



Advancing
Appalachia



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Welcome to Sunday Creek Horizons

What began as a small effort to address critical gaps in youth mental and behavioral health in Southeast Ohio has grown into a full-service strategy consulting firm working at the intersection of policy, community, and economic development.

Today, our team brings together deep expertise in health care, education, and energy policy, and regional development—all guided by a commitment to results, relationships, and impact. We pride ourselves on maintaining strong bipartisan partnerships at the local, state, and federal levels, enabling us to navigate complex challenges and deliver meaningful outcomes for our clients and communities.

I am immensely proud of the dedicated professionals who make up this team, individuals who approach every project with integrity, creativity, and purpose. Together, we are helping shape a stronger, more resilient future for Appalachian Ohio and beyond.

Zack Space
President

We envision a future where rural and Appalachian communities have access to health, wealth, and a brighter, more beautiful quality of life.

Sunday Creek Horizons was born from a simple but powerful idea: that rural and Appalachian Ohio communities are strongest when they work together and speak with one voice. We are founded with the belief that the region's challenges, limited resources, fragmented advocacy, and historic underrepresentation, could be overcome through collaboration, connection, and a shared vision for the future.

What began as an effort to bridge gaps between communities and government in Columbus and Washington has grown into a movement to unite educators, healthcare systems, local governments, and businesses across eastern and southern Ohio. By breaking down silos and fostering communication, Sunday Creek Horizons helps organizations work together toward a stronger, more resilient region.

We are proud to be the leading government affairs

and advocacy firm operating across the footprint of rural and Appalachian Ohio.

Our firm is dedicated to elevating the voice of the region through partnerships, alliances, and coalition building. Our advocacy and expertise are unique in the region, allowing us to be a strong partner for eastern and southern Ohio's communities in Columbus and Washington, D.C.

We have helped our clients secure hundreds of millions of dollars in state, federal, and private investment and continue to work diligently to bring parity in funding to rural and Appalachian Ohio.

\$300m

Our government relations team worked with Ohio's legislative leaders to secure additional state foundation aid funding to public schools by over \$300m.

\$64.2m

for a transformative Appalachian School and Community Health Project impacting 36 communities.

\$25m

in state investment to support rural Ohio manufacturing operations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

\$20m

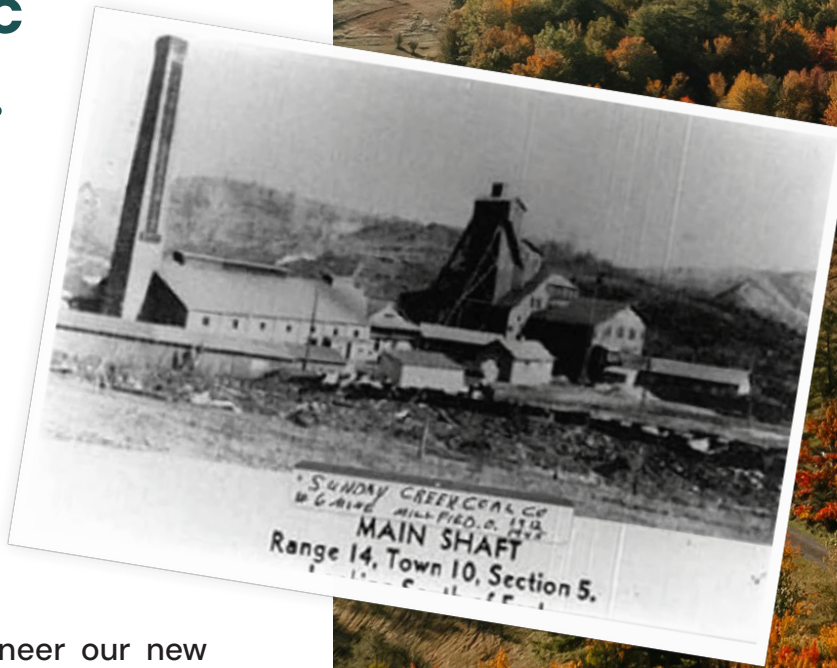
in private investment for the development of housing in Zanesville.

Since 2021, we are proud to have driven over \$316 million in public investment into Appalachian Ohio

Our firm's name is both a testament to Appalachia's storied past and a reminder of the relentless need for responsible development and socio-economic justice in the region.

In 1930, the Sunday Creek tributary of the Ohio River was once lined with a cluster of coal mines. One such mine became the site of Ohio's worst ever mine disaster, when an explosion killed 82 men. The disaster prompted outrage and bolstered improvement of Ohio's mine safety laws.

It is with this image in mind that we pioneer our new approach to community and economic development efforts in Appalachia. Through region-based, cohesive advocacy, we see an opportunity for a bold new way of life emerging in these hills. Our work has brought millions of dollars to our clients from state, federal and private sources.



With over 38 years of combined experience in elected government, our leaders are proven ambassadors for Appalachia and rural Ohio.



Zack Space

President

Congressman Zack Space was born in Dover, OH and served Ohio's 18th District from 2006 to 2011. Zack was a champion of working-class

Ohioans, and was instrumental in bringing broadband technology, employment opportunities, and infrastructure improvements to his district.

Trusted by the region's residents, politicians, and investors alike. During his time serving the 18th District, Space secured more than \$100,000,000 for broadband infrastructure, with much of the current broadband backbone in the region attributed to these funds. He served on the prestigious Energy and Commerce Committee, as well as the House Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Agriculture, and Veterans' Affairs, and was an active member of the Blue Dog Caucus, a centrist, fiscally principled coalition of moderate Democrats from largely rural districts.

Upon leaving congress, Zack brought together regional stakeholders to plan a prosperous future for southeastern Ohio. In 2018, Zack was elected as the Democratic nominee for the office of Auditor of the State. In 2019, Zack founded Sunday Creek Horizons.

Today, Zack lives in Athens with his wife, Erin. He has two children both who have become lawyers, and 3 grandchildren residing in Appalachia.



Jay Hottinger

Executive Vice President

A lifelong resident of Newark, Senator Jay Hottinger represented Licking County and Appalachia for 28 years in Ohio's General Assembly. Jay retired as

President Pro Tempore of the Ohio Senate at the conclusion of the 134th General Assembly in 2022. He served as the second-highest ranking member of the Ohio Senate, and his work has earned him recognition from numerous organizations, with over 35 awards. Jay represented all or portions of Licking, Athens, Coshocton, Hocking, Holmes, Perry, Pickaway, and Tuscarawas counties. As a leader at the Statehouse, Jay sponsored dozens of bills including: lowering Ohio's DUI limit to .08, elimination of Ohio's Estate Tax, helping families save for higher education and future expenses for children with special needs, and providing programs and funding for at-risk youth and families in crisis.

In addition to his public service, Jay has been vice president of sales for Truck One, Inc., a Newark-based trucking company. It is his business experience and understanding of the Appalachian region which has equipped Jay to advocate on behalf of Appalachian Ohioans.

Services

At Sunday Creek Horizons, our mission is to **provide rural and Appalachian communities with tools, expertise, and advocacy through which we will collaboratively address our needs, optimize our opportunities, and reach our full potential.** Every service we offer helps partners plan strategically, advocate effectively, and bring ideas to life, meeting communities where they are and moving them toward shared, long-lasting progress.

Issue Advocacy

Spanning public, private, and nonprofit sectors, our advocacy work bridges communities, businesses, and policymakers to drive meaningful progress across Ohio.

We bring strategic insight and hands-on support to help our partners expand opportunity, strengthen local economies, and turn shared goals into lasting results. From shaping policy conversations to amplifying local voices, our team guides stakeholders through the complexities of government relations and coalition-building to achieve real, measurable impact.

AREAS OF FOCUS

Government Affairs

Community Development

Business Development

Association Development

Informed Support

Planning & Project Funding

We help communities secure and manage the resources they need to bring transformative projects to life. From convening local stakeholders to developing competitive state and federal grant applications, we guide projects from vision to implementation with strategic planning, collaboration, and compliant grant administration.

Event Management

Our event management services go beyond logistics—we create spaces for collaboration and impact. Whether convening hundreds for a statewide conference or hosting small, focused gatherings, we specialize in developing and executing experiences that strengthen relationships, elevate ideas, and move missions forward.

Graphic & Web Design

Clear communication is key to creating change. We have an internal creative team that provides branding, design, and web development services that help organizations tell their story, reach their audience, and inspire action. From modern websites to event design and mission-driven print and digital materials, we translate ideas into visuals that reflect your purpose and strengthen your message.

APPALACHIAN CHILDREN COALITION

We created a regional nonprofit to advocate for greater investment in mental and behavioral health care for kids. So far, the ACC has worked with us to secure more than \$90 million since 2020 to support kids in Southeast Ohio.



ENERGY COALITION OF OHIO

Each year, our team hosts the Ohio Energy Conference in Columbus, uniting hundreds of industry leaders, policymakers, researchers, and innovators driving Ohio's energy future.

SOUTHERN OHIO DIVERSIFICATION INITIATIVE (SODI)

We are proud to have led the grant-writing effort for the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI), resulting in \$450,000 in planning funds from the Ohio Department of Development's Innovation Hub Program.



APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

We secured \$17 million for the renovation of several downtown buildings including the Athens Armory through the Appalachian Community Grant.

SCIOTO VALLEY PIKETON AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

We secured \$20 million from the federal government to rebuild a contaminated middle school.

Guided by purpose, we develop tailored strategies that focus on improving quality of life and fostering lasting growth.

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