



Arkansas Oklahoma Gas Co.

# 2018 Community Engagement Report



# Message from our CEO

At AOG, we take our responsibility of being a good corporate citizen seriously, which is why being a good friend, community member and neighbor is at the heart of what we do.

In 2018, we are proud to have worked with and volunteered for many important organizations throughout the Fort Smith area that are committed to building a stronger community and supporting future generations. In total, we invested more than \$2.5 million in the community through charitable donations, community sponsorships and energy efficiency programs.

Whether it's going above and beyond helping one of our customers with an issue, donating to a local charitable organization or volunteering with one of Fort Smith's many nonprofit organizations we understand that we are only as strong as the communities we serve. We look forward to continuing to be a strong partner for years to come and building on the successes of 2018.

Kurt Adams  
President and CEO





Arkansas employees recently volunteered with United Way on their annual Day of Caring projects. Volunteers painted and cleaned a building for the River Valley Christian Life Corps, then shared a lunch with the staff before heading back to work for the rest of the day.

305  
volunteer  
hours

# Volunteerism

In 2018, AOG provided employees\* with 20 hours of paid time off to use volunteering with non-profit organizations in the communities we serve. This year, AOG employees donated just over 8 weeks of volunteer time. Whether working individually or as a team, AOG employees volunteered with local sports leagues, participated in nonprofit fundraisers and served on local nonprofit boards. While many employees use the 20 hours to volunteer for individual causes, in 2018, AOG organized a volunteer day in partnership with the United Way's Day of Caring. Employees painted, cleaned, and landscaped for the River Valley Christian Life Corps.

*\*Benefits for some positions in Arkansas and Oklahoma are governed by a Collective Bargaining Agreement and may differ from the benefits we provide to our other employees.*





# Community Giving Program

AOG sponsors many events throughout the year in the communities we serve.

*Some of the 2018 events include:*

- Health awareness programs
- School events
- Home showcases
- United Way Day of Caring
- HVACR Chapter meetings
- A blood drive

In addition to sponsoring events, AOG sponsors employees in events that they or their children are participating in and contributes to local nonprofit organizations annually, *including:*

- Alzheimer's Association
- Bost, Inc.
- Hannah House
- Kitties & Kanines
- Lupus I Care
- Partners in Education  
Carnall Elementary School
- Poteau Chapter Ducks Unlimited
- Riverfront Blues Society
- Sebastian County Humane Society
- United Way







# United Way Campaign

United Way mobilizes our community in ways that no single agency, individual or government can to enhance the ability of people to care for one another. For more than a decade, AOG has partnered with the United Way to raise money for charitable organizations throughout the communities it serves. AOG employees regularly volunteer with the United Way for their annual Day of Caring event, which helps local nonprofits, and their Fill the Bus event, which collects school supplies for local students. AOG matches employee contributions up to \$5,000 annually to the United Way Campaign.



## Partners in Education

Each year, AOG participates in The Partners in Education Program, which establishes mutually beneficial relationships between businesses and schools. Participating businesses and schools commit themselves to reciprocal activities that are based on their needs and resources. AOG's school partner is Carnall Elementary School in Fort Smith. In 2018, AOG sponsored events and programs with Carnall, including local field trips, providing support and funding for the Bring Up Grades (BUG) Club, and volunteering in the school. A group of employees volunteered in 2018 by reading to students and volunteering the first week of school in the cafeteria to help the kindergartens with lunch trays, opening milk, and disposing of trash.

<sup>1</sup>Based on an independent evaluation from ADM Associates using guidance from the "Arkansas Technical Reference Manual, Version 7.0". <sup>2</sup>Source: <https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>



## Energy Efficiency

In 2018, AOG spent approximately \$2.5 million on energy efficiency programs for customers in the form of rebates for heating equipment, hot water heaters and smart thermostats. In addition, AOG partners with Oklahoma Gas & Electric to provide no-cost weatherization services for severely energy inefficient homes. This helps reduce monthly energy bills, increase efficiency and reduce emissions, while customers enjoy the reliability and comfort of natural gas. In fact, from 2012 to 2018, **AOG's energy efficiency programs helped reduce carbon emissions by about 19,855 metric tons<sup>1</sup>. That is equivalent to taking 3,872 cars off the road or offsetting the emissions of nearly 2,111 homes<sup>2</sup>.**



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