



**OACHE**

## Increasing Educational Attainment *in* Ohio Appalachia



...INSPIRE

P-16

...EDUCATE

COLLEGE ACCESS



...ENGAGE

ADULT LEARNERS



# Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education

## Our Mission

To increase the educational attainment of the Appalachian region of Ohio.

## OACHE Scope of Services

- Provides service to public K-12 schools and the eleven public colleges and universities in the OACHE consortium to promote college access and success among the citizens of the region.
- Focuses its attention on future access efforts that address the needs of the region.
- Functions as a center for data and information regarding the educational, economic, and demographic conditions of the region.
- Serves as a liaison between the higher education institutions and the public schools, the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, members of the General Assembly, the Governor's Office of Appalachia, the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and other agencies, toward the mission of increasing college access and success.

The 2008 OACHE Annual Report summarizes outstanding accomplishments which have marked this past year, a memorable one for the Appalachian region. The current challenges remain as daunting as those that lead Bob Evans and Wayne White to help form this unique Appalachian education access organization. This year, OACHE is confident in claiming the following accomplishments:

- **8,000+** K-12 students have received direct college access services from the OACHE public school grants
- **28,000+** students received direct educational access services targeting higher education enrollment through the OACHE College Access Coordinators
- **1,300+** adults have received assistance in enrolling in higher education through the OACHE TRiO Educational Opportunity Center
- **580** students received scholarship funds through the SOACDF educational assistance program

Clearly, progress is being made toward the mission of increasing the higher educational attainment rate for Ohio Appalachia. OACHE recognizes that the college access collaborative activities impact the students, parents, public schools, higher education institutions, community and civic groups. The impact of those organizational events is experienced well beyond the reported numbers. The work of the OACHE continues to expand into collaborative partnerships and networks that the founders could hardly imagine. As their vision continues to guide OACHE, we recognize the need for increased effort, streamlined utilization of resources, and a renewed commitment to make postsecondary education a reality and available to ALL Appalachians.



**Brenda S. Haas, Ed.D.**  
*OACHE Executive Director*

## 2007–09 Access Projects

The OACHE has continued to monitor and support the eighteen K–12 schools currently receiving OACHE Access Project grant funding. Year-end reports indicated an average college-going rate of approximately 64 percent. Coordinators presented successful college-access activities during gallery sessions at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual OACHE Conference in October 2008.

The public school mentors are non-paid personnel dedicated to making a difference in the lives of their students. Past recipients of the OACHE funds are recruited as mentors to the new grantee project coordinators as they begin working with the OACHE college access program.

Connecting the educational goals to the student career pathway is crucial to our work. Some of these OACHE activities include:

*OACHE provides OCIS to partner schools through OCAN. Training on OCIS available to schools as needed.*

*Networked with schools in the region using Kuder Career Software (funded 4 counties).*

*Supported various career and college fairs at local high schools (Vinton County CSI-Career Search Investigate) and at local college sites (Rio Grande Community College, Kent State Columbiana County, Southern State CC, Washington State Community College, Jefferson Community College and Shawnee State University).*

OACHE promotes summer enrichment camps. Rio Grande CC sponsored a Financial Camp to encourage students to think about a career in the financial world of work. Hocking College offers a week long campus camp for students (first generation) to engage in a career interest. These exceptional camps allow students to experience college majors while having the experience of living in a dorm.



**Athens County**

Trimble High School  
Glouster OH

**Brown County**

Eastern High School  
Sardinia OH

**Columbiana County**

East Liverpool HS  
East Liverpool OH

Wellsville High School  
Wellsville OH

**Coshocton County**

Central Elementary  
School  
Coshocton OH

**Gallia County**

River Valley HS  
Cheshire OH

**Highland County**

Whiteoak High School  
Mowrystown OH

**Holmes County**

West Holmes HS  
Millersburg OH

**Jackson County**

Oak Hill High School  
Oak Hill OH

**Jefferson County**

Buckeye Local HS  
Rayland OH

Northwest Elementary  
School  
Rayland OH

**Lawrence County**

Symmes Valley HS  
Willow Wood OH

**Perry County**

Miller High School  
Corning OH

**Scioto County**

East High School  
Sciotoville

South Webster HS  
South Webster OH

Valley High School  
Lucasville OH

**Vinton County**

Vinton County HS  
McArthur OH

**Washington County**

Waterford High School  
Waterford OH

## Showcase of Ideas That Work

### South Webster High School

South Webster High School’s top ten college access activities include increasing the number of students taking the ACT, development of a “Journey to College” class for seniors, increasing the number of students taking AP online classes, “Planting the Seed” night for parents of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders, various college visits, an annual college day where SWHS alumni are invited back to discuss their college experiences, establishment of a scholarship fund, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade pennant project, changing the philosophy of all staff to emphasize that all students are “college material,” and strengthening the senior year (there is no general tract).

Some results of their activities include an ACT composite scores increase of 2.3 points in 8 years, fewer remedial coursework by students once they start college, and an increase of scholarship money awarded to students.

### Carrollton High School

Carrollton High School in Carroll County continues to maintain several college access activities. While not currently receiving funds from OACHE, Carrollton began many activities with OACHE funding which are still being implemented at their school. The college access activities have raised awareness in the school and community and has resulted in a local organization becoming very involved with many of the events, even donating funds to support activities.

Some of Carrollton’s activities are career expositions for sophomores to research careers and display their research, junior pennant designs, senior campus visits, graduate day for alumni to return to speak about their college experience, ACT/SAT prep courses, financial aid awareness night for parents, senior recognition (seniors’ pictures and college aspirations are displayed in a prominent location), and scholarship assemblies which recognize the scholarship recipients and the community donors.



*A more complete listing of Ideas That Work can be found on the OACHE website.*

## STEM Regional Meetings and Grant Proposals

More than 100 people from across Appalachian Ohio convened in three discussions about the region's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education capacity, as well as STEM-related jobs and economic growth potential.

One meeting was convened in each of Appalachian Ohio's three State Economic Development Regions (7, 10, and 11). Representatives from K12, higher education, Ohio STEM Learning Network, South East Ohio Center for Excellence in Math and Science (SEOCEMS), Project WIRED, IT Alliance for Appalachian Ohio (ITAAO), and businesses were invited to discuss how to move Appalachian Ohio forward in STEM education and economic development. The group also discussed next steps – one of which could include seeking public and private resources for the development of high-impact STEM education initiatives.

Following those meetings, the OACHE assisted each region in developing a proposal for a K–8 STEM Program of Excellence Grant from Ohio's Partnership for Continued Learning. These proposals included plans for intensive professional development, stronger K-12/college alignment, and activities to heighten students' interest in STEM careers. The

Region 7 and 10 proposals received funding of nearly \$400,000.

## P–16 Councils

With funding support from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), the OACHE assisted in the creation of emerging rural P–16 Councils in Athens, Meigs, and Lawrence/Scioto counties. These groups, including representatives from K–12 and college, business, public agencies and community organizations, will be working to identify and remedy gaps in the educational “pipeline” to help more

youth and adults progress successfully through the educational system and prepare them for good-paying careers. Support for these emerging P–16 Councils will continue in 2009.



**Belmont Technical College**  
EXCEL: Examining College for Excellence in Life  
(Serving Harrison, Belmont and Monroe Counties)  
St. Clairsville OH

**Hocking College**  
OACHE: Access to Technology Project  
(Serving Athens, Hocking, Perry, Ross, and Vinton Counties)  
Nelsonville OH

**Jefferson Community College**  
KEYS: Keeping Education in Your Sight  
(Serving Jefferson County)  
Steubenville OH

**Kent State University-East Liverpool & Salem**  
ASPIRE to Success  
(Serving Columbiana, Jefferson & Carroll Counties)  
East Liverpool OH

**Ohio University – Eastern**  
CONTACT: Creating Opportunities Necessary to Access College Today  
(Serving Monroe County)  
St Clairsville OH

**Rio Grande Community College**  
Project CHAMP  
(Serving Gallia, Jackson, Meigs and Vinton Counties)  
Rio Grande OH

**Shawnee State University**  
BEAR CUBS  
(Serving Scioto and Pike Counties)  
Portsmouth OH

**Southern State Community College**  
Appalachian Outreach Project  
(Serving Adams, Brown and Highland Counties)  
Hillsboro OH

**Washington State Community College**  
College Material ... Yes, You Are!  
(Serving Morgan and Washington Counties)  
Marietta OH

**Zane State College**  
OACHE Program  
(Serving Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Perry and Noble Counties)  
Zanesville OH

Coming in 2009:  
Central Ohio Technical College - Coshocton

## Hocking College Summer Experience Camp

Hocking College and OACHE sponsor a week-long summer camp, the Summer Experience Camp. Summer Experience Camp prepares high school students for their collegiate future by having them live a fun, intense and educational week on Hocking College's campus.

Campers select the session of their choice, and each day they receive instruction from professional college faculty. Campers also apply their skills to hands-on projects that prove to be enlightening, challenging and entertaining.

While the days are packed with academic challenges, evenings are filled with activities ranging from pool parties, barbecues and bonfires to high ropes challenges and night hikes.

This year's camp was also the focus of a documentary of three of the campers. Each camper featured had their camp experiences documented, and they had the opportunity to express their thoughts and how their future direction and aspirations were influenced by what they learned during the camp.

The documentary was funded by an "Invest in Success" grant from the Ohio College Access Network (OCAN). Replication of the program is planned for 2009.

The video can be seen on the OACHE website under "Ideas That Work" or on OACHE's YouTube channel at [youtube.com/ohioappalachia](http://youtube.com/ohioappalachia).



## Monroe County High School Seniors Attend “A Day in the Life...”

Through an OACHE-funded program, Monroe County high school seniors visited Ohio University Eastern Campus to experience “A Day in the Life.” Seniors from Swiss Hills Career Center, Beallsville High School and River High School visited to see what it would be like to be a college student, and what their lives may be like ten years from now.

### College Application Week

Adapting an idea from the OACHE replication program in North Carolina, the OACHE has launched a new initiative to ensure that every high-school senior applies to at least one college.

The OACHE access program coordinators helped high school seniors apply to college. Special focus was placed on first-generation and students who might not otherwise apply to college.

By the end of 2008, approximately 280 seniors from eight schools had participated with the support of Jefferson Community College, Kent State East Liverpool and Southern State Community College. More College Application Week activities are planned for 2009.

Students were able to tour the campus, learn about financial-aid opportunities, and attend a college class. “It’s fun going to different colleges to see how different they are and what fits you better,” said Swiss Hills Career Center senior Christa Ayers.

All students also participated in a reality exercise to see what life might be like when they are 28 years old.

It was a reality check for students about the impact of their education and life choices on their expenses and standard of living. “One student who said he was going to have seven children quickly ran out of money,” said Jennifer Kellner, the coordinator of the event.

## OACHE TRiO Educational Opportunity Center

The OACHE TRiO Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) met its target of 1,300 adults served in 2008. In addition, coordinators received training in use of the Web-based Ohio Benefit Bank, which helps individuals find all the public benefits for which they qualify (e.g., food stamps, HEAP, child care) and fills out their applications, complete with instructions for submittal.

The OACHE has operated an EOC program since 1994, offering services such as academic advice, personal counseling, and career workshops; information on postsecondary education opportunities and student financial assistance; help in completing applications for college admissions, testing, and financial aid; coordination with nearby postsecondary institutions; media activities designed to involve and acquaint the community with higher education opportunities; tutoring; and mentoring.

The goal of the EOC program is to increase the number of adult participants who enroll in postsecondary education institutions.

### What is the EOC?

The OACHE's EOC is a comprehensive counseling and referral program providing **FREE** academic, vocational, career and financial aid information to adults in the Ohio Appalachian region who are age 19 and above, are low-income, and/or first generation (parents have not earned a college degree).

EOC coordinators assist in the process of getting students enrolled in a postsecondary school or program of their choice.



The EOC is a federally funded TRiO program. The EOC provides equal educational opportunity services regardless of sex, age, parental status, race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or disability as required under Title VI, VII, IX, and Section 504.

## SOACDF Tobacco Educational Assistance Program

The OACHE continues to administer an educational assistance program for growers and quota owners of burley tobacco and their dependents, on behalf of the Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation.

Eligible applicants seeking Associates, Bachelors, Masters or other professional degrees may receive up to \$3,000 for tuition, room and board, lab fees and books. Eligible applicants taking coursework toward a non-degree certification, licensure, or training program may receive up to a maximum of \$1,000 with a class limit of one for the 2008-09 academic year. The total assistance provided for any family may not exceed \$10,000 for the academic year.

At the end of the academic year funding cycle on June 30, 2008, a total of \$1,304,998 has been awarded to 580 applicants.

### OACHE on the Internet

In 2008, the OACHE web site had an average of 30,600 hits per month. Which day of the week were most visitors viewing the OACHE website? Wednesday averaged the most hits.

As for the month with the most hits, October earns that honor, most likely due to OACHE's annual conference being held in October.



## Ohio Benefit Bank

The Ohio Benefit Bank (OBB) is a web-based computer program to connect low and moderate-income Ohioans with access to work supports such as tax credits and public benefits. In 2008, OACHE and EOC staff were trained to assist Ohio residents in using the Benefit Bank. Free filing of basic income taxes and voter registration are included, and a new interface is planned to help complete the FAFSA. One site received an OBB grant for a computer, printer and supplies to help provide a location for residents to access the online service.

## Access and Success in Appalachian Ohio

The OACHE and collaborative partners is working with the Voinovich School at Ohio University to replicate the 1992 *Access* study of college access in Appalachian Ohio. The study is being conducted in five stages, each culminating in a report. The third report, completed in fall 2008, is available on the OACHE website.

This project is motivated by the need to compile more comprehensive and current data that organizations can use to develop effective programming that will help students from Appalachian Ohio access and complete a postsecondary program. The data necessary to support program decisions include the aspirations, preparation, and decisions of high school students related to higher education, as well as the barriers they face related to college access and success.

The current project replicates portions of the previous study, updates the original data, and collects additional primary information on degree completion and entry into the workforce.

### What Appalachian Ohio high school students say about careers, preparation, college location...

#### PREPAREDNESS

*As part of a two-year Appalachian Ohio college access study, 1,145 high school seniors from the class of 2008 were surveyed twice during their senior year of high school. These students attended 25 high schools in 14 Appalachian Ohio Counties. Some findings related to careers, preparation, and college location choice are presented here.*

#### Project sponsors:

Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education

Ohio Board of Regents

Ohio College Access Network

Ohio College Tech Prep

Selected findings from Access and Success-Appalachian Ohio Study. For full reports go to:  
<http://www.oache.org/downloads/index.php> or  
<http://www.voinovichschool.ohio.edu/Publications.aspx>

- A lower % of Appalachian Ohio students take a high school curriculum to prepare them for college than students in the rest of the state.
- Advanced Placement participation is lower in Appalachian Ohio than for the rest of the state.
- Inroads have been made regarding Appalachian Ohio students' self-efficacy. 72 percent of 2008 12<sup>th</sup> grade respondents report that they are educationally prepared for college, compared to 58 percent of the respondents in a similar 1992 survey.
- 70% of the 2008 high school seniors responding reported participating in a college prep or college tech prep curriculum, as compared to 57% of the 1992 seniors surveyed.
- Today's Appalachian high school students want to continue their education after high school. In the 2008 survey, 80% of the respondents planned to enroll in some form of postsecondary education right after high school. This compares to 65% of the 1992 high school survey respondents.
- Overall, high school seniors ranked lack of finances as their biggest problem or difficulty regarding college. Lack of information in terms of college programs and financial aid was also found to be high on the students' list of major problems or difficulties, followed by the desire for an immediate income.



## COLLEGE LOCATION

| Appalachian Ohio High School Seniors Planned Location of College 1992 and 2008 |                         |                         |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Planned location of college  | 2008 High School Sample | 1992 High School Sample |
| Ohio college within 50 miles of home   | 52.7%                   | 30.3%                   |
| Within Ohio but more than 50 miles from home                                   | 22.6%                   | 33.6%                   |
| Out of state   | 16.1%                   | 12.4%                   |
| Unsure   | 8.4%                    | 23.2%                   |

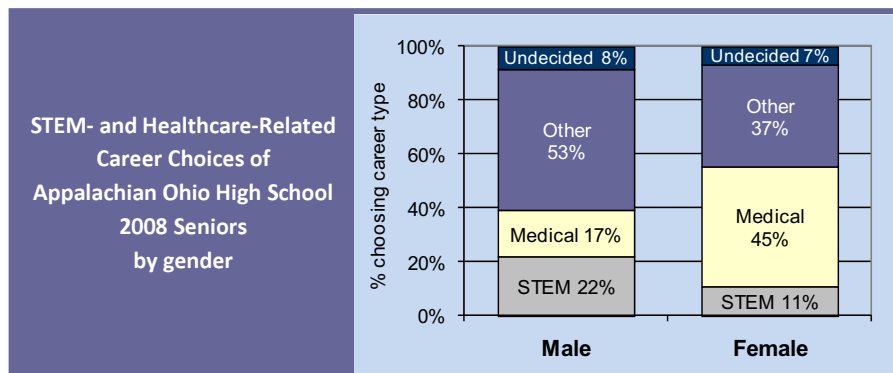
Note: Totals do not equal 100% for either sample because the "foreign country" category is not listed. Less than half a percent of both samples indicated plans to study abroad.

\*Based on 2008 Spring survey

## OCCUPATION/CAREER CHOICE

| 2008 Appalachian Ohio High School Seniors Planned Occupation Career Choice |                 |       |         |  |                 |       |         |  |
|--|-----------------|-------|---------|--|-----------------|-------|---------|--|
| Occupation Career Choice   | All Respondents | Males | Females | Occupation Career Choice               | All Respondents | Males | Females |  |
| nursing/ancillary medicine/allied health                                   | 27.9%           | 15.0% | 38.7%   | engineering                            | 3.8%            | 7.6%  | 0.7%    |  |
| education  | 9.4%            | 6.2%  | 11.9%   | psychology/sociology/ social work      | 3.6%            | 1.8%  | 5.0%    |  |
| business   | 9.2%            | 11.2% | 7.6%    | medicine - physician, medical research | 3.5%            | 1.8%  | 5.0%    |  |
| undecided  | 8.1%            | 8.8%  | 7.3%    | communication                          | 2.2%            | 2.6%  | 1.8%    |  |
| other/misc   | 8.1%            | 8.4%  | 7.9%    | law - attorney/paralegal               | 2.1%            | 1.4%  | 2.6%    |  |
| law enforcement/criminal justice/public safety                             | 4.4%            | 7.0%  | 2.3%    | military                               | 2.0%            | 3.8%  | 0.5%    |  |
| skilled hard trades - mechanic, carpentry, welding                         | 4.4%            | 9.8%  | 0.0%    | veterinary medicine/ vet tech          | 1.9%            | 0.4%  | 3.1%    |  |
| computer science/ information technology                                   | 4.1%            | 6.8%  | 2.0%    | agriculture                            | 1.0%            | 1.8%  | 0.3%    |  |
| sciences   | 3.9%            | 5.0%  | 3.0%    | architect                              | 0.5%            | 0.8%  | 0.3%    |  |

Note: STEM-related occupations are not delineated here. Several occupational categories listed here contain STEM-related careers.  
 \* Based on 2008 Spring survey. (Respondent n=1,145 students in 25 high schools.)



## Ohio College Access Network (OCAN)

The OACHE (founded in 1993) is a member of OCAN, a statewide coordinating body for college access programs that was founded in 1999 by KnowledgeWorks Foundation, in collaboration with the Ohio Board of Regents and Ohio Department of Education. In addition to current projects like *Invest in Success* and *KnowHow2Go*, OACHE has submitted an *Ohio Can!* grant in partnership with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio and is collaborating with OCAN and others on updating the *Access and Success* study.

**Invest in Success for Scholarships**—The OACHE received a grant from OCAN to promote and expand scholarships through the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio.

**Invest in Success for Summer Experience Camps**—The OACHE assisted its coordinator at Hocking College in securing an Invest in Success grant from OCAN to replicate Hocking College’s highly successful Summer Experience Camps at other OACHE member institutions.

**KnowHow2Go**—The OACHE has been working with schools in Jackson County, Ohio, to implement the KnowHow2GoOhio Campaign. KnowHow2GoOhio is a multimedia and grassroots campaign that helps low-income and first-generation students in grades 8-10 learn the steps to take to go to college. Informative and imaginative tools designed to attract the interest of Ohio’s young people include television, radio, outdoor and interactive public service advertising (PSA).

In addition to T-shirt design contests, the OACHE collaborated with Hocking College’s Summer Experience Camp, using area high-school students to help create two videos based on the KnowHow2Go message. Students at Hocking College’s Summer Experience Camp were guided through the entire video creation process, from conceptualization to filming, by RAVE, an Athens-based video production and graphic design firm. The videos, designed as short Public Service Announcements (PSAs), expand upon two of the four KnowHow2Go steps: Find the Right Fit and Put Your Hands on Some Cash. OACHE is also in the process of completing a barn design project based on the KnowHow2Go theme.

The KnowHow2Go initiative is co-sponsored by the American Council on Education, the Ad Council and Lumina Foundation for Education.

**College Advantage**—As part of the KnowHow2Go program, OACHE partnered with the Ohio Tuition Trust Authority to offer a College Advantage 529 savings plan to students. A T-shirt design contest was held in Oak Hill High School and Wellston High School. The winner from each school received a \$500 award and

## Ohio University College of Education and Ohio Tech Prep

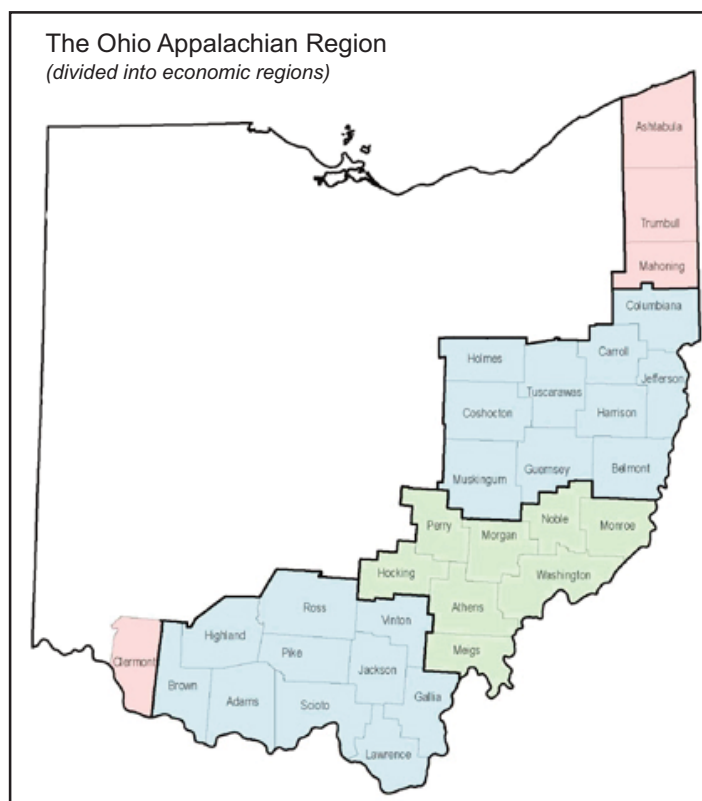
The OACHE partnered with Ohio University’s College of Education and the Ohio Tech Prep to offer online Advanced Placement (AP) courses to area students. Ohio University provided an instructor to help facilitate enrollment, textbook loan, test assessment and technical support for the coursework.

Ohio Tech Prep joined OACHE to update the *Access and Success* study. This research is being conducted with additional partnership from the Ohio Board of Regents and the Ohio College Access Network.

## Kids2College

The OACHE executive director was trained on the Kids2College program, a college-awareness program developed by the Sallie Mae Fund.

The Kids2College program is a six-session curriculum primarily presented in the sixth grade classroom that exposes students to the value and availability of higher education. Using the prism of career aspirations to engage younger students, the program culminates with a unique visit to a local college campus. Kids2College uses a partnership model between the school district, a local college(s) or university (ies) and a program coordinator.



## Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)

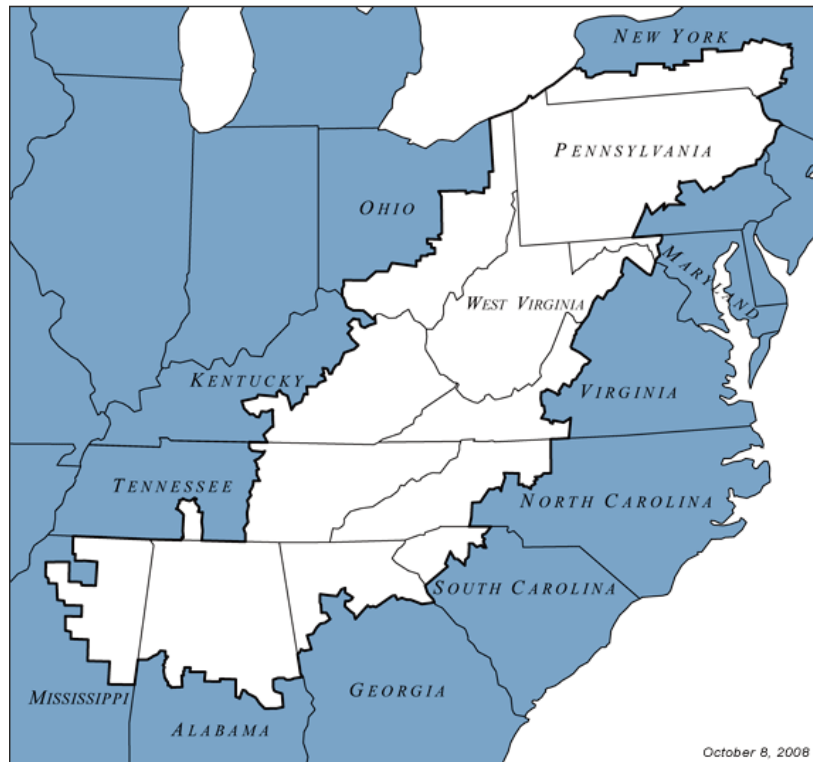
The Appalachian Regional Commission is a federal-state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life.

The OACHE has received funding from ARC for various projects, and in 2008 OACHE helped establish P-16 Councils in distressed counties with funds provided by ARC.

### Appalachian Higher Education Network

In 1998, the ARC began helping establish centers like OACHE in other Appalachian states, collectively called the Appalachian Higher Education (AHE) Network.

*The Appalachian Region*



The OACHE is collaboratively developing a program to engage Appalachian parents in education, sharing other best practices with the replications of OACHE's model in other Appalachian states. The North Carolina program, NCACHE, provided the College Application Fair concept and templates for OACHE replication in Ohio Appalachia.

### Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA)

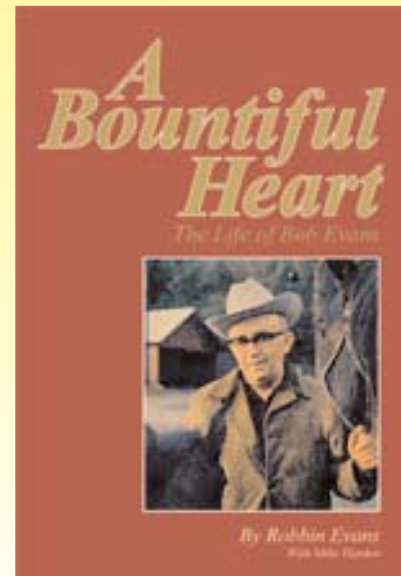
The GOA manages the Ohio Appalachian Development program, coordinates the planning process and sets the direction of ARC funding within the State of Ohio with the three local development districts. The OACHE continues to work closely with the GOA on various projects, most recently STEM-related activities and establishment of P-16 councils.

## Appalachian Task Force

The OACHE is a contributing member of the Appalachian Task Force, a forum for numerous organizations serving Ohio Appalachia and the official citizens advisory group for the region. This organization served as the catalyst for the establishment of the Governor's Office of Appalachia and provides opportunities for different organizations serving the region to discuss issues, resources, and collaborations in an effort to improve the Ohio Appalachian region.

### Biography of Bob Evans Features OACHE: *A Bountiful Heart*

The late Bob Evans left a tremendous legacy of service to Ohio, particularly its rural and Appalachian communities. In 2008, a new book by his daughter Robbin Evans and retired *Columbus Dispatch* columnist Mike Harden not only pays tribute to that legacy but will support the work of one of the organizations he helped create: the Ohio Appalachian Center for Higher Education. In generous recognition of her father's commitment to the OACHE mission, Robbin Evans is donating proceeds from the sale of *A Bountiful Heart* to help more Appalachian Ohio students go to college. The book is available for purchase online at [www.aboutifulheart.com](http://www.aboutifulheart.com).



## Martha Holden Jennings Foundation

The OACHE received a grant to incorporate Appalachian literature into the curriculum. Sessions were offered during the annual OACHE conferences with noted author Jeff Biggers and a collaborative project was conducted with the South Central Ohio Computer Association and Fairland High School in Lawrence County.

## Jesse Stuart Foundation

The OACHE partnered with the Jesse Stuart Foundation and the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation to offer ways to incorporate Appalachian literature into the curriculum. The Jesse Stuart Foundation has provided an on-site bookstore at the 2008 and the 2007 OACHE annual conferences. The partnership allowed OACHE to provide conference participants with copies of *United States of Appalachia* and *The Thread That Runs So True*.

## Annual Conference

Hosted by Washington State Community College in Marietta, Ohio, the OACHE Fifteenth Annual Conference drew more than 250 participants from several states to discuss and share strategies for increasing college access and success. A pre-conference workshop, co-sponsored by *High Schools That Work* and led by Darryl Baynes, provided science teachers with low-cost, engaging strategies for teaching challenging science concepts.

The conference featured two keynote speakers: Dr. Barbara Gellman Danley of the Ohio Board of Regents and Dr. Wendy Erisman of the Institute for Higher Education Policy (IHEP).

Breakout session topics included grant writing, career exploration resources, music and literature, distance learning, building a local community and regional partnership, data analysis and resources, financial aid, engaging parents, and many “Ideas that Work” were presented by the personnel who have conducted successful activities.

In addition to the higher education institutions within the OACHE consortium, the *High Schools that Work* co-sponsored the pre-conference science workshop.

OACHE also received additional support and collaboration from the Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty, the Ohio Learning Network, College Advantage, Kuder, the Wilds, and the Appalachian Task Force.

And, since no trip to the home of the Ohio River Sternwheel Festival is complete without visiting a Sternwheel, after a day of conference sessions the OACHE provided the opportunity for a river cruise aboard the Valley Gem.

### Appalachian Studies Association

In March 2009, the OACHE will assist Shawnee State University in hosting the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Appalachian Studies Conference, the first time this conference is being held in Ohio Appalachia.

The ASA conference highlights the wealth of traditional and contemporary arts, crafts, and music of Appalachia and how they connect the region with the world.



## Foundation for Appalachian Ohio

Brenda Haas and Laura Risler worked with the Foundation for Appalachian Ohio to seek OCAN funding to collaborate more intensively on increasing college access and scholarship resources.

As one outcome of these discussions, the FAO contracted with the OACHE to administer its 2008 Access to Educational Opportunity mini-grant program.



In 2008, Staci Armbrust of Philo, Ohio, continued working as a student employee in the OACHE office. Staci was a 2007 recipient of the Wayne White scholarship through the FAO and a 2007 recipient of the David Stivison scholarship through COAD. She is attending Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio, studying respiratory therapy and health management and plans to graduate with an Associate Degree in spring 2009.

“I was shocked when I found out I received the scholarship,” said Armbrust. “I am really excited to be able to start my future, meet new people, become more independent and learn about my area of study.”

The OACHE also continues to work on awareness of current scholarship opportunities through the Foundation, such as the Wayne F. White Scholarship.

## Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development

The Corporation for Ohio Appalachian Development (COAD) is a private, non-profit community-based organization serving rural, mostly Appalachian counties in eastern and southern Ohio.

Comprised of 17 Community Action Agencies that serve a 30 county area, COAD’s mission is to provide a unified voice and representation for its member agencies and the

constituencies that they serve, primarily low-income families, children and the elderly. Since 1971, COAD has worked to improve the quality of life for all residents of Appalachian Ohio.

The David V. Stivison Appalachian Scholarship program is sponsored in collaboration with the OACHE.

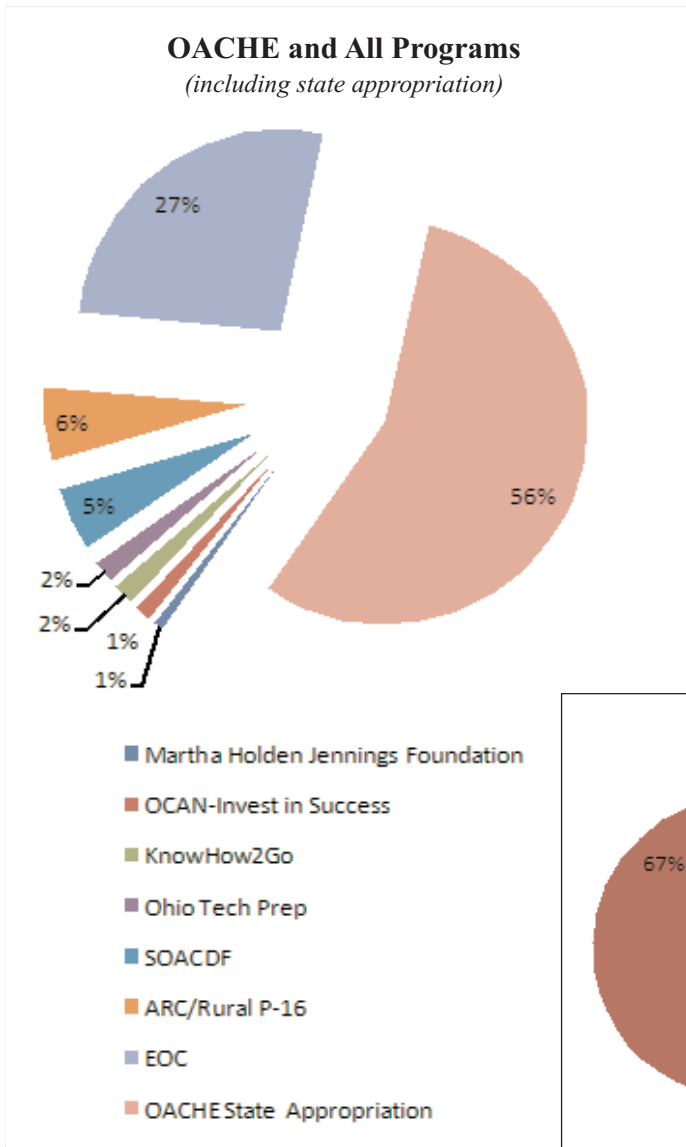
## South Central Ohio Computer Association (SCOCA) and Instructional Technologies of Central Ohio (ITSCO)

The OACHE partnered with SCOCA and ITSCO to offer School 2.0, a year-long program featuring free workshops and learning community to help teachers in Ohio Appalachia learn to use 21st-century Web-based tools (e.g., wikis, podcasts, Google Maps, RSS feeds) and integrate them into the curriculum. Other partners included the Lawrence County Educational Service Center, the Ross-Pike Educational Service Center, the South Central Ohio Educational Service Center, SST Region 15 and High Schools That Work.

# OACHE Operating Budget

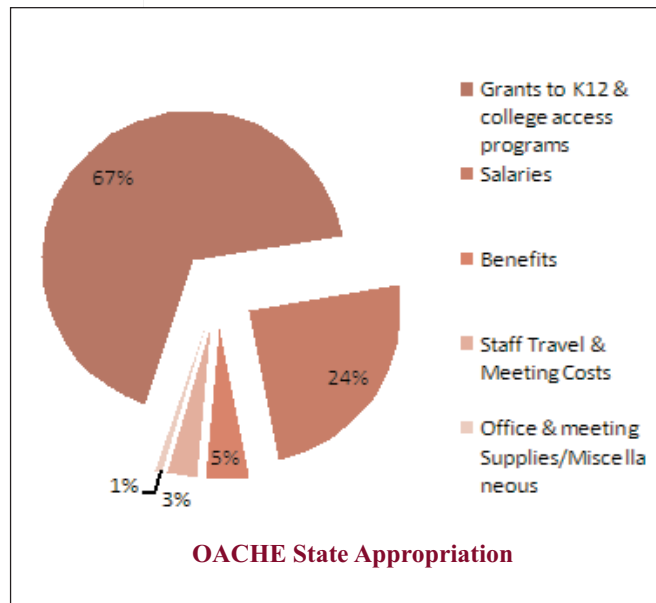
The OACHE is funded through the capital appropriations bill by the Ohio General Assembly. In the 2007-08 fiscal year, the legislature funded OACHE in Am. Sub. H.B. 119 for \$822,645.

The OACHE is codified in Ohio Revised code Section 3333.58.



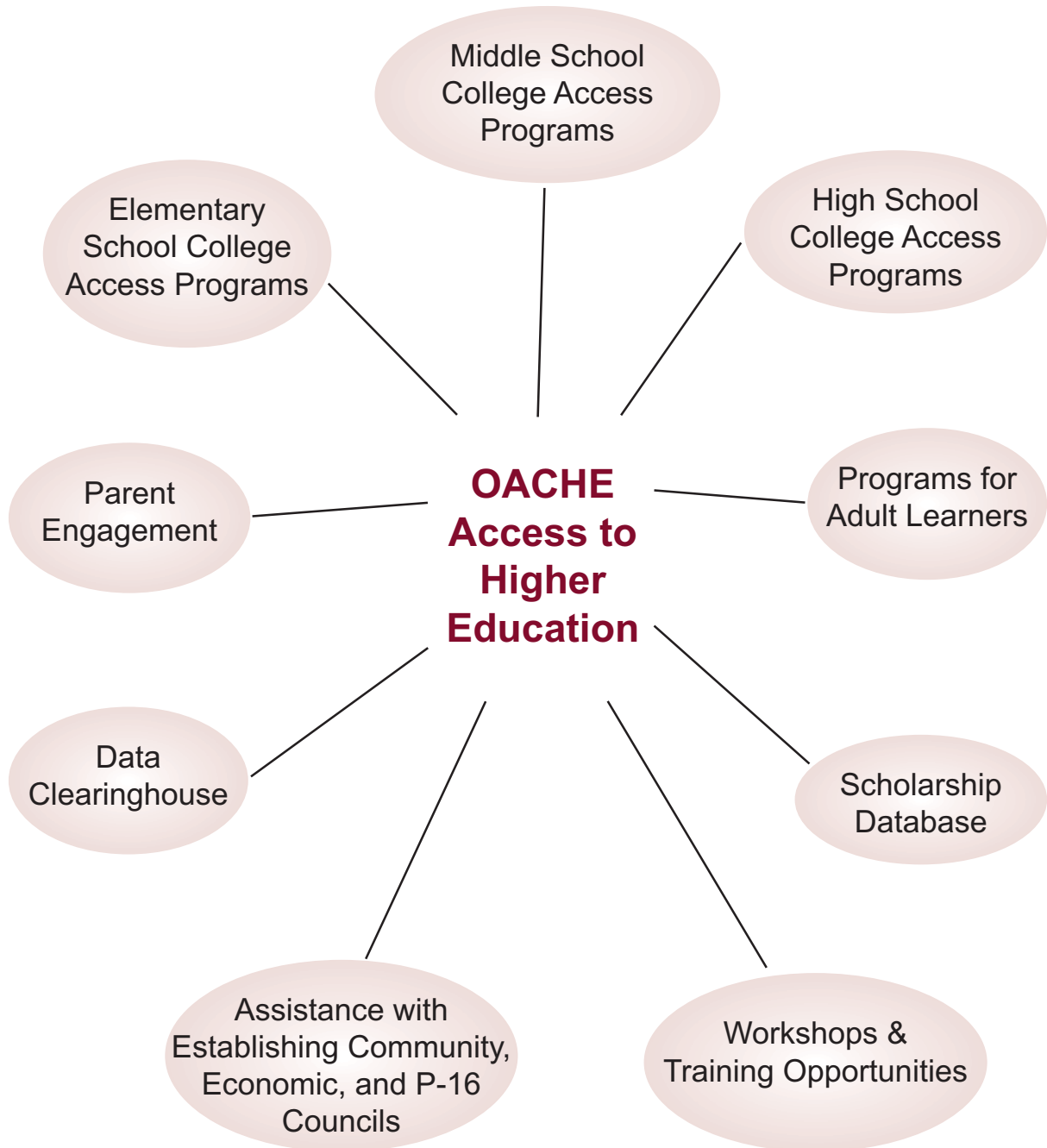
The OACHE has used its state funds from the Ohio General Assembly as leverage to obtain additional grant funds for various projects, all geared towards OACHE's overall mission of increasing the college-going rate in Ohio Appalachia.

In 2008, 67% of OACHE programs are state-funded, and 33% are federally funded, with most programs having some local in-kind support.

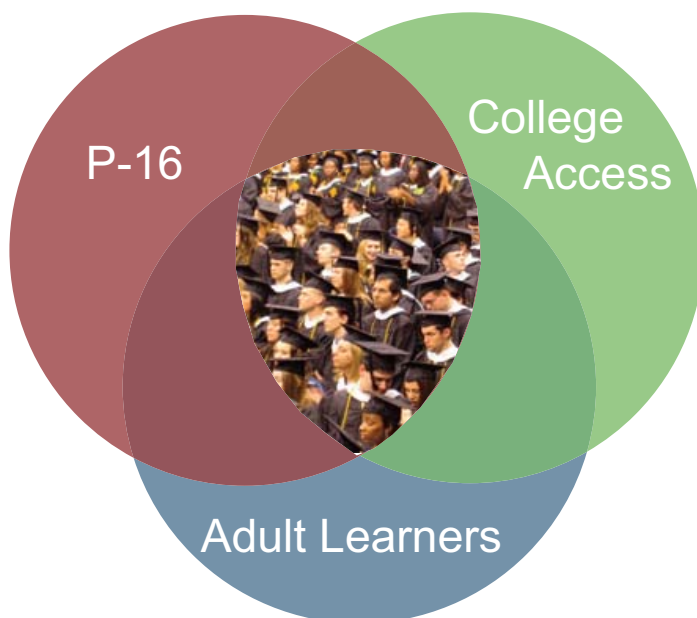


## Where does it all go?

The OACHE funding promotes college access and success among the citizens of the Ohio Appalachian region and serves as a liaison to connect schools, agencies, organizations and communities with each other. The OACHE pursues its overall goal of increasing the educational attainment through various programs and activities:



# IE<sup>2</sup> ... Inspire, Educate, Engage



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