Introduction
The Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities (ACBDD), in partnership with the Athens County Foundation, is proud to announce the 2022 Spring 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 still remaining in compliance. Those conversations led to the creation of this fund in 2018.

This RFP is designed to offer 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. A more detailed timeline of events is also listed below.

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. 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.
Funding Availability
The ACBDD has allocated $20,000.00 for this cycle. Historically, the average award amount has been approximately $3,000, ranging from $900 to $7,500. However, there is no minimum or maximum funding level per request.

RFP Application Requirements
Applicants must provide all information outlined in the provided form (and noted below) to the Athens County Foundation by the deadline. Applications must be emailed as a PDF to the Athens County Foundation – info@athensfoundation.org. The committee may request additional information to help its determination.

Please provide the following information in the application form:

- Organization’s name and address
- Brief description of your organization, if applicable (max of 200 words)
- Applicant’s name, phone number, email, mailing address
- Proposed use of funds (max of 1,000 words)
- Total amount requested, along with itemized budget
- Supporting documentation justifying funding request
- Other information to help the committee make a determination, including demonstrated need for the funds

Proposal Deadline
May 25 – Proposals due by 5 p.m. to the Athens County Foundation via email, mail, or drop off.

Proposal Review Timeline
- May 30 - June 3 – Review and scoring by Recommendation Committee (facilitated by the Athens County Foundation)
- June 13 – Committee provides recommendations to the ACBDD’s Superintendent
- June 28 – The ACBDD Board members officially review and approve grant fund recommendations at the regular June Board meeting
- After approval, before awarding of funds, the ACBDD will enter into a contract agreement with the winning applicants.

For additional information, contact:
The Athens County Foundation
info@athensfoundation.org