State of Idaho

Policy Academy : Aligning State and Regional Economic Development Strategies and Actions

> Final Report February 2024





Economic Development Districts of Idaho

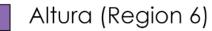
- Panhandle Area Council (Region 1)
- Clearwater Economic Development Association (Region 2)

TBD (Region 3)

Region IV Development Association (Region 4)



Southeast Idaho Council of Governments (Region 5)



Team 44Go! **Idaho Department of Commerce*** *Lead Economic Development Agency for the State **Economic Development Districts EDA University Center State Universities Utility Provider Econ Dev Advisor Small Business Development Center Idaho Manufacturing Alliance A Rural and Urban Econ Dev Pro Underserved Population Econ Dev Pro Manufacturing Extension Partnership**

44GO! Vision

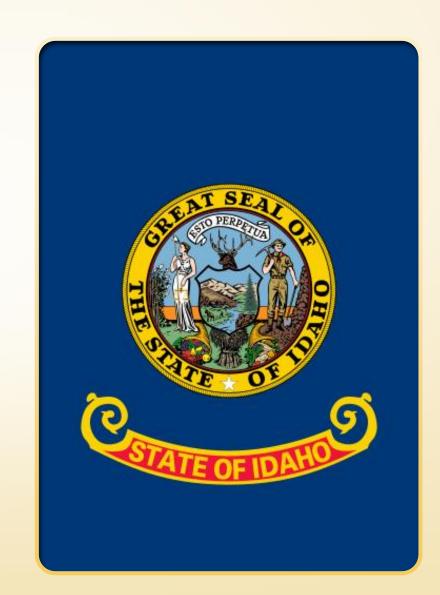
representing the 44 great counties of Idaho

(What?)

To formalize and institutionalize collaborative regional and state planning processes...

(Why?)

...to create an inclusive Economic Development community within Idaho.





- **1. Create an organization and program Asset Map for Idaho.**
- 2. Develop Common Economic Development Language with Idaho's Home Team.
- 3. Create a calendar of major planning document deadlines/approvals.
- 4. Identify a long-term statewide organization to convene stakeholders.
- 5. Develop a marketing strategy and materials for consistent mission.

Biggest Challenge:

Scheduling



Lessons Learned

Disrupt the Status Quo

- Seek ongoing, long-term collaboration
- Transparency
- Be informed and consider the priorities of the State with initiatives on a regional and local level
- Create a proactive culture

Prioritize Communicating with Each Other

- Expand our view of who is "in" our region
- Celebrate each other's wins and mourn each other's losses

Sustainability

- Develop an Economic Development Webpage
- Promote and Expand 44Go! Initiative



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Mr. Jerry Miller - Idaho Department of Commerce Interim Business Retention & Expansion Manager (<u>Jerry.Miller@commerce.idaho.gov</u>)

Dr. Michele McFarlane - RIVDA Community & Economic Development Manager (<u>MAMcFarlane@csi.edu</u>)

Mr. Steve Hatten - TechHelp Executive Director (stevehatten@techhelp.org)

Mr. Jeff McCurdy - RIVDA President (<u>JMcCurdy@csi.edu</u>)

One Team, Louisiana Our Journey





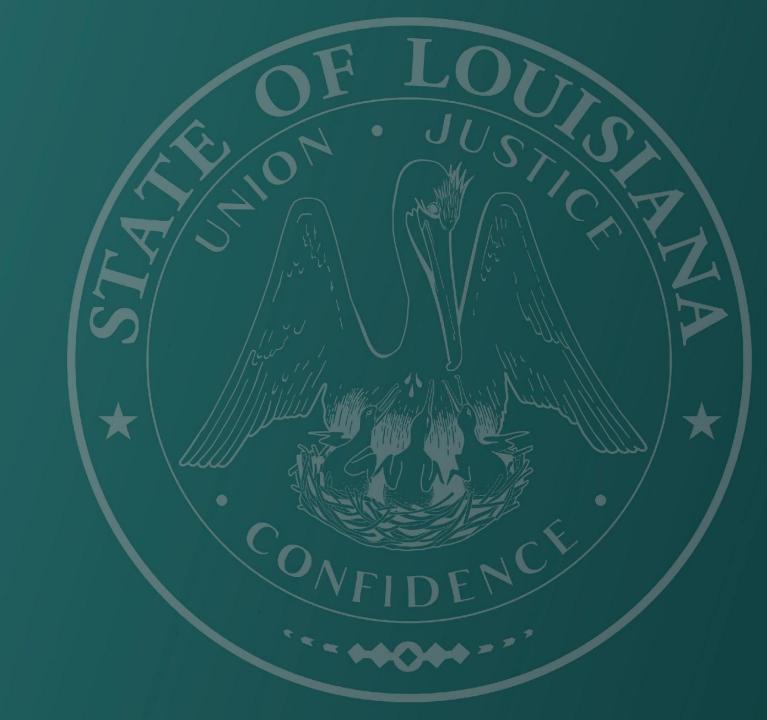
Vision for the Team *Setting The Stage*

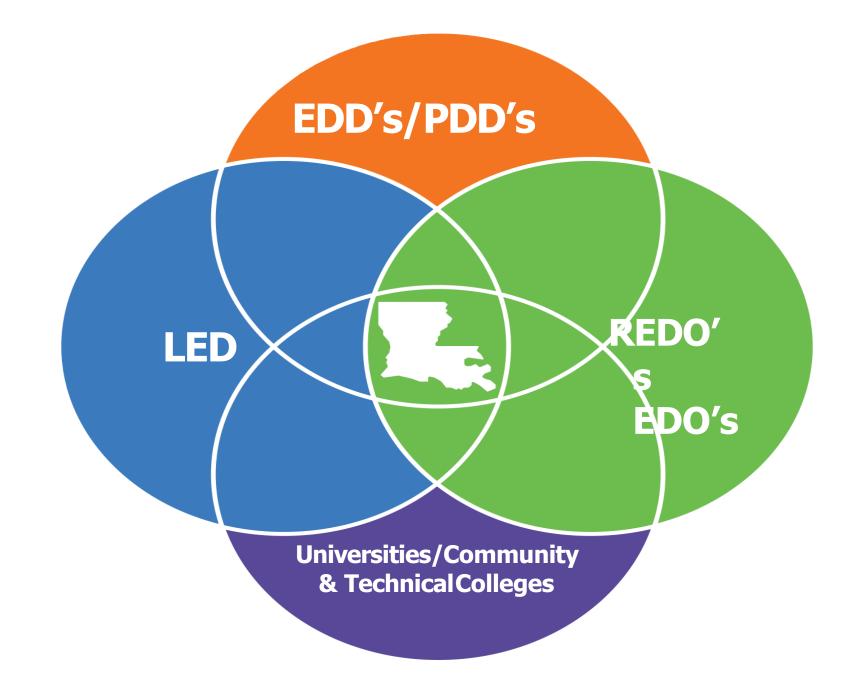
- Being Deliberate
- Promoting
 Inclusiveness
- Building Trust & Relationships



Alignment – *Kickoff Meeting*

- Louisiana FAQ's
- Survey Results
- Manage Expectations





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An Inclusive State Economic Development Strategic Plan

- Communicating the vision and goals of the change to all stakeholders
- Building a coalition of support for the change
- Creating a sense of urgency and momentum for the change
- Providing resources and support for those affected by the change







Team Louisiana's 4 Specific Goals:

- Increase the level of coordination in planning efforts and aligning planning processes
- Encouraging closer collaboration between community development and economic development programming
- Leveraging existing state level policies and programs to support local quality of life/community development programming
- Create statewide resilience initiative to capture Federal Funding



Action Plan, Team Activities & Progress Made to Date: Journey Continues

• Sub-team Formed

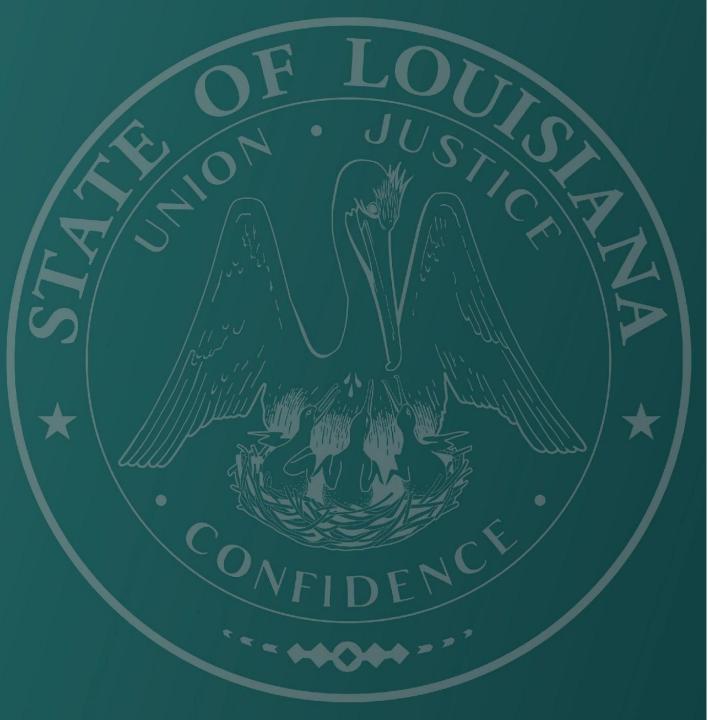
• Establish Touchpoints

• Capitalize on Best Practices

"The greatest danger in times of turbulence is not the turbulence; it is to act with yesterday's logic."

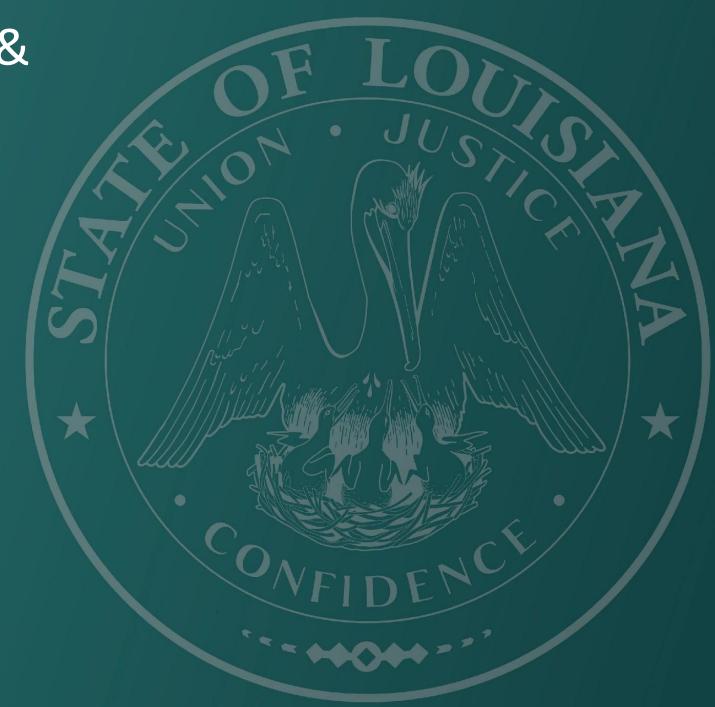
– Peter Drucker

Obstacles and Challenges



Sustaining the Work & Lessons Learned

- On-going Communication
- Being Intentional about Change
- Telling our Story



Closing Thoughts:

If you want to go fast, go alone If you want to go far, go together

It takes longer for one person to take 10,000 steps, than 10,000 people to take one step



WINNING IN OUR OWN BACKYARD: REGIONAL PROSPERITY





Transformational

Customer-focused

Ingenuity and Innovation



MEDC IS COMMITTED TO ENABLING LONG-TERM UPWARD ECONOMIC MOBILITY FOR ALL MICHIGANDERS

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Achieve long-term economic prosperity for Michiganders by investing in communities, enabling the growth of good jobs and promoting Michigan's strong image worldwide



Make Michigan's economy the nation's fastest growing, most equitable and most resilient by:

Achieving 'Top 10' status for:

- Job growth in targeted sectors
- Equitable job growth
- Real median household income growth

Attaining the largest net gain of talent in the Midwest

Becoming top ranked EDO



Sustained, long-term growth

Accelerate long-term job growth to address impacts of automation and protect Michigan's economy against downturns.

Regional impact Support every region – from rural areas to urban centers – to improve economic outcomes for all.

Equitable, high-wage growth Provide equitable pathways toward high-wage growth that supports opportunities for all.

Customer focus

Bring a customer-first, partner-driven mentality to all we do.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREAS



Attract, retain, and grow business Attract, keep and grow businesses in industries that support maximum growth in jobs, wages and investments



Support and grow our talent Cultivate the skills and talent needed for indemand and highgrowth occupations statewide



Develop attractive places Collaborate with local communities and partners to create places in which people and talent want to live, work, visit and play

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Accelerate high-tech innovation Support entrepreneurial growth to enable commercialization and new high-tech business creation



Market the state Promote Michigan's image as a world-class business location and travel destination

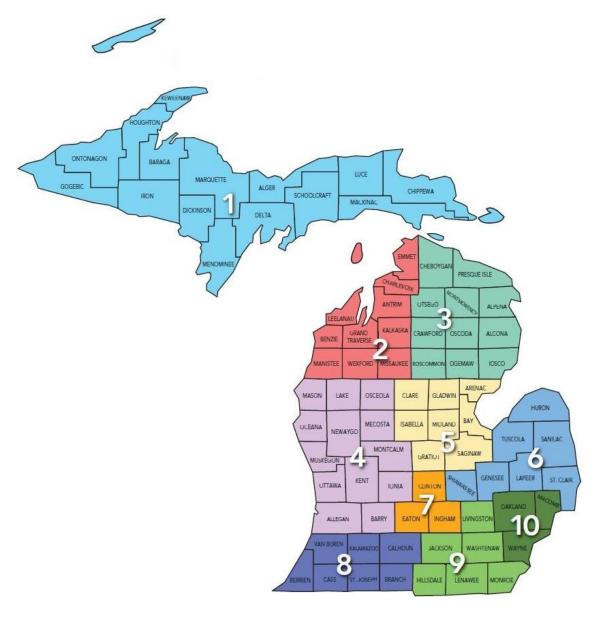


Support small business

Help existing small and microbusinesses grow and thrive and improve economic prosperity for all through small business ownership



Michigan's Prosperity Regions



Michigan Core Team Participants:	Dotty LaJoye, Executive Director, Central Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Regional Commission Jeff Hagan, Chief Executive Officer, Eastern UP Regional Planning & Development Commission Jerald Wuorenmaa, Executive Director, Western UP Planning & Development Region Amy Berglund, Director of Business Initiatives, Invest UP Matt McCauley, Senior Vice President, Regional Prosperity, MEDC
Home Team Participants:	Vicki Schwab, Managing Director, Regional Prosperity, Upper Pen., MI, MEDC Jennifer Tucker: Senior Community Development Manager, MEDC Email: <u>tuckerj6@michigan.org</u> M.J. D'Smith, Executive Director, Michigan Association of Regions (MAR) Debb Brunell, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Upper Peninsula Michigan Works! Chris Olson, President, Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation Ryan Soucy, Senior Economic Development & Community Planner, Central Upper Peninsula Planning & Development Regional Commission Jeff Ratcliffe, Executive Director, Keweenaw Economic Development Alliance Bob Metzger: Strategic Engagement Director, MEDC

TEAM MEMBERS AND AFFILIATION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Outcomes achieved ...

- Clarity across the team of the synergies and opportunities
- A shared and documented commitment to strategic collaboration
- An engaged partnership network that supports an outreach plan to extend the work across Michigan's network of Economic Development Districts.
- Meaningful development of camaraderie and teamwork and the understanding that we are stronger when we work together on meaningful work.

Important elements contributing to success...

- The opportunities for the Core Team members to meet in person with other Academy participants as well as with the Home Team
- The willingness to be completely open and honest about the challenges and opportunities
- The inclusion of the Home Team as part of the program. The long-term success of the Michigan plan is absolutely dependent on a strong network of partnerships.

MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY THE NATION'S FASTEST GROWING, MOST EQUITABLE AND MOST RESILIENT

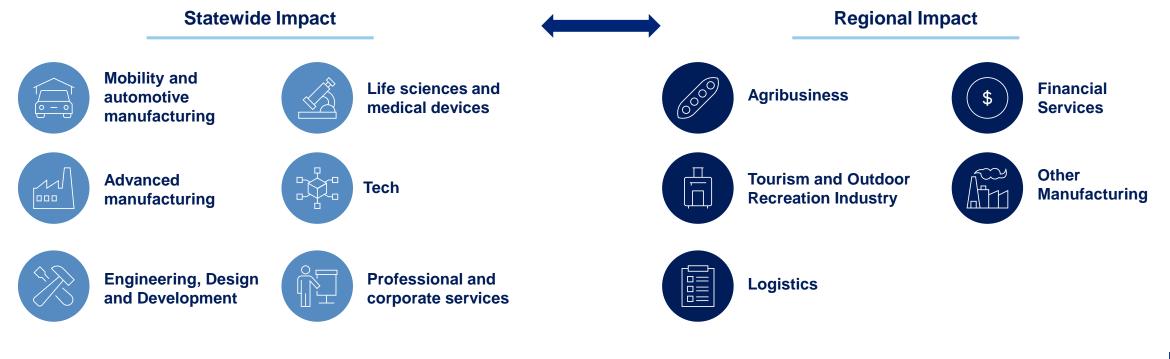


STRATEGIC INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

MEDC will actively work with its partners to **attract**, **retain** and **grow** strategic industries that will have the greatest potential economic benefit on all **communities** throughout Michigan.

FOCUS INDUSTRIES

MEDC resources play a vital role in energizing communities and creating economic opportunity throughout the state. Our toolbox includes customized economic development tools and proactive marketing programs in sectors where Michigan has a distinct competitive advantage to drive sustained, long-term growth as well as tools and sustainment programs in sectors that drive regional impact.





CREC in-person meetings (DC - April 27-28, 2023; Cleveland – November 6-7, 2023



Home Team gathering in Marquette, MI August 14-15, 2024



Teams meetings with CREC



Planning sessions on specific deliverables (ongoing 2024 & beyond)

TIMELINE OF MICHIGAN TEAM'S ACTIVITY

OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIC ELEMENTS

The goals developed to deliver the vision include:

- Shared commitment for collaboration ensuring continued engagement
- ► CEDS inventory and assesment
- Creation of a shared strategic planning document titled "SEDS" (Superior Economic Development Strategy)
- Alignment of planning processes, terms, planning cycles where possible and when it serves to deliver shared success

OVERVIEW OF STRATEGIC ELEMENTS (CONT.)

Steps that the group used to develop and deliver:

- Focused discussion on how each organization currently operates its CEDS process and product
- Evaluation and prioritization of the key initiatives that can best be aligned across all organizations,
- Glossary of shared terms, the group worked together to discuss and come to agreement on each definition

ITEM	NOTES
Superior Economic Development	Documented framework of alignment (SEDS) for U.P.
Strategy (SEDS)	regions that all participants created and will use to
	deliver on the vision for long-term shared success.
	Includes cadence of meetings and documents that will
	drive the continued, collaborative focus.
Documented commitment of	Documented MOU-style document that confirms the
collaboration	long-term commitment for participants to continue the
	important work of the Michigan Policy Academy
	partners
Glossary of Terms	A deceptively simple documentation of terms that
	ensures all stakeholders are using the exact same
	definitions for terms used in CEDS and MEDC strategic
	plans.
Network of Implementers	Established cohort group (Core Team and Home Team)
	that is fully engaged and prepared to continue the work
	of implementation for the Upper Peninsula – and share
	the work across the state of Michigan.
Common CEDS template	Agreement on the terminologies and plan formats that
	will be used by all districts to facilitate how the individual
	plans can be developed, evaluated and updated
	across the three regions and with MEDC (where possible)

OUTCOMES & DELIVERABLES

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ITEM	NOTES
Statewide engagement	Introduction of the results to Michigan network of Regional
	Economic Development Districts and multiyear plan to
	continue the rollout of the "Michigan Policy Academy with 3-
	4 new districts each year going forward
Development of required	Review and establishment of resources that may be required
resources	to ensure successful introduction and engagement across
	the state. May include staff, funds, facilitation, marketing and
	measurement resources
Cycle of continuous	Cadence of accountability that ensures an ongoing review
improvement	of the planning and documentation with an expectation
	that the overall plan is reviewed, revised and shared out
	across the state on a regular basis (at least annually, but
	likely more often). This may result in updates to the required
	resources if needed
MEDC strategic planning	Strategic convening to further evaluate how MEDC's
engagement	strategic planning cycles can effectively include the best
	practices of the Michigan Policy Academy – and support the
	priorities of Michigan's Regional EDDs

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES & DELIVERABLES

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Terminology	Ensuring that the Michigan participants were using the same definitions for commonly-used terms in our respective strategic planning documents was an unanticipated challenge that ended up both taking a good amount of time and achieving beneficial results.
Timing	When each Michigan organization's strategic planning cycles fall is an issue that was recognized early on as the CEDS cycle for the three EDDs is mandated by the EDA. Ideally, we would like to align the cycles for EDDs and MEDC in order to establish a collaborative planning process. This may not be possible in the long run, but it presents a compelling opportunity if it could be achieved.
Teams	Diving into the details of the work was certainly more difficult via Teams meetings. While we did figure out how to make it work, it would likely have been easier if we could have scheduled more "working" meetings where everyone was in the same room.

OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES FACED

The work is "Simple" – but Simple is not "Easy:"

It only works if top leadership is invested and engaged

LESSONS LEARNED

DON'T BOIL THE OCEAN!

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We must make the time for "Vital/Non-Urgent" collaboration How do we plan on doing this?

- Sharing results with the entire Michigan's network of Economic Development Districts, other State of Michigan Departments, and economic development stakeholder organizations
- Working with the Michigan's individual Economic Development Districts and the Michigan Association of Regions to identify potential like opportunities
- Seeking greater alignment between the CEDS process and product among the U.P.'s three EDDs, as well as with MEDC and EDA planning activities

OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY





INVESTUP





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