

2007 General Policy Council Members

(Executive Committee Members are shown in bold)

Athens County Ric Abel Nancy Aiken John Collins Lenny Eliason Dick Shaw	Hocking County Robert Daubenmier Greg Green Gary Starner Michael Walsh	Meigs County Opal Dyer John Musser Jim Sheets Donald Vaughan
Monroe County Francis "Sonny" Block William Bolon John Curtis	Morgan County Dean Cain Ron Moore John Wells	Perry County Janine Conrad Tim Danielson Fred Shriner
Noble County Charlie Cowgill Richard Flood Willard Radcliff	Washington County Dennis Blausler Sam Cook Steve Crum John Grimes Willaim McAfee Michael Mullen Larry Steinel	Minority Rep. Vacant

2007 Executive Committee Members

County Represented and Number of Years Served
Robert Daubenmier, President, Hocking County — 16 years
Ron Moore, Vice President, Morgan County — 6 years
Sam Cook, Treasurer, Washington County — 9 years
John Curtis, Monroe County — 20 years
Gary Starner, Hocking County — 13 years
Charlie Cowgill, Noble County — 12 years
Ric Abel, Athens County — 11 years
Lenny Eliason, Athens County — 5 years
Michael Mullen, Washington County — 4 years
Sonny Block, Monroe County — 2 years
Fred Shriner, Perry County — 2 years
Donald Vaughn, Meigs County — 1 year
Jim Sheets, Meigs County — 1 year
Dean Cain, Morgan County — 1 year

The Executive Committee has 15 members comprised of four non-elected representatives, one minority representative, Mayor's of the two largest cities in the District, and 8 county representatives appointed by the county commissioners. Like the General Policy Council, two-thirds of the Executive Committee are elected officials; one-third are nonelected officials and minority representatives.

Executive Staff

Misty Casto Executive Director
Rick Hindman Assist Exec. Director/AAA Director
Doug Dye Director of Fiscal Operations
Melissa Zoller Development Director
Jane Skeen Home Care Director
Gwynn Clifford Communications Director
Kim Flanigan LTC Ombudsman Director

BH/AAA8 Staff

Alta Coffman Case Manager/Assessor
Amanda Casto Secretary/Receptionist
Angela Scott Case Manager/Assessor
Betsy Silk Case Manager/Assessor
Brenda Wolfe Fiscal Assistant I
Bret Allphin Development Specialist II
Cathy Ash AAA Trainer
Charlotte Riggs Clinical Assistant
Charmel Wesel Development Specialist I
Christy Horn Case Manager/Assessor
Darlene Vandine Care Coordinator
Deanna Starkey Secretary/Receptionist
Deb Dunseath Case Manager/Assessor
Debbie Parsons Fiscal Assistant I
Denise Keyes AAA Fiscal Manager
Denise Sava Case Manager/Assessor
Diana Gedeon Case Manager/Assessor
Diane Keith LTC Volunteer Coordinator
Glenda Collins Clinical Supervisor
James Lewis MIS Manager
Jamie Sweeney Case Manager/Assessor
Janie Collins AAA Program Assistant
Jennifer Andros Clinical Assistant
Jennifer Fuller Case Manager/Assessor
Jenny Myers Program Assist/Comm Specialist
Joe Gage Housing Coordinator
Judy Kuhn Quality Improvement Assistant
Kara Wright Screener
Kay Brammer Case Manager/Assessor
Kelli Lewis Clinical Assistant
Kerry Nicholson Case Manager/Assessor
Kim Steed Screener
Linda Myers Nutrition Coordinator
Lisa Barringer Case Manager/Assessor
Lisa Keaveney Case Manager/Assessor
Marie Hunsaker Case Manager/Assessor
Melissa Kemper Case Manager/Assessor
Michelle Hyers Development Specialist II
Mindy Cayton AAA Planner
Misty Anderson Quality Improvement Assistant
Nancy Morris Quality Improvement Manager
Pat Biehl Case Manager/Assessor
Pat Palmer Case Manager/Assessor
Sandy Cisler Case Manager/Assessor
Sarah Swisher Case Manager/Assessor
Sherry Crawford Secretary/Receptionist
Sue Lassiter LTC Volunteer Coordinator
Susan Hickman Case Manager/Assessor
Teresa Porter Case Manager/Assessor
Tim Johnson AAA Deputy Director
Tina Meunier Business Development Coordinator
Tina Parker Secretary/Receptionist
Veronica Norman Case Manager/Assessor

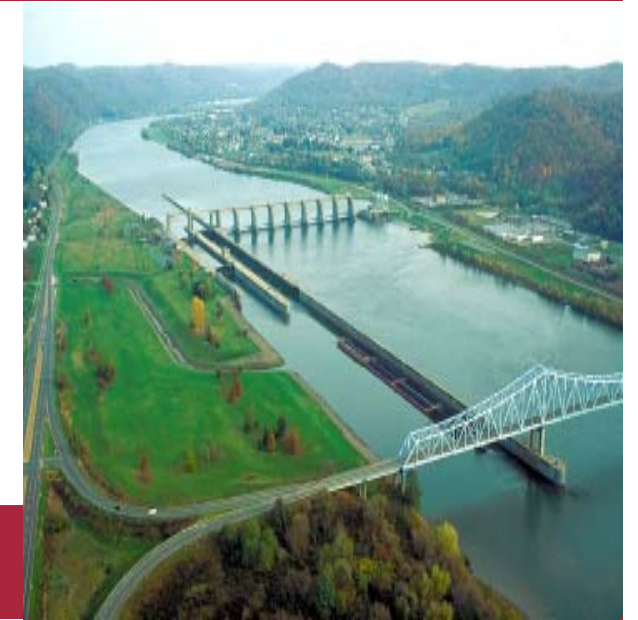


P.O. Box 520 • Reno, OH 45773 • 740-374-9436
www.buckeyehills.org



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 1-800-331-2644 • www.areaagency8.org

Celebrating 40 Years of Service



Services to the Aging



Economic and Community Development

Serving Residents in Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties



ANNUAL REPORT 2007



Dear Friends,

Forty years ago, leaders in the region had the foresight to establish Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District. Serving more than 255,000 constituents in Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry, and Washington Counties, the organization is a strong, viable community partner.

Whether reaching out to the region's aging in need of in-home assistance, providing communities with planning and grant writing support, or serving as advocates on the state and national level, the professionals at Buckeye Hills serve with dedication and compassion.

The Development Division assists communities in securing funding to improve or extend water and sewer service, works to increase access to health care and education, provides gap financing for small businesses to help create and retain private sector jobs, administers state and federal grant and loan funding, and serves as the liaison between state and federal partners and local leaders.

The Area Agency on Aging District 8 provides essential services to the nearly 48,000 residents who are ages 60-plus and plans for the growth of this demographic as the Baby Boomers continue to age.

With grassroots support from county and community leaders and volunteers, Buckeye Hills continues its proactive advocacy efforts defending funding for rural development and aging programs and promoting regional interests at state and federal levels.

With 40 years behind us and great expectations before us, the road ahead for Buckeye Hills will continue to build on the foundation of fostering cooperative efforts in regional planning, implementing regional plans and building a better quality of life for the residents we serve. We look forward to continued partnerships with each of you.

My Regards,

Misty Casto
Executive Director

A Year in Review

AAA8 Launches Innovative Caregiver Support Network

Those caring for an aging loved one who need support can now join the Caregiver Support Network — a twice monthly phone call with other caregivers who face similar issues and health care professionals with resources.

The Caregiver support group is a toll-free phone number that individuals can call on the second Tuesday and the third Thursday of the month. The group helps Caregivers realize there are others who face similar circumstances.

Marietta's Strecker Cancer Center Receives \$250,000 Grant

Fred Deel, Director, Governor's Office of Appalachia, along with State Rep. Jennifer Garrison, local and state officials, visited Marietta Memorial's Strecker Cancer Center July 9 to award a \$250,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission. The funds were used toward the purchase of new equipment to administer radiation treatments to cancer patients.



From Left: Misty Casto, Executive Director of Buckeye Hills; Jeanne Wilson, Area Representative for U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown; Larry Unroe, President & CEO of Marietta Health System; Fred Deel, Director Governor's Office of Appalachia; Cara Dingus Brook, Area Representative for U.S. Senator George Voinovich; and State Representative Jennifer Garrison.

Choices Expo Event Draws Hundreds

Nearly 500 senior citizens and exhibors visited the Marietta Comfort Inn for the Area Agency on Aging's CHOICES EXPO Nov. 6 & 7. With more than 60 exhibitors, a variety of speakers and the option for no and low-cost healthy screenings, participants enjoyed the festive atmosphere and the opportunity to gather information pertinent to aging decisions. Seniors traveled from all across the region to attend the event. Senior News was the Title Sponsor providing the event schedule. The Marietta Times also provided a Choices Expo Feature.



RSVP volunteer Becky Young of Marietta helps Senior News with distributing Expo programs.

Hocking College Hosts Energy Institute Groundbreaking

The Hocking College Energy Institute groundbreaking ceremony was hosted in November at its future site. Buckeye Hills Executive Director Misty Casto spoke at the ceremony. Buckeye Hills' Bret Allphin & Misty Casto supported the grant writing efforts for the Institute which received a \$1.6 million grant from the US Department of Commerce - Economic Development Administration (EDA) and a \$192,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission.



Shown from left are Fred Deel, Director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia; Misty Casto, Executive Director Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District; Joe Murtha, President of the Hocking County Community Improvement Corporation Executive Committee; Dr. John J. Light, President of Hocking College; Jerry Hutton, Dean of the Hocking College Energy Institute; and Richard Brandt, of the Hocking College Board of Trustees.

2007 Annual Report

Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Supports Job Growth

In 2007, the RLF Program closed seven loans for \$616,250 to create 56 and retain 30 jobs.

- J&S Carney Recreation, Washington County
- ReBay Recyclers, Monroe County
- Hupp Auto Center, Meigs County (2 loans)
- Up The Crick Carry Out, Morgan County
- Ultimate Air, Athens County
- Eagle Concrete, Monroe County

Since the inception of the RLF Program, it has made 114 loans totaling \$6.6 million. These loans have created over 700 jobs and retained over 760 jobs in the eight county region. With these funds, the RLF has generated \$19.4 million in private funds invested in the region and an additional \$3.4 million of public funds.

Total investment from all funds has been \$23.5 million.

Rebay Recycling Expanded in Monroe & Washington Counties

Thanks to a loan from the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District (BHHVRDD), Rebay Recycling expanded its business in Monroe and Washington Counties. Plans to equip a new facility in the Business Park at 17943 SR 7 in Washington County were also realized. An estimated 40 jobs may be added over the next three years between the two company locations.



ReBay Recycling Hosted an Earth Day Celebration and Expansion Event in Monroe County in April. Commissioner Francis "Sonny" Block is shown signing the Earth Day Resolution with Commissioner Bill Thompson (left), CEO Paul Bunning and Commissioner John Pyles.

AAA8 Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program Supports Region

The Ombudsman Program addresses concerns about the quality of long-term care services and negotiates for the solution of problems that arise between providers and consumers of long-term care services. The Ombudsman investigates complaints confidentially, advocates for client's rights, and negotiates with service providers to resolve problems.

Advocacy for consumer rights, services and choices is a core service of the Ombudsman Program. The Ombudsman is also involved in advocating for needed improvements in state and federal legislation and policies impacting consumers of long-term care services and the aging, in general.

Volunteerism continues to be a focus as volunteers provide a regular presence and increased advocacy efforts in facilities. In 2007, the Program had thirteen active volunteers who contributed 506 hours of advocacy and general information hours in the region with 382 visits to facilities.

In 2007, Ombudsman staff spent 79 percent of reportable time investigating complaints, 20 percent on advocacy activities and one percent of the time providing general information, including the investigation of 301 complaints and 158 visits to the facilities providing information regarding residents' rights.



Hupp Auto Center, LLC opened in Tappers Plains, Ohio.

Forty Years of Service 1968-2008

Enhancing the Lives of Residents in Southeast Ohio

Bound by common problems, in the late 1960s, officials of nine mostly rural counties needed a centralized planning effort. By working together, they would orchestrate a return of state and federal resources to the area through public works projects and social services to benefit the entire region. As necessity is the mother of invention, this need yielded the creation of Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District.

Since the beginning, Buckeye Hills has been a model of efficiency returning hundreds of millions of available resource dollars to the area at costs of just pennies per person annually. Serving more than 255,000 residents in Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry & Washington Counties, Buckeye Hills continues 40 years later with its strength of commitment, dedication and optimism.

In the Beginning

The first Buckeye Hills office was located in the Village of Caldwell. Charles L. Brinkman, on loan from the Ohio Department of Development, served as Acting Director until initial funding was in place.

On September 20, 1968, the organization received non-profit corporation status and, having grown to a membership of 43 people representing a nine-county region, the group met and formally elected their first officers. Forrest Smith of Monroe County was named President. Bernard Fultz of Meigs County was Vice President, and Morgan County's Billy T. White was elected Treasurer.

In February of 1969, Buckeye Hills received a \$44,000 administrative grant from the Economic Development Administration, which allowed us to move into offices in Marietta and employ the first Executive Director, Gerald G. McComb.

Later that same year, the Appalachian Regional Commission designated Buckeye Hills a Local Development District and awarded a \$33,000 grant to help operate the agency.



In September, 1968, Gerald McComb (left), first Executive Director of Buckeye Hills, and Forrest Smith, first President.

Executive Directors Past and Present

Gerald G. McComb	1969-1970
John H. Beasley	1971-1974
Thomas A. Closser	1974-1997
C. Boyer Simcox	1997-2007
Misty Casto	2007-Present

The 1970s

Expansion

In July 1970, the U.S. Department of Commerce designated Buckeye Hills an Economic Development District. We began growing by employing a full-time professional staff, and by getting our message out to the people of the nine county district about who we were and what we were able to do.

Securing Funding for Constituents

Between 1970 and 1974, Buckeye Hills assisted in securing funding for various community development, economic development, and health improvement projects, such as the construction of the Marietta Health Center (Washington County) in 1970, the construction of the Logan Public Health Center & Long Term Care Unit (1970), an expansion of the Marietta Water Treatment Plant in 1971, and the construction of Belmont Technical College in 1973.

1974 — A Big Year

In 1974, in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code, Buckeye Hills became a Council of Governments. This meant that the organization was officially a public entity, staffed by public employees. As programs began to expand, the State of Ohio re-aligned development districts and removed Belmont County from Buckeye Hills. The 9-county region was reduced to the 8-county configuration that remains today.

Also in 1974, the Ohio Commission on Aging designated Buckeye Hills as the Area Agency on Aging (AAA) for Planning and Service Area 8 (PSA 8). Funds for aging projects in all eight counties would come from the Federal Older Americans Act. The Older Americans Act charges the Area Agency on Aging with creating a comprehensive and coordinated system of services for Seniors in the Planning and Service Area.



The AAA worked with the County Commissioners and interested parties in each of the counties to develop County Councils on Aging to serve as liaisons between the Seniors and the AAA. A Regional Advisory Council was formed, and met for the first time in September 1974. The Regional Advisory Council and the County Councils still meet regularly.

The 1980s

Improving the Quality of Life through Economic Development

The 1980s saw the emergence of new programs and services that provided Buckeye Hills with an opportunity to improve the quality of life for the residents of the district, especially the unemployed, underemployed, and seniors.

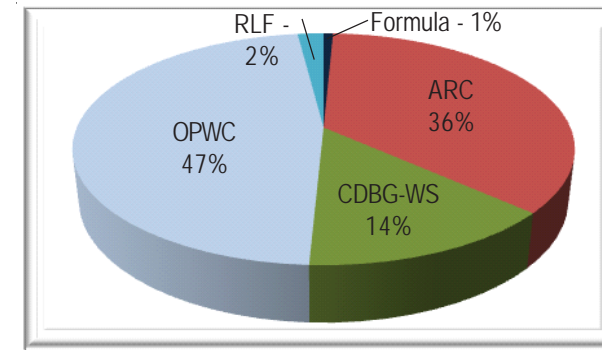
Late in FY'1987, the Economic Development Administration approved a regional revolving loan fund proposal totaling \$501,375. In 1989, Buckeye Hills was awarded a \$200,000 grant for the establishment of an Appalachian Regional Commission Revolving Loan Fund.

Water and Sewer

Buckeye Hills was, and remains, committed to ensuring that each and every resident in the 8-county district has access to public water and sewer service. Buckeye Hills assisted many entities in the District in obtaining funding for water and sewer projects throughout the 1980s. Examples of such projects include water system improvements for the City of Logan in Hocking County, water system extension for Little Hocking in Washington County and water system improvements for the Village of Caldwell in Noble County. Buckeye Hills also assisted Monroe County in securing funding for a \$4 million water treatment plant.

A Year in Review

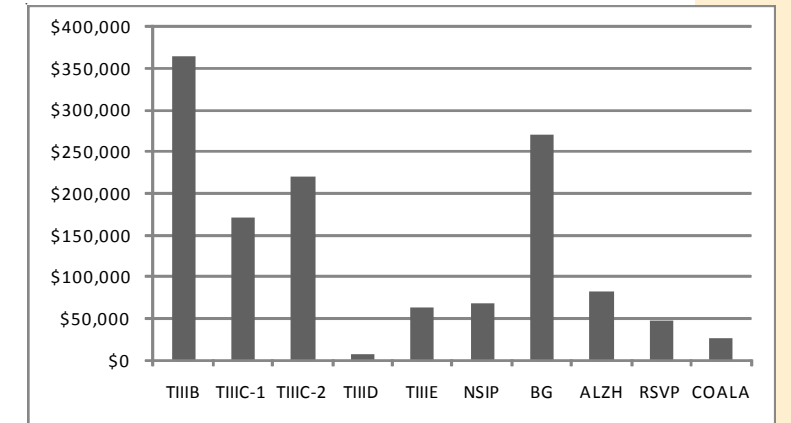
Development Department Percentage of Participation



The chart to the left depicts the percentage of participation of funding sources in projects in the BH-HVRDD and District 18 of the Ohio Public Works Commission that Development staff worked on or participated in during the year. The ARC slice includes ARC Federal funding and State Appalachia Funds administered by the Ohio Department of Development. The OPWC slice includes SCIP, LTIP, and Clean Ohio Conservation Funds. Other funding sources listed include the Revolving Loan Fund, Community Development Block Grant and Community Development Block Grant Water and Sewer.

Area Agency on Aging (AAA8) Funding

The Area Agency on Aging receives funding through many sources to administer and support in-home services for clients over 60. The Federal government provides funding for Title III services through the Older Americans Act. Nutrition service incentives (NSIP) and Senior Farmer's Market are funded through the US Dept. of Agriculture. The State of Ohio funds Block Grant (BG), National Senior Service Corps, Alzheimer's, RSVP, COALA and Housing repair assistance through the Department of Development.



Area Agency on Aging (AAA8) Services and Units Provided

Personal Care	5,812	Alzheimers Education	4,183
Homemaker	12,538	Home Medical Equipment	113
Home Delivered Meals	69,087	Senior Farmers Market	5,037
Adult Day Care	1,237	Senior Volunteers - Foster Grandparent	4,164
Congregate Meals	42,311	Sr. Volunteers RSVP	67,001
Medical Escort	2,343	Sr. Volunteers Sr. Companion	5,548
Transportation	21,087	Housing Projects	38
Legal Assistance	352	Ombudsman Complaints Serviced	301
Nutrition Education	57	Ombudsman Visits	158
Medical Assessment	358	PASSPORT	735

Housing Program Provides Support

The AAA8 Housing Program completed 38 jobs in 2007. Funding for the jobs came from the Ohio Department of Development, Ohio Housing Trust Fund, the Housing Assistance Grant Program and the USDA Rural Housing Service for a total of \$182,302.00. A total of 38 jobs were completed using these funds to complete handicap access and minor home modification for safer home environments.

2007 Annual Report

Forty Years of Service

Revenues & Expenditures

This summary covers the period July 1, 2006, through June 30, 2007. Local in-kind contributions are not reflected in the overall summary. Purchase of service contracts administered by the Area Agency on Aging and the loan activities of the Revolving Loan fund are not included in this report.

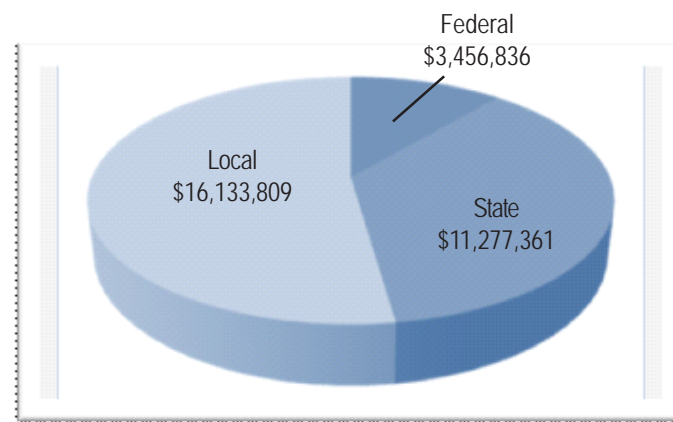
This was the twenty-ninth year that Buckeye Hills has operated with a federally approved Cost Allocation Plan. The Cost Allocation Plan and its indirect cost rate permit a more equitable distribution of common agency costs among all the funding entities. A single audit will include all of the administrative operations of BH-HVRDD. All of the agency's programs are audited annually by a certified public accounting firm. Audit reports for 2007 reflect that the agency's operating policies and procedures are adequate and efficient, and in compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the funding agencies. All grant funds received above actual costs are either returned to the funding agency after completion of the annual audit, or utilized in the following year for allowable program activities.

<u>REVENUES</u>		<u>EXPENDITURES</u>	
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	56,928.00	Personnel	1,497,168.97
Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)	200,702.66	Fringe Benefits	865,915.86
ARC – Federal Flood Funds	25,316.00	Travel	220,224.34
Ohio Department of Aging (ODA)	36,831.52	Equipment	66,801.61
State of Ohio – Local Development District Support	126,693.33	Contractual Services	51,592.30
ODOD Brownfield Cleanup	24,786.86	Rent	163,883.66
Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC)	37,510.26	Other Direct Costs	294,878.49
Trickle Up Program	4,386.80	Indirect Cost	382,367.11
Community Development Block Grant Administration	16,677.01		
Monroe County EDA	8,850.38		
U.S. EPA Grant	9,404.87		
Local Per Capita Contribution	30,500.00		
Revolving Loan Fund	3,143.12		
PASSPORT Program	2,134,683.25		
Misc. Income	9,473.83		
TOTAL REVENUES	\$3,555,887.89	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$3,542,832.34
		BALANCE	\$13,055.55
		<small>Audited Statement</small>	

Development Department

Over the past year, the Development Department secured financing for a variety of projects that have a positive impact on the region's residential and commercial sectors. These projects improve the quality of life for area residents by enabling businesses to create and retain jobs; providing education and training opportunities; increasing the quality and availability of water and sanitary sewer services; repairing and upgrading roads and bridges; and increasing accessibility to quality health care.

Total costs for the 2007 Development projects were approximately \$31 million, with local communities and private business leveraging \$16 million against the nearly \$15 million provided through state and federal funding sources.



Health Care

Ensuring adequate health care services are available in the region was a focal point in the 80s. The Coolville Medical Center was opened in Athens County in 1980, and the Morgan County Health Center, operated by Bethesda Hospital, Zanesville and the Morgan County Commissioners, were also completed in 1980. The opening of this health center fulfilled over eight years of work by many different agencies, groups and individuals. Buckeye Hills coordinated funding for the project.

Coolville Medical Center



Aging

In the mid-80s the senior centers served as focal points for service delivery for area seniors. Buckeye Hills assisted in funding the construction of three senior centers in the district (Meigs-1980, Washington-1981, and Noble-1980 Counties), and the renovation of two senior centers (Athens-1981 and Meigs-1988).

In 1980, the Ohio Aging Network focused on long-term care with the passage of the Nursing Home Bill of Rights. In 1981, in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Aging, our AAA developed a Nursing Home Ombudsman program to resolve problems people encountered in nursing facilities.

In 1989, the Ohio Legislature created an initiative to expand community-based service opportunities for persons who otherwise would face nursing home placement. The Legislature allocated \$100 million to establish two pilot programs—one urban and one rural—to demonstrate locally designed community-based care systems. The Area Agency on Aging at Buckeye Hills became the rural pilot for the initiative known as OPTIONS for Elders.

The 1990s

Changes on the Horizon

The 1990s brought about a change in many of the service programs that Buckeye Hills administered or operated. Also, Buckeye Hills assisted many units of local government and non-profit organizations in securing funding for infrastructure improvement, health care, training, technical assistance and outreach projects.

Area Agency on Aging

In 1990, a toll-free number was established for the OPTIONS for Elders program. The number allowed people to call one number to gain easy access to information regarding alternatives to nursing homes and institutional long term care settings. Other programs were incorporated into the system including the PASSPORT Program.

Although the OPTIONS for Elders demonstration program was successful, Ohio's low financial projections in 1992-93 and a change in state administration, led to the proposed phase-out of OPTIONS for Elders over a two-year period. The Ohio Department of Aging continued its commitment to OPTIONS clients through 1997.

In 1992, the Ohio PASSPORT program was expanded state-wide to include the Buckeye Hills Area Agency on Aging PSA8. The program provides an economical, efficient package of home care services to eligible seniors for less than the cost of nursing home placement.

In 1996, the Area Agency on Aging at Buckeye Hills received its first Housing Trust Fund grant in the amount of \$100,000. The program provides home repairs and handicapped accessibility for individuals who are over the age of 60 and own their own homes. The Area Agency on Aging also received a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission to purchase and install a computerized information and referral system. This system allowed the Agency to be the central facilitator, broker and mediator for every health care agency and service within the Planning and Service Area.

The 1990s

Community and Economic Development

In 1993, Buckeye Hills purchased its first Geographic Information System (GIS). The system allowed Buckeye Hills to assist private and public entities with regional and subregional thematic mapping.

In 1996, \$25,000 was awarded to a consortium of Washington, Morgan, and Noble Counties to initiate a fair housing program. The purpose of the program was to educate and assist residents of these counties with Fair Housing and Ohio Landlord—Tenant law questions and concerns. Buckeye Hills established a toll-free number for people to call with questions and concerns, distributed brochures and posters to advertise the program and coordinated educational seminars provided by Ohio State Legal Services.

In 1997, C. Boyer Simcox became the Executive Director of Buckeye Hills, continuing to focus on water systems, highway improvements, job creation, economic development projects, education, job training and health care.

Buckeye Hills held its 30th anniversary celebration in 1998, which was also the year the region experienced extreme flooding and major damages to infrastructure and local residences. Development and Aging staff volunteered at FEMA emergency disaster information sites throughout the region in an effort to assist people in the district who had been displaced from their homes or businesses.

2000 - Today

Restructuring and Streamlining

The year 2000 was a year of change for Buckeye Hills. In the midst of a total restructuring of the agency, Y2K came and went and Census 2000 was completed. The agency continued to administer projects and fund programs to improve the quality of life of the residents of the district, while preparing for the upcoming restructuring of the agency.

In 2001, The Community and Economic Development departments were merged into what is now known as the Development Department. New GIS software was purchased to better share information with other state and local agencies in the District.

New Programs

In 2002, the Development Department began administering the Clean Ohio Revitalization and the Clean Ohio Green Space Conservation Programs for the Ohio Department of Development and the Ohio Public Works Commission.



Progress through the Years

2001 was a year of change, but also a year of progress. The Development Department remained focused and committed to serving the region and promoting the interests and providing technical assistance to public entities.

The Area Agency on Aging established a training program to offer professional education in the district to providers, as well as professional staff. The Caregiver Advocacy program was established to allow informal caregivers to receive case management services and the PASSPORT program experienced significant growth.

In 2003, Buckeye Hills assisted the Monroe County Commissioners, Monroe County CIC and the Monroe County Office of Economic Development in securing funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for its Black Walnut Center, a Multi-Tenant Facility in Woodsfield, Ohio.

In 2004, AAA8 received grants to offer The Council on Aging Learning Advantages (COALA) Training Program, a 75-hour training that provides classroom instruction and practical experience for individuals to become Home

Forty Years of Service

Health Aides. To date, 153 residents have completed the program.

In August 2004, the agency moved into a new facility on SR 7 where all programs were located under one roof. In September, both the new and the old buildings were flooded by an event that impacted seven of the eight counties in the region. The staff worked to cleanup the new building while they continued to provide services to the seniors and organizations in the district.

In 2005, the Area Agency on Aging completed implementation of Project Lifesaver in its eight-county district. The response system deploys trained teams with technology to quickly locate and return wandering adults and children to their loved ones.



In 2006, the Revolving Loan Fund loaned over \$717,000 to nine (9) borrowers, creating 117 jobs and retaining 16 jobs in the eight counties.

2007 Annual Report

Executive Director Boyer Simcox Retires



Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District and the constituents it serves had the benefit of having the vision and leadership of Boyer Simcox at the helm for ten years. With his retirement at the end of July, Misty Casto was named Executive Director. Simcox and Casto worked together for 17 years.

Simcox served at Buckeye Hills for 18 years but his career in public service began in 1969 when the concept of a development district was still relatively new.

Simcox was honored by many peers and partners from across the region and state at his retirement celebration.

Buckeye Hills Dedicates Thomas A. Closser Business Center

The Trustees of the Appalachian Development Corporation and Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District dedicated The Thomas A. Closser Business Center Sept. 25 with federal, state and regional leaders joining the celebration. The Center, located at 245 Millers Lane (CR 9) in Marietta, is named in honor of Thomas A. Closser, who was employed by Buckeye Hills in 1969 as Community Development Director, one year after the agency was established. Closser became Executive Director in 1974 and served in that role until 1997.



On-hand for The Business Center Dedication was Loretta Closser and her daughters Leslie and Cindy, as well as extended family members.

John Curtis Honored for Service



John Curtis of Sardis, has served 20 years as a member of the Buckeye Hills leadership as an active member of the Executive Committee, the Personnel Committee and for the Revolving Loan Fund. He has worked with three Executive Directors including Tom Closser, Boyer Simcox and Misty Casto. John is also active on the Monroe County Airport Board and as Chairman of the Monroe County Democratic Executive Committee. He is retired from the Ormet Corp. and has been married to wife, Kay for 46 years. They have three children and six grandchildren.