

DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF APPALACHIA



INSIGHTS, FINDINGS AND CASE STUDIES: A Comprehensive Scan of the 72 Appalachian Local Development Districts



PROMOTING REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR

*Partnerships,
Progress and Prosperity*

DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF APPALACHIA

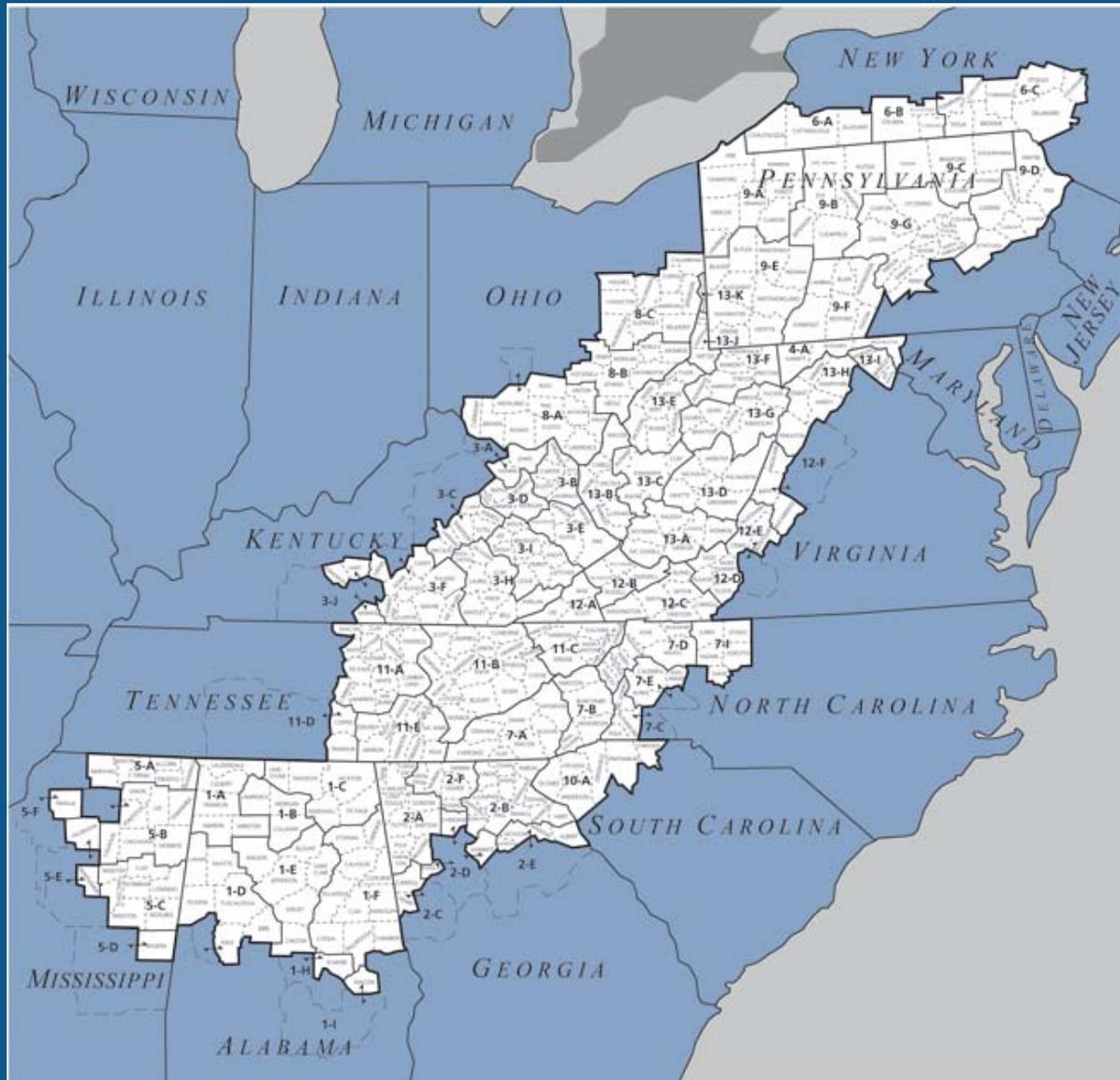
March 2006



About the DDAA:

- ◆ The **Development District Association of Appalachia (DDAA)** is a membership organization of the 72 local development districts (LDDs) in the Appalachian Region.
- ◆ The DDAA works to strengthen LDDs and their member governments and to provide leadership to support the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC's) federal-state-local partnership.

DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF APPALACHIA



72 Local
Development
Districts Serve
as the **Primary
Local Partners**
in ARC's
Federal-State-
Local
Partnership
Model



What's in a Name:

- ◆ **Local Development Districts**
- ◆ **Area Development Districts**
- ◆ **Councils of Government**
- ◆ **Economic Development Districts**
- ◆ **Regional Development Organizations**
- ◆ **Regional Planning Commissions**
- ◆ **Planning and Development Districts**



Bedrock Principles of LDDs:

- ◆ Local governments and communities can **accomplish more by working together** than individually.
- ◆ A **regional and holistic approach** to community and economic development is a model that works.



Common Missions of LDDs:

- ◆ Serve as effective catalysts in **fostering partnerships, progress and prosperity** throughout the 13-state Appalachian region.
- ◆ Help **public and private sector leaders** develop and implement programs and services that build strong regional economies and communities.



ARC, LDDs and Partners: Four Decades of Regional Progress

- ◆ Reduced number of **distressed counties from 223 to 91** over a four-decade period.
- ◆ Cut the region's **poverty rate in half.**
- ◆ **Narrowed the gaps** between the national and regional unemployment rates and income levels.
- ◆ Provided access to safe and clean drinking water **to 800,000 households.**



Holistic Approach to Progress:

- ◆ Offering Technical Assistance to Local Leaders
- ◆ **Promoting Business Recruitment and Retention**
- ◆ Building a Strong Workforce
- ◆ **Bringing Infrastructure Up to Code**
- ◆ Delivering Rural Transportation Services



Holistic Approach to Progress:

- ◆ **Breaking Down Barriers with Enhanced Technology and Telecommunications**
- ◆ Promoting Regional Partnerships for Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
- ◆ **Managing the Environment for the Future**
- ◆ Using GIS to Plan and Implement Services



LDD Impact Across Appalachia:

- ◆ Between 1990 and 2005, our LDDs administered almost **7,700 grants** and projects totaling more than **\$5.5 billion** in pass-through and programmatic funds.
- ◆ **Almost 60,000 jobs** have been created or retained, and **96,000 workforce clients** were prepared to contribute to the region's economy, as a result of LDD programs from mid 1990s to 2004.



LDD Impact Across Appalachia:

- ◆ Our combined business development loan portfolio invested more than **\$368 million in gap financing** for businesses and entrepreneurs between 1995 and 2005.
- ◆ We made more than **2,550 business loans** and leveraged an **additional \$1.1 billion from the private sector** in underserved regions and for companies and entrepreneurs struggling to secure traditional financing.



LDD Impact Across Appalachia:

- ◆ During the past decade, some **2.3 million seniors benefited** from aging programs funded at **\$245 million** and administered by LDDs in parts of the region.
- ◆ Since our inception, LDDs have **helped thousands of citizens and businesses** recover from natural disasters across the region.



Snapshot: LDD Organizational Structure

- ◆ 72 LDDs serve **all 410 counties and 23 million citizens** of the Appalachian region.
- ◆ Each LDD serves an average of **7 counties and 57 local municipalities**.
- ◆ **Sixty-six percent of LDDs serve populations less than 400,000** and 44 percent serve populations under 200,000.



Snapshot: LDD Organizational Structure

- ◆ On average, **each LDD has 28 full-time employees** who work on:
 - Aging programs
 - Business development finance
 - Geographic information system (GIS) technology
 - Environmental planning
 - Community and economic development
 - Emergency preparedness and planning
 - Human services and workforce development
 - Public administration
 - Telecommunications and broadband deployment
 - Transportation planning and public transportation services



Snapshot: LDD Organizational Structure

- ◆ LDDs are governed by boards with an average size of **39 members**.
 - **Two-thirds are typically local government officials and/or appointees.**
 - Remaining portion hail from **academic, business and non-profit sectors**, as required by various federal and state guidelines.



Snapshot: LDD Organizational Structure

- ◆ **50 percent of LDDs have annual operating budgets between \$1 million and \$5 million.**
- ◆ 15 percent of LDDs have operating budgets about \$5 million.
- ◆ In 2005, our LDDs administered **over 1,000 grants and contracts** with almost **\$400 million in federal investments** alone.



Quotes About LDDs:



"In my state and throughout the entire ARC footprint, the work of the Appalachian Regional Commission and its local development districts is a true testament to the power of working regionally to create jobs and improve the economic stability of a region. When a new company locates in our state, it gets a lot of attention. But what people sometimes forget is that more than 70 percent of all new jobs are created by businesses and industries that are already here. By partnering with the local development districts, the Appalachian Regional Commission is able to provide much needed financial and technical assistance to our local businesses and industries to raise the standard of living, improve the quality of life and promote economic development in the Appalachian mountain region."

– Bob Riley, Governor of Alabama



Quotes About LDDs:



"I often view city and county lines as artificial boundaries to economic development and as a member of Congress, I continually stress the importance of thinking regionally. In North Alabama, the Appalachian Regional Commission and our local development district organizations have played a key role in our regional success. Partnerships such as these are important for our area to continue its future growth."

**– U. S. Representative Bud Cramer
Alabama - 5th Congressional District**



Quotes About LDDs:



“One of the keys to the success of the Appalachian Regional Commission is our relationship with the network of 72 local development districts that serve every one of our 410 counties. These multi-county planning and development agencies are the frontline troops in our campaign for improved economic opportunity in Appalachia. Their boards are made up of local elected officials and other local leaders-the people who best understand what our communities need. Without the valued partnership and cooperation of these LDDs, many of the successes that ARC boasts today would not have been possible.”

**– Anne B. Pope, Federal Co-Chair
Appalachian Regional Commission**



Quotes About LDDs:



"As the USDA State Rural Development Office in Ohio works to help improve the economy and quality of life of our rural communities, we value the technical expertise, community outreach and financial partnerships that are available through the local development districts. Working together with Ohio LDDs, we continue to successfully provide funding for home loans, home repairs, business development, community projects and critically needed water and wastewater systems for our citizens."

**– Randall C. Hunt, State Director
USDA State Rural Development
Office in Ohio**



Quotes About LDDs:

“For a state that is predominantly rural like West Virginia, our economic future depends on the ability to expand existing industries. However, this effort becomes increasingly difficult when the funding sources and loan resources available to small business owners continue to dwindle. By working with LDDs and utilizing the financing that the LDDs are able to provide, local business owners can work to create new opportunities for our workers and help to secure the economic stability of our region.”

**– Richard Kerns of Troy Mills, LLC
West Virginia Entrepreneur
Revolving Loan Fund Recipient**



Performance of LDDs:

- ◆ **Bottomline ...** LDDs are cost-effective, efficient and focused on leveraging resources to meet the needs of their local governments and communities.



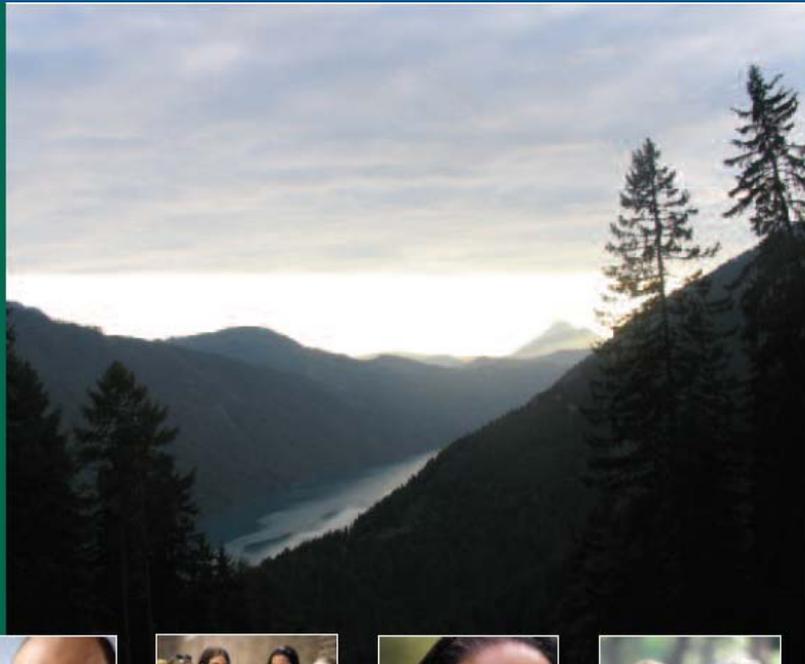
About Our LDD and Our Regional Impact:

- ◆ Insert Examples and Successes of Your LDD.
- ◆ Insert Examples and Successes of Your LDD.
- ◆ Insert Examples and Successes of Your LDD.
- ◆ Insert Examples and Successes of Your LDD.



Paving the Path for Progress...

- ◆ Despite making substantial progress in reducing the region's socioeconomic distress, we recognize much remains to be accomplished.



PROMOTING REGIONAL STRATEGIES FOR

*Partnerships,
Progress and Prosperity*

DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF APPALACHIA

This **special DDAA report** was produced in partnership with the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO).