



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF ELKHART COUNTY

Building on a history of resilience, creativity, and innovation

Elkhart County is a vibrant, diverse, growing community dedicated to enhancing its quality of life for generations to come. Rooted in innovation and entrepreneurship, the county is the world re-known leader in two industries: recreational vehicles and band instruments. Industry and community leaders recognized the threat technological advances and off-shore manufacturing would have on the county if directed and collaborative action was not taken. In 2003, they co-authored the Horizon Project, creating a vision to ensure Elkhart County continued to thrive as a viable competitor in the global marketplace and to develop as a vibrant and diverse community. A public - private partnership emerged as the Economic Development Corporation of Elkhart County, a non-profit entity dedicated to the collective success of Elkhart County citizens and businesses.

Countywide Ingenuity Overcomes Economic Challenges

During the recession of 2009, Elkhart County faced one of the greatest threats to the general welfare of its businesses and citizens. But building on the creativity and resiliency of generations before, Elkhart County leveraged its foundational infrastructure in production, manufacturing and transportation. The EDC worked to establish, grow and relocate small and medium technology-based businesses in key industries including advanced manufacturing, healthcare, transportation, government, education and biotech among others. As the businesses grew and incorporated new technologies, an expert workforce of more than 150,000 trained and educated Hoosiers raised base wages and increased the community's overall quality of life.

As a key partner in corporate decisions to locate, relocate or expand in Elkhart County the EDC provides a 360-degree perspective of the county's manufacturing and technology resources, talent, cost analysis, state and national incentive comparisons, needed. Included in these reports, many prospective companies request information on resources to support families. Thanks to the work of our EDC partners, reports highlight the high-quality educational resources, health care, competitive and recreational sports, downtown arts and entertainment and outdoor parks in each community. Of particular note are the Elkhart's Annual Jazz Festival, the Elkhart County Fair - the nation's largest, the Shipshewana Flea Market, Wellfield Botanic Gardens, and the Pumpkin Vine Trail, among many other events and seasonal activities that make Elkhart County the special place it is.

A Future of Solid Economic Growth

The future is bright. Following the charge of the Horizon Project, we want Elkhart County to lead the nation as an example of a vibrant and adaptable community that fosters innovation, creativity and solid values. It is important that we work to continue fostering change; to create solutions with our government that responds to the needs of industry and community; to establish reasonably priced, high quality public services available to everyone; and to develop relationships with neighboring regions.

The Economic Development Corporation of Elkhart County is a public and private partnership inspired and established by citizens of our county in 2001. Now it is the opportunity for our generation to lead Elkhart County into the next century of growth and establish a solid foundation for future generations.



300 NIBCO Parkway, Suite 201
Elkhart, IN 46516
574.293.5627
edc@elkhartcountybiz.com

www.elkhartcountybiz.com

