

County and Regional Support

Governed by independent Local and Regional Boards

Center for Rural Development, Lonnie Lawson, President & CEO

2292 South US Hwy 27 #300, Somerset, KY 42501

(606) 677-6000

The Center for Rural Development was created in 1996 through the vision of U.S. Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers (KY-05) and other leaders to be a state and national model for economic development. Rogers, who makes his home in Somerset, is currently serving his 19th term in Congress, representing the people of the Fifth Congressional District in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. He is the longest serving Kentucky Republican ever elected to federal office. His vision for a brighter future for the next generation of Kentuckians has resulted in the creation of Center affiliate organizations as PRIDE (Personal Responsibility in a Desirable Environment), Operation UNITE (Unlawful, Narcotics, Investigation, Treatment, and Education), Southeast Kentucky Economic Development (SKED), and TOUR Southern and Eastern Kentucky (TOUR SEKY), and the National Institute for Hometown Security (NIHS)—The Center’s affiliate organizations—bringing local communities together by revitalizing the environment, providing hope in the fight against drugs, building small businesses, and creating jobs by increasing tourism in the Bluegrass state.

UNITE Operation UNITE—which stands for Unlawful, Narcotics, Investigation, Treatment, and Education—serves 29 counties in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. The region-wide grant program focuses on three main tasks: creating regional drug task forces for interdiction, confiscation, and undercover operations; organizing local citizens’ groups and coordinating drug treatment programs; and working with educators to expand drug awareness and education programs. Operation UNITE was launched in April of 2003 by U.S. Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers (KY) in response to a special report, “Prescription for Pain,” published by the Lexington *Herald-Leader* newspaper during January and February 2003. This series of articles exposed the addiction and corruption associated with drug abuse in southern and eastern Kentucky, which largely included Rogers’ Fifth Congressional District. The non-profit organization, located on the grounds of The Center in Somerset, works to rid communities of illegal drug use through undercover narcotics investigations, coordinating treatment for substance abusers, providing support to families and friends of substance abusers, and educating the public about the dangers of using drugs. UNITE’s goal is to educate and activate individuals by developing and empowering community coalitions to no longer accept or tolerate the drug culture. To learn more about Operation UNITE, visit www.operationunite.org.

PRIDE (Personal Responsibility in a Desirable Environment) volunteers are making a difference in their home communities and working together to transform Southern and Eastern Kentucky. From the hills and hollers of Appalachian Kentucky to the shores of Lake Cumberland, volunteers are picking up roadside litter, cleaning up illegal dumps, and helping to keep Kentucky's rivers and streams free of household trash. In addition, PRIDE is teaching students and the region's next generation of leaders how to be good stewards of the environment. The PRIDE initiative was launched in 1997 by U.S. Congressman Harold "Hal" Rogers (KY-05) and the late General James Bickford, former secretary of the Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet. Their vision was to restore the natural beauty of Southern and Eastern Kentucky by encouraging citizens to take responsibility for protecting their environment and by providing the education and resources to do so. The PRIDE initiative is coordinated by Eastern Kentucky PRIDE, a nonprofit organization based on the grounds of The Center in Somerset. PRIDE serves 38 counties in Southern and Eastern Kentucky. To learn more about PRIDE, visit www.kypride.org.

Cumberland Valley Area Development District, Whitney Chesnut, Executive Director
342 Old Whitley Road, London, KY 40744
1-800-795-7654 www.cvadd.org

The purpose of the Area Development District (ADD) is to improve the quality of life in the Cumberland Valley by promoting economic development to provide basic facilities essential to the stimulation of business, manufacturing, services, tourism and commercial activities; and through efforts promoting human resource development to improve health, welfare and education systems within the eight county area; and provide a forum for elected officials and citizens to reach a consensus and establish local-state-federal partnerships to seek a coordinated solution to problems.

Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Mike Buckles
33 Marcum Hill Rd, Manchester, KY 40962
(606) 598-5127 danielboonecaa.org

Daniel Boone Community Action Agency, Inc. (DBCAA), is a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization that began as a Community Action Agency on June 1, 1972 for the purpose of eliminating poverty in Clay and Jackson Counties in Kentucky. In October of 1978, DBCAA extended its' service area to include Laurel and Rockcastle Counties. The overall purpose of Daniel Boone Community Action Agency is to assist area residents in acquiring or gaining self-sufficiency. Over the years DBCAA has achieved this purpose by offering a range of services designed to identify and address community needs. Once needs are identified, DBCAA plans, organizes and involves various partners to ensure that citizens have access to, knowledge of and equal opportunity in programs directed toward low-income individuals and families.

[Daniel Boone Transit Authority](#)

Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP), Jeff Whitehead, Executive Director
412 Roy Campbell Drive, Suite 100, Hazard, KY 41701
(606) 436-5751 www.ekcep.org ekcep@ekcep.org

The EKCEP Workforce Investment Board brings together private sector leaders from across Eastern Kentucky with policy makers from education, economic development, and the public sector. The WIB is accountable for leading the regional workforce system in 23 Appalachian Kentucky counties. It is the only workforce board in the region.

Teleworks USA, Michel Cornett, EKCEP Director of Agency Expansion and Teleworks USA
Betty Hays, Teleworks USA Operations Manager
412 Roy Campbell Dr, Hazard, KY 41701 (606) 364-2831
Teleworksusa.com admin@teleworksusa.com

East Kentucky Leadership Foundation, Peter Hille, Chair
c/o Erica Adams, One Community College Drive, Hazard, KY 41701
(606) 487-3104 www.eklf.org

Founded in 1988, East Kentucky Leadership Foundation (EKLF) was created to promote leadership in Eastern Kentucky. Now in its 28th year, the EKLF continues to encourage leadership development, communication and collaboration throughout the Eastern Kentucky region. Each year, EKLF sponsors the East Kentucky Leadership Conference and invites individuals from all walks of life to participate. The conference consists of various sessions about Eastern Kentucky issues, speakers who challenge Eastern Kentuckians to become leaders in their communities, and the annual awards ceremony. The EKLF board includes leaders from throughout the region. These board members volunteer their time to plan and help facilitate the annual conference. Join us on social media and at the conference. It is never too early or too late to become a leader in your community.

FAHE (Federation of Appalachian Housing Enterprises), Jim King, CEO & President

319 Oak Street, Berea, KY 40403

(859) 986-2321 fahe.org

FAHE is on a mission to eliminate persistent poverty in Appalachia. Our unique collaborative model connects a Network of local, regional, and national leaders, all working together to uplift our nation's rural places. Working with our Network of 50+ nonprofits across the Appalachian portion of Kentucky, Tennessee, West Virginia, Virginia, Alabama, and Maryland, we use our expertise in finance, collaboration, innovation, advocacy, and communication to achieve a more prosperous Appalachian region. With a focus on leadership, housing, education, health and social services, and economic opportunity, Fahe empowers the people and communities of Appalachia with the resources, opportunities, and tools needed to build a better life. Our strength in numbers creates positive change in Appalachia, one of the poorest and most difficult regions of the country to serve. Since our inception in 1980, Fahe and Members have served more than 450,000 Appalachians with housing, made over \$703.5 million in direct investments, and achieved a total cumulative financial impact of over a billion dollars in the Appalachian region. Fahe has several lines of business that are utilized by our Membership, Partners, and Appalachian families and businesses.

- [Mortgage Lending](#)—Just Choice Lending (JCL), our Mortgage Lending Department, is a full service mortgage lender that strengthens communities by creating successful homeowners. JCL offers many types of mortgage loans including USDA 502 Direct, USDA 502 Guaranteed, VA, FHA, Conventional, and Refinancing. JCL is the only nonprofit third party originator for Chase and has been instrumental in creating a national nonprofit packaging system for USDA RD 502 Direct loans.
- [Community Lending Services](#)—Fahe couples a Community Loan Fund (CLF) with outstanding lending expertise to facilitate the flow of impactful private and public investments into housing and community development projects across the region.
- [Consulting](#)— Fahe Consulting connects different organizations to specialized resources that will help to expand their projects and improve the quality of life in their communities.
- [Membership](#)—The Membership team strengthens our Network by connecting the Members to each other and to Fahe's expertise and services. Fahe's 50+ Members in six states get access to specialized training, information sharing, financial resources, and a stronger combined political voice that supports positive change in their communities.
- [Loan Servicing](#)—Fahe Loan Servicing emphasizes quality customer care and personalized account management on the mortgages we service for Fahe, our partners, and our borrowers.

FOCUS LLC, (Five Original Counties United for Success)

Independent board working to promote economic development in Jackson, Clay, Lee, Owsley and Leslie counties. Contact Karen Combs, Jackson Energy, 606.364.9223

Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation, Jerry Rickett, Chief Executive Officer

PO Box 1738, London, KY 40743-1738

(606) 864-5175 www.khic.org

Mission Statement: Our mission is to provide and retain employment opportunities in Southeastern Kentucky through sound financial investments and the provision of managerial assistance. Our purpose is to coordinate, devise, implement, and promote community, economic and social development efforts within our twenty-two county footprint.

Micro Enterprise Loans, Small Business Loans, Advanced Business Solutions Loans, Current Asset Leverage Financing, SOAR Farm Loans, Freight Enhancement Loans. Equity Investments through the Appalachian Micro-Equity Fund.

Kentucky Highlands Innovation Center, 440 Old Whitley Road, London, KY 40744 (606) 729-0225

Programs such as KHIC-Start Business Accelerator, KHIC-Start Business Incubator and KHIC-Start Marketing. For information on these programs and more please call or visit the website at www.khic-center.com

Mountain Association for Community Economic Development (MACED), Peter Hille, President

Berea Office: 433 Chestnut Street, Berea, KY 40403

(859) 986-2373 www.maced.org info@maced.org

The Mountain Association for Community Economic Development (MACED) partners with local people to build upon the strengths of Kentucky and Central Appalachia. We create economic alternatives and strive to make Appalachian communities better places to live. Since 1976, MACED's commitment to the communities of Central Appalachia has shown us that high expectations, vision and hard work are essential to accomplish results. Three core strategies help us work toward our goal of transforming the lives of people and places in need in Central Appalachia through sustainable development. MACED program of work follows three paths that flow directly from these core strategies.

- **Community Investment** — Investing capital and capacity-building technical assistance in people and enterprises to create economic opportunities, protect natural and cultural assets and provide critical services.
- **Demonstration Initiatives** — Developing new approaches to old problems and testing them out on the ground.
- **Research and Communications for Policy Change** — Conducting research around policy opportunities and barriers that results in better development practice and opportunities for people who need them.

SOAR (Shaping Our Appalachian Region), Jared Arnett, Executive Director

137 Main Street, Suite 300, Pikeville, KY 41501 soar-ky.org info@soar-ky.org

Shaping Our Appalachian Region is a non-partisan economic development agency tasked to expand job creation, enhance regional opportunity, innovation, and identity, improve the quality of life, and support all those working to achieve these goals in Eastern Kentucky. How? Through collaboration and innovation.

Southeast Kentucky Economic Development Corporation (SKED), Bret Traver, Executive Director

2292 S Hwy 27, Ste 340 · Somerset · Kentucky · 42501

(606) 677-6100 www.southeastkentucky.com

The Southeast Kentucky Economic Development Corporation is a non-profit economic development organization formed in 1986 serving 45 counties in Southeast Kentucky. SKED works directly with individual companies, their consultants and advisors to provide a wide range of services. Our services are provided on a free and confidential basis. We are a one-stop resource for:

- Site selection assistance
- Incentive and business tax information
- Business financing
- Business advice and training
- Key contacts in business and local government
- Demographic, wage and economic data
- Navigation through local government requirements
- Access to workforce training and recruitment resources
- Entrepreneurial/New Small Business Startup Training
- Established Business Growth and Expansion Support
- Diversified Loan Programs
- Extensive Technical Support for Existing Loan Clients
- Partnership Lending with Banks and Other Non-profit Organizations

SKED is designated a Certified Development Corporation (CDC) by the U.S. Small Business Administration. This designation authorizes SKED to process SBA 504 loans throughout the state of Kentucky. The 504 Loan Program is SBA's economic development tool to provide small business financing and create jobs all across America. SKED focuses its business service resources primarily on companies in the manufacturing sector, or high growth business sectors. However, through a regional network of economic development partners, SKED is able to help most companies find assistance for their relocation or expansion projects. SKED welcomes the opportunity to work with you and to make a compelling case for locating and expanding in the Southeast Kentucky region. Our mission is to foster economic growth and vitality in the region. We pursue that mission by assisting you to prosper in Kentucky.

Housing Development Alliance, Scott McReynolds, Executive Director

2871 North Main Street Hazard, KY

(606) 436-0497 www.housingdevelopmentalliance.org

info@housingdevelopmentalliance.org

HDA was incorporated as a non-profit organization in 1993, the Housing Development Alliance serves as lender, counselor, developer, and contractor for low-income persons in need of housing assistance. We work with multiple organizations within the Federal, State, Local governments and private sector to help individuals break down barriers to access resources they need to build financial stability in regards to housing.

Jackson County Community Foundation, Gerry Roll, Executive Director

420 Main Street Hazard, KY 41701

(606) 439-1357 www.appalachianky.org

In February of 2013, Jackson County embarked on a bold venture and created the Jackson County Community Foundation, for the purpose of providing private citizens and businesses with opportunities for investing in the future of Jackson County. JCCF awarded five (5) community development grants of \$1,000 each to local projects in its first year. One of the initial grants was awarded to the Flat Licks Falls Project, which is working to help establish the park as a regional tourist attraction in support of the Jackson County economy. The funds went to help build and construct a kiosk at the local park. This past year, JCCF awarded \$2,500 to the Trail Town Initiative. Grants like this are only possible with the support of dedicated donors. Currently, JCCF is conducting a fund-raising campaign to raise \$160,000 by 2018, the 160th year anniversary of the founding of Jackson County. The Board of Advisors encourage anyone with an interest in the future of Jackson County to consider contributing regardless of the amount. We can all be donors!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Rodney Chrisman, *Chair*, Ben Gilbert, *Vice Chair*, Lana Baker, Philip Curd, Keith Gabbard, Keith Lakes, Melanie Powell, Heather Ward, Pat Wagner

3AJC/Community Kitchen, Carlos Cameron, Rebecca Woods

366 State Highway 3443 Tyner, KY 40486

(606) 364-3436 regionalfoodcenterky.com

The Jackson County Regional Food Center provides Appalachian Farmers and small businesses with an opportunity to tap a growing market with locally produced, value added products. The Center offers a central location in Eastern Kentucky where producers, businesses, and entrepreneurs can process a variety of products from hot sauces, to jams & jellies, to baked goods. The Jackson County Regional Food Center provides a rentable facility for food entrepreneurs to develop recipes and produce value-added food products on a commercial scale. The center also offers co-packing services, storage, and consulting services as needed by clients, including nutritional analysis. The center is owned and run by Alternative Appalachian Agriculture of Jackson County, a Kentucky non-profit corporation.

Jackson County-McKee Industrial Development Authority, Mitchell Ball, Executive Director
169 Carpenter Drive Annville, KY 40402
(606) 364-8397 jcmida@prtcnet.org

The purpose of the Jackson County-McKee Industrial Development Authority (JCM-IDA) (KRS 154.50-301 to 154.50-346) is to aid in the acquisition, retention and development of land for industrial and commercial purposes in Kentucky; to aid in the development and promotion of industrial sites, parks and subdivisions for accommodating industrial and commercial needs; to promote and stimulate the acquisition, retention and development of land for industrial and commercial purposes in Jackson County Kentucky by other local development organizations both public and private.

- Currently, the JCM-IDA is heavily involved with varying levels of ownership in the Annville, McKee and Sand Gap (Northern Jackson County) Industrial Parks. The Jackson County Industrial park enjoys many benefits that cannot be found elsewhere.
- All homes and businesses throughout Jackson County are served by an ALL FIBER Gigabit network direct to each and every premise! State-of-the-art Broadband speeds are available everywhere!
- Businesses located in Jackson County are eligible for special tax incentives through the federal Empowerment Zone.
- Businesses that create new jobs in the area could be eligible for special electric rates.
- New businesses locating in Jackson County could be eligible for state economic development incentives, including assistance with exporting their goods to foreign markets.

The JCM-IDA encourages the development of small business and other entrepreneurship opportunities by extending credit and providing technical assistance to qualifying enterprises.

- Jackson County Enterprise Loan Fund: Maximum Loan \$25,000, Maximum term 10 years, Interest rate is fixed and negotiable, loan funds available for ventures located in Jackson County, KY.
- Jackson County Intermediary Relending Fund: Maximum loan is 75% of the total project cost up to \$150,000; Maximum term 20 years for Real Estate, 10 years for equipment or 5 years for working capital; Interest rate is fixed and negotiable, loan funds available for ventures located in Jackson County, KY.
- McKee Revolving Loan Fund: Maximum Loan currently available is \$70,000 with term and interest rate of loan negotiable. Loan funds available for ventures located within the city limits of McKee, KY.

Board Members: Jeff Henderson, Chairman; Larry Gabbard, Treasurer; Mark Sulfridge, Brook Sparks, Rodney Chrisman, Stephen Gabbard

Jackson County Development Association, Rodney Chrisman, President

PO Box 861 McKee, KY 40447
(606) 287-4712

The Jackson County Development Association, Inc., a 501 (c) (3) organization, was formed in 1985. Since that time, JCDA has been fundamental in assisting businesses develop and create jobs to benefit our local economy. Midsouth, the Industrial Parks, businesses associated with the Empowerment Zone (EZ), and the recent Veterans Memorial Park, have been at the core of JCDA's purpose. Having assumed the role as a Chamber of Commerce, JCDA has worked to bring new businesses to McKee and Jackson County and has collaborated with local, state, and federal leaders to obtain grants for the creation of jobs as well as the improvement of our businesses and roads.

JCDA has proudly served our community for more than 30 years; however, our local economy is struggling like so many other small communities. As you may know, McKee/ Jackson County was recently awarded Trail Town status. Such distinction should make us marketable to attract others to visit our beautiful parks and natural wonders. As a group of concerned citizens, we want tourists to have businesses to frequent upon their hiking/biking/horseback riding adventures and we also want to make sure Jackson Countians are behind the cash registers of those businesses.

We seek new ideas and areas of growth for our community; yet, such opportunities will only be made possible by other concerned citizens and organizations that serve Jackson County and its people. We are currently beginning our 2018 membership year and we would like you to become a member of JCDA, or renew your membership with us. Membership dues are \$10.00 per year for individuals and \$50.00 per year for businesses/corporations.

Although dues help finance our work, we are inviting you to attend our meetings and have a voice in our mission, "...to stimulate business, manufacturing, commercial activity, and civic awareness in Jackson County, Kentucky, whereby the social and economic welfare of its residents will be improved" (Article III, Articles of Incorporation, 1985).

Will you join our vision to make Jackson County a better place to live and work? Our meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the Jackson County Extension office in McKee. You may bring your dues at that time, or you can mail dues to the following: Jackson County Development Association, P.O. Box 188, McKee, KY 40447.

Board Members: Rodney Chrisman, President, Keith Gabbard, Vice-President, Dr. Phillip Curd, Secretary, Jeff Henderson, Board Member, Michael Stidham, Treasurer

State or Federal Government Based Support

KY Work Ready Program - A Kentucky Work Ready Community certification is a measure of the count's workforce quality. The program is administered by the Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board. Executive Director Melissa Aguilar, 502.564.0372, www.workready.ky.gov

Kentucky Innovation Board - Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board serve as an advisor board to the Governor on workforce training and development issues. Executive Director Melissa Aguilar, 502.564.0372, www.kwib.ky.gov

Kentucky DLG - Kentucky Department for Local government provides financial help with grant and loan assistance, as well as advising local governments in the matters of budget, personnel and other issues. Commissioner Sandy Dunahoo, 502.573-2382, www.kydlgweb.ky.gov

Kentucky Small Business Development Center - Kentucky Small Business Development Center provides business planning, management consulting and training services to help Kentucky entrepreneurs and small businesses. State Director Becky Naugle, 859-257-7668. South Central Small Business Director Kevin Norvell, 606-454-7042. www.ksbdc.org

Economic Development Cabinet - Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet provides financial incentives for business and industry to locate in Kentucky, as well as markets industrial development sites to potential industry. Secretary Terry Gill, 502-564-1535. www.thinkkentucky.com

USDA Rural Development - The USDA Rural Development office provides programs and funding opportunities for rural small businesses, community, individuals and organizations. USDA London Office Area Director Barry Turner, 606-864-2172. Ext. 125. www.rd.usda.gov

US Economic Development Administration - The US Economic Development Administration work to build a foundation of job growth and durable regional economies through grant, programs and other resources. They work closely with area development district offices. Kentucky Regional Director Pamela Farmer, 404-730-3026. www.eda.gov

Empowerment Zone Tax Credit - Use IRS Form 8844 to claim the empowerment zone employment credit. For recent tax years the credit is 20% of the employer's qualified wages (up to \$15,000) paid or incurred during the calendar year on behalf of qualified empowerment zone employees. Partnerships and S corporations must file this form to claim the credit. All others are generally not required to complete or file this form if their only source for this credit is a partnership, S corporation, estate, trust, or cooperative. Instead, they can report this credit directly on IRS Form 3800, General Business Credit.

University or Educational Based

Eastern Kentucky University

Kentucky Innovation Network provides resources to help entrepreneurs move from ideas to commercial success – assessment, business planning and capitalization. Director Kristel Smith, 859-622-8571.

www.kyinnovation.eku.edu

Center for Economic Development Entrepreneurship and Technology (CEDET) promotes economic and technological development in communities, businesses and industries in the region. Executive Director

Thomas Martin, 859-622-2334 www.cedet.eku.edu

Berea College

Brushy Fork - Brushy Fork Institute works with communities to offer leadership training, strategic planning and community development resources. Brushy Fork holds an annual institute with classes and speakers to foster community and economic development.

Director Rodney Wolfenbarger, 859-985-3000.

www.berea.edu/brushy-fork-institute

University of Cumberlands

Students from University of the Cumberlands perform community leadership services and programs in the region. Director Debbie Harp, 606-539-4259.

www.ucumberlands.edu/departments/careers-mentoring-leadership-community-service

University of Kentucky

CEDIK - The Community and Economic Development Initiative of Kentucky (CEDIK) provides economic and community development planning and resources. Executive Director Dr. Alison Davis, 859-257-7260.

www.cedik.ca.uky.edu

County Extension Office - A division of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, the Jackson County Cooperative Extension office provides programs in 4-H Youth Development, Agriculture, Community & Economic Development and Family & Consumer Sciences. 4-H Youth Development Verlene Congleton. Agriculture David Coffey. 606-287-7693. www.jackson.ca.uky.edu

Hazard Community Technical College

Workforce Solutions provides training to support services for business and industry in the region. Director Keila Miller, 606-487-3287. www.hazard.kctcs.edu/workforce_solutions