

An aerial photograph of a city, likely St. Louis, Missouri, featuring a large river (the Mississippi River) and a prominent bridge (the Eads Bridge). The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark blue filter. The text is centered and reads:

Just Transition Fund Federal Access Center

Midwestern Governors Association
December 13, 2022

JUST
TRANSITION
FUND

About the Just Transition Fund

We created the Just Transition Fund (JTF) to help communities overcome the economic challenges brought about by the coal industry's decline.

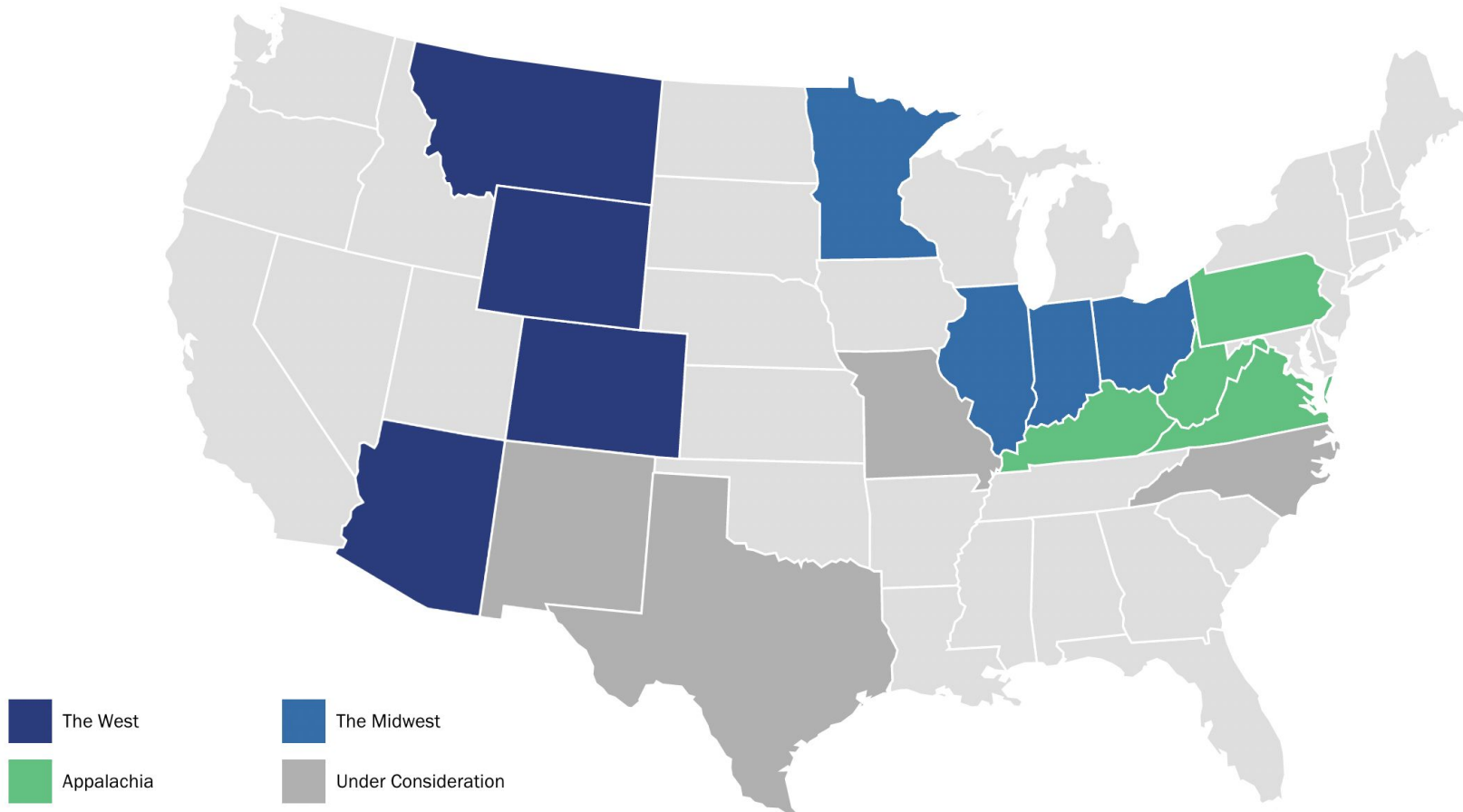
We launched as in 2015 in response to President Obama's POWER Initiative **with the express goal of strengthening local economies by promoting inclusive, equitable economic opportunity.** Our framework is centered on investing in and scaling local economic, workforce development, and infrastructure projects that **strengthen and diversify local economies.**

Our programs and initiatives:

- Grantmaking
 - Community Economic and Workforce Development
 - State and Federal Policy
- Federal Access Center (grants and technical assistance)
 - Specialized broadband support
- National Economic Transition Initiative
- Convenings

Where We Work

We have prioritized these states to date but are NOT restricting geographic eligibility for the Federal Access Center. **If you're working to support economic transition in a coal community, regardless of state, please reach out!**



Federal Access Center

The Federal Access Center (FAC) is a **one-stop resource hub** to help coal communities secure public funding for local economic solutions.

Launched as a stand-alone initiative in October, building and expanding on work and our long track record of success. **To date we've helped communities leverage \$360 million in federal funding!**

Our Funding Priorities:

- Economic Development
- Workforce Development
- Infrastructure (Broadband)

Services to Help Access Federal Funds

Application-Ready Support

- **Grants up to \$25,000** to 501c3 organizations to support costs associated with developing federal applications, including grant writers and match.
- **Technical assistance** from experts who can review proposals before submission, provide guidance on program requirements, and more.

Early-Stage Capacity Building Support

- Limited amount of grants and technical assistance for early-stage planning projects with the long-term goal of accessing federal funds.
- Current focus is broadband – grants of up to \$150,000 and TA to help organizations access public funds to expand broadband access.

Informing and Coordinating with Federal Agencies

- Share lessons learned back with agencies about barriers for communities applying for federal funds.
- Work with IWG and their Rapid Response Teams where there is geographic alignment.

Success Story: Rural Action

The Plains, OH

Project: Connect youth with living wage job opportunities in ecological restoration

JTF Support: \$25,000 to support staff time to develop an ARC POWER proposal

Outcome:

- ARC grant of \$1,500,000 awarded
- Expect to train 490 individuals in ecological restoration

Success Story: Thrive West Central

Terre Haute, IN

Project: Establish a revolving loan fund, creating a permanent capital resource for small, underserved businesses in the region that cannot otherwise obtain traditional financing

JTF Support: \$25,000 to serve as match for their proposal to EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

Outcome:

- EDA grant of \$800,000 awarded
- Expected to create 80 jobs, retain 45 more jobs, and generate at least \$2 million in private investment

Preview: Greater Peoria EDC

Peoria, IL

Project: Provide technical assistance to five county region to conduct feasibility studies and develop broadband projects to be supported with federal funds.

JTF Support: Grant funding for staff capacity and technical assistance in seeking federal and state grant funding

Outcome: In progress! JTF support will help them apply for 3-5 federal grants in the next year.

Upcoming Federal Grant Deadlines

Economic and Workforce Development

- **Next deadline February** – ARC ARISE
- **Deadline February 28** – USDA Rural Business Development Grants
- **Deadline expected in March** – ARC POWER
- **Rolling** – EDA Economic Adjustment Assistance/Assistance to Coal Communities
- **Rolling** – EDA Planning and Local Technical Assistance Program
- **Rolling** – USDA Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program, **next deadlines Dec 31, March 31**

Upcoming Federal Grant Deadlines

Broadband

- **Dependent by State** – Capital Project Funds
- **Deadline January 9, 2023** – FCC's Affordable Connectivity Program Outreach Grant
- **Deadline January 30, 2023** – USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant
- **Deadline early 2023** – USDA's Community Connect, application expected to open December 2022
- **Deadline Spring 2023** – ARC POWER, application expected to open in late February 2023

Are you interested in applying for federal funds? Fill out our 1 minute interest form to schedule a brief call! We'll put the link in the chat or use QR code:



Scan the QR code with your phone to access the interest form.

Do you work with people who are interested in applying to federal funds? Please help us spread the word. We'll put the PDF one-pager in the chat!

Thank you!

Contact:

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