

DAVID TURNBULL NAMED 2021 GREATER GOOD AWARDEE



Last month, friends and colleagues gathered at 1812 Brewery to celebrate the 2021 Greater Good Award recipient Dave Turnbull and his great contribution to the region. The Greater Good Award has been awarded each year since 2007 and is given to a TGCC member who demonstrates a commitment to pursuing the greater good of the tri-state region and embodies the philosophy of “less fame, more gain.”

Dave has remained local for much of his personal and professional life. He currently serves as President of Turnbull, Hoover, and Kahl, P.A., as well as a member on many community boards such as the City of Cumberland Economic Development Commission, Greater Allegany County Business Foundation, and Frostburg State University Board of Visitors, among others. One of the TGCC's most important initiatives over the last several years has been the North/South Appalachian Highway project, which stretches from Somerset County, Pennsylvania, to Corridor H in West Virginia. As a result of TGCC's involvement as a key regional facilitator of this work, significant progress has been made over the last decade to complete US 219 between I-68 and Somerset, Pennsylvania and this section of the corridor is anticipated to be completed by 2031, an accomplishment many said could never be done.

Dave's willingness to endorse this project as a TGCC initiative during his tenure as Chair, is illustrative of his willingness to pursue a bold, long-term vision of prosperity for our region. He was described as an “extremely organized and experienced leader” who is goal-oriented, thoughtful, and trustworthy.

Dave joins a host of other community leaders and past recipients of the award, including most recently Carl “Buck” Belt, Jr. (2020). The 2022 Greater Good Award recipient will be honored later this year.



COLLEEN PETERSON RECOGNIZED AS 2022 MEDA VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Maryland Economic Development Association (MEDA) recognized our own Colleen Peterson as the winner of the 2022 MEDA Volunteer of the Year Award. The 2022 MEDA Awards, sponsored by Miles & Stockbridge P.C., recognize the exceptional people, programs and projects bringing economic prosperity to Maryland.

As the North/South Appalachian Highway Work Group Chair for TGCC, Peterson championed the completion of the North/South Appalachian Highway between Somerset, Pennsylvania and Corridor H in West Virginia. Her leadership on this infrastructure project for Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia helped to secure more than \$500 million toward the completion of the corridor between I-68 and Somerset, Pennsylvania. In her capacity as Work Group Chair, Peterson helped to secure \$1.25 billion in federal funding for the Appalachian Development Highway System, with more than \$140 million in federal funds anticipated to benefit the region over the next five years to help complete the corridor by 2031.

From tourism initiatives to economic programs, Peterson has stewarded change on various community boards throughout the region. Now retired, Peterson previously served as Vice President for University Advancement at Frostburg State University and was also the Executive Director of TGCC.



“Colleen Peterson is a change agent at heart and in practice. She’s shaped the story of her region in a powerful way. It’s a pleasure to honor her as MEDA’s Volunteer of the Year,” said Danny Thompson, MEDA President.

TGCC is incredibly pleased and proud that Colleen is being recognized for her years of service to the community, region and to TGCC. Colleen’s commitment to long-term strategic thinking and planning has resulted in incredible investments into the region and will have an impact for decades to come. We are delighted to celebrate this incredible honor with one of our legacy members and thank her for the countless hours she has dedicated to advancing economic development in the region.



The I-68 Regional Alliance recognizes housing as an integral component of economic development. Over this last year, the Alliance pursued the Regional Market-Rate Housing Study (linked below) to evaluate the barriers to investment throughout the region and to identify a framework and opportunities to eliminate these barriers for those interested in relocating to the area and those already residing in our communities. The housing study not only supplies a market-rate housing toolkit, but also a strategic framework for applying this toolkit to the region.

The Alliance will convene a Regional Market-Rate Housing Advisory Committee Planning Session on September 13th, which brings together key stakeholders from across the sectors, including, industry, government, non-profits, economic development, and education, to discuss the study’s findings and recommendations for next steps and to develop a framework for collaboration which will support our goal of healthier levels of market-rate housing in the region. We know that the quality of a region’s housing and its ability to be economically competitive—to attract and retain the skilled workers that businesses and institutions need to thrive—are closely connected issues.

Read more about the housing study and Its findings [here](#).

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION NAMES TGCC FOR READY NONPROFITS FALL COHORT

JENNIFER WALSH AND DELANIE BLUBAUGH TO REPRESENT TGCC IN 10-WEEK LEARNING TRACK DESIGNED FOR APPALACHIAN NONPROFIT LEADERS.



08.30.2022, CUMBERLAND— The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) named **Jennifer Walsh**, Executive Director, and **Delanie Blubaugh**, Executive Assistant at TGCC to participate in the Fall 2022 Cohort of READY Nonprofits, one of four learning tracks in ARC's READY Appalachia initiative.

Selected through a competitive application process, Jennifer and Delanie will participate in 10 weeks of coursework and peer-to-peer learning designed specifically for Appalachian nonprofits and delivered

by an array of content specialists. Once they complete the 10-week course, TGCC is eligible to apply for up to \$25,000 in match-free funding to implement a capacity-building project in our five-county, tri-state region.

"By helping local leaders and nonprofit organizations to build on their capacity to develop infrastructure projects and workforce development initiatives in our communities, READY Appalachia will also help increase equity for our Appalachian people and ensure that the region's resilience and success will transform their future," said ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin.

READY Nonprofits Fall 2022 Cohort members will develop skills across a variety of areas, including:

- **Fundraising**
- **Financial management**
- **Board development**
- **Staff and volunteer recruitment and retention**
- **Program and operations management**
- **Marketing, communications, and storytelling**

Jennifer stated, "We are delighted to have been selected to participate in READY Appalachia's 2022 Fall Cohort. This is an exciting opportunity for our team to increase its capacity and to develop the skills needed to effectively share about our work and have a greater regional impact with help from experts in the field. We look forward to what this 10-week course has to offer and ways it can help us better serve the region."

ABOUT READY APPALACHIA

READY Appalachia is an Appalachian Regional Commission community-capacity building initiative offering free training and flexible funding for nonprofit organizations, community foundations, local governments, and Local Development Districts (LDDs) in the Appalachian Region. Participants access cohort-based learning, skill development, and grant opportunities to increase their capacity to solve pressing issues and effect long-lasting economic change in their communities.

ABOUT THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION

The Appalachian Regional Commission (www.arc.gov) is an economic development agency of the federal government and 13 state governments focusing on 423 counties across the Appalachian Region. ARC's mission is to innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia to help the Region achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation.

ESG PROJECT MOVES INTO PHASE 3

With support from the Rural Maryland Council, Department of Commerce, Department of Natural Resources and the University of Maryland, TGCC is creating a certified branding program to promote the region's wood products as a preferred option for local commercial, institutional, and retail buyers. The branding program is designed specifically to meet the goals of corporate ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) Investment objectives. As new models for certifying corporate compliance with ESG sustainability guidelines emerge, forest product businesses must adapt to remain competitive. TGCC's ESG Project is a stakeholder-centric approach to an industry often dominated by large global players. These players have the ability and influence to institute protocols and reporting measures that make ESG viable for those mid to large-scale companies, but not viable for smaller-scale, local businesses. Our ESG Project seeks to put the power back in regional businesses and back into our communities.

Our approach is designed to build and implement a measurement and reporting system best suited for the scope and capabilities of our local and regional businesses. This system, values-based and operated through a Quality Management Plan (QMP), cuts down the greater cost of traditional ESG companies while having the structural framework to make this not only an economic driver for our communities based on integrity, but also one that is reliable, sustainable, and flexible to our needs and capabilities. In addition to building a structural base for regional ESG success, the Maryland ESG Project will also be host to several other member services working to improve and strengthen our supply chain not only throughout the state, but also in neighboring communities and states. Put simply, this program seeks to implement structural support and integration to local and regional economic drivers so our communities can thrive and prosper.



UPCOMING DATES

Mark your calendars...

- **Executive Committee**
 - September 8 @ 9:30 AM, FSU
 - October 13 @ 9:30AM, FSU
- **Governance Committee**
 - September 8 @ 11 AM, FSU
 - October 6 @ 11 AM, FSU
- **I-68 Regional Alliance**
 - September 14 @ 2 PM, Zoom
 - October 12 @ 2 PM, Zoom
- **Energy & Natural Resources WG**
 - September 15 @ 10 AM, Zoom
 - October 20 @ 10 AM, Zoom