RALLY POINT CONNECT REPORT

Arkansas Intel for Nonprofit Directors

Presented by Rally Point Nonprofit Council

Issue of Monday, November 9, 2026 · Read time: about 9 minutes

SUMMARY HEADLINE

A state food access grant closes Tuesday in receipt order, the ARHOME waiver stands extended six months, and the burn ban count is corrected to 24 counties.

MEMBER ALERT DEADLINE

Tue Nov 10 · 4:30 p.m.

ADH Food Desert sub grants, receipt order

COUNTIES UNDER BURN BANS

24

Official Forestry Division map, Nov 8

EXCEPTIONAL DROUGHT

39.72%

Share of Arkansas, U.S. Drought Monitor, Nov 3

NCRI COUNTY READ

Phillips

Edition 2026-10 · Rev. 4 panel

A SPECIAL MENTION — VETERANS DAY, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

This week carries Veterans Day. Across Arkansas, veterans lead nonprofits, serve on their boards, staff their programs, and volunteer in their communities. Many organizations reading this report exist to serve veterans and their families.

To every veteran in this work, and to every organization standing beside them: thank you for your service, and for the service that continues.

Wednesday's observances stand in Section 1, including the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Arkansas State Capitol Rotunda at 11:00 a.m. and the UAFS Center for Nonprofits Action Summit in Fort Smith.

1. What to Watch in the Next 14 Days

Monday, November 9

- 1:00 p.m. — Senate and House Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committees meeting jointly, Room A, MAC Building, Little Rock. Agenda includes consideration of interim study proposals. Source: Arkansas General Assembly, committee agenda, read November 8, 2026.

Tuesday, November 10

- 10:00 a.m. — Department of Human Services public hearing, proposed rule on Sedation Dental Coverage. Join details on the DHS rules page.
- 10:30 a.m. — Department of Human Services public hearing, proposed rule on Medicaid Service Delivery in Mobile Units.
- 10:00 a.m. — House Judiciary Committee, Room A, MAC Building, Little Rock.
- 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. — Opening reception, "A Soldier's Story," a new exhibition honoring Arkansas African American service members, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, 501 West Ninth Street, Little Rock. The exhibition runs through March 27, 2027.
- **4:30 p.m. — MEMBER ALERT deadline. Arkansas Department of Health Food Desert Elimination sub grant applications due. See Section 5.**

Wednesday, November 11 — Veterans Day

- 9:00 a.m. to noon — UAFS Center for Nonprofits Action Summit, Fort Smith. Free.
- 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. — Fourth Annual Corvettes and Veterans Salute and Ceremony, Barton Coliseum, Little Rock. Moved from War Memorial Stadium. Free and open to the public. Proceeds benefit the American Legion Be the One program.
- 11:00 a.m. — Veterans Day Ceremony, Arkansas State Capitol Rotunda, Little Rock.
- 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. — Veterans Day concert by Airlifter Brass, the brass quintet of the United States Air Force Band of Mid-America, William J. Clinton Presidential Library, Little Rock.
- November 11 to 13 — Arkansas Counseling Association annual conference, North Little Rock.

Thursday, November 12

- 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. — Benton Area Chamber of Commerce Veteran Appreciation Luncheon, Benton Event Center, 17322 Interstate 30 North, Benton. Free admission. Advance registration required.

Friday, November 13

- Arkansas Veterans Business Summit, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., State Extension Office, Little Rock.
- Arkansas Department of Education Transportation Modernization Grant, cycle 2 application window closes. School districts are the eligible applicants.

Monday, November 16

- Bill pre-filing opens for the 2027 regular session of the Arkansas General Assembly.
- Federal step deadline: OJJDP youth treatment grant, Step 1 (the SF-424 form in Grants.gov) due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern. Only organizations already registered in SAM.gov can enter at this step. See Section 5.

Tuesday, November 17

- 3:00 p.m. — ALC-PEER Subcommittee, Room A, MAC Building, Little Rock.

Wednesday, November 18

- 10:00 a.m. — Department of Human Services public hearing, proposed rule on Community Engagement and Work Requirements. See Section 3.

Thursday, November 19

- 10:00 a.m. — ALC Administrative Rules Subcommittee, Room A, MAC Building, Little Rock.

Friday, November 20

- Levitt Foundation music festival grants close. See Section 5.
- USDA Equipment Assistance Grant applications due. Schools only. See Section 5.

Saturday, November 21

- Public comment closes on three Department of Human Services proposed rules. See Section 3.

Just outside the window

- Monday, November 23 — Arkansas Community Foundation Full Table Fund Notice of Intent date, and OJJDP Step 2 (full application in JustGrants, due 8:59 p.m. Eastern).
- Monday, December 7 — Full Table Fund applications close at 11:59 p.m. Central.

Board Minute: no Board Minute this week.

Not yet dated

- **The Community Engagement rule's comment end date** — UNKNOWN tonight. It prints the week the Department's page states it, and the January 1 enforcement date makes the date worth having exactly.
- **The ARHOME delivery model** — the six month extension runs while the state finalizes a new model with federal officials. Any announcement lands here first.

2. Week in Brief

- **A state food access grant closes Tuesday, and it closes in receipt order.** The Arkansas Department of Health will accept and fund ten applications for its Food Desert Elimination sub grants, up to $10,000 each, due Tuesday, November 10 at 4:30 p.m. Central. Funding is based on receipt, review, and acceptance, so a complete packet sent early stands ahead of one sent at the deadline. Full detail leads Section 5.
- **The ARHOME waiver stands extended six months.** On November 5, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services granted a six month temporary extension of the ARHOME waiver beginning January 1, 2027, while a new delivery model is finalized. The community engagement and work requirement timeline does not change: full launch, with penalties for noncompliance, still begins January 1, 2027. Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services release, November 5, 2026.
- **The burn ban count is corrected.** The official Forestry Division map read November 8 lists 24 counties under burn bans, not the 56 an aggregator carried last cycle. Section 4 carries the correction and Section 11 the full list.
- **Drought deepened again.** The November 3 U.S. Drought Monitor release puts 39.72 percent of Arkansas in exceptional drought, up from 37.06 percent the week before.
- **Veterans Day week is full in central Arkansas.** A new veterans exhibition opens Tuesday evening in Little Rock, the Corvettes and Veterans Salute moves to Barton Coliseum on Wednesday, and the Benton Chamber hosts its free Veteran Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday.

3. Arkansas Rule or Deadline

Three Department of Human Services rules stand in one comment window.

Public comment opened October 23 and closes Saturday, November 21, 2026 on three proposed rules: Sedation Dental Coverage, Medicaid Service Delivery in Mobile Units, and Minimum Licensing Standards for Child Welfare Agencies. Hearings on the first two rules run Tuesday, November 10 at 10:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Central. Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, rules and hearings pages, read November 8, 2026.

A fourth rule takes a hearing this window.

The Department holds a public hearing on its proposed Community Engagement and Work Requirements rule on Wednesday, November 18 at 10:00 a.m. Central. The comment end date for this rule is UNKNOWN tonight and will print when the Department's page states it. This rule carries the operating detail behind the January 1, 2027 full launch of community engagement and work requirements for the ARHOME expansion population, ages 19 to 64, outside the

exempt categories the Department lists. Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, rules page and November 5, 2026 release, read November 8, 2026.

4. Updates and Corrections

- **Dyed diesel relief end date, resolved.** Last cycle the end date of Executive Order 26-16 stood UNKNOWN. The order extends the state's temporary dyed diesel tax and penalty relief for qualifying farm and forestry vehicles through December 31, 2026. Source: Bloomberg Law, November 3, 2026, reporting Executive Order 26-16. Federal penalty relief under the federal order runs the same span.
- **Burn ban count, corrected.** The figure of 56 counties carried in last cycle's sweep came from an aggregator and does not stand. The official Arkansas Forestry Division map, read November 8, 2026, lists 24 counties. Section 11 prints the 24 by name.
- **AEDC Site Development Round 3 is closed.** The round closed November 6, 2026. It no longer stands as an open opportunity, resolving an open question carried across three sweeps.
- **Servant Leader Luncheon date.** Listings that treated the luncheon as a November 6 event are stale. The luncheon stands rescheduled to Friday, February 12, 2027, at the Nonprofit Center of Excellence in Little Rock.
- **Full Table Fund.** No change to the fund's dates. The fund's own page states that submitting a Notice of Intent is not required to apply. It helps the Foundation plan ahead. The Notice of Intent date is November 23, 2026 and applications close December 7, 2026. Source: Arkansas Community Foundation, Full Table Fund page, read November 2, 2026, unchanged on tonight's check.

5. Funding

MEMBER ALERT — Food Desert Elimination sub grants, due Tuesday

The Arkansas Department of Health, through the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, will fund up to ten sub grants of up to $10,000 each to eliminate food deserts and increase access to healthy food. Notice of Funds Availability DH-27-0004, issued October 27, 2026.

- **Deadline: Tuesday, November 10, 2026, not later than 4:30 p.m. Central.** Late packets are returned without consideration.
- **Receipt order matters.** Ten applications will be accepted and funded, and funding is based on receipt, review, and acceptance. A complete packet sent early stands ahead of a complete packet sent at the deadline.
- **Where to send:** completed application packets go by email to the issuing officer, Kenya Eddings, at Kenya.Eddings@arkansas.gov.
- **Who can apply:** a 501(c)(3) nonprofit or its program component or affiliate, a faith based organization, a city, or a municipality. For profit organizations are not eligible.
- **Fit conditions:** the applicant's primary focus must be health related, and the project must work toward a comprehensive plan to eliminate food deserts or increase access to healthy food in its community. Only 10 percent of an award may go to food or refreshments. An applicant that holds other Arkansas Minority Health Commission funding in the fiscal year of award is not eligible, and applicants must stand in good standing with the Department of Finance and Administration.
- **Terms:** grant period December 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. Funds are paid on a reimbursement basis against an approved itemized budget.
- **Fit test:** this fits a health focused organization with a food access project already scoped and a packet that can be completed tonight. It does not fit an organization still designing its project. The packet is short and the window is shorter.

Source: Arkansas Department of Health, NOFA DH-27-0004 and application packet, healthy.arkansas.gov, read in full November 8, 2026. RPNC is not applying for this grant and is not a partner in it. This item prints as member information.

Open and closing in the window

- **OJJDP, Expanding Youth Access to Community Based Treatment (federal).** Up to $650,000 per award, six awards anticipated, 36 month projects beginning January 1, 2027, no cost share. Nonprofits with or without 501(c)(3) status may apply. Two steps: the SF-424 in Grants.gov by Monday, November 16, 11:59 p.m. Eastern, then the full application in JustGrants by Monday, November 23, 8:59 p.m. Eastern. The SAM.gov registration window for new registrants has passed, so this round is open only to organizations already registered. Fit test: a youth treatment provider with federal registration already in place. Source: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, NOFO O-OJJDP-2026-172737, verified November 2, 2026.
- **Levitt Foundation, Levitt Music Series Grants.** Festival and concert series grants of up to $5,000 close Friday, November 20, 2026. Fit test: a community with an outdoor music series in planning and a local match of effort behind it. Source: Levitt Foundation, carried verified from the November 2 cycle.
- **USDA Equipment Assistance Grants.** Applications due Friday, November 20, 2026. Schools only, for school nutrition equipment. Fit test: a school food authority with an equipment need and a quote in hand. Source: carried verified from the October 26 issue.
- **Arkansas Department of Education, Transportation Modernization Grant, cycle 2.** Window closes Friday, November 13, 2026. Eligible applicants are school districts. A nonprofit reading this item serves it best by passing it to its district partners today. Source: carried from the November 2 cycle with its eligibility caution.

Open beyond the window

- **Arkansas Community Foundation, Full Table Fund.** A $10 million food security program for Arkansas, anchored by a $10 million Walmart Foundation grant, with Tyson Foods and Cargill named as additional funders in the Foundation's launch release of September 25, 2026. The fund runs three streams: Advocate, for federal nutrition program access; Strengthen, for charitable food system capacity; Innovate, for community driven pilots. Phase One grants range up to $100,000 to $200,000 per the fund page, for a two year pilot. Eligible applicants are 501(c)(3) organizations, hospitals, government entities, and educational institutions doing the work solely in Arkansas, with a demonstrated track record. The application period opened October 1, 2026. Notice of Intent date November 23, 2026 (not required to apply), applications close December 7, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. Central, awards announced February 2027. Fit test: an established food security organization that can show results already on the ground. Who decides: Arkansas Community Foundation, which administers the fund. Source: Arkansas Community Foundation, fund page, read November 2, 2026, and launch release, read November 8, 2026. This is the fund's one placement in this issue; the Partnership Signals box in Section 6 does not repeat it.
- **Delta Dental of Arkansas Foundation, Oral Health Education Grants.** $2,500 to $30,000 for Arkansas based 501(c)(3) organizations, government agencies, schools, and charitable dental treatment facilities. Rolling intake with quarterly board approval. The next submission deadline is December 18, 2026, then March 5, 2027. One proposal per organization per year. Fit test: a dental health education program with a defined audience. Source: carried verified from the November 2 cycle.
- **Fisher Service Awards 2027.** Applications open. $400,000 across five nonprofit programs serving the military community: one award of $100,000 and four of $75,000, each with a Military Times advertising package. The act by date of March 4, 2027 comes from the program listing carried in the source sweep and stands subject to the program page at application time. Source: Fisher House Foundation program page, read November 2, 2026.

6. Governance and Partnerships

- **ARHOME delivery model, six more months of runway.** The November 5 federal extension keeps the current ARHOME waiver in place from January 1, 2027 while the state and federal governments finalize a new delivery model. For boards: any budget or staffing plan built on a December 31, 2026 waiver end should be revisited this

month, and the work requirement build inside your own client communications still lands on January 1. Source: Arkansas Department of Human Services, November 5, 2026.

- **Interim study proposals move Monday.** The joint Public Health, Welfare and Labor committees take up interim study proposals at their November 9 meeting. Interim studies set the subjects the 2027 session will already know when it opens. An organization with a policy interest in health or human services can read the adopted list this week and plan its session work from it. Source: Arkansas General Assembly, committee agenda, read November 8, 2026.
- **Pre-filing opens November 16.** Bills for the 2027 regular session may be pre-filed from Monday, November 16, 2026. Pre-filed bills are public and readable. A board that tracks legislation can assign the watch now rather than in January.

Partnership Signals

Sourced items on who is convening whom, what it means, and who decides. No partnership is claimed or implied for RPNC in any item below.

Signal 1 — ADH Food Desert Elimination window. This signal points to the member alert leading Section 5 and does not repeat it. The window closes Tuesday, November 10, 2026 at 4:30 p.m. Central, one day after this issue. What it means: the tightest live window in this issue, small dollars, a hard cap of ten funded applications. Who decides: Arkansas Department of Health, Arkansas Minority Health Commission, on review and acceptance of applications. RPNC is not applying and is not a partner. Source: Arkansas Department of Health, NOFA DH-27-0004, read November 8, 2026.

Signal 2 — Full Table Fund. Placed once, in Section 5, Funding, where the funding window and the signal stand in one placement. It does not print again here.

Signal 3 — The Arkansas Pathways coalition held its statewide update on October 29. ACAAA's Arkansas Pathways to Self Sufficiency Coalition, 132 member organizations, held a virtual Coalition Update Meeting on Thursday, October 29, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to noon Central, covering funding, new projects, community forums, and progress on the coalition's primary deliverable, a Statewide Self Sufficiency Model. Partner presentations included the Arkansas Doula Alliance, Arkansas United, ARConnect, Arkansas Workforce Connections, and Ozark Opportunities Community Action Agency. What it means: the coalition is in active build mode on the statewide model, and its local community forums feed that build. The October 29 meeting is its most recent convening of record. Who decides: ACAAA leads the initiative. The model is the coalition's deliverable. Source: ACAAA, Facebook post, October 27, 2026, and The ACAAA Launch Pad, September 21 to 25, 2026, read November 8, 2026.

Signal 4 — Engage Arkansas carries the 2026 to 2028 State Service Plan, with a Youth Mental Health Corps in service this school year. Engage Arkansas, the Governor's Commission on National Service and Volunteerism, housed in the Arkansas Division of Higher Education, holds its 2026 to 2028 Arkansas State Service Plan as a public document on its site. Its Youth Mental Health Corps, announced May 27, 2026, places 40 AmeriCorps members ages 18 to 24 in schools and community organizations in the 2026 to 2027 school year as near peer supports for youth ages 13 to 18, with Community Health Worker certification pathways. Current host and partner listings on the program page include the Arkansas Rural Health Partnership, the University of Arkansas Fort Smith, and Arkansas United. What it means: no new Engage Arkansas announcement dated this week stands published. The live opening is host site interest in a corps already in service, under a state service plan now in its first year. Who decides: Engage Arkansas, as the Arkansas AmeriCorps State Service Commission. Source: Engage Arkansas, 2026, state service plan and Youth Mental Health Corps pages, read November 8, 2026.

Signal 5 — Arkansas Foodbank convenes a broadcast partner, a grocery partner, and match donors on one day, November 12. The Arkansas Foodbank events calendar lists the THV11 Turkey and Sides Drive on Thursday, November 12, 2026, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., run with THV11 and Kroger at Little Rock metro Kroger locations, and a one day Triple Turkey Match the same day, with partners Cindy and T.J. Boyle matching gifts. The calendar also lists Season of Sharing with Chick-fil-A, November 16 to 21, and Music for Meals on November 21. What it means: a working three way convening, food bank, media, and retailer, with a hard date this week. Who decides: Arkansas Foodbank, 4301 West 65th Street, Little Rock. Source: Arkansas Foodbank events calendar, 2026, read November 8, 2026.

7. Regional Watch

CONNECT Tables are planned, targeted January 2027, and not yet meeting. No line below states or implies that a table meets.

Northeast

The Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas holds Fill the Food Bank, its largest food and fund drive of the year, on November 20, 2026, with volunteer shifts at Jonesboro Walmart locations and Sam's Club. Contact on the Food Bank page: Elizabeth Johnson, ejohnson@foodbankofnea.org, 870 336 2749. The A-State leadership academy application deadline of Friday, November 13 stands in the Convenings box in Section 8. Source: Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas, 2026, read November 8, 2026.

Southeast and Delta

The latest published Delta forum in ACAAA's Pathways pattern remains Community Impact Day in Pine Bluff, Saturday, September 26, 2026, convened by ACAAA, Exodus Life, and the Community Empowerment Council, with employers, healthcare providers, and community organizations in the room. Pine Bluff residents named transportation, food access, parent engagement, family stability, education, and workforce pathways as the local tests for the statewide model. No November dated Southeast or Delta item stands published on an original publisher page as of tonight, and this line says so rather than filling the space. The Phillips County read below carries the region's capacity picture in full. Source: The ACAAA Launch Pad, September 21 to 25, 2026, read November 8, 2026.

Southwest

No current dated Southwest item stands published on an original publisher page for this week, and this line says so plainly. The standing structure on the record: Harvest Regional Food Bank, Texarkana, publishes a network of more than 100 partner agencies across nine Southwest Arkansas counties plus Bowie County, Texas, serving more than 60,000 food insecure individuals a year. That is standing information, not a dated event, and it prints as standing information only. Source: Harvest Regional Food Bank, 2026, read November 8, 2026.

Central

Two items. First, the Arkansas Foodbank November 12 convening in Signal 5 above is a Central Arkansas action, headquartered in Little Rock, with the drive at metro Kroger stores. Second, the Arkansas Regional Innovation Hub in North Little Rock closed on December 31, 2025, when the North Little Rock Public Library System exited operations. The relaunch effort, Save the Hub, presents a community owned cooperative and states that a site search is underway, with candidate locations to be determined. No reopening date is published. A reopening date reads UNKNOWN. Pulaski and Saline counties both stand on the official burn ban list tonight (Section 11). Sources: Arkansas Foodbank, 2026, and Save the Hub, 2026, read November 8, 2026.

Northwest, informational only

Project for Public Spaces, with the Walton Family Foundation, has opened the second cycle of the 2027 Community Placemaking Grants for Northwest Arkansas. Four additional United States based 501(c)(3) nonprofits or local government agencies in Benton and Washington Counties will each receive $100,000 in direct funding plus Project for Public Spaces technical assistance. An information session was held Friday, November 6, 2026. The application close date does not stand on the event page read tonight, and it is not printed here. The region also opens the week with a dense fog risk on Monday morning and closes it with a freeze risk, with Fayetteville lows of 31 to 32 degrees forecast for Friday and Saturday nights. Benton and Washington counties are two of the six counties at Low fire danger tonight. Organizations running outdoor weekend work in the northwest should plan for the freeze. Sources: Project for Public Spaces, 2026, and National Weather Service Tulsa and Little Rock, read November 8, 2026.

NCRI Element — County Read: Phillips County

From the Nonprofit Community Resiliency Index (NCRI), Edition 2026-10, Revision 4. The panel set of record, approved November 6, 2026. Phillips County stands in the summary set as the state's support case: the highest

barriers county in Arkansas, with measured need in the state's top five. Helena-West Helena is a named future CONNECT Table city of the second ring.

Capacity read. Phillips County holds 85 active charities, at 55.02 charities per 10,000 residents, against a statewide middle county of 36.11. Filing coverage: 30 of the 85 file full financial reports, 35.3 percent, against a middle county of 22.6 percent.

Needs read. As printed in the edition: the county's most pressing service needs are housing and transportation, and economic opportunity. Its strongest are seniors living alone, and behavioral health. The heaviest capacity requirements on the organizations serving the county are organizational scale, and financial management strength. Its strongest capacity is funding access.

Flag status. Support Priority Flag: does not stand. The county meets two of the flag's three tests. The flag marks a county where high barriers, deep measured need, and a thin local bench stand together. Phillips County carries the barriers and the need. Its bench, measured by organizations per resident, stands above the middle county, and that is the test it does not meet.

Demand reads 8.01 and supply 7.53 on the edition's measures, for a Gap Score of 0.94 in the Low band. On the edition's financial management sentence: 80.0 percent of the county's reporting organizations grade Healthy and 0.0 percent Ready on the pooled basis. Smaller organizations read weaker. Near the middle.

Basis: Edition 2026-10, Revision 4 panels of record. No organization or foundation is named in a county read. A read describes documented presence and filing health. It does not grade a county.

Supply note: Revision 4 covers ten counties: Pulaski, Craighead, Baxter, St. Francis, Johnson, Clark, Desha, Benton, Lee, and Phillips. Baxter, St. Francis, Johnson, and Desha counties carry eligible panel material for the first time under this revision.

8. Convenings and Coalitions

Next 60 days. List only. No endorsement. No attendance claimed.

- **Veterans Day, Wednesday, November 11.** Central Arkansas holds a full day: the Capitol Rotunda ceremony at 11:00 a.m., the Corvettes and Veterans Salute at Barton Coliseum from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (moved from War Memorial Stadium; proceeds benefit the American Legion Be the One program), and the Airlifter Brass concert at the Clinton Presidential Library at 6:00 p.m. A fuller statewide list stands at veterans.arkansas.gov.
- **Stronger Together, Nonprofit Networking Event. Monday, November 9, 2026, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.** First National Bank of NWA, 3553 North Steele Boulevard, Fayetteville. Complimentary transportation offered for River Valley attendees. Hosts: First National Bank of NWA Trust and Wealth Management, the UAFS Center for Nonprofits, and AFP Northwest Arkansas Chapter. Audience: nonprofit leaders across Northwest Arkansas and the River Valley. Cost is not published. RSVP appreciated, not required. Contact nonprofits@f1rstnb.com, 479 788 4203. Source: host flyer published on the AFP Northwest Arkansas Chapter page, November 5, 2026, checked November 8, 2026. No standalone host webpage for this event stands published.
- **Arkansas Home Visiting Network Annual Conference. Tuesday, November 10 to Wednesday, November 11, 2026.** Theme: Hope in Every Home, Planting Seeds for Brighter Futures. Hot Springs Convention Center, Hot Springs. Host: Arkansas Home Visiting Network Training Institute, UAMS. Attendance is limited to home visiting professionals who serve families in Arkansas. Cost is not published on the conference page. Registration links stand on the conference page. Questions to homevisitingti@uams.edu. Source: Arkansas Home Visiting Network Training Institute, 2026, checked November 8, 2026. Page last updated November 6, 2026.
- **Center for Nonprofits Action Summit, University of Arkansas Fort Smith. Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 9:00 a.m. to noon.** Free. Host: Center for Nonprofits, UAFS Center for Economic Development, Fort Smith. Venue is not named on the listing page. Registration link stands on the UAFS CED upcoming events page. Source: University of Arkansas Fort Smith, Center for Economic Development, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.

- **Arkansas Counseling Association, 81st Annual Conference. Wednesday, November 11 to Friday, November 13, 2026.** Theme: Mixtape Sessions, Counseling the Underserved through Hardship and Harmony. Starts 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, ends noon Friday. Wyndham Riverfront, 2 Riverfront Place, North Little Rock. Full conference fees published on the association page: professional member $175, student and retired member $50, nonmember $275. Single day and half day rates also published. Source: Arkansas Counseling Association, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.
- **Benton Area Chamber Veteran Appreciation Luncheon, Thursday, November 12, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Benton Event Center.** Free, registration required. A community table, open to residents, businesses, and veterans.
- **2026 Arkansas Veterans Business Summit. From Service to Success. Friday, November 13, 2026, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Central.** University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture, Little Rock State Extension Office, 2301 South University, Little Rock. Host: Arkansas APEX Accelerator. The summit joins veteran business owners with government procurement representatives and business resource partners. Registration link stands on the SBA event page. Source: U.S. Small Business Administration event page, host Arkansas APEX Accelerator, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.
- **Application deadline line, Northeast:** the Northeast Arkansas Regional Leadership Accelerator Academy, hosted by the Delta Center for Economic Development at Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, takes applications through Friday, November 13, 2026. The year long program runs six facilitated day long sessions for leaders across nonprofit, business, education, healthcare, and government in the 17 county Northeast Arkansas region. Selected participants are notified in late November, with sessions beginning in January. Source: Arkansas State University, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.
- **Tax Education for Clergy, three sessions, one registration deadline for all three.** Tuesday, December 1, 2026, Cornerstone United Methodist Church, Jonesboro. Tuesday, December 8, 2026, First United Methodist Church, Magnolia. Tuesday, December 15, 2026, First United Methodist Church, Rogers. Each session runs 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., lunch provided, same content at each. Host: Methodist Foundation for Arkansas. Presenter: Rocky Goodman, CPA, Landmark CPAs, with Landmark colleagues. Audience: Methodist clergy. Free. Pre registration required. Registration for all three sessions stays open through Monday, November 16, 2026. That deadline falls one week after this issue. Source: Methodist Foundation for Arkansas, 2026, checked November 8, 2026. Carried forward from the October 26 lane and re verified tonight.
- **Grant Writing Workshop, Walnut Ridge. Tuesday, December 1, 2026, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** Ralph Joseph Education Building, 200 Memorial Drive, Walnut Ridge. Hosts: North Delta affiliate of the Arkansas Community Foundation and the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce. Preference given to nonprofits, schools, religious organizations, and municipalities. Attendees must work with organizations serving Clay, Lawrence, or Randolph counties. Free. Seating is limited. Registration stands on the Chamber event page. No closing date published. Source: Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.
- **Center for Nonprofits Holiday Social and Celebration, University of Arkansas Fort Smith. Thursday, December 3, 2026, 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.** Free. Host: Center for Nonprofits, UAFS Center for Economic Development, Fort Smith. Venue is not named on the listing page. Registration link stands on the UAFS CED upcoming events page. Source: University of Arkansas Fort Smith, Center for Economic Development, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.
- **Arkansas Black Philanthropy Collaborative, 6th Annual Convening. Tuesday, December 8, 2026, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Central.** Theme: Black Leadership, Bold Investment, Lasting Change. Clinton Presidential Center, 1200 President Clinton Avenue, Little Rock. A reception follows at 42 Bar and Table. Host: Arkansas Black Philanthropy Collaborative. Audience as stated on the event page: Arkansas nonprofit leaders, foundation executives, civic leaders, and corporate executives, with individual donors and institutional leaders. General admission is free. Optional donation ticket tiers stand on the page. No registration deadline published. Source: Arkansas Black Philanthropy Collaborative, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.
- **ARCHWA Webinar: Community Health Worker Certification through the Arkansas Department of Health. Tuesday, December 8, 2026, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Central.** Online. Host: Arkansas Community Health Worker Association. Audience: community health workers and organizations preparing for Medicaid reimbursement for CHW

services in Arkansas. Free. Registration on the Eventbrite event page. No deadline published. Source: Arkansas Community Health Worker Association, Eventbrite, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.

- **Lunch and Learn: Grow Your Nonprofit. SOLD OUT. Wednesday, December 9, 2026, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Workflow by Evo, 1 Riverfront Place, Suite 500, North Little Rock. In person, not recorded. Speakers: Shunqetta Cunningham of KHARIS Group and Brazier Watts of the Arkansas Arts Council. Free, registration required. The Eventbrite page now shows the event as sold out, with no waitlist named. That reverses the open status carried in the October 26 lane. Source: Eventbrite event page, organizer Arkansas Arts Council, 2026, checked November 8, 2026.

Watch lines, no date published:

- The Arkansas Pathways to Self Sufficiency Good Trouble series, hosted by ACAAA, held its last published session on Wednesday, September 30, 2026. No next session date stands published on ACAAA pages as of November 8, 2026. The date reads UNKNOWN.
- The Arkansas 4-H State Volunteer Conference stands announced for November 13 to 15, 2026 on the University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture volunteer training page, with place, times, cost, and registration route not yet published. Source: University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, checked November 8, 2026.
- Hark's C3 Summit, Northwest Arkansas: the host page carries the 2026 summit as held and names no 2027 date. A 2027 date reads UNKNOWN. Source: Hark, checked November 8, 2026.

9. Training Radar

- **Impact Works Nonprofit Accelerator, underway.** The first class began Monday, November 2, 2026 and runs twelve weeks in six two week modules, with mentor led instruction. Three organizations sit in the beta cohort, from Arkansas, Alabama, and Washington. A waiting list for the next cycle stands open at rallypointnc.org.
- **UAFS Action Summit (above)** doubles as the week's nearest training room for River Valley staff.
- **Session readiness.** With pre-filing opening November 16 and interim studies adopted November 9, this is the week for a board level briefing on what the 2027 session may carry for your mission area. No new training product is required. One hour with the adopted study list and the pre-filed bills serves.

10. Movement

Movement prints a sourced, dated, no commentary record of sector change: a named organization opening, closing, merging, or changing leadership, verified at a source of record.

No movement items to report this week.

11. Seasonal and Disaster Readiness

Every line in this section was re-read at its source on November 8, 2026.

- **Burn bans: 24 of 75 counties.** The Arkansas Forestry Division lists burn bans in Ashley, Calhoun, Chicot, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Desha, Drew, Garland, Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lincoln, Little River, Miller, Ouachita, Perry, Pike, Pulaski, Saline, and Union counties. Source: Arkansas Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division, Fire Info page, read November 8, 2026.
- **Fire danger: Moderate in 69 counties, Low in 6.** Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Newton, and Washington counties read Low. No county reads High or Extreme tonight. The picture improved from last week, when 69 counties read High. Source: Forestry Division, read November 8, 2026.
- **Drought: exceptional drought widened.** The U.S. Drought Monitor release of November 5, 2026 (data of November 3) puts 39.72 percent of Arkansas in exceptional drought (D4), up from 37.06 percent, and 82.10 percent

in extreme drought or worse (D3 to D4). The whole state stands in at least abnormal dryness (D0 to D4, 100 percent). Source: U.S. Drought Monitor, Arkansas table.

- **Weather this week.** Frost and freeze conditions open the week, with freeze products likely on weekend mornings. A cold front brings shower and thunderstorm chances midweek with light rain, a quarter inch or less. The coldest air of the season so far arrives late in the week and holds into next weekend. Monday highs run in the mid 60s to mid 70s. No flood or severe weather hazard stands identified for central Arkansas this week. Source: National Weather Service, Little Rock, forecast discussion and products, read November 8, 2026.
- **Declarations.** No new Arkansas executive order has issued since Executive Order 26-16 of October 30, 2026, and no new federal disaster declaration for Arkansas stands verified tonight. Source: Office of the Governor newsroom, read November 8, 2026.

12. For Directors This Week

1. **Decide on the food desert packet today.** If your organization's focus is health related and your food access project is scoped, the ADH packet is due Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. and receipt order counts. If the project is not scoped, let this one pass and note the program for its next round.

2. **Take a position on the DHS rules before November 21.** Three rules sit in one comment window. A two paragraph comment from a provider that lives under the rule carries weight a form letter does not.

3. **Check your federal registrations before you need them.** The OJJDP round is closed to new SAM.gov registrants. Registration state is a standing readiness item, not a deadline week errand. Confirm yours this week.

13. This Week's Concept

NOFA — Notice of Funds Availability. A NOFA is the state's formal announcement that grant money stands open, with the rules attached: who may apply, what the money may fund, and the exact deadline and delivery route. This week's member alert is a NOFA, number DH-27-0004. Read a NOFA in this order: the deadline and delivery method first, the eligibility list second, the award criteria third. The document answers its own questions. When part of a NOFA seems to conflict with a summary of it, including this report, the NOFA governs.

14. Sources

1. Arkansas Department of Health, NOFA DH-27-0004, Food Desert Elimination Grant Program, and application packet. healthy.arkansas.gov. Read in full, November 8, 2026.

2. Arkansas Department of Human Services, release, "DHS Granted Temporary Extension to ARHOME Waiver by CMS," November 5, 2026, and DHS rules and hearings pages. humanservices.arkansas.gov. Read November 8, 2026.

3. Arkansas Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division, Fire Info and burn ban map. Read November 8, 2026.

4. U.S. Drought Monitor, Arkansas, release of November 5, 2026 (data of November 3, 2026).

5. National Weather Service, Little Rock and Tulsa, forecast discussions and hazard products. Read November 8, 2026.

6. Arkansas General Assembly, committee agendas and upcoming meetings (Joint Public Health, House Judiciary, ALC-PEER, Administrative Rules). arkleg.state.ar.us. Read November 8, 2026.

7. Bloomberg Law, "Arkansas Governor Extends Dyed Diesel Tax Relief Through Year-End," November 3, 2026 (Executive Order 26-16).

8. Office of the Governor, newsroom. governor.arkansas.gov. Read November 8, 2026.

9. Arkansas Community Foundation, Full Table Fund page. arcf.org. Read November 2, 2026, confirmed unchanged November 8, 2026; launch release read November 8, 2026.

10. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, NOFO O-OJJDP-2026-172737. Verified November 2, 2026.

11. Mosaic Templars Cultural Center exhibition listings, Arkansas Heritage. Read November 8, 2026.

12. AY Magazine, event update, Corvettes and Veterans Salute venue change, updated November 6, 2026. National Archives and Clinton Foundation event listings, Airlifter Brass, read November 8, 2026. Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs event list, via VFW Department of Arkansas General Orders, November 2026.

13. MySaline, "Benton Chamber to host Veteran Appreciation Luncheon on Nov. 12," November 3, 2026.

14. Nonprofit Community Resiliency Index (NCRI), Edition 2026-10, Revision 4, panels of record. Phillips County.

15. Weekly CONNECT Report source sweep, November 8, 2026, and Arkansas Readiness Check, November 8, 2026. Leads verified at the sources above before print.

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18. University of Arkansas Fort Smith, Center for Economic Development, upcoming events. uafs.edu/ced/upcoming-events.php. Read November 8, 2026.

19. U.S. Small Business Administration, event page, Arkansas Veterans Business Summit, host Arkansas APEX Accelerator. legacy.sba.gov/event/90536. Read November 8, 2026.

20. AFP Northwest Arkansas Chapter, Stronger Together host flyer post, November 5, 2026. facebook.com/afpnwa. Read November 8, 2026.

21. Methodist Foundation for Arkansas, Tax Education for Clergy. methodistfoundationar.org. Read November 8, 2026.

22. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, Grant Writing Workshop, Walnut Ridge. lawcochamber.org. Read November 8, 2026.

23. Arkansas Black Philanthropy Collaborative, 6th Annual Convening. theabpc.org/events/abpc-6th-annual-convening. Read November 8, 2026.

24. Arkansas Community Health Worker Association, ARCHWA Webinar, Eventbrite. eventbrite.com. Read November 8, 2026.

25. Eventbrite, Lunch and Learn: Grow Your Nonprofit, organizer Arkansas Arts Council. eventbrite.com. Read November 8, 2026.

26. Arkansas State University, Northeast Arkansas Regional Leadership Accelerator Academy, Delta Center for Economic Development. astate.edu. Read November 8, 2026.

27. ACAAA, Arkansas Pathways to Self Sufficiency Coalition update post, October 27, 2026, and The ACAAA Launch Pad, September 21 to 25, 2026. Read November 8, 2026.

28. Engage Arkansas, 2026 to 2028 State Service Plan and Youth Mental Health Corps. engagearkansas.org. Read November 8, 2026.

29. Arkansas Foodbank, events calendar. arkansasfoodbank.org/events/list. Read November 8, 2026.

30. Food Bank of Northeast Arkansas, Fill the Food Bank. foodbankofnea.org/fill-food-bank. Read November 8, 2026.

31. Harvest Regional Food Bank, about page. harvestregionalfoodbank.org/about. Read November 8, 2026.

32. Save the Hub. savethehub.org. Read November 8, 2026.

33. Project for Public Spaces, 2027 Community Placemaking Grants, Northwest Arkansas. pps.org. Read November 8, 2026.

34. University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture, 4-H volunteer training page (watch line). 4h.uada.edu/volunteers/volunteer-training.aspx. Read November 8, 2026.

35. Hark, C3 Summit page (watch line). harknwa.com/c3summit. Read November 8, 2026.

CONNECT stands for Collaborating and Outfitting Needed Nonprofits to Engage Communities Together. The Weekly CONNECT Report is published by the Rally Point Nonprofit Council for Arkansas nonprofit leaders. Corrections and items for a future issue: jeff@rallypointnc.org.