

HOMETOWN COLLABORATION INITIATIVE

HCI is intended for communities of under 25,000 people that want to expand their pipeline of local leaders, strengthen and expand jobs by building on existing economic assets, and embrace placemaking strategies that focus on improving the attractiveness and quality of life of their hometowns. A core principle of HCI is that broad-based input and buy-in is vital to the long-term success and sustainability of all community development initiatives.

BUILDING BLOCKS FOR ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES



START

Foundation

Organizing & Strengthening Our HCI Team

During the foundation phase, the HCI team will: (1) be intentionally designed for success; (2) gather and analyze community and county level data and develop a strategy to capitalize on already existing community assets; and (3) learn action-oriented leadership and collaboration strategies to make the initiative successful.

SELECT A BUILDING BLOCK

Leadership

Developing Our Hometown Leadership Pipeline

Identify and recruit a diverse mix of local residents who want to step up and build their leadership skills. Individuals who take part in the leadership block will develop the knowledge and skills needed to be active contributors to the betterment of their community. This includes ways to work effectively with others, manage group conflicts, identify local needs and take action on priority issues.

Economy

Strengthening Our Hometown Economy

Explore ways to strengthen your economy by: (1) launching a locally-led business retention and expansion program; (2) creating an entrepreneurial-friendly community; or (3) developing the local business leaders of tomorrow by launching a youth entrepreneurship program.

Placemaking

Focusing on Our Hometown's Natural & Built Resources

Examine ways to build on your community's natural and built resources by pursuing placemaking strategies. Your hometown team will take stock of its physical assets and explore the integration of the arts, culture and historic preservation into efforts to revitalize your downtown. Or, you will also have the option to focus on enhancing your local food system.

ACT

Capstone

Keeping the Momentum Going — Our Future Plans

Learn ways to keep the HCI team and other key groups working together on longer-term goals. Next, keep the HCI flame alive by proposing and implementing a Pathfinder Project that places your community on an exciting path for achieving these goals.

Sponsors & Partners

Office of the Lieutenant Governor
Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA)

Purdue University - Purdue Center for Regional Development / Purdue Extension

Ball State University - Building Better Communities

Ball State University College of Architecture and Planning - Urban Design

More info at www.in.gov/ocra