

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission

Federal Funding Opportunities for Workforce and Economic Development

Washington County Community Foundation

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Faith Collins · Community Capacity Coordinator



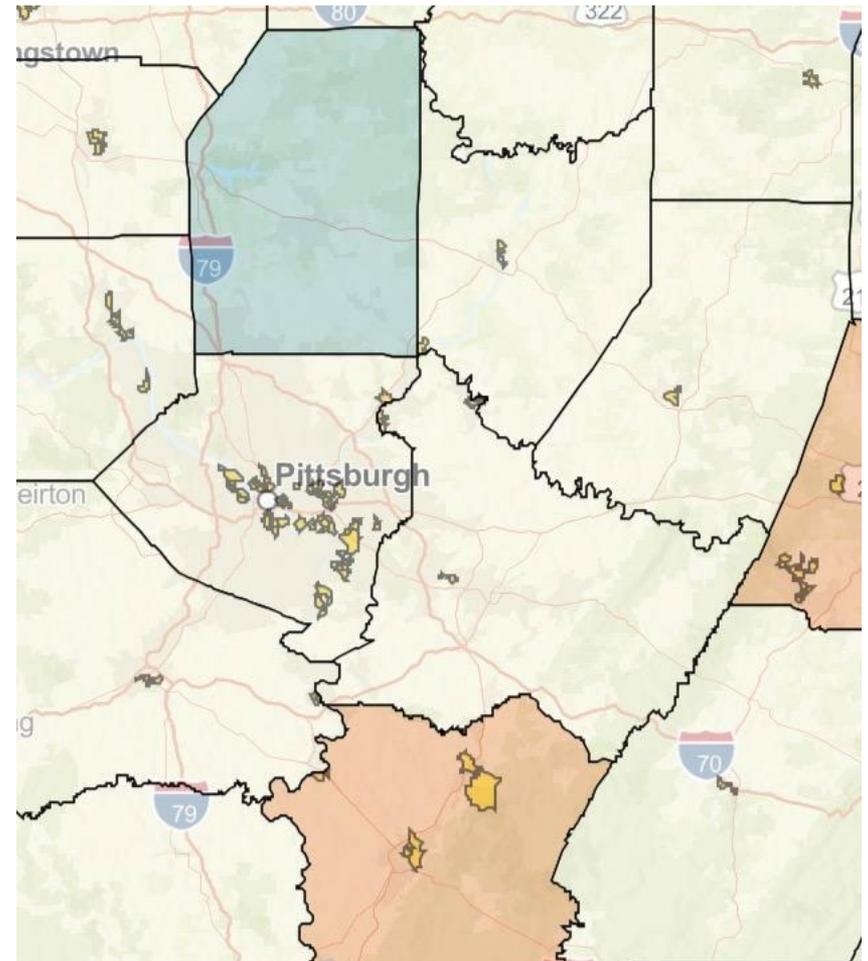
Overview of today's presentation

- Overview of SPC's Economic and Workforce Development Department and technical assistance available
- SPC's role as a Local Development District and Economic Development District
- ARC Funding Opportunities
- EDA Funding Opportunities
- Other funding opportunities
- Success stories
- How we can work together

Service area

- Allegheny
- Armstrong
- Beaver
- Butler
- Fayette
- Greene
- Indiana
- Washington
- Westmoreland

Projects originating outside this service area:
<https://dced.pa.gov/download/pa-ldd-map-arc-contacts/>



SPC Workforce & Economic Development Programs

- Federal designations:
 - Local Development District (LDD)
 - Economic Development District (EDD)
- State designation:
 - Partnership for Regional and Economic Performance (PREP) network
 - Upcoming DCED grant opportunities: <https://dced.pa.gov/program/>
- Small Business Support
 - Business Finance Assistance
 - Export Development Program
 - Government Contract Technical Assistance
- Community Capacity Program
 - Support Local Government, Non-Profit and Community Development
- Plus: Keystone Opportunity Zones (KOZ), BBBRC

Economic Development District & Local Development District Activities:

- As federally designated LDDs/EDDs our role is to:
- Help leverage resources to the region.
- Update and provide the regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) which serves as a strategic plan and road map for economic and community development initiatives, services, and projects in our region.
- Provide technical assistance from application through grant close out of EDA, ARC and other state and federal grants through activities such as:
 - Assist with determining project eligibility and competitiveness of applications
 - Ensure required alignment with CEDS
 - Convene/identify partners, needs assessment data and provide matching funds assistance

ARC Funding Opportunities

- Area Development
- ARISE: <https://www.arc.gov/grants-and-opportunities/arise/>
- POWER: <https://www.arc.gov/grants-and-opportunities/power/>
- INSPIRE: <https://www.arc.gov/grants-and-opportunities/sud/>
- More information: <https://arc.gov/>
- These funding opportunities bring millions of dollars to our region yearly
- SPC's region has assisted with over 24M for POWER this year
- ARC funding amounts vary year to year

EDA Funding Opportunities

- Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance (PWEAA) funding opportunity:
 - **Overview:** EDA supports bottom-up strategies that build on regional assets to spur economic growth and resiliency. EDA encourages its grantees throughout the country to develop initiatives that present new ideas and creative approaches to advance economic prosperity in distressed communities.
 - NOFO link: <https://www.eda.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/fiscal-year-2025-public-works-and-economic-adjustment-assistance>
- see all open opportunities here: https://www.eda.gov/funding/funding-opportunities/all-opportunities?q=/funding/funding-opportunities/all-opportunities&f%5B0%5D=funding_status%3A6565

Other grants

- USDA
 - Rural Development Grants & Loans
- EPA
 - Brownfields Technical Assistance Program (TAB) grants
- Any federal or state grant opportunity dealing with workforce or economic development – *get in touch with us!*



Community Capacity *Success Story* - *Local Access Road*

Project Title: Matthew Drive Rehabilitation and Improvement Project

Grantee: South Union Township, Fayette County, PA

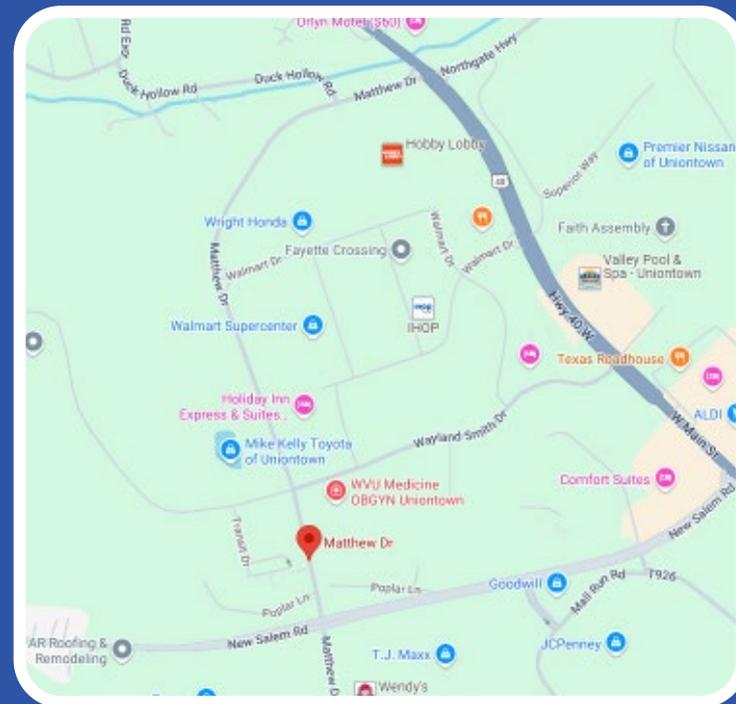
Amount awarded: \$2,685,822.30

Announcement date: May 2024

Project Description:

Community Capacity Success Stories: Local Access Road This project will extensively renovate the road surface and underlying infrastructure, milling and resurfacing the entire road up to a depth of two inches.

The road sees 9,787 vehicles per day and serves as the access road to the Fayette Area Coordinated Transportation (FACT) Transfer Center as well as directly supporting 35 businesses. 1.23 miles of access road will be developed as a result of this project. South Union Township was awarded \$2,430,174 from ARC Local Access Road for this project (total project cost: \$2,685,822.30).





Community Capacity *Success Story* - *Area Development*

Project Title: Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union 354
HVACR/Plumbing Service Technician Training Center

Grantee: Local Union 354

Amount awarded: \$340,610

Announcement date: September 2023

Project Description: Local Union 354 was awarded ARC Area Development funding to expand their Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) staff, equipment, and offerings. The Plumbers and Pipefitters JATC has a training program consisting of classroom instruction and shop instruction (two nights per week) and on-the-job training in Plumbing, Welding, Pipe Fitting/Steam Fitting and HVAC-Refrigeration & Service.

Our Apprentices have the opportunity to work during the day with Local Union #354 Journeymen who will help and guide you with the tasks at hand while attending school two evenings a week and learning first hand from our Instructors, who have gone through the program and are currently working with our contractors, everything there is to know and more. This project will serve and improve 25 businesses in 14 counties, create two jobs, and improve 25 trainees.

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Figure 1: JATC Students at work.

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Community Capacity Success Story - ARISE

Project Title: Pennsylvania Ohio West Virginia Economic Revitalization (POWER) Network

Grantee: Carnegie Mellon University

Amount awarded: \$293,551

Announcement date: February 2024

Project Description: This project will explore ways to overcome transportation and mobility challenges across 24 counties in Appalachian Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia. The project team will produce a regional transit enhancement plan leveraging intelligent hybrid mobility services to reduce isolation and improve access to jobs, training centers, and health care. Carnegie Mellon University and partners will leverage \$263,505 of funds to the project, bringing the total project budget to \$530,056. The project will result in the creation of one comprehensive plan, serving 24

More Information:

arc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/2024.02-ARISE-Project-Snapshot-Carnegie-Melon-University.pdf

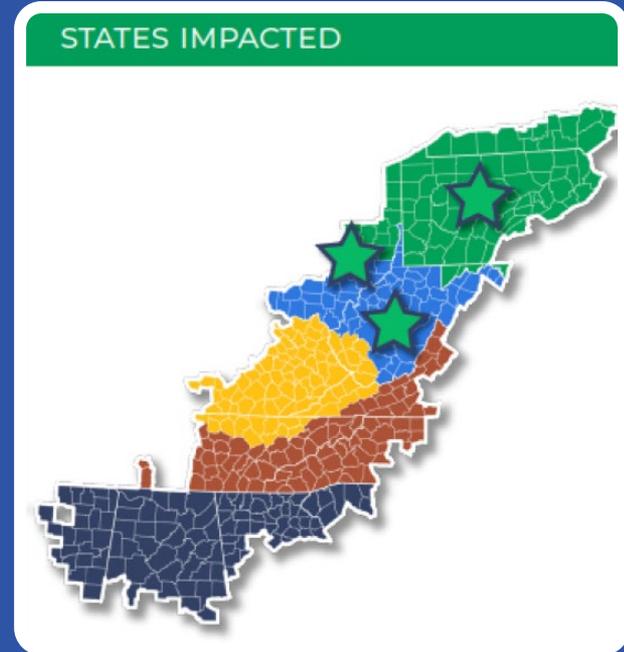


Figure 1: CMU's service area for ARISE project.



Community Capacity Success Story - *INSPIRE*

Project Title: POWER Programs Growth and Recovery

Grantee: Pennsylvania Organization for Women in Early Recovery (POWER)

Amount awarded: \$500,000

Announcement date: November 2021

Project Summary: ARC grant to the Pennsylvania Organization for Women in Early Recovery (POWER) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the POWER Programs Growth and Recovery project.

The project will expand a recovery ecosystem for individuals in recovery from substance use disorders (SUD) in the 14-county service area of Appalachian Pennsylvania, with a focus on enhancing and expanding support for job training and employment through the creation and expansion of community partnerships and linkages between workforce development organizations, local businesses, and organizations that provide post-SUD treatment wraparound services.

Through collaboration with workforce development organizations and training partners, such as PA Women Work, the Trade Institute of Pittsburgh, the Mon Valley Institute, and the Squirrel Hill Health Center, the project will provide the following: employment counseling; job skills assessment; soft- and hard-skills training; resume development; assistance with job searches and job matching; financial literacy education and coaching; clinical care; and ancillary and specialty support services for approximately 50 individuals in early recovery. The project will

also provide greater access to SUD treatment and family support services for an estimated 235 patients, 60 of whom will have improved health and quality of life outcomes with SUD treatment

and family therapy.
<https://www.arc.gov/investment/pennsylvania-organization-for-women-in-early-recovery-providing-tailored-treatment/>

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Figure 1: Proposed campus for POWER programming.

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Community Capacity Success Story - POWER

Project Title: Partners for Creative Economy
Grantee: Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation
Amount awarded: \$1,463,222
Announcement date: October 2023

Project Summary: ARC grant of \$1,463,222 to Rivers of Steel Heritage Corporation in Homestead, Pennsylvania, for the Partners for Creative Economy project. The project will build local leadership, provide career opportunities in historic trades, and invest in the future economic growth and success of the Pittsburgh region's cultural heritage assets. The Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area (ROS) has helped to lead the region's transition from heavy industry to high technology and diversified services, as well as to bolster the new regional economy by promoting arts and heritage tourism. The project presents transformational opportunities to communities in the region through five key strategies: a Creative Leadership Program, Joint Program Partnerships, Collaborative Marketing, Workforce Training, and Mini Grants. This process will bring together artists and designers with community groups, municipal leaders, heritage tourism assets, and others to address a range of community and economic development needs. The project will serve 30 businesses, 14 workers/trainees, 22 communities, and 72 participants.

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Figure 1: photos from Rivers of Steel's iron pour



Figure 2: photos from Rivers of Steel's iron pour.



Figure 3: Chris McGinnis, Director of Rivers of Steel Art at Carrie Furnace.

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Community Capacity *Success Story - POWER*

Project Title: Trade Institute of Pittsburgh Social Enterprise

Grantee: Trade Institute of Pittsburgh

Amount awarded: \$1,562,218

Announcement date: October 2023

Project Summary: ARC grant of \$1,562,218 to the Trade Institute of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, for the Trade Institute of Pittsburgh Social Enterprise project. The project will provide additional paid workforce experience for trainees who have completed the masonry program and the Trade Institute but are still experiencing additional barriers to employment. This program will provide wrap-around services to trainees who may need recovery support, housing support, and additional services in the most distressed areas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Through a partnership with Community College of Allegheny County, Concrete Rose, First National Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Harris Masonry, Partners4Work, Pittsburgh Gateways, and Pittsburgh Housing Development Corporation, trainees will be connected to support they need on and off the training site. In addition, businesses will get technical assistance for weatherization and clean energy

practices. The project anticipates serving 138 workers/trainees and 10 businesses

Trade Institute LinkedIn Award Announcement:
https://www.linkedin.com/posts/trade-institute-of-pittsburgh_appalachian-pennsylvania-173-million-awarded-activity-712776831696470016-gqco/

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Figure 1: JATC Students at work.

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How we can work together

- Maybe you're a potential applicant or are interested in referring potential applicants to SPC:
 - Examples of good projects: anything related to economic development, some examples below of potentially successful applications:
 - Regional or county-wide economic development planning grants
 - Workforce development training programs
 - Multi-state economic development planning or implementation grants in [Appalachia](#)
 - Substance abuse recovery workforce development projects
 - Leadership development initiatives
 - Small business incubators

This is a small sample – please reach out with potential project ideas!

- [ARC funding goals](#)
- [EDA funding goals](#)
- [Governor Shapiro's Ten-Year Economic Development Strategy](#)

When considering applying for a federal grant...

- Have you administered federal grants before?
 - *If not, we can work with you to get you ready for federal grants (i.e. SAM registration)*
- Do you have the ability to work on a reimbursement schedule?
 - *Do you have the operating funds available to run programming in the interim?*
- Do you have funding sources willing (or would be willing) to provide match for this project?
 - *If yes, great! Match commitment letter template will be sent following this presentation*
 - *If not yet, your potential funder can offer match if and only if you as the applicant is funded by the federal government OR pending review at upcoming board meetings – match contingency letter template will also be sent as follow-up*

Commons pitfalls for applicants

- Match
 - POWER and INSPIRE do not have to be secured at time of submission
 - Area Development does need to be secured at time of pre-application submission
- Navigating grant administration, reporting, and federal grant submission portals
 - SPC is federally mandated to assist with all aspects of grant technical assistance
 - DCED provides grant consultants for ARC applicants
- Applicants lack the operating funds to sustain federal programming

Follow-up information

- Slides + contact information
- Match commitment letter template
- Match contingency letter template
- Our website with grant information and timelines:
<https://www.spcregion.org/communitydevelopment/>
- *Nonprofits, local government units, municipalities are eligible for federal funding; for profits and individuals are not eligible*
 - *But can be eligible for state funding!*

SPC Workforce and Economic Development Contacts

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Questions?

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