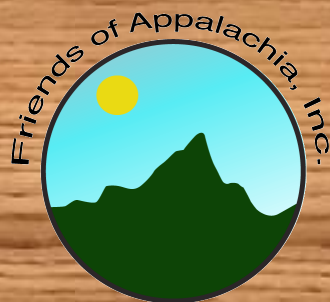


Friends of Appalachia, Inc. (FOA) is a Trumbull, Connecticut based Community Organization, open to all, which strives to educate and sensitize youth and adult volunteers to address the needs of the impoverished people in Central Appalachia.



www.friendsofappalachia.org

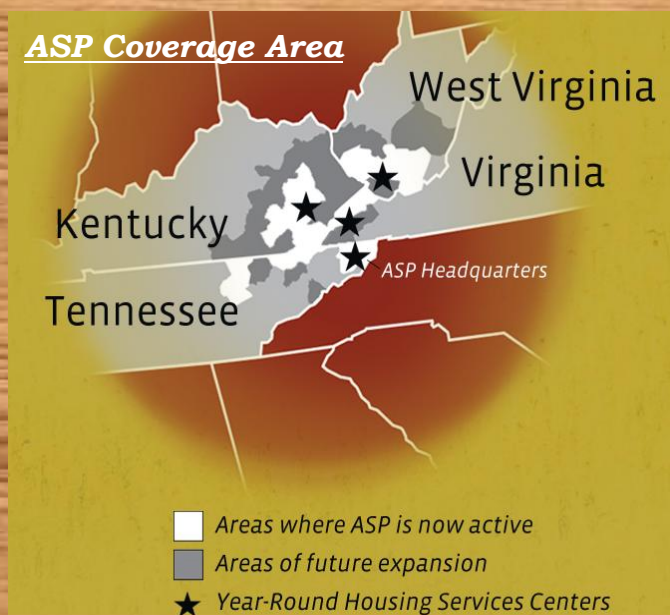
SUPPORTING:
APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT, INC.
www.asphome.org
KIDS FIRST DENTAL CARE
www.kidsfirstdental.org
MISSION OF HOPE
www.missionofhope.org

Central Appalachia: The height of beauty, the depths of poverty



In the region where ASP serves:

- Poverty is more than double the national average
- One in four lives below the poverty level – 105,000 children, 195,000 adults, and 35,000 elderly
- 62,500 homes are substandard
- 19,000 homes lack adequate kitchens
- 21,000 homes lack complete plumbing
- Nearly half of the families have annual household incomes below \$20,000;
- The need is so great, ASP is only able to help one in ten families who apply for help. The more people who volunteer, the more families we can help.



How can a region so rich in natural resources be so poor?

- You can't build factories on mountainsides. You can't plant crops. And for more than a hundred years, large corporations have extracted natural resources while putting little back in the form of taxes or community support.
- Fundamentally, Central Appalachia's problems stem from the fact that in an eighty-county area, 72% of the surface acreage and 89% of the mineral rights are absentee-owned. Historically much of this land has been greatly under-assessed and under-taxed.
- As a result of this under-taxation, local municipalities have had very little revenue to finance adequate educational systems, construct and maintain water and sewage treatment facilities, provide for county landfills, roads, and basic health care.
- For many of these families, their modest houses – handed down from generation to generation – are the only real possession they have. But houses need maintenance.

Source: The Appalachia Service Project logo and related information was taken from www.asphome.org.

One Country, Two Worlds:

A Comparison of Fairfield County, CT to Typical Central Appalachia Areas

Metric (year)	Fairfield County, CT	Martin County, KY	Johnson County, TN	Mingo County, WV	Buchanan County, VA
Median value of owner-occupied housing units (2000)	\$288,900	\$62,100	\$72,200	\$61,100	\$55,400
Median household income (2008)	\$84,250	\$22,841	\$28,918	\$27,438	\$26,571
Persons below the poverty level, % (2008)	8.2%	35.3%	25.8%	24.6%	23.0%
Bachelor's degree or higher, % of persons aged 25+ (2000)	39.9%	9.0%	6.9%	7.3%	8.0%
Building permits (2008)	1,814	0	2	1	34

Source: The United States Census Bureau State and County Quick Facts at www.quickfacts.census.gov.