

RALLY POINT CONNECT REPORT
Arkansas Intel for Nonprofit Directors
Presented by Rally Point Nonprofit Council
Issue: Week of October 5, 2026
Date: October 5, 2026 Cutoff: 6:00 a.m.
Average read time: about 8 minutes.

If you are new to the role, start at ARKANSAS RULE OR DEADLINE. If you already know the job, go to FUNDING and your region.

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THE WEEK IN BRIEF

This is the first Monday of October. Three standing reviews return with this issue: the 60-day compliance calendar, notices from the Arkansas Department of Human Services and the Arkansas Economic Development Commission, and labor or insurance.

The open funding window that most community organizations can use this week is the Arkansas Full Table Fund. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/. Applications opened October 1 and close December 7. The fund is anchored by a 10 million dollar grant from the Walmart Foundation. Arkansas Advocate, Little Rock, 2026, https://arkansasadvocate.com/2026/09/25/10m-grant-announced-to-address-arkansas-food-insecurity/.

Homelessness providers have a firm Emergency Solutions Grants deadline of 5:00 p.m. Central Time on October 23. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf. Emergency Solutions Grants are federal funds for shelter, prevention, and related homelessness work. The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development provides the funds. The Arkansas Development Finance Authority administers them in Arkansas.

Dry air and county burn bans are the operational weather item. The National Weather Service in Little Rock reported elevated wildfire conditions across the southern half of the state for Monday afternoon, with settled and mostly dry weather through the week. National Weather Service, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.weather.gov/lzk/.

The Community Assistance Grant Program application window closed August 15. Awards were expected in early fall. Recipients must provide a 20 percent match of the awarded amount in cash, in-kind labor, in-kind materials, or in-kind land. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/applications-open-for-2026-community-assistance-grant-program-on-july-1/.

ARKANSAS RULE OR DEADLINE

Nonprofit corporations file an annual report with the Arkansas Secretary of State by August 1 each year. Act 569 of 2007 is the statute that set that date. There is no charge to file the nonprofit annual report online. Arkansas Secretary of State, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/business-commercial-services-bcs/nonprofit-charitable-entities/. The August 1 date for 2026 has passed. If your filing is not complete, treat reinstatement as this week's first administrative task. The Business and Commercial Services office is at Victory Building, 1401 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 250, Little Rock, AR 72201. Telephone 501-682-3409 or 888-233-0325. Arkansas Secretary of State, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/business-commercial-services-bcs/nonprofit-charitable-entities/.

Charitable organizations that solicit contributions file an annual financial report with the Secretary of State no later than 180 days after the last date of the fiscal year, with a copy of the Internal Revenue Service return, excluding contributor schedules. Arkansas Code Annotated

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section 4-28-403, as published by Justia from the 2025 Arkansas Code, Little Rock statutory text, 2025, https://law.justia.com/codes/arkansas/title-4/subtitle-3/chapter-28/subchapter-4/section-4-28-403/. The Secretary of State form states the same 180-day rule and gives the submission address charities@sos.arkansas.gov. Arkansas Secretary of State, Little Rock, form dated 2025, https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/SoS_CR-03_AnnualFinancialReportForm.pdf. Organizations with contributions above 1,000,000 dollars in the preceding fiscal year file an audited financial statement. Organizations with contributions above 500,000 dollars and below 1,000,000 dollars file a reviewed statement. Arkansas Code Annotated section 4-28-403, 2025, https://law.justia.com/codes/arkansas/title-4/subtitle-3/chapter-28/subchapter-4/section-4-28-403/.

A June 30 fiscal year reaches day 180 on December 27, 2026. Confirm that date on your own calendar before you rely on it. A December 31 fiscal year reached day 180 on June 29, 2026.

Federal Form 990, Form 990-EZ, and Form 990-PF are due on the 15th day of the fifth month after the tax year ends. A June 30 year is initially due November 15. A December 31 year that already filed Form 8868 is extended to November 15. Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C., page reviewed in 2026, https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/return-due-dates-for-exempt-organizations-annual-return. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, it moves to the next business day. The Internal Revenue Service table does not add that day. November 15, 2026, is a Sunday, so the next business day is November 16, 2026. Form 990-N, the electronic postcard for very small organizations, cannot be extended. Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C., 2026, https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/extension-of-time-to-file-exempt-organization-returns.

60-DAY COMPLIANCE CALENDAR

This calendar runs from October 5 through December 4, 2026. It lists public dates confirmed at cutoff. It is not a substitute for your grant agreement or your auditor’s list.

October 5. Senate and House Committees on Education meet jointly at 1:30 p.m., Room A, Multi-Agency Complex, Little Rock. Agenda items include student cyber threats and adequacy study recommendations. Arkansas General Assembly, Little Rock, 2026, http://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FAssembly%2FMeeting+Attachments%2F410%2F28020%2F28020.pdf.

October 5 through October 16. Angel Tree applications for Conway County are available at the Conway County Department of Human Services office in Morrilton beginning October 5 and must be returned on or before October 16. GFWC Adelaide Club, reported by KVOM, Morrilton, 2026, https://www.kvom.com/angel-tree-applications-available-october-5th/.

October 16. Questions on the Emergency Solutions Grants notice are due by 5:00 p.m. so that a response can be issued before the application deadline. Send questions to arkansasESG@horne.com. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf.

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October 23. Complete Emergency Solutions Grants applications are due by 5:00 p.m. Central Time. The date and time are firm. Only one application per agency. No paper or emailed applications. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf.

November 6. Arkansas Site Development Program applications are due by 5:00 p.m. Central Time. Eligible applicants include cities, towns, counties, economic development organizations, and chambers of commerce. Intent to apply was due September 30. Arkansas Money and Politics, reporting the Arkansas Economic Development Commission announcement, Little Rock, 2026, https://armoneyandpolitics.com/aedc-third-round-arkansas-site-development-program/.

November 16. Next business day after the November 15 Form 990 date for a June 30 year, and for a December 31 year already on extension. Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C., 2026, https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/return-due-dates-for-exempt-organizations-annual-return.

December 4. Last day of this 60-day window. No additional statewide nonprofit filing date was confirmed for this day at cutoff.

December 7 falls just outside the window. Arkansas Full Table Fund applications close that day. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/.

DEMAND AND POLICY

Arkansas had the highest rate of food insecurity in the nation at 19.4 percent, according to a 2025 report from the United States Department of Agriculture, as cited by the Arkansas Advocate at the Full Table Fund announcement. Arkansas Advocate, Little Rock, 2026, https://arkansasadvocate.com/2026/09/25/10m-grant-announced-to-address-arkansas-food-insecurity/. Phase One grants range up to 100,000 dollars to 200,000 dollars. Advocate and Strengthen projects can apply for up to 200,000 dollars. Innovate projects can apply for up to 100,000 dollars. Eligible applicants include a 501(c)(3) organization, a hospital, a government entity, or an educational institution. Work must be in Arkansas. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/. A 501(c)(3) organization is a charity recognized by the Internal Revenue Service, and donations to it are generally tax-deductible.

Families continue to press for faster movement on the Community and Employment Support Waiver waitlist. The waiver is a Medicaid program that pays for home and community services so people with intellectual and developmental disabilities can remain at home. The Joint Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor heard families and the Department of Human Services on October 2. Jennifer Brezée, director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services, said people at the top of the waitlist have been waiting just over three years. El Dorado News-Times, El Dorado, 2026, https://www.eldoradonews.com/news/2026/oct/03/families-of-arkansans-with-disabilities-testify/. The waiver is capped at 8,233 participants, with about 2,464 people on the waitlist. Supportive living for people on the waitlist is estimated at about 17

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million dollars and is expected through the Provider-Led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity program by January 2027 at the latest. Hot Springs Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, 2026, https://www.hotsr.com/news/2026/oct/05/community-and-employment-support-waiver-plan/. That program, often called PASSE, is the managed care arrangement for certain Medicaid services.

DHS AND AEDC NOTICES

Department of Human Services. On September 15, Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders said the department would begin work on supportive living services for eligible people whether or not they hold a full waiver slot. El Dorado News-Times, El Dorado, 2026, https://www.eldoradonews.com/news/2026/oct/03/families-of-arkansans-with-disabilities-testify/. Garland County had 106 people on the waiver waitlist as of the Tuesday before the October 5 Sentinel-Record report. Hot Springs Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, 2026, https://www.hotsr.com/news/2026/oct/05/community-and-employment-support-waiver-plan/.

Beginning January 1, 2027, some Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me beneficiaries who are not exempt must complete 80 hours a month of work, school, volunteering, or a combination of qualifying activities. The Department of Human Services has released an outreach toolkit of flyers, posters, videos, and message templates, including 75 county-specific videos. KJNB, Jonesboro, 2026, https://www.kjnbtv.com/news/local/arkansas-dhs-launches-outreach-ahead-of-arhome-work-requirements/article_fb8c96ae-93f5-4dd6-9d6f-eb0bb81ea894.html. Organizations may sign up for a customized video. Penalties do not begin until January 1. This is a client-communication task for health, workforce, and basic-needs organizations, not a new grant.

Recent public solicitations reviewed for this issue had already closed, including Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Services, Region G, solicitation 710-26-069, which closed July 7, 2026. Arkansas Department of Human Services, Little Rock, 2026, https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/announcements/non-emergency-medical-transportation-services-region-g/. No new open Department of Human Services solicitation with a closing date inside the next 60 days was confirmed at cutoff. Directors with active agreements should still confirm invoice status with their contract officer.

Arkansas Economic Development Commission. The Community Assistance Grant Program is a 20 percent matching grant. In plain English, if the award is 100,000 dollars, the recipient documents 20,000 dollars of match. Match may be cash, in-kind labor, in-kind materials, or in-kind land. Eligible applicants included cities, counties, and nonprofits, up to 1,500,000 dollars per fiscal year. The application period was July 1 through August 15, 2026. Awards were expected in early fall 2026. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/applications-open-for-2026-community-assistance-grant-program-on-july-1/. The Code of Arkansas Rules states that community labor being donated is valued at 18 dollars and 4 cents per hour, and that match documentation must include bank statements for cash, official cost estimates for in-kind materials and labor, or official appraisals for land. Code of Arkansas Rules, 15 CAR section 181-104, 2026 publication, https://codeofarrules.arkansas.gov/Rules/Rule?chapterID=166&levelType=section&partID=374&sectionID=22163&subChapterID=209&subPartID=3582&titleID=15.

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On July 13, the Governor and the Commission announced 88 grants totaling 12,522,736 dollars from the Community Development Block Grant and State Rural Community Grant programs. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/sanders-aedc-announce-12-52m-in-funding-for-arkansas-communities/. The third round of the Arkansas Site Development Program opened August 25. The application deadline is November 6. Arkansas Money and Politics, Little Rock, 2026, https://armoneyandpolitics.com/aedc-third-round-arkansas-site-development-program/.

LEGISLATIVE AND WEATHER WATCH

The General Assembly is in interim. The next regular session is not the current calendar. Ballotpedia records that the 2026 fiscal session was scheduled for April 8 through April 29, 2026. Ballotpedia, 2026, https://ballotpedia.org/2026_Arkansas_legislative_session. Families have asked the Governor to call a special session on the waiver waitlist. As of the October 3 report, the response in hand was the September 15 supportive-living announcement, not a called session. El Dorado News-Times, El Dorado, 2026, https://www.eldoradonews.com/news/2026/oct/03/families-of-arkansans-with-disabilities-testify/.

Monday's joint education hearing is the confirmed committee date inside this week. Arkansas General Assembly, Little Rock, 2026, http://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FAssembly%2FMeeting+Attachments%2F410%2F28020%2F28020.pdf. Special elections for vacant seats include Senate District 1 and House District 8 on November 3. Ballotpedia, 2026, https://ballotpedia.org/Arkansas_state_legislative_special_elections,_2026.

Weather. The National Weather Service in Little Rock, in a product issued 4:55 a.m. Central Time on October 5, showed a Monday high of 83 degrees and a Tuesday morning low of 55 degrees for Little Rock, with no precipitation probability listed for the first period. National Weather Service, Little Rock, 2026, https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=PHI&product=PFM&issuedby=LZK. The same office's Monday key message was elevated wildfire conditions across the southern half of the state, with burn bans across most of the state and a high risk of wildfire danger statewide. National Weather Service, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.weather.gov/lzk/.

The National Weather Service in Tulsa, in a Hazardous Weather Outlook issued 12:34 p.m. Central Time on October 4, listed no hazards for Monday through Saturday for northwest and west central Arkansas. National Weather Service, Tulsa, 2026, https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=TSA&issuedby=TSA&product=HWO.

The Arkansas Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division, list as of 7:21 a.m. on October 4 showed 53 counties under a burn ban and all 75 counties at high wildfire risk. Arkansas Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division, as republished October 4, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/. The Arkansas Department of Transportation paused fall mowing because of wildfire risk. District engineers will use the United States Drought Monitor. The Democrat-Gazette

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reported that the Forestry Division wildfire tracker showed 1,547 reported wildfires this year, burning a combined 38,276 acres. One fire near Camden in Calhoun County burned 2,849 acres. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

Outdoor events, debris piles, and grill stations should follow the county order. A county judge issues a burn ban. Confirm the order with the county before any open flame.

INTELLIGENCE AND ANALYSIS

The Internal Revenue Service lists 17,380 active tax-exempt organizations operating in Arkansas, including 14,293 organizations under section 501(c)(3). Arkansas organizations reported 25.2 billion dollars in revenue on their most recent tax filings. ProPublica Nonprofit Explorer, New York, page updated September 23, 2026, https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/states/AR. Those figures are the baseline for this report. This report does not add a Rally Point count. ProPublica notes that organizations may take from a few months to more than a year to submit tax information. The highest-revenue rows are dominated by hospital systems, health plans, and electric cooperatives, not by small community organizations. Arkansas Community Foundation Inc. reported 159,419,685 dollars in revenue on a 2025 filing in that table. Heifer Project International reported 162,027,025 dollars on a 2025 filing. ProPublica Nonprofit Explorer, New York, 2026, https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/states/AR.

Read the 25.2 billion dollar figure as the size of the filing universe, not as the size of the charitable service sector a director can partner with next month. Hospitals and plans sit in the same tax-exempt file as food pantries and counseling organizations. A board asking “how large is our field” should ask which subsection and which revenue band.

The food-insecurity rate and the Full Table Fund window are the demand signal that matches that file to this month’s work. The waiver waitlist is the Medicaid signal. Neither number was produced by Rally Point Nonprofit Council.

FUNDING

Arkansas Full Table Fund. Applications October 1 through December 7, 2026. A notice of intent is encouraged and is not required. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/. The request for applications is posted by the foundation. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, http://www.arcf.org/app/uploads/2026/10/Arkansas-Full-Table-Fund-RFA_V10.1.26.pdf.

Emergency Solutions Grants, program year 2026-2027. Applications due October 23 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time. The funding period for activities is March 1, 2027, through February 29, 2028. Draw requests are due by close of business on the 10th of each month. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf. The public notice page is

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https://adfa.arkansas.gov/2026-2027-esg-notice-of-funding-availability-nofa/. A dollar total for this notice was not restated on the summary page retrieved at cutoff, so this report does not state one.

Community Assistance Grant Program. Window closed. Early-fall award timing still stands as the public expectation. Twenty percent match, documented. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/applications-open-for-2026-community-assistance-grant-program-on-july-1/.

STATE CONTRACTS AND PAYMENTS

No new Department of Human Services solicitation with an open closing date was confirmed on the announcements pages reviewed at cutoff. The Region G non-emergency medical transportation invitation for bids, number 710-26-069, posted June 19 and closed July 7, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. Contact on that notice was Ian Cunningham, DHS.OP.Solicitations@dhs.arkansas.gov, 501-682-0120, 700 Main Street, Little Rock, AR 72201. Arkansas Department of Human Services, Little Rock, 2026, https://humanservices.arkansas.gov/announcements/non-emergency-medical-transportation-services-region-g/.

For organizations paid under an existing agreement, the practical item this week is documentation, not a new bid. Emergency Solutions Grants draw requests, once awarded, are due by the 10th of each month in the funding period that begins March 1, 2027. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf. Waiver-related supportive living is expected to move through the Provider-Led Arkansas Shared Savings Entity program by January 2027 at the latest. Hot Springs Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, 2026, https://www.hotsr.com/news/2026/oct/05/community-and-employment-support-waiver-plan/. Providers should keep care-coordinator contacts current. Keith Metz, state deputy chief of communications, told the Sentinel-Record that families should remain in contact with their care coordinators.

PEOPLE AND DELIVERY

The Department of Human Services outreach toolkit is the delivery item for organizations that see Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me clients. Materials include flyers, posters, videos, and templates for letters, email, text, and social media. KJNB, Jonesboro, 2026, https://www.kjnbtv.com/news/local/arkansas-dhs-launches-outreach-ahead-of-arhome-work-requirements/article_fb8c96ae-93f5-4dd6-9d6f-eb0bb81ea894.html. Posting a flyer is not legal advice. Staff should point clients to the department for exemption questions.

Conway County Angel Tree applications open today at the Morrilton Department of Human Services office and close October 16. The GFWC Adelaide Club said last year the project helped more than 150 families, and that this is the 35th year. KVOM, Morrilton, 2026, https://www.kvom.com/angel-tree-applications-available-october-5th/.

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In Wynne, the city held a September 29 public hearing on a request for up to 500,000 dollars from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for a paved road and drive-around at the new Good Shepherd Center. Laura Dunivan of the Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas said the center received 285,944 pounds of food from the food bank between August 1, 2024, and August 31, 2026, and that this year the pantry has served 4,156 people in 1,979 households. Wynne Progress, Wynne, 2026, https://thewynneprogress.com/city-seeking-aedc-grant-for-access-road-drive-through-at-good-shepherd-center/.

GOVERNANCE AND PARTNERSHIPS

Board calendars should show three public dates this month: October 16 for Emergency Solutions Grants questions, October 23 for those applications, and the December 7 Full Table Fund close if food or benefits access is in the mission. Put the November 16 federal return date on the finance-committee calendar if the year ended June 30, or if a December 31 year is on extension.

The joint education committee meets today. Organizations that serve students may want a staff member to note the cyber-threat and adequacy items, then report back in one page. Arkansas General Assembly, Little Rock, 2026, http://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FAssembly%2FMeeting+Attachments%2F410%2F28020%2F28020.pdf.

Partnership note. The 10:33 Initiative received a 1 million dollar matching grant from For Others, announced August 13, to expand CarePortal and the No Wrong Door model with Restore Hope. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/sanders-announces-1033-initiative-is-awarded-1-million-from-nonprofit-for-others/. CarePortal is a technology platform that lets congregations respond to specific family needs. That award is already public. It is context for partnership, not an open application.

Each region table below includes the calendar line for that area. Statewide dates apply in every region.

RISK AND LIABILITY REDUCTION

LABOR OR INSURANCE

This is the first-Monday labor and insurance note.

Arkansas Code section 11-9-404 requires every employer to secure workers' compensation, either by insuring with an authorized carrier or by qualifying to self-insure and receiving authorization from the Workers' Compensation Commission. Arkansas Code, 2025 publication via Justia, https://law.justia.com/codes/arkansas/title-11/chapter-9/subchapter-4/section-11-9-404/. A nonprofit that has employees is an employer for this purpose. Confirm the policy period and the carrier's certificate before the next payroll. This report does not state an Arkansas rate change, because no Arkansas Insurance Department rate order for nonprofit liability was retrieved at cutoff.

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A nonprofit organization subject to the unemployment statute may elect to reimburse benefits instead of paying contributions, if it files the election on time. Arkansas Code section 11-10-713, 2025 publication via Justia, https://law.justia.com/codes/arkansas/title-11/chapter-10/subchapter-7/section-11-10-713/. Reimbursing means the organization pays the fund for benefits actually charged, rather than paying a tax rate in advance. The election is a finance-committee decision, not a staff preference.

National context, not an Arkansas filing. Gallagher's 2026 nonprofit property and casualty update, reported September 25, said specialized carriers are competing more for new business, while auto rates in the report's sample were rising 7 percent to 15 percent, and many carriers will no longer write auto alone. Risk & Insurance, reporting Gallagher, 2026, https://riskandinsurance.com/nonprofit-insurers-ease-some-rates-while-abuse-auto-and-casualty-costs-keep-climbing/. Use that only as a renewal question for your broker: what is bundled, and what is the auto term.

Wildfire risk is the property item. Fifty-three counties are under burn bans, and the state is at high risk. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/. Ask the insurer whether a vacant lot, a barbecue fundraiser, or a prescribed-burn partnership is covered this week.

TELLING THE STORY

The public story that is ready this week is food access, with a dated number and an open application. Arkansas at 19.4 percent food insecurity in the 2025 United States Department of Agriculture report, and a 10 million dollar Walmart Foundation anchor for the Full Table Fund. Arkansas Advocate, Little Rock, 2026, https://arkansasadvocate.com/2026/09/25/10m-grant-announced-to-address-arkansas-food-insecurity/. If you publish, name the source and the year. Do not convert the statewide rate into a claim about your own county unless you have a county figure.

The waiver story needs the same care. The waitlist figure in use is about 2,464 people, the cap is 8,233, and the new service is supportive living, not a full waiver slot. Hot Springs Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, 2026, https://www.hotsr.com/news/2026/oct/05/community-and-employment-support-waiver-plan/. Families have said 2027 is not soon enough. El Dorado News-Times, El Dorado, 2026, https://www.eldoradonews.com/news/2026/oct/03/families-of-arkansans-with-disabilities-testify/. Quote the family only with permission. Quote the department from the published record.

WELLNESS AND REST

The weather pattern through the week is dry, with mild mornings and warm afternoons. National Weather Service, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.weather.gov/lzk/. That is a reasonable week for a planned day off if coverage is set. It is not a week to add an outdoor fire or a long roadside cleanup in a burn-ban county.

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A first Monday also brings the compliance stack. Split it. One person confirms the Secretary of State annual report and the charitable financial report. Another person sets the November 16 federal date. The director does not need to hold both files on the same afternoon.

NORTHWEST REGION CONNECT TABLE

Area: Benton, Washington, Madison, Carroll, and nearby counties served from Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, and Bentonville.

Calendar: No hazards Monday through Saturday in the October 4 Hazardous Weather Outlook for northwest Arkansas. National Weather Service, Tulsa, 2026, https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=TSA&issuedby=TSA&product=HWO. Full Table Fund applications run through December 7. The announcement event was in Springdale. Arkansas Advocate, Little Rock, 2026, https://arkansasadvocate.com/2026/09/25/10m-grant-announced-to-address-arkansas-food-insecurity/.

Filing: Benton and Washington counties were not on the October 4 list of 53 burn-ban counties. Carroll and Madison were on that list. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/. All counties remain at high wildfire risk on that Forestry Division list.

Funding: Full Table Fund is statewide. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/.

Delivery: Mercy Hospital Rogers reported 493,810,257 dollars in revenue on a 2025 filing, and Washington Regional Medical Center reported 457,972,922 dollars on a 2024 filing, in the ProPublica state table. ProPublica Nonprofit Explorer, New York, 2026, https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/states/AR. Those figures describe large health systems, not a community-organization budget.

NORTHEAST REGION CONNECT TABLE

Area: Craighead, Greene, Poinsett, Cross, and nearby counties served from Jonesboro and Wynne.

Calendar: Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me outreach materials are available now for a January 1, 2027, requirement. KJNB, Jonesboro, 2026, https://www.kjnbtv.com/news/local/arkansas-dhs-launches-outreach-ahead-of-arhome-work-requirements/article_fb8c96ae-93f5-4dd6-9d6f-eb0bb81ea894.html.

Filing: Poinsett and Cross counties were on the October 4 burn-ban list. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

Funding: City of Wynne public hearing on September 29 for up to 500,000 dollars from the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for access at the Good Shepherd Center. Wynne

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Progress, Wynne, 2026, https://thewynneprogress.com/city-seeking-aedc-grant-for-access-road-drive-through-at-good-shepherd-center/.

Delivery: St. Bernards Hospital Inc. reported 686,409,464 dollars in revenue on a 2025 filing in the ProPublica state table. ProPublica Nonprofit Explorer, New York, 2026, https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/states/AR.

CENTRAL REGION CONNECT TABLE

Area: Pulaski, Faulkner, Saline, Lonoke, and nearby counties served from Little Rock and Morrilton.

Calendar: Joint education committees, 1:30 p.m. today, Room A, Multi-Agency Complex, Little Rock. Arkansas General Assembly, Little Rock, 2026, http://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FAssembly%2FMeeting+Attachments%2F410%2F28020%2F28020.pdf. Angel Tree applications at the Conway County Department of Human Services office in Morrilton, October 5 through October 16. KVOM, Morrilton, 2026, https://www.kvom.com/angel-tree-applications-available-october-5th/.

Filing: Pulaski, Faulkner, Saline, and Lonoke were on the October 4 burn-ban list. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

Funding: Secretary of State charity and annual-report filings are processed in Little Rock. Arkansas Secretary of State, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/business-commercial-services-bcs/nonprofit-charitable-entities/.

Delivery: Little Rock forecast high 83 degrees Monday and low 55 degrees Tuesday morning. National Weather Service, Little Rock, 2026, https://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=PHI&product=PFM&issuedby=LZK.

SOUTHWEST REGION CONNECT TABLE

Area: Garland, Clark, Miller, Union, and nearby counties served from Hot Springs, Arkadelphia, and Texarkana.

Calendar: Garland County waiver waitlist figure published today: 106 people as of Tuesday. Hot Springs Sentinel-Record, Hot Springs, 2026, https://www.hotsr.com/news/2026/oct/05/community-and-employment-support-waiver-plan/.

Filing: Garland, Clark, Miller, and Union were on the October 4 burn-ban list. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

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Funding: The Economic Development Corporation of Clark County authorized up to 1.5 million dollars in local match toward a possible Arkansas Economic Development Commission site grant. The corporation was told the commission will distribute 25 million dollars in the upcoming cycle, with an 80 percent state match if awarded, on a project described as roughly 6 million dollars. Arkadelphian, Arkadelphia, 2026, https://arkadelphian.com/2026/09/24/edccc-sets-aim-on-more-dirt-work-at-super-site/. That item is an economic-development match, not a charitable grant.

Delivery: A fire near Camden in Calhoun County burned 2,849 acres, among 1,547 wildfires and 38,276 acres statewide this year. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

SOUTHEAST REGION CONNECT TABLE

Area: Jefferson, Arkansas, Desha, Chicot, and nearby counties served from Pine Bluff and the Delta.

Calendar: No separate regional board date was confirmed at cutoff. Statewide dates still apply: Emergency Solutions Grants questions October 16, applications October 23, Full Table Fund close December 7.

Filing: Jefferson, Arkansas, Desha, and Chicot counties were on the October 4 burn-ban list. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

Funding: Full Table Fund categories include raising participation in federal nutrition programs. That use fits Delta food and benefits organizations. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/.

Delivery: Jefferson Hospital Association Inc. reported 265,254,425 dollars in revenue on a 2025 filing in the ProPublica state table. ProPublica Nonprofit Explorer, New York, 2026, https://projects.propublica.org/nonprofits/states/AR. Quiet this week on a new regional solicitation. The burn-ban and nutrition window are the working items.

WHAT TO WATCH

Community Assistance Grant Program award notices, still described publicly as early fall. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/applications-open-for-2026-community-assistance-grant-program-on-july-1/.

Whether a special session is called on the waiver waitlist. No call was confirmed at cutoff.

Emergency Solutions Grants questions on October 16 and applications on October 23.

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Site Development Program applications on November 6, for partners that are cities, counties, or chambers.

Form 990 next business day, November 16, for June 30 years and extended December 31 years.

January 1, 2027, start of Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me hourly requirements for non-exempt beneficiaries.

FOR DIRECTORS THIS WEEK

Confirm the August 1 nonprofit annual report is filed. Arkansas Secretary of State, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/business-commercial-services-bcs/nonprofit-charitable-entities/.

Set the charitable financial-report date at 180 days after fiscal year end, and the federal date at November 16 if it applies. Arkansas Secretary of State form, Little Rock, 2025, https://www.sos.arkansas.gov/uploads/SoS_CR-03_AnnualFinancialReportForm.pdf. Internal Revenue Service, Washington, D.C., 2026, https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/return-due-dates-for-exempt-organizations-annual-return.

If food access is in the mission, open the Full Table Fund request for applications this week. A notice of intent is optional. Arkansas Community Foundation, Springdale, 2026, https://www.arcf.org/full-table-fund/.

If you applied to the Community Assistance Grant Program, prepare the 20 percent match file now: bank statements, cost estimates, or appraisals. Code of Arkansas Rules, 2026 publication, https://codeofarrules.arkansas.gov/Rules/Rule?chapterID=166&levelType=section&partID=374&sectionID=22163&subChapterID=209&subPartID=3582&titleID=15.

If you are an Emergency Solutions Grants applicant, submit questions by October 16 and the application by October 23 at 5:00 p.m. Central Time. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf.

Check the county burn ban before any outdoor event. Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Little Rock, 2026, https://www.arkansasonline.com/news/2026/oct/04/arkansas-pauses-mowing-operations-because-of/.

Ask the broker for the workers' compensation certificate and the auto renewal term. Arkansas Code section 11-9-404, 2025 publication, https://law.justia.com/codes/arkansas/title-11/chapter-9/subchapter-4/section-11-9-404/.

THIS WEEK'S CONCEPT

A match file is not the same thing as a budget narrative. The budget narrative explains how the organization will spend an award. The match file proves the share the funder will not pay. On the

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Community Assistance Grant Program, that share is 20 percent of the awarded amount, and it may be cash or documented in-kind support. Office of the Governor, Little Rock, 2026, https://governor.arkansas.gov/news_post/applications-open-for-2026-community-assistance-grant-program-on-july-1/.

Build the file before the award letter, not after. Cash match needs bank statements. Materials and professional labor need official cost estimates of what the donation would have cost. Land needs an appraisal or the county assessment. Community labor in that program is valued at 18 dollars and 4 cents per hour. Code of Arkansas Rules, 2026 publication, https://codeofarrules.arkansas.gov/Rules/Rule?chapterID=166&levelType=section&partID=374&sectionID=22163&subChapterID=209&subPartID=3582&titleID=15.

Keep match records in the same folder as the award and the invoices. A reviewer who cannot tie the 20 percent to a document will treat the match as missing, even if the work happened. The same habit helps an Emergency Solutions Grants draw, which can be denied if documentation is missing. Arkansas Development Finance Authority, Little Rock, 2026, https://adfa.arkansas.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/Final-2026-2027-NOFA.pdf. One folder, one award, one match calculation. That is the concept for this first Monday.

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