Dear Friends,

Buckeye Hills Regional Council was founded in 1968. As we gather for the April 2018 Semi-Annual Meeting, we reflect on 50 years of serving the southeast Ohio region, while keeping an eye toward the future.

In 2017, our 49th year, we invested time and thought into developing a new name and look for the organization. We created an image that we feel reflects the nature of the work we do in moving the region forward.

Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District became Buckeye Hills Regional Council. We have a diverse population with evolving needs. We’re proud to be able to identify those needs and respond to them. Changing our name won’t change that.

Essentially, we remain focused on doing the work we have always been committed to: improving the socioeconomic conditions of our region. Our Executive Board and the organization’s leadership team and staff have provided direction to move the organization into the future.

In 2018, we celebrate 50 years and reflect on the past as we maintain and continually enhance our vision for an improved quality of life for our future!

Ron Moore
PRESIDENT

Misty Casto
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Revenues

Federal Grants and Awards ........ $3,019,346
State Grants and Awards .......... $1,794,015
Local Funds ......................... $50,701
Contract Income .................. $1,608,370
TOTAL REVENUES .............. $6,472,432

Expenditures

Personnel .......................... $3,010,791
Fringe Benefits .................... $1,207,180
Operations and Other Expenditures ............. $2,154,456
TOTAL EXPENDITURES ....... $6,372,427

Balance ........................... $  100,005

Federal Funding Breakdown

Appalachian Regional Commission ......................... $197,809
Economic Development Administration .................. $104,426
Ohio Department of Aging ................................ $2,610,190
Regional Transportation Programs ..................... $106,921

TOTAL FEDERAL FUNDING ...... $3,019,346

Administrative Revenues and Expenditures

July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Throughout Fiscal Year 2017, Buckeye Hills employed 75 full time staff and 2 part-time staff and received funding from various sources to administer and support many programs across the region. Buckeye Hills undergoes annual fiscal audits by a certified public accounting firm as well as programmatic audits by various funding agencies to verify that operating policies and procedures are in compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed by each program.
Our Range of Services:

**AGING & DISABILITY**
In partnership with The Ohio Department of Aging, Buckeye Hills serves as the lead agency for the Southeast Ohio Aging & Disability Resource Network (ADRN). People of all ages, disabilities, and income levels can turn to Buckeye Hills for practical information on a full range of long-term care service and support options.

**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Buckeye Hills works with state, regional and federal partners to help secure investments that have a positive impact on local communities and the regional economy by creating and retaining jobs, enhancing infrastructure assets, and supporting workforce development.

**MAPPING & DATA**
Buckeye Hills maintains an award-winning Geographic Information System (GIS) program. GIS is a critical service to the region as communities make policy and community & economic development planning decisions. We also offer a small community mapping program.

**POPULATION HEALTH**
In 2017, Buckeye Hills launched its Population Health Division with programs that focus on a person’s ability to adapt to or manage life’s changes and challenges. It consists of three components including health outcomes, patterns of health determinants, and evidence-based interventions.

**TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**
In partnership with The Ohio Department of Transportation, Buckeye Hills serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) for the 8-county region.

**WORKING COOPERATIVELY**

**to improve our region**
OhioHealth received a $250,000 grant from the Ohio Development Services Agency through the Governor’s Office of Appalachia (GOA) to develop its $1.7 million mobile mammography unit.

In Ohio, cancer death rates and late-stage incidence rates are higher than the national average, and women in rural Appalachian Ohio face an increased risk of dying from breast cancer. The unit is the first Athens-County-based program providing access to advanced screening in underserved areas in the region.

The unit will be based at the Nelsonville Health Center for weekly services and travel to major community events to enhance awareness through mammogram screenings.

Athens Opens Roundabout & Commercial Access Road (N. 1804 WAY)

The $2.1 million Stimson Avenue roundabout provides greater access to the city of Athens via US 33 & 50. With the redevelopment of commercial areas and the need for tractor-trailer access, Buckeye Hills, ODOT District 10 and the Athens Economic Development Council worked to secure funding.

“We were pleased that the project received $500,000 in access road funding through ARC (the Appalachian Regional Commission),” said Bret Allphin, Buckeye Hills Development Director. Allphin added that the region is gaining additional roundabouts as they are considered state-of-the-art in protecting the health, safety and welfare of the traveling public and in moving freight.

Leaders in Athens are thrilled to see motorists safely entering and exiting the city through a new roundabout. Commercial traffic can safely access commercial areas, while cyclists and pedestrians make use of the shared use paths and sidewalks.

Below Celebrating the Athens roundabout and commercial access road (aptly named North 1804 Way, in honor of the founding year of the project’s largest contributor, Ohio University), from left are: Bret Allphin, Buckeye Hills Development Director; Fred Vogel of the Ohio Department of Transportation’s Division of Jobs and Commerce; Athens Mayor and Buckeye Hills Executive Committee Member Steve Patterson; and Julia Hinten from the Ohio Development Services Agency.

2017 activities

TOTAL COSTS FOR PROJECTS COMPLETED OVER THE PAST YEAR WERE APPROXIMATELY $50 million with local communities and private business leveraging $19.5 million (39%) against the $30.8 million (61%) provided through state and federal funding resources.

Pictured Above from left to right • Melissa Zoller, Buckeye Hills Development Specialist III; Lenny Eliason, Buckeye Hills Vice President and Athens County Commissioner; Bret Allphin, Buckeye Hills Development Director; Jason Wilson, Governor’s Office of Appalachia Director; and Julia Hinten, Ohio Development Services Agency.
In the heart of downtown Marietta, Ohio, residents gather at the O’Neill multi-purpose center. They come for meals, activities, classes, arts and entertainment and more. Caregivers rely on the center to care for loved ones through its adult day program. It’s one of over 10,000 senior centers that serve more than one million older adults every day across America. With support from a $24,200 grant from the Governor’s Office of Appalachia, the O’Neill Center replaced its 40-year old roof that’s as old as the facility.

Buckeye Hills administered $16,798,914 in aging program services in the 2017 calendar year with local communities leveraging $573,055 against the $16,225,971 provided through state and federal funding sources.

› This total includes local match funds of $573,055 allocated by service providers for Older American Act services only; Medicaid waiver services require no local matching funds.
Village of Crooksville Water System Improvement Breaks Ground

On a beautiful late summer day in Perry County, Ohio, many gathered to celebrate the collaboration that made possible a $5.9 million water system improvement project for the Village of Crooksville. Mayor Fred Redfern thanked everyone who partnered. The project includes a $250,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (Federal Area Development program).

Ohio’s Home Choice Program Helps Individuals Transition from Long-Term Care Facilities

Diane Murray is happy to be back at her home after spending months in a Marietta-area nursing home. Administered locally through The Buckeye Hills Aging & Disability Division, Home Choice provided Diane with the resources and support to return home. “Home Choice allowed me to come home and live my life again,” said Diane. “Being home is way better than a nursing facility — you can’t beat it! I can eat my own food and set my own hours. If it wasn’t for this program, I would still be in the nursing home.”

As a retiree of Washington State Community College where she spent 25 years as the Executive Assistant to the President, Diane added that if it wasn’t for the staff at Buckeye Hills, she wouldn’t have known how to do it on her own. Now back at her home, she enjoys her privacy and the freedom to come and go on her own.

Once individuals are in long-term care facilities, it is difficult for them to move back into the community because they do not have access to services and supports necessary for daily living. Buckeye Hills Transition Coordinators will help them plan and arrange for services and supports they will need while relocating from an institution to the community.

Providing Home-and-Community-Based Services

PASSPORT consumer, Ralph Griffith, shown center, credits his Interim Home Health Nurse Kira Brooks, LPN (shown at left) and the Buckeye Hills Home Modification program coordinator, Joe Gage (shown at right), for helping keep him at home, where he prefers to be. Ralph explained that he was headed for a nursing home before he learned of programs that could help support him at home.

“We were able to coordinate Ralph’s new covered handicap accessible deck with slip resistance to the entrance of his home with support from PASSPORT and the Ohio Housing Trust Fund programs,” said Buckeye Hills Home Modification program coordinator, Joe Gage. He added that the contractor was Debbie Streight, one of the only female contractors in the region. “She is very knowledgeable when it comes to ways to best address handicap accessibility issues, and is always straightforward with the consumer in sharing what work will be done.

In 2017, PASSPORT empowered 1,385 residents in Buckeye Hills’ eight-county region to remain at home for a fraction of the cost of nursing home placement.

“Most seniors we encounter prefer to stay in their own homes, in the communities they know and love,” said Aging & Disability Director Jennifer Westfall. “Before Medicaid waiver programs, older adults who needed long-term care would eventually be in nursing facilities. The PASSPORT program helps Medicaid-eligible seniors, like Ralph, get the services and support needed to stay at home, all the while saving taxpayer dollars.”

“Most seniors we encounter prefer to stay in their own homes, in the communities they know and love,” — JENNIFER WESTFALL, AGING & DISABILITY DIRECTOR

Above Left to Right • Buckeye Hills Home Care Director Dawn Weber, LSW, LNHA, with n4a Executive Director Sandy Markwood and Buckeye Hills Aging & Disability Director Jennifer Westfall at the n4a Advocacy conference. The Ohio and National Associations of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) advocate for seniors in Ohio and across the nation.

Above • Through support from Buckeye Hills and Ohio’s Home Choice and PASSPORT programs, Diane Murray (seated) was able to move home after a long stay in a nursing facility.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 projects</strong></td>
<td><strong>190 jobs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CDBG WASHINGTON COUNTY</td>
<td>PEST CONTROL</td>
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<td><strong>6 clients</strong></td>
<td><strong>258 hours</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HOME CHOICE TRANSITIONS</td>
<td>LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN VOLUNTEER</td>
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<td><strong>8 projects</strong></td>
<td><strong>762 units</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>CLEAN OHIO CONSERVATION FUND</td>
<td>EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM EQUIPMENT</td>
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<td><strong>996 hours</strong></td>
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<td>APPALACHIAN PROJECTS</td>
<td>LEGAL ASSISTANCE</td>
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<td><strong>31 projects</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,255 Assessments</strong></td>
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<td>SCIPT/ITTP (Ohio Public Works)</td>
<td>LONG-TERM CARE</td>
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<td><strong>35 clients</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,100 hours</strong></td>
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<td>CAREGIVER PROGRAM</td>
<td>MAPPING &amp; DATA SERVICES</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>50 jobs</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,572 days</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>JOBS RETAINED</td>
<td>ADULT DAY CARE</td>
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<td><strong>2,766 units</strong></td>
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<td>PROJECT LIFESAVER</td>
<td>HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT</td>
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<td><strong>70 clients</strong></td>
<td><strong>98 jobs</strong></td>
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<td>ASSISTED LIVING WAIVER</td>
<td>JOBS CREATED</td>
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<td><strong>3,292 reviews</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,553 screens</strong></td>
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<td>PRE-ADMISSION REVIEW SCREENING</td>
<td>INFORMATION &amp; REFERRAL CALLS</td>
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<td><strong>27,950 hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,359 trips</strong></td>
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<td>HOMEMAKER SERVICES</td>
<td>TRANSPORTATION</td>
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<td><strong>47,593 meals</strong></td>
<td><strong>49,060 miles</strong></td>
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<td>CONGREGATE MEALS</td>
<td>ADULT DAY CARE TRANSPORTATION</td>
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<td><strong>249,701 meals</strong></td>
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<td>HOME-DELIVERED MEALS</td>
<td>PERSONAL CARE</td>
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### Buckeye Hills Receives POWER Grant

Buckeye Hills applied for a POWER investment and was awarded $1.2 million by the Appalachian Regional Commission to support start-up of three Appalachian Ohio Innovation Gateway locations. The project ties together the efforts of three Appalachian communities, magnifying the impact of their work in addressing common education and employment challenges. It includes a partnership with the greater Ohio University LIGHTS POWER program — leveraging innovation gateways and hubs across a much larger portion of the Ohio Appalachian region. Together, through a unique approach, we are bringing educational, professional, and social service resources to residents of the region. Buckeye Hills is pleased to coordinate the region’s effort to increase employment and prosperity through alternative learning and career pathways.

### Executive Committee

**Officers** (Shown from left) 
Vice President Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner; President Ron Moore, Morgan County; and Treasurer Joe Matthews, Mayor - City of Marietta.

### 2017 Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program

The Ombudsman Program staff work to ensure the safety of residents and the quality of services by negotiating for the solution of problems that arise between providers and consumers of long-term care services. In 2017, there were 129 visits completed by staff and volunteers, who contributed 258 hours. There were 66 cases completed that arose from 105 total complaints and netted a total of 641 case hours. The case resolution rate was 84.8 percent.

**Pictured Above Left to Right:** Marietta Mayor Joe Matthews with Buckeye Hills Executive Director Misty Casto and ARC Executive Director Scott Hamilton at the kick-off of the regional Appalachian Ohio Innovation Gateway Network Project.
Buckeye Hills Regional Council, founded in 1968.

Buckeye Hills Regional Council, a voluntary organization representing local governments, serves residents and communities across the eight counties of Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington in southeastern Ohio. The region is home to approximately 260,000 residents, and spans 3,695 square miles with 192 miles of railway, 147 miles of Ohio River frontage and 8,992 miles of roads.