ATCO Legacy Fund
Fall 2025

Introduction

The Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD), in partnership with the Athens County Foundation, is proud to announce the Fall 2025 Request for Proposals (RFP) for the ATCO Legacy Fund.

ATCO, which was the ACBDD's adult services program for nearly 50 years, was a much-beloved program that prioritized advocacy and inclusion for all enrollees in the program. In order to comply with a federal rule, ATCO closed in December 2018 after a three-year transition plan. The ATCO Legacy Fund is designed to allow the ACBDD to carry on the compassion and philosophy developed at ATCO, Inc. well into the future. As part of that process, stakeholders helped the ACBDD to identify certain elements from ATCO that could be sustained and enhanced while remaining in compliance. Those conversations led to the creation of this fund in 2018.

The fund offers financial assistance to providers (agency and independent), organizations, and community partners in Athens County interested in working towards integration and inclusive opportunities for individuals with intellectual / developmental disabilities (I/DD).

The Athens County Foundation, charged with assisting in the administration of the RFP process, will convene a committee to review all proposals. The committee will then present selection recommendations – based on the criteria outlined below – to the ACBDD's Superintendent.

Eligibility

This program is open to any provider of service, community group, organization, or community partner that has the intent to support integration and inclusion for individuals with I/DD in Athens County.

Funding Priorities

These funds can be used for anything creative, so long as it enhances the quality of life AND promotes inclusion/integration for people with I/DD in their community. Examples could be (but not limited to): adapted equipment, transportation needs, technology, innovative programing, and educational material. The structure and funding priorities are intentionally left broad and open-ended to promote creativity and innovation. This year, preference will be given to new projects / proposals.

Funding Availability

The ACBDD has allocated $20,000.00 for this cycle. There is no minimum or maximum funding level per request. However, if you are requesting more than $7,500, please reach out to Shayne Lopez with Athens County Foundation for guidance.

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Service & Support
8 Harper Street
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Transportation & Facilities
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RFP Application Requirements
Applicants must provide all information requested via the Athens County Foundation's application process. Details of how to apply can be found on the Foundation's website. Applications must be received by the deadline. The committee may request additional information to help its determination.

Proposal Deadline
Sept. 28 – Proposals due by 11:59 p.m. EST to the Athens County Foundation.

Proposal Review Timeline – *dates are tentative*
- Oct. 2 – Oct. 13 – Review and scoring by Recommendation Committee (facilitated by the Athens County Foundation)
- Oct. 13 – Committee provides recommendations to the ACBDD's Superintendent
- Oct. 28 – The ACBDD Board members officially review and approve grant fund recommendations at the regular board meeting
- After approval, before awarding of funds, the ACBDD will enter into a "contract" agreement with the winning applicants

For additional information, contact:
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Athens County Foundation
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