Empower.

You don't have to leave your hometown to build your dreams.

My Community, My Vision gives you an opportunity to shape the future of your town. The Community Vision Plan will help guide development of:

- Job opportunities and entrepreneurship
- Affordable housing
- Agriculture, community gardens, parks, and green space
- Transportation and active living
- Community health
- Tourism

Encourage.

This program will provide students the freedom to:

- Take an active role in their community's future
- Enhance their leadership abilities
- Develop a long-term vision and plan for the enrichment of the community
- Collaborate with officials and decision-makers
- Explore new programs and career options
- Return to their hometown after completing their education, with the promise of good job opportunities and enriched communities

Engage.

Organizations will have the opportunity to win $500 for their chapters and engage in the planning and long-term success of their hometowns. Selected winners will have the opportunity to create a vision plan for their community to grow and prosper. My Community, My Vision is a collaborative effort between DECA, Indiana Future Farmers of America (FFA), Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority (IHCDA), the Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA), and community development experts from Ball State University. Apply using the directions on the back of this page.

You have ideas- now make them a reality!

MY COMMUNITY
MY VISION

Apply.

Applying is easy! Submit an essay with the following information:

- Describe how your organization is active in your community
- Describe the strengths and challenges of your community
- Your vision for your community
- How does this vision impact your decision on returning to your hometown?
- Provide your community's demographics and other information that supports your vision

The following documents are not required, but applications that include any or all of these will be given preference:

- A letter of support from the Mayor, Town Council President, or highest elected official showing support for your application. The letter should tell how the community is willing to be involved and support the creation and utilization of the Community Vision Plan if you are selected
- A letter of support from your community's State Representative
- A letter of support from your community's State Senator
- Images such as maps, pictures, drawings, or other examples of your plan, potential future projects, and community elements
- Letters of support from other community partners who support your vision

Other Information.

Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee. Up to five (5) applications will be chosen, to work on community vision plans and will receive a $500 award for their chapter or organization. Leadership-based organizations that are chosen to work on the Community Vision Plan will work closely for several months with IHCDA, the BSU team, and members and officials of their community to create the plan.

Send team applications and questions to:

mcmv@ihcda.in.gov

Application Deadline: September 12, 2014

ihcda
Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority

Ball State University

Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs
Where Rural Matters