



AppalachianVoices

2023 PRIORITIES

ADDRESSING COAL'S DEVASTATING IMPACTS

Working in close partnership with our allies last year, we saw significant wins holding coal companies accountable. Appalachian Voices continues to use pollution monitoring and legal strategies to hold companies accountable to their obligation to clean up mined lands and the creeks, rivers, and Appalachian communities that have been damaged by coal mining.

Our federal priorities focus on the deployment of billions of dollars won through federal legislation to clean up historic abandoned mine land in Appalachia and clean up poisoned streams. Additionally, we will continue to fight for the rights and benefits of miners suffering from black lung disease and ensure these benefits are protected and expanded.

Top Priorities for 2023:

- Ensure that A&G Coal Company, owned by W.Va. Gov. Jim Justice's family, complies with their court-ordered mine cleanup deadlines in Southwest Virginia.
- Work with leaders in Congress to advance solutions that ensure current mines are cleaned up by the coal companies responsible for them and that any outstanding costs do not fall to local communities
- Work with communities to get stronger rules to lower levels of air pollution from mining operations that impact miners and surrounding communities



Photo © Kent Mason / flight by SouthWings

BUILDING A NEW ECONOMY

Following an incredible year creating economic opportunity through the Appalachian Solar Finance Fund and federal legislative victories securing billions of dollars for Appalachia, it is imperative that we continue the positive momentum we have created bringing jobs and economic development through mine reclamation and renewable energy projects. Thanks to our efforts, and the work of our partners, we anticipate deploying millions

more dollars from federal grants for local economic development through the Appalachian Solar Finance Fund.

We will work with local, state, and federal agencies and legislators to continue driving investment in the coal-bearing region. This will build renewable energy infrastructure and jobs, while also finding innovative ways to reclaim former mine lands.



Top Priorities for 2023:

- Work with federal partners to win further investment and support in Southwest Virginia and beyond for innovative mine reclamation, renewable energy deployment, and climate resilience
- Engage local communities and leaders about the opportunities and economic potential of investing in renewable energy
- Advocate for better policies and laws that unlock the full potential benefits of a just energy transition
- Work with grassroots leaders to address environmental justice concerns and envision a new, sustainable economy



APPALACHIAN VOICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tracey Wright, Chair
Lebanon, Va.

Bunk Spann, Vice-Chair
Asheville, N.C.

Peggy Mathews, Secretary
Dungannon, Va.

Chris Scotton, Treasurer
Johns Island, S.C.

David Hairston
Walnut Cove, N.C.

John Dezember
Cedar Bluff, Va.

Phylcia Lee Brown
Banner Elk, N.C.

Taryn Tindall
Arden, N.C.

APPVOICES.ORG

BOONE • CHARLOTTEVILLE • DURHAM • KNOXVILLE • NORTON
589 WEST KING STREET • BOONE, NC 28607 • 828-262-1500

Appalachian Voices is rated a four-star charity by Charity Navigator. We put every dollar you invest to good use by keeping our administrative and fund-raising costs low in order to maximize our impact.

