

MID-OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL COUNCIL



MOVRC Monthly Newsletter
<http://www.movrc.org/>
304-422-4993

January 2019

RSVP Receives \$9,100 Grant from DuPont Company



The RSVP program received a \$9,100 grant from the DuPont Company. The grant is part of the Clear into the Future initiative that funds and supports efforts to improve the environment and ecosystems. The grant will be used to build raised gardening beds, rain water collection barrels, drought resistant planting, composting and recycling bins. The senior centers will use RSVP volunteers and partner with local Master Gardeners and FFA members to learn about gardening and assist with any construction. The volunteers are very anxious and excited to begin the planning phases of this project beginning in February with our first planning meeting. We thank DuPont for their generous contribution to the well-being of seniors in our community.

PHOTO: Left to right: Eric Norris, Ryan Birge, Charles Hill, John Tedesco, MariJo Tedesco (RSVP Director), Jay Valvo (DuPont Plant Manger), Chris Shoop and Phil Smith.

Workforce Development Board News

In February, the WDB MOV will be submitting a newsletter to the National Career Pathways Network at their request. Miranda Lough and Kelsie Neal presented in Louisville Kentucky in October. They have been asked to follow up with a newsletter article for the whole network.

The Workforce Development Board is continuing a search for professional mentors.

There will be a Reverse Job Fair in April at West Virginia University at Parkersburg. Registration for both job seekers and employers can be found on the Workforce Development Board website at www.wdmov.com



Community Development News

Appalachian Regional Commission Announces POWER 2019

The [Request for Proposals](#) for POWER 2019 is now available. ARC will begin accepting applications for funding on **February 1, 2019**, and are due April 10, 2019, 5:00 pm (EDT). **Approximately \$45 million will be awarded through a competitive granting process.**

In Fiscal Year 2019, ARC's POWER Initiative will continue focusing on investments that are regional, strategic, transformational, and maximize economic revitalization in Appalachia's coal-impacted communities. Coal impacted communities include impacts from coal fired power plants and vendors that have lost business due to coal mining or power plant closures. POWER investment priorities include:

- Building a competitive workforce;
- Enhancing access to and use of broadband services;
- Fostering entrepreneurial activities; and
- Developing industry clusters in communities; and
- Strengthening substance abuse response.

Eligible funding applicants include:

- Local development districts;
- Indian Tribes or consortium of Indian Tribes;
- States, counties, cities, or other political subdivision of a state, including a special purpose unit of a state or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
- Institutions of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; and
- Public or private non-profit organizations or associations.

Before submitting a funding proposal, potential applicants must contact the appropriate ARC [state program manager](#) for specific guidance pertaining to the eligible use of POWER funds in their state. MOVRC staff will be able to assist with the application.

USDA Launches New Program to Create High-Speed Internet E-Connectivity in Rural America

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering up to \$600 million in loans and grants to help build broadband infrastructure in rural America. Telecommunications companies, rural electric cooperatives and utilities, internet service providers and municipalities may apply for funding through USDA's new ReConnect Program to connect rural areas that currently have insufficient broadband service. Answering the Administration's call to action for rural prosperity, Congress appropriated funds in the fiscal year 2018 budget for this broadband pilot program. USDA Rural Development is the primary agency delivering the program, with assistance from other federal partners.

“High-speed internet e-Connectivity is a necessity, not an amenity, vital for quality of life and economic opportunity, so we hope that today rural communities kick off their rural broadband project planning,” Secretary Perdue said. “Under the leadership of President Trump, USDA has worked to understand the true needs of rural communities facing this challenge so we can be strong partners to create high-speed, reliable broadband e-Connectivity.”

USDA will make available approximately \$200 million for grants (applications due to USDA by April 29), as well as \$200 million for loan and grant combinations (applications due May 29), and \$200 million for low-interest loans (applications due by June 28). For additional information, see page 64315 of the Dec. 14 [Federal Register](#) (PDF, 255 KB).

Projects funded through this initiative must serve communities with fewer than 20,000 people with no broadband service or where service is slower than 10 megabits per second (mbps) download and 1 mbps upload.

Approved projects must create access speeds of at least 25 mbps download and 3 mbps upload. Priority will be awarded for projects that propose to deliver higher-capacity connections to rural homes, businesses and farms. USDA seeks to stretch these funds as far as possible by leveraging existing networks and systems without overbuilding existing services greater than 10/1 mbps.

Evaluation criteria include connecting agricultural production and marketing, e-Commerce, health care and education facilities. The nearest regional training session will be in Washington, PA in February 2019. Webinars are available at www.reconnect.usda.gov For more information please see Community Development Staff.

Senior Companion Program Raffles Quilt



The Senior Companion Program is happy to announce they are raffling off another beautiful quilt created by Debbie Wilfong, Senior Companion Coordinator for the great Buckhannon Area. The winning ticket will be drawn during the Easter Holiday.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Tickets are available at the MOVRC office in the Senior Companion Department.



Foster Grandparent Program News



The Foster Grandparents from Gilmer, Lewis, Nicholas, Tucker, Upshur and Webster Counties were blessed to be able to attend a lunch and Christmas Show at the Gandy Dancer in Elkins, WV on December 15th. G'na Stephens, CEO at the theatre, received an anonymous donation for 20 tickets to be given to Seniors at her discretion. G'na, along with Ralph Bennett (Owner) are huge supporters of the Foster Grandparent Program and approached our program with the generous donation for our FGPs! Eighteen Foster Grandparents attended along with Janet Somerville, Director and Michelle Williams, Program Coordinator. What a true Christmas blessing it was.....

Foster Grandparents from Ritchie and Wood Counties along with Wood County Senior Companions attended an in-service at the MOVRC office on December 13th. Devena Moore, LPN from the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department gave a presentation on Hep A and gave Hep A shots to all that wanted to participate in the clinical program. During the meeting, Foster Grandparent Nona Huxley was honored for her 96th birthday on December 4th. Nona has been a Foster Grandparent for 28 years and has spent her service years at the Appalachian Head Start Program in Parkersburg, WV. Nona is a true inspiration to all.

HAPPY



BIRTHDAY

ESRI & MOVRC Partner Together

Saving Your Organization Time & Money Through Location Intelligence

Have you wondered, “Where do most of our water line breaks occur?”, “Where are dilapidated structures within the municipality worst and what is their condition?” or “What are the primary complaints we have received this month and how can we find a way to be proactive against problems, instead of reactive?”

These are the type of questions many organizations ask, however when they try to find the answer it takes so long to gather information it might not be accurate.

ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) and MOVRC Region 5 are partnering together to present the benefits of bringing modern workflow technology to the communities in West Virginia. ESRI has been working very closely with communities in West Virginia ranging from small towns, such as Summersville to larger complex cities such as Charleston.

Technology can be very expensive, however ESRI and Region 5 are working together to create a unique program that can help the initial investment of location intelligence that has already been implemented in other organizations throughout the state.

- MOVRC has an opportunity to hold a regional license for ESRI which would in turn allow sub users around our region at a much more economical entry point price and annual fees.
- One great piece of the ESRI program is that an application on a smart phone can be used in place of a typically \$5000 GPS handheld device. This allows multiple employees and segments of government to utilize and improve the output of your GIS experience. Training and database set up would be provided by ESRI.
- More and more aspects of local government interaction with constituents and customers is moving online. ESRI capabilities will allow better citizen interaction and allow more information to be real time updated on your website. What was in a file drawer can be web based and readily accessible.
- ESRI is an international supplier of geographic information software (GIS), web GIS and geodatabase management applications. Founded in 1969 and headquartered in Redlands, California, ESRI has an over 43% market share of worldwide GIS software.

West Virginia organizations that have modernized their workflow include, but are not limited to: Public Works, Public Safety, Planning and Zoning, Code Enforcement, Citizen Engagement, Fighting Dilapidated Structures, Fighting the Opioid Epidemic, Managing all assets within your municipality (including live time stamped results), Grant Proposals, Managing Elections, Water and Sewer Management

