

Community Entrepreneurship Initiative

Collaboration. Smarter.

The Community Entrepreneurship Initiative will help your community grow and retain entrepreneurs while providing long-term economic development solutions through community entrepreneurship training.

How It Works

The Indiana Small Business Development Center (ISBDC), creates a positive and measurable impact by providing expert one-on-one consulting services, strategic planning, market research, and loan assistance to Hoosier entrepreneurs at no cost. The Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA), aims to strengthen the economy by providing capacity-building solutions to communities, making them ready, marketable and competitive to attain economic growth.

The ISBDC is partnering with OCRA to launch the Community Entrepreneurship Initiative, providing consulting services to community economic development leaders, elected officials, and citizens interested in developing initiatives to grow and retain entrepreneurship at no cost.

Participating communities will receive:

- ◆ In-depth tactical planning led by an ISBDC Business Advisor trained in entrepreneurial-based strategic planning facilitation. The result will provide measurable next steps to cultivate a more vibrant entrepreneurial community based on a shared vision developed by stakeholders.
- ◆ Results of planning sessions will be organized into written reports with timelines. Ongoing consulting will be provided through the ISBDC to ensure timeline objectives are met and additional facilitation will be provided as needed.
- ◆ Assistance completing a community self-assessment to determine gaps and tactics for improving entrepreneurial environment.
- ◆ Assistance for communities preparing bids for Young Entrepreneurs Program participants.
- ◆ Training for community leaders, with assistance from your OCRA community liaison, to build community-wide support for entrepreneurs.



GET STARTED

To begin growing entrepreneurship in your community with the Community Entrepreneurship Initiative, contact your OCRA community liaison or visit [ISBDC.org/cei](https://www.isbdc.org/cei).