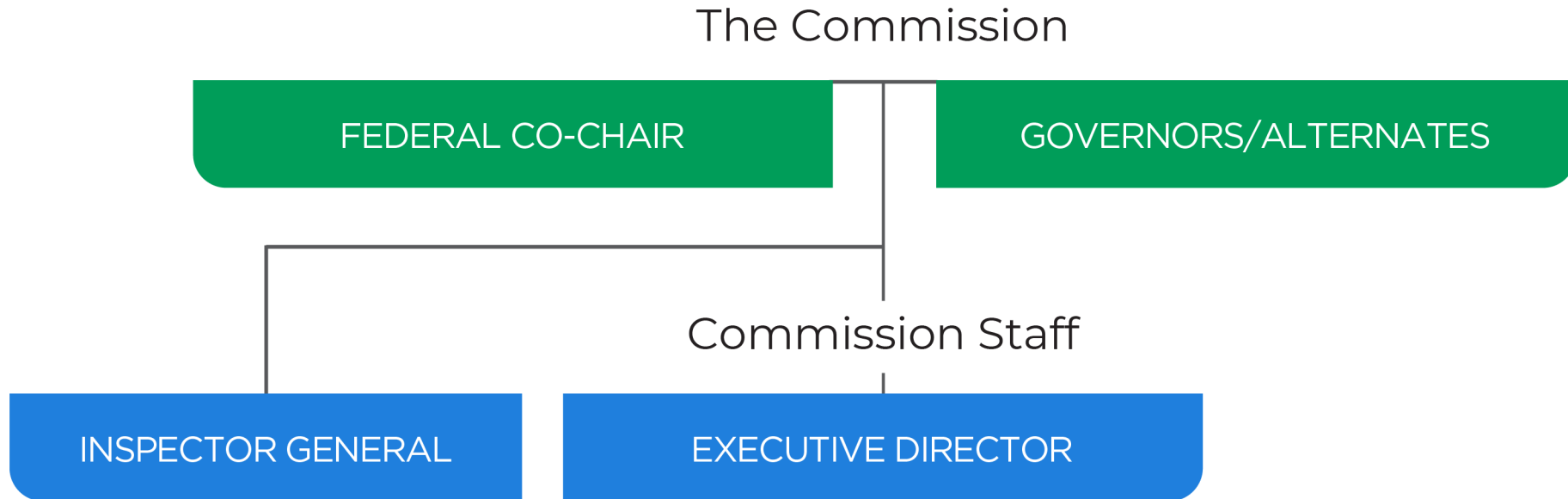
2016–2020

117 High-Poverty Counties



Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-Year Estimates, 2016–2020

Federal–State Partnership



What does ARC do?



Strengthen Businesses and Entrepreneurs



Develop a Workforce Ecosystem



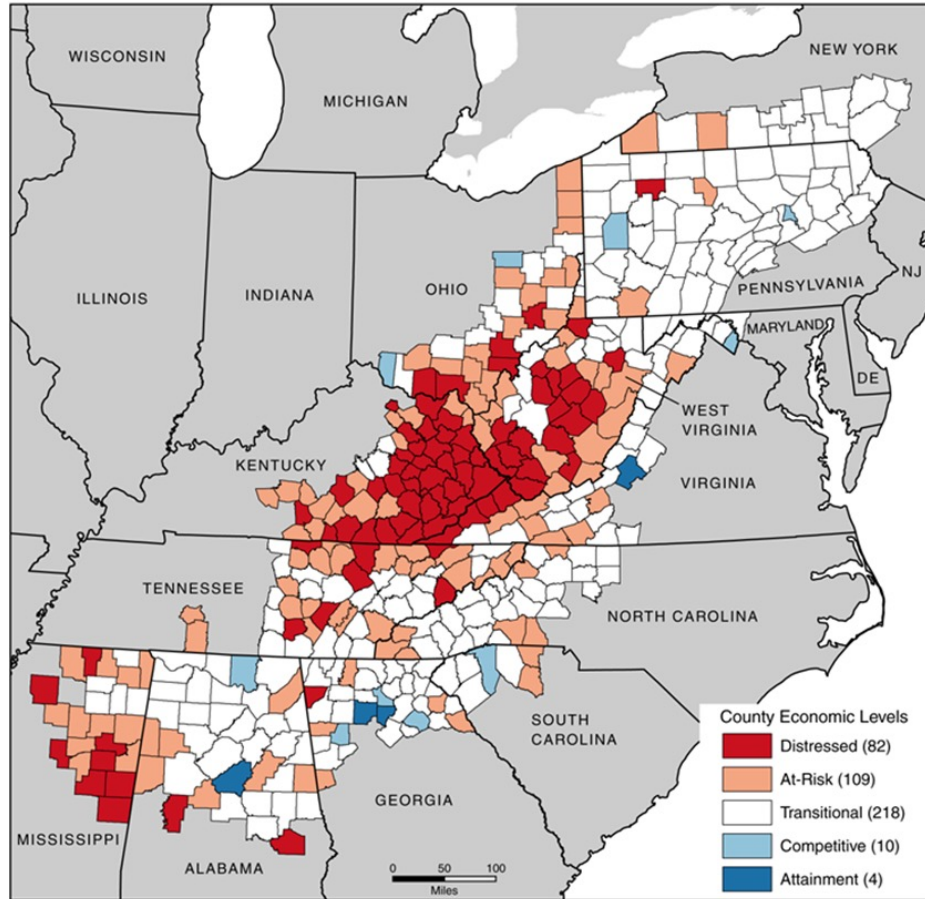
Build Critical Infrastructure



Invest in Culture and Tourism



Foster Leadership and Community Capacity



Created by the Appalachian Regional Commission, June 2022

Data Sources:

Unemployment data: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, LAUS, 2018–2020

Income data: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, LAPI, 2020

Poverty data: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 2016–2020

Effective October 1, 2022
through September 30, 2023

County Economic Status 2023

ARC Signature Programs

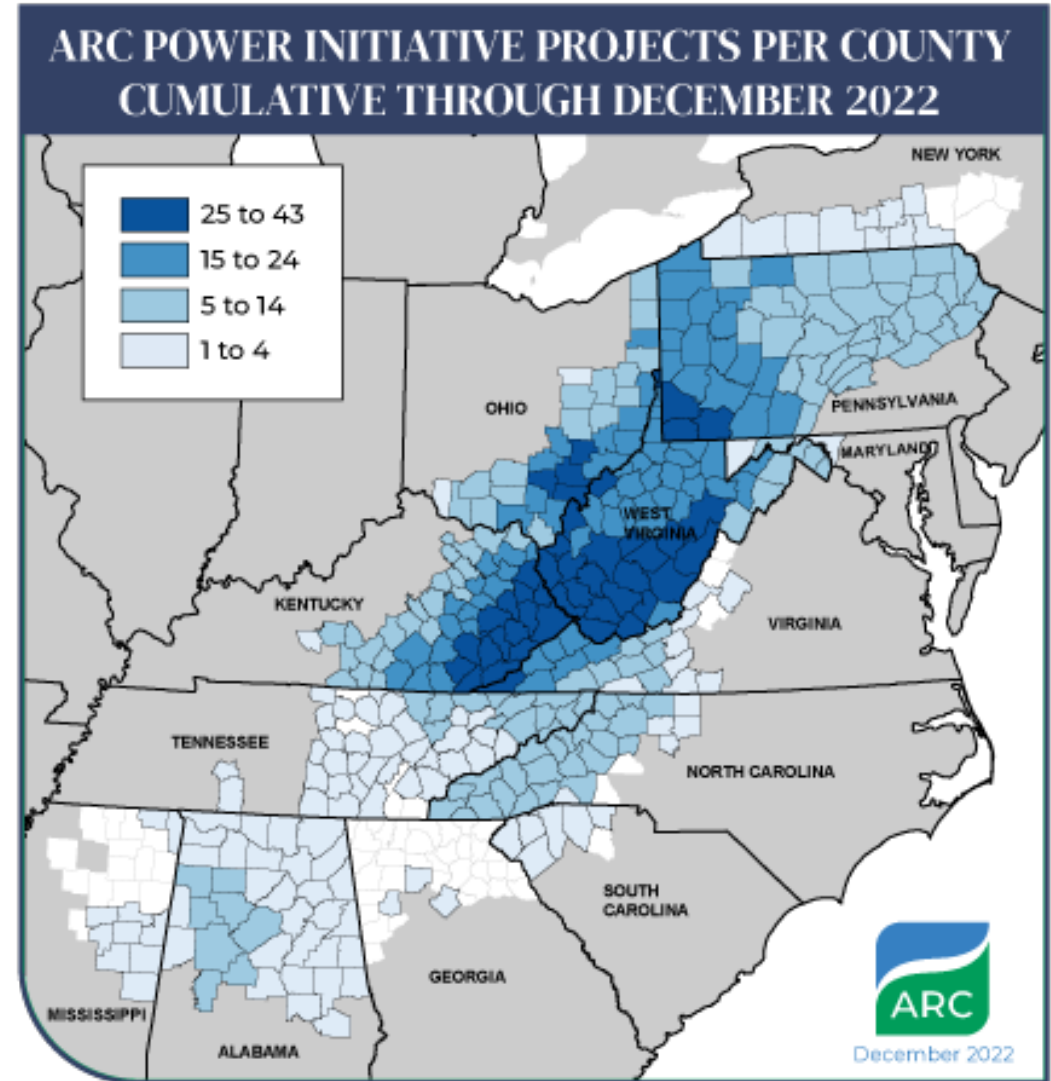


- **POWER** (Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce Revitalization)
- **INSPIRE** (Investments Supporting Partnerships in Recovery Ecosystems)
- **ARISE** (Appalachian Regional Initiative for Stronger Economies)
- ***READY Appalachia***
- **Appalachian Leadership Academy**



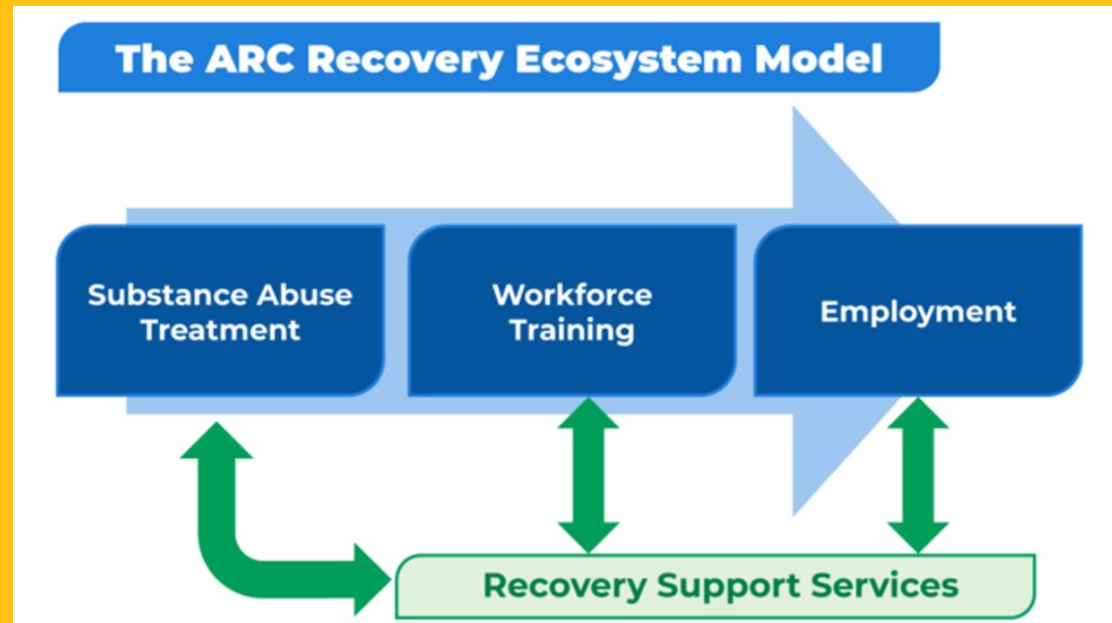
- Special program for coal-impacted communities
- \$65 million available in 2023
- Grants of up to \$1.5 million (\$2.5 million for broadband)
- Application deadline April 19
- www.arc.gov/POWER

- **\$368.1 million** in **449 projects** touching **360 counties**
- Projected to --
 - create or retain more than **39,600 jobs**
 - leverage more than **\$1.57 billion** in additional private investment
 - prepare over **100,000 workers and students** for opportunities in entrepreneurship, broadband development, tourism, and other industry sectors





- Building and strengthening local recovery ecosystems
- \$13 million available in 2023
- Grants of up to \$500,000
- 64 applications seeking ~\$21 million
- www.arc.gov/INSPIRE





- Special emphasis on multistate activities
- Must involve activities and partners in at least two states
- Grants of up to \$10 million for implementation and \$500,000 for planning
- 4-page concept paper is required
- Rolling application process
- Priority for projects that have the potential to transform the local economy
- Applicants must contact the ARC offices in the states to be covered by the grant prior to submitting concept paper
- www.arc.gov/ARISE

Community Capacity Building Initiative



- 4 economic development pillars:
 - Nonprofits (closed)
 - Local Development Districts (just closed)
 - Community Foundations (under development)
 - Local Governments (coming soon)
- Small-group virtual training and match-free grant funding
- www.arc.gov/ready

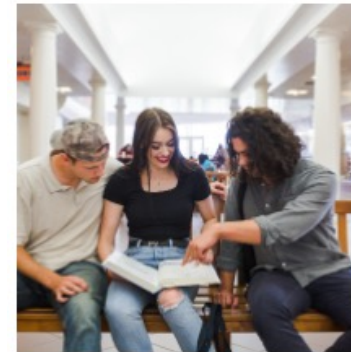
ARC Partnering with Philanthropy



- Direct grants to AFN
- Co-investing in specific projects
- Supporting proposal writing
- Encouraging concept development
- Collaborating on common activities
- Piloting replicable models
- Shaping program design
- Driving a regional conversation

Preparing for a Bright Future

- ✓ Capitalizing on **assets**—physical, social, economic, human
- ✓ Building vibrant **partnerships**—local and regional
- ✓ Crafting a transformational **vision**
- ✓ Creating a message of **hope and resilience**
- ✓ Cultivating **strong leaders**





Appalachian Regional Commission

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