It has been a rough year for immigrants and their allies. The continuing economic crisis, a mid-term election and the right wing’s pervasive use of race baiting to push its political agenda created a perfect storm with dire consequences not only for immigrant communities, but for everyone who believes in social justice.

The New Year’s hopes for comprehensive immigration reform were quickly dashed. Arizona passed one of the most extreme laws in the country, widely criminalizing its immigrant communities and prying the racial profiling door wide open. A number of states quickly followed suit and closer to home, Tennessee’s legislature passed and hand delivered a resolution praising Arizona, even as the federal government filed suit to stop the law from going into effect. While the resolution was rhetorical and ceremonial, the real damage followed shortly after, when the state legislature passed and the governor signed SB 1141/HB 670, which requires every jailer in the state to verify the immigration status of every person detained (although it stops short of Arizona’s law, which gives police on the street the authority to stop anyone and ask them for proof of their immigration status).

While fighting the slew of Arizona copycats in state legislatures, local activists in our region and nationally continued to contend with their local governments’ participation in federal programs designed to make local law enforcement de-facto immigration agents. Two of these programs, known as 287(g) and Secure Communities, have led to the deportation of hundreds of immigrants.

Yet, in the midst of this disturbing panorama, it is easy to forget the incredible power of struggle and resistance that has emerged nationally and regionally in defiance of this anti-immigrant barrage. We should not forget the small group of students who captured the country’s heart and inspired young people everywhere as they walked for four months from Florida to DC to bring attention to the plight of thousands of immigrant students denied the opportunity to fulfill their dreams of continuing their education. Or the thousands of immigrants and allies from across the country who converged on the nation’s capital in the spring to demand that the politicians fulfill their promises to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

We cannot forget the incredible success of the online Basta Dobbs campaign, which silenced one of the most powerful anti-immigrant voices on national television. Or the powerful marches, vigils, and acts of civil disobedience in communities large and small against Arizona, its copycats and the lesser known local versions of immigration enforcement. We must remember the message activists sent to a neo-Nazi group seeking to capitalize on the anti-immigrant sentiment and rhetoric: Knoxville es para todas - Knoxville is for All. And above all, we must seize the moment and channel this revived passion and energy into an organized, sustainable movement that fulfills our vision of an Appalachia - a South - a US for all.

Mónica Hernández is the lead person on Highlander’s Pueblos de Latin-américa project, which seeks to develop Latino grassroots leadership and organizations in the Southeast. She was the founding Board Chair for the Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition and played a critical role in the development of the coalition.

As globalization spreads and international economies become more interdependent the debate about how to shape immigration policy has expanded. There is suspicion, fear, misinformation and myth currently swirling around the issue.

1. Undocumented people are a financial drain on the US. (False) The Congressional Budget Office found that a path to citizenship for unauthorized people would increase federal revenues by $48 billion but would only incur $23 billion of increased costs, producing a surplus of $25 billion. “The consensus of the economics literature is that the taxes paid by immigrants and their descendants exceed the benefits they receive – that on balance they are a new positive for the federal budget” (Brookings Institute).

2. Immigration is a national security issue. (False) Immigration is an economic and social justice issue. US economic foreign policy has been focused on the financial gain of industry, not the healthy development of communities. As a result countries like Mexico lack the resources and infrastructure needed to grow healthy communities and a sustainable economy. People leave their homeland in search of more security and opportunity and will often work for the lowest wage possible. Undocumented workers are easily exploited and rarely have proper protection from workplace hazards. In contrast to their minimal rights, undocumented people have maximized revenue for federal, state, and local coffers, having paid more than $162 billion dollars in taxes.

3. State lawmakers have the authority to create and enforce new anti-immigration laws, such as Arizona’s SB1070. (False) Immigration policy is the jurisdiction of the federal government, not state governments. The Justice Department of the US is currently pursuing legal action against the state of Arizona.

4. Anti-immigration laws like SB1070 are not a violation of people’s civil rights. (False) Arizona’s anti-immigration laws violate the 1st, 4th, and 14th amendments, the Supremacy Clause, the Equal Protection Clause, and infringe on constitutional right to travel across state lines. Many groups are mobilizing against the Arizona law, including the City Council of Tucson, American Civil Liberties Union and the National Day Laborer Organizing Network. (“Myths and Truths About Immigration” continued on Page 3.)
WHAT AN AWESOME JOB WE HAVE!

As co-chairs for ACF’s board of directors, we have the honor and privilege of reviewing dozens of grant applications each year. Tucked away for a long weekend in January, the board members are reminded of our dedication to the democratic process and our accountability to our colleagues in Central Appalachia—a responsibility we don’t take lightly.

We are consistently amazed and inspired by the breadth and depth of work rising up from the grassroots of our communities. Folks working to bring an end to Mountain Top Removal, racism, poverty and social injustice. Through their leadership in the areas of:

- Capacity Building
- Economic and Environmental Sustainability
- Peace Work
- Reproductive Health
- GLBTQ Issues, etc.

ACF's grantees support social justice and social change in areas across the spectrum, touching the lives of many in the four-state region—and beyond.

The innovation, dedication and passion required to move an entire community is amazing and frankly, is what keeps us—the board and staff—motivated year after year to stay strong in our efforts to raise and distribute funds to keep that work alive.

As we continue to fund this work at the grassroots level, we celebrate our grantees and their successes. Together we pave the way for the next generation in Appalachia.

Looking to the year ahead, we wish you all peace and endurance. Keep up the good work!

Jadaeka Mazon and Tony Murchison
Appalachian Community Fund Board Co-Chairs

RECENT DOCUMENTARIES

A FEW DOCUMENTARIES ABOUT COAL, MOUNTAIN TOP REMOVAL, AND ENERGY.

COAL COUNTRY http://www.coalcountrythemovie.com
BLACK DIAMONDS http://www.blackdiamondsmovie.com
DEEP DOWN http://deepdownfilm.org
KILOWATT OURS http://www.kilowattours.org
ELECTRICITY FAIRY http://electricityfairy.org

2010-2011
APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY FUND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Appalachian Community Fund in Kentucky

SUBMITTED BY KAREN HOWARD CHAKRABORTY
BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS

My hometown of Somerset, Kentucky, is in the foothills of Appalachia. People in eastern Kentucky face overwhelming challenges, including a weak economy, environmental devastation caused by Mountain Top Removal, epidemic drug use, lack of educational opportunities, isolation and cultural stereotypes. Disturbed by the lack of opportunities in the area, I left Kentucky for college in the Northeast. Encouraged by my family, I hoped to make a better life, but I was also devastated to leave everything I had ever known behind. After graduation, I continued to struggle with feeling disconnected from home. Even now, I have guilt knowing I contributed to the “brain drain” by not staying in Kentucky to contribute to society there.

When I first learned about BNY Mellon’s Community Partnership Campaign, I was excited for an opportunity to give back to the people and the land I hold so dear. I began to research how I could give back to Appalachia. I chose to donate to the Appalachian Community Fund during the 2009 Community Partnership Campaign and will do so again during the 2010 campaign. The fund’s main purpose is to help address the traditional problem of inadequate financial resources from tax dollars to support community solutions. It has been instrumental in revitalizing small-town main streets, celebrating local culture, working toward better public health and pioneering literacy initiatives in the mountains.

Two New Yorkers Support Appalachian Community Fund

Roz Lee and Beverly Tillery, even though they are both actively involved in social justice work, are new to Appalachian Community Fund. They became donors last year during the Bluegrass and Barbeque Benefit and are now serving on the Host Committee. (More information about the New York event can be found on the last page of this newsletter.)

Roz is the senior program officer of the Racial Justice, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Program at the Arcus Foundation and Bev is the Director of Education and Advocacy at Lambda Legal. They are the proud parents of Stella and reside in Harlem.

“We are not wealthy; we’re lucky to contribute what we can. We want to encourage everyday people to do what they can because if everyone gives a little we can make a big difference.”

With her background in organizing, Bev knows first-hand how hard it can be to organize in rural areas and areas that are traditionally ignored and underserved. Bev and Roz are proud donors to ACF because of the progressive work ACF supports, specifically advocacy around GLTBQ equality.

Bev and Roz want others to be encouraged by their support of ACF.

“Myths and Truths About Immigration” continued from Page 1.

5. Immigration is a racial issue. (This one is True.)

Anti-immigration laws create a climate that encourages racial profiling and is permissive of harassment and discrimination against Latino people. Print and television media and politicians defame Latino people by saying they’re dirty, lazy, criminal, and spread diseases like leprosy. There are a variety of ways to improve our current immigration policy. The US should revise its foreign economic policy to move away from the values of neo-liberalism and focus on community and economic development. We can ask ourselves, “how can we support people in making a life in their home communities?” Undocumented citizens should be able to access a pathway to citizenship, not encounter an obstacle course. And as a nation, we should improve our ability to respond to the demands of globalization.

ACF groups who are working with immigration issues are Tennessee Immigrant and Refugee Rights Coalition (rirr.org); Highlander Research and Education Center (hrrec.org); Latino Task Force of the Community Economic Development Network of East Tennessee; Kentucky Jobs with Justice (kyjwj.org)

COFFEE FOR CHANGE

Would you give four cups of coffee a month to support social change in Appalachia?

A gift of $20 a month is equal to a cup of gourmet coffee a week. Please consider becoming a regular, monthly donor to the Appalachian Community Fund. You can make a recurring gift via our secure donation page at www.appalachiancommunityfund.org.

Thank you for your continued support!
**APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY FUND GRANTEES 2010**

**GENERAL FUND**

**APPALSHOP – THOUSAND KITES**
WHITEBURG, KENTUCKY $9,000  
www.thousandkites.org

Funds will support the project which uses forums, film screenings, art, workshops and theater readings by prisoners, former prisoners, families, correction officers and communities to raise awareness about the criminal justice system and the impact on rural communities.

**BEEHIVE DESIGN COLLECTIVE**
MACHIAS, MAINE $6,500  
www.beehivecollective.org

The grant will help the completion, distribution and educational use of the True Cost of Coal poster. The wildly complex image uses plants and animals to tell Appalachian stories but also builds relationships and is a catalyst for education and story-sharing around land and resource struggles.

**BIG CREEK PEOPLE IN ACTION**
WAR, WEST VIRGINIA $6,900  
www.bigcreekpeopleinaction.org

The grant will support the Breaking Barriers and Building Trust project which creates opportunities for youth and adult partnerships for change and breaks down racial and class barriers in local high schools.

**CITIZENS FOR POLICE REVIEW**
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE $3,250  
www.discoveret.org/cpr

Funds will support monitoring and documenting racism in the criminal justice system and efforts to use media for community discussions and education about problems and solutions to criminal justice issues.

**CLAY COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS – WyAP RADIO**
CLAY, WEST VIRGINIA $3,000  
www.w yap.com

Grant monies will help increase environmental awareness; expand on-air jobs updates and prospects; grow participation in live discussion groups; and add a legal knowledge base of what avenues of change are available to the common citizen.

**CLEARFORK COMMUNITY INSTITUTE**
CLAIRFIELD, TENNESSEE $3,500

Grant funds are for the Volunteers In Partnership (VIP) project which is engaging in mapping to interface and support permaculture planning and green construction in this isolated coalfield mountain community.

**CLEARFORK WATERSHED COUNCIL**
NEWCOMB, TENNESSEE $4,400

The first time grant will help the Council bring together diverse stakeholders to take active roles in restoring the vitality of the local watershed and local community assets, particularly abandoned mine lands, acid mine drainage and soil compaction.

**CLINCHCO CENTER OF THE APPALACHIAN WOMEN’S ALLIANCE**
CLINCHCO, VIRGINIA $9,000  
www.appalachianwomen.org

Support is for their community center in rural Dickenson County which bridges black and white communities and addresses issues of civic education and leadership development.

**COAL RIVER MOUNTAIN WATCH**
WHITESVILLE, WEST VIRGINIA $7,000  
www.crmw.net

Grant monies will help support the ongoing work to counter the devastating process of Mountain Top Removal mining, to protect and monitor community health, and to oppose destructive environmental practices while seeking avenues to rebuild sustainable communities.

**COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NETWORK OF EAST TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**  
$6,500  
http://cednet.us

The grant supports a network of organizations working on issues such as the unwritten history of African Americans in East Tennessee, barriers to Spanish speaking citizens’ participation in the community, and economic development in rural areas with high unemployment.

**COMMUNITY HOUSE COOPERATIVE**
NEWPORT, TENNESSEE $6,500  
www.eastmontact.org

Funding will support effective projects involving and empowering local citizens, and a sustainable program that furthers social, economic and environmental justice utilizing local, regional and national collaboration.

**COMMUNITY SHARES, KNOXVILLE**
TENNESSEE $8,000  
www.communitysharesrn.org

Grant support will help foster a strong and viable statewide network of social change organizations working in coalition with over 50 member groups to build resources through workplace giving opportunities.

**DIRECT ACTION WELFARE GROUP**
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA $9,000  
www.westawg.org

Funds will be used to build collaborations and strategic partnerships, develop leadership, affect policy and communicate an analysis of and solutions to economic problems and countering poverty.

**EASTERN COAL REGIONAL ROUNDTABLE, MULLINS, WEST VIRGINIA** $6,900  
www.easterncoal.org

A first time grant to help serve watershed groups in communities scarred by mining through outreach, training and information.

**FAIR SHAKE NETWORK, INSTITUTE**
WEST VIRGINIA $5,000  
www.fairshake.org

The grant will support training and development related to disability rights and policy activities in conjunction with the state Disability Agenda and Disability Advocacy Day at the State Capitol.

**HIGH ROCKS**
HILLSBORO, WEST VIRGINIA $4,400  
www.highrocks.org

Grant monies will go toward the Borderlands Delegation – an experiential learning opportunity for Appalachian girls and young women at the Arizona-Mexico border.

**HIGHLANDER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER**
NEW MARKET, TENNESSEE $5,000  
www.highlandercenter.org

Funds are for the Multi-Lingual Capacity Building Project, which provides training and workshops for over 200 social justice interpreters in Appalachia and the Southeast and in immigrant communities.

**IN PRAISE OF MOUNTAIN WOMEN**
ST. PAUL, VIRGINIA $4,500  
www.inpraise.info

The grant will provide resources for a regional gathering of rural and low-income Appalachian women: “Celebrating Our Home Place: This Land is Home to Me”, which provides spaces and opportunities for women to connect out of isolation and focus on care of self and the earth.
J.R. CLIFFORD PROJECT OF THE FRIENDS OF BLACKWATER
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA $3,500
www.jrclifford.org
Funding is for a history project in West Virginia schools to combat racism through making history visible.

JUST CONNECTIONS
MARYVILLE, TENNESSEE $4,400
www.justconnections.info
The grant will support this network of organizers, college faculty and allies who are developing strategies together for partnering colleges and communities, accessing college resources, and bringing social justice to related rural communities.

KENTUCKY COALITION*
LONDON, KENTUCKY $4,400
www.kftc.org
The grant is for the Voter Empowerment Project in Eastern Kentucky counties to develop leadership, facilitate voter education and registration and provide honest information about policies and issues of interest.

KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION
BEREA, KENTUCKY $9,000
http://kynhfoundation.org
Funds will support the Clean Energy, Clean Air project to promote and develop collaborative strategies for clean energy policy in the state and to mobilize and act on specific threats of coal plant pollution.

NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS, NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE * $6,900
www.namitn.org
The grant will be used for the Peer Support Organizing Campaign to retain the centers which offer peer support, outreach, and promote self-determination for those with mental illness.

OAK RIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL PEACE ALLIANCE
OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE $2,000
www.stopthebombs.org
Funds support the campaign to halt production of nuclear weapons at the Y12 plant and to educate and mobilize action to understand the economic impact of ending nuclear weapons production.

OHIO VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION, HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA $9,000
www.obwc.org
Support is for organizing citizens to publicly oppose Mountain Top Removal; continuing to support litigation to address specific illegalities of Mountain Top Removal; and continuing to attract media attention to the issue.

ONE NATION BY CONVICTION
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE $6,500
www.discovert.org/prisonsb.htm
The grant will help bring awareness to the injustice affecting the community within the federal judicial system and to organize forums and other activities geared toward ending sentencing disparities and restoring voting rights.

OWSLEY COUNTY ACTION TEAM
BOONEVILLE, KENTUCKY $6,900
www.owsleycountykentucky.org/actionteam.html
Funds will help to build a stronger economy and healthier community through developing local leadership, sustainable community development and an enriched quality of life.

STATEWIDE ORGANIZING FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (FORMERLY SAVE OUR CUMBERLAND MOUNTAINS), LAKE CITY, TENNESSEE $6,900
www.socwm.org
Support is for the Mountain Top Removal Organizing Project work to keep MTR (Mountain Top Removal) out of Tennessee and expand the interpretation of the Clean Water Act through public and private meetings; partnering against MTR with churches, civic groups, and outdoors enthusiasts; mobilizing media attention and supporters; amending new permitting and enforcement policies; and pressuring for a water quality policy blocking future MTR permits.

SOUTH CENTRAL EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA $9,000
www.scedev.com
Funds will help expand outreach to hard-to-reach communities suffering from HIV. Community Mobilization and Empowerment teams will develop “Popular Opinion Leaders” from the African American community to engage peers. The “Sounds of Prevention” program will challenge youth to write songs and poetry about prevention education.

STAY PROJECT
NEW MARKET, TENNESSEE $5,000
The grant will support this youth-led initiative in working together to help create the opportunities they need to be learners, leaders, and activists in the region.

TENNESSEE HEALTH CARE CAMPAIGN*
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE $6,900
www.thcc2.org
Grant monies will be used for work to reform health care and to support local organizing committees and trainings to help patients, families, caregivers, social workers and others to know and understand state health policies and patient rights.

TENNESSEE IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS COALITION*
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE $6,500
www.tnimmigrant.org
The grant will support two new Justice Schools in East Tennessee and further engage existing and emerging leaders in campaigns addressing racial profiling policies.

THE ALLIANCE FOR APPALACHIA
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA $6,900
www.theallianceforappalachia.org
Funds will help to coordinate 13 groups in 5 states as they connect those affected by Mountain Top Removal into national conversations and to help develop policy such as the Appalachia Restoration Act.

THE CLINCH COALITION
WISE, VIRGINIA $6,900
www.clinchcoalition.net
The grant is for outreach, education and policy development on the High Knob Jefferson National Forest program to create alternatives to deforestation and promote and advocate for sustainable forest practices and economic development.

ACF IS PLEASED TO OFFER THE FUNDRAISING MANUAL
“YOU CAN DO IT!”
BY VICKI QUATMANN
In English ($25 plus shipping)
In Spanish ($12 plus shipping)
To order, please call Kathy Johnson at ACF at 865-523-5783.
**CHANGE, NOT CHARITY**

**SEIZE THE MOMENT PROGRAM**

**AURORA LIGHTS**
Morgantown, West Virginia, $200

**JOBS WITH JUSTICE OF EAST TENNESSEE**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $200

**KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION**
Berea, Kentucky, $200

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**CLEAR FORK WATERSHED COUNCIL**
Newcomb, Tennessee, $400

**CLINCHCO CENTER**
Clinchco, Virginia, $800

**IN PRAISE OF MOUNTAIN WOMEN**
Dungannon, Virginia, $500

**JOBS WITH JUSTICE OF EAST TENNESSEE**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $300

**LAUREL COUNTY AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER**
London, Kentucky, $750

**NEAR NORTH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $550

**TEENAGE MOUNTAIN STEWARDS**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $350

**SURVIVORS NETWORK**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $850

**JOBS WITH JUSTICE**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $800

**SOCIALLY EQUAL ENERGY EFFICIENT DEVELOPMENT (S.E.E.D.)**
Knoxville, Tennessee, $250

**THREE RIVERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, $200

**THE CLINCH COALITION**
Big Stone Gap, Virginia, $800

**WOLF CREEK INDIAN VILLAGE AND MUSEUM**
Bastian, Virginia, $100

**MEDIA JUSTICE INITIATIVE**

**APPALSHOP**
Whitesburg, Kentucky, $1,000

**GLBTQ INITIATIVE**

**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA**
Charleston, West Virginia, $1,000

**MADISON COUNTY ACTION TEAM DIVERSITY WORKSHOPS**
Big Hill, Kentucky, $2,000

**CENTRAL APPALACHIAN NETWORK MINI-GRANTS PROGRAM**

**APPALACHIAN STAPLE FOOD COLLABORATIVE**
Athens, Ohio, $15,720

**CLINCH APPALACHIAN FARMERS ENTERPRISE**
Church Hill, Tennessee, $15,720

**COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE**
Frankfort, Kentucky, $13,000

**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA**
Charleston, West Virginia, $1,000

**FAYETTE COUNTY FARMERS MARKET**
Thurmond, West Virginia, $5,700

**LYNCHBURG GROWS**
Lynchburg, Virginia, $12,000

**MONTROE FARM MARKET**
Waiteville, West Virginia, $15,720

**RURAL RESOURCES**
Greeneville, Tennessee, $6,440

**TRUE & ESSENTIAL MEATS**
Harrisonburg, Virginia, $15,720

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**INVEST IN SOCIAL CHANGE: PARTNER WITH ACF**

**ACF**

**APPROACH TO INVESTING IN SOCIAL CHANGE**

ACF donors support the work of our foundation, and the organizations we help fund, with annual contributions that range from $3 - $35,000. Every size gift matters, and every gift is an important investment in change! If you would like to invest in social change in Central Appalachia, visit www.appalachiancommunityfund.org for more information. Please call Margo Miller at 865.523.5783 if you would like to discuss giving options.

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In 2008, the Beehive allied with Appalachian grassroots organizers fighting Mountain Top Removal Coal Mining and its devastating impacts on human and ecological communities, poisoning the planet and accelerating climate chaos. The team of volunteer artists and educators have put in countless hours designing a visually-stunning multi-tool for activists and ordinary folks. They have sought extensive feedback from Appalachian collaborators and audiences nationwide to make sure they create a graphic that honors history, respects complexity, shows everyone’s place in the big picture, and inspires real solutions.

Every day we are losing ground, literally, to Mountain Top Removal mining. More watersheds are destroyed, more sludge builds up in leaky reservoirs, more folks get sick in communities downwind and downstream of coal-fired power plants, and our climate continues to destabilize. We are all impacted by coal mining, and we all play a part in the system that demands coal as fuel. The Beehive’s Coal Campaign is helping more people understand the true cost of our national energy choices, so we can fight for a sustainable future.
The **APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY FUND** (ACF) funds and encourages grassroots social change in Central Appalachia (East Tennessee, Eastern Kentucky, Southwest Virginia and West Virginia). In our history, we have awarded over $5 million to more than 300 organizations working for justice. ACF pools resources from many sources including individuals, businesses, and foundations in order to provide the critical financial support needed to help low-income people organizing themselves to address systemic problems of poverty, racism, and social inequity in their own communities and neighborhoods. ACF supports communities with little or no access to other financial resources and grassroots groups which are often too small, too new, or working on issues that are too controversial for traditional funding sources.

The Appalachian Community Fund is a member of the Funding Exchange and Community Shares of Tennessee.