# Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

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## OVRDC ANNUAL FULL COMMISSION APPRECIATION BANQUET

*You are invited to OVRDC's*

*Annual Full Commission Appreciation Banquet*

*Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.*

*to be held in Scioto County at the*

*Scioto County Career Technical Center*

*951 Vern Riffe Drive*

*Lucasville, Ohio*

### *Registration Form*

### *Directions*

## MICROSOFT PARTNERS WITH ARC TO PROVIDE $2 MILLION IN SOFTWARE TO APPALACHIAN NONPROFITS TO ENHANCE JOB SKILLS

U.S. Senators Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and Roger Wicker (R-MS) joined Microsoft Vice President for U.S. Government Affairs Fred Humphries and ARC Federal Co-Chair Earl F. Gohl on Capitol Hill to announce Microsoft's partnership with ARC to distribute $2 million in software to nonprofit organizations throughout Appalachia. The software will upgrade the capacity of these organizations in training workers with the skills needed to compete more effectively in today's knowledge economy.

This is the second $2 million grant in the past six years that Microsoft has made in support of ARC's initiative to expand the use of technology and telecommunications as tools for economic and community development. It comes at a time when nonprofit organizations are especially struggling because of the current economic downturn.

Each of the 13 Appalachian states will receive up to $150,000 in software grants. Two of those grants have already been made to the Future Generations Graduate School (FGGS) in West Virginia and the Create Foundation in Mississippi.

Microsoft Vice President Fred Humphries stated, "Once again, Microsoft is proud to support ARC in its mission to expand the use of technology in communities across Appalachia to help drive economic and community development. Microsoft aims to provide people with the tools they need to realize their potential regardless of economic circumstances. Technology, like software, is a key component for driving workforce development and education and can help individuals and small businesses in rural communities achieve their goals."

ARC Federal Co-Chair Earl F. Gohl noted that "throughout Appalachia we have an incredible group of individuals starting, leading, and growing nonprofits." The Microsoft grant was "more than a donation. It was an important investment in the Region of state of the art technology that will generate a return for the communities served and for the participating nonprofits."

List of other items of interest related to the program:
- Up to $2M in software to be used throughout Appalachia
- There is no matching requirement
- This is being done in context with ARC efforts to promote technology, computer and broadband use throughout Appalachia
- Microsoft will include their latest curriculum resources which contain valuable information on job training
- Software will go to 501C3 organizations (no exceptions) such as community technology centers, workforce development programs and human service organizations
- ARC, working with Microsoft, will have oversight over all applications received and processed

To view application and available software list click here.

Applicants contact Mark DeFalco at mdefalco@arc.gov or 202 884-7719.