

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
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**Economic Development in a  
Global Knowledge Economy:  
A Guide for Local Practice**

Michigan State University  
Center for Community and Economic Development  
Knowledge Economy Research Team



Economic Development in a  
Global Knowledge Economy:  
A Guide for Local Practice

Michigan State University  
Office of University Outreach and Engagement  
Center for Community and Economic Development

Knowledge Economy Research Team

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## Preface

The transition from an industrial to a knowledge-based economy, in which traditional economic inputs of land, labor, and capital have given way to knowledge and innovation as key drivers of growth and prosperity, presents a critical challenge to local communities. While some are well-positioned to help citizens benefit from the increasing importance of ideas and innovation, many communities are ill-prepared to compete effectively in the global knowledge economy. In this rapidly changing and highly competitive environment, communities that continue on old pathways are especially vulnerable to economic decline.

The *Guide for Local Practice* is the latest in a series of practice tools prepared in response to this challenge by the multidisciplinary Knowledge Economy Research Team of Michigan State University's Center for Community and Economic Development. These tools are intended to inform – and to help transform – local economic development planning and practice among communities. This *Guide* contains information that we hope will stimulate new ideas and help to reshape local processes, priorities and initiatives into new and more effective forms. The *Guide* builds upon prior work of the knowledge economy team examining implications of the knowledge economy for local planning and economic development practice in distressed communities.

For more than thirty years the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) has been engaged in issues of local economic development in Michigan. As an outreach scholarship unit of a premier land-grant university, CCED mobilizes resources in partnership with community stakeholders to initiate and support knowledge-based and community-driven change. In response to growing concerns expressed by local officials and planners about the implications of a post-industrial economy for their regions, MSU CCED established the knowledge economy team in 2000. The team brings together scholars who have spent decades researching the impacts of information and technology on planning and development from an international and comparative perspective and outreach specialists with extensive community networks and experience working on practical concerns of Michigan communities. We intend in our work to provide resources that enhance the work of economic development professionals and others responsible for planning for the future prosperity of Michigan's

communities. Committed to a set of guiding community development principles<sup>1</sup> and using a “translational research” approach, the team draws from the latest theoretical insights and relevant empirical findings from the academic community to develop practical resources and tools for improving local planning and development practice.

To ensure our efforts are relevant to the real world of practice, CCED plans and conducts its work in partnership with key stakeholder groups throughout Michigan. Partners in the knowledge economy initiative include professional local and regional planners, regional planning organizations, local economic development practitioners, and owners of knowledge-based businesses.

This collaborative work between MSU, community stakeholders and professional networks has resulted in a series of reports, presentations, and other resources (see Publications, p. 71). Research and technical assistance addresses three gaps in local communities’ response to the knowledge economy transition. First is the fundamental need to **motivate action** in new directions. Preliminary research confirmed the validity of concerns expressed by our community partners about the economic prospects for many Michigan communities.<sup>2</sup> Despite the importance of regional preparation, surveys revealed that there was limited evidence that local planners were giving explicit attention to issues of the knowledge economy. Moreover, planning for the information and communications technology infrastructure, workforce development, regional predictors of private sector technology investments, and other predictors of competitiveness in the knowledge economy, were not found to be incorporated into the traditional economic development planning that occurs at the local and regional level in our State. Put simply, to transform its fundamental planning processes, a community must first recognize that a problem exists. In recognition of this, the early work of the research team called attention to the fundamental shifts taking place in the macro economy and their implications for local economies, as a way to help local stakeholders identify specific emerging challenges they may face.

In support of the goal of motivating action, another focus of the knowledge economy team’s work has been to **provide information**. We seek ways to deliver community-specific data on the status of Michigan communities in the knowledge economy – and a meaningful context for appreciating its implications. This included preparation of a *Knowledge Economy Index* for counties (2004) and

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1. Online at <http://ced.msu.edu/communityprinciples.html>

metropolitan regions (2005) to document the status of Michigan's 83 counties and seven metro regions on the basis of specific indicators that predict or demonstrate competitive advantage (and disadvantage) in a knowledge economy. In addition to presenting specific relevant data about Michigan communities, the *Index* also was designed to serve as a template for local communities wanting to assess and monitor local conditions using additional indicators, consistent with local priorities, generated through existing local processes that could identify strategic strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities in a community's knowledge economy capacity. In this way, the *Index* has been used to spark discussion and action by communities and regions around the State.

Awareness and information alone are not sufficient to achieve results. Therefore, the work of the knowledge economy team emphasizes the development of **tools for improved practice**. While the *Index* is a tool to support improved community self-assessment, the *Guide* is designed to enhance strategic action. In addition to highlighting best practices, the project team conducted a survey of Michigan Economic Developer Association members to understand better their perceptions and use of various economic development practices and their priorities for additional information and training. Knowledge Economy Research Team members Kenneth E. Corey and Mark I. Wilson also recently authored the book *Urban and Regional Technology Planning: Planning Practice in the Global Knowledge Economy* (see Publications, p. 71) expressly intended to empower the urban and regional-scale economic development practitioner to conduct successful planning and plan implementation. A related current project, funded by MSU's Community Vitality Program, involves in-depth interviews with owners of Michigan-based knowledge economy businesses to learn more about their experience and expectations of local economic development practice.

Through this comprehensive process of research and engagement, the Knowledge Economy Research Team seeks to empower economic development professionals and their stakeholders with the strategic tools and skills necessary to bring about positive change in distressed communities by exploring, envisioning, designing and implementing local initiatives that are both realistic and ambitious in order to create a better future for their citizens, civic institutions and business enterprises.

- MSU Knowledge Economy Research Team  
Lansing, Michigan, June 2007



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In translating theoretical and empirical findings to support practical local action, the knowledge economy team draws upon an extensive body of work by numerous academic and policy researchers. We wish to thank Rob Atkinson, Paul Sommers, and Shalini Venturelli for their contributions to recent conferences hosted by CCED on the topic of economic development and the knowledge economy. We are influenced to varying degrees by the work of Joseph Cortright, Richard Florida, Meric Gertler, Lou Glazer, Paul Gottlieb, Stephen Graham, Patsy Healy, Ann Markusen and Heike Mayer, among others.

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of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies stimulated valuable insights by sharing his perceptions of trends in northern Michigan.

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Finally, we give special thanks to the members of the project advisory committee for their helpful guidance, valuable suggestions and provocative questions in support of this initiative. Many of these advisors were members of the MEDA New Economy Task Force, chaired by Matt Dugener of the Lansing Economic Area Partnership (formerly with the West Michigan Science and Technology Initiative of Grand Valley State University). The collective wisdom and rich experience embodied in this group of seasoned practitioners cannot be overstated. A complete list of the advisory committee members and their affiliations is included on page 74.

The statements, conclusions, and recommendations contained herein are solely those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the University, the government, or other funders.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY: A GUIDE FOR LOCAL PRACTICE

# I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY: A GUIDE FOR LOCAL PRACTICE

### **About the *Guide for Local Practice***

In a knowledge-driven economy, traditional approaches to community planning and economic development are proving insufficient. To sustain prosperity, or even economic stability, is a growing challenge for many communities. In today's rapidly changing and highly competitive global environment, there are neither simple solutions nor universal answers. The *Guide for Local Practice* is offered as a practical tool to support local and regional economic development practitioners and others involved in the various organizations and networks that design, implement and support community initiatives for local economic development and growth.

The *Guide* is organized in three sections. This brief introduction describes the structure and contents of the report and is followed by a summary of trends and issues observed in economic development gleaned from research into exemplary local practice for the knowledge economy.

Following this overview is a catalog of best practices, consisting of brief entries that describe one hundred exemplary programs, processes, and initiatives implemented in response to various dimensions of the knowledge economy. The catalog is accompanied by an index to help identify entries of interest by general topic, specific keyword and location.

The *Guide* concludes with a additional resources, including lists of team members, project advisors, and publications by the MSU Knowledge Economy Research Team.

We are interested to hear about how you use the information included in this *Guide*, and invite your feedback. Please share your reactions by using the Contact Us form at the end of the *Guide*. For more information on the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development or the MSU Knowledge Economy Research Team, please visit our website at [www.ced.msu.edu](http://www.ced.msu.edu).

## Trends and Issues in Practice

Planners and community leaders must consider specific economic development initiatives in relation to an ongoing planning and decision-making environment in which such activities are embedded. Like any intentional community change effort, outcomes of local economic development planning are strongly shaped by the extent to which they occur within an informed, sustained and effective community process. The transition to a knowledge economy has not diminished the need for effective processes. Indeed, given the rising stakes and more rapid and complicated change facing communities, good process may be more crucial now than ever. Effective planning processes share many common elements including committed leadership, meaningful participation by diverse stakeholders; honest, well-informed assessment; a clear shared vision; sufficient financial and other resources; goal-oriented action; mechanisms for evaluation and routine feedback. A fundamental priority for communities striving for future prosperity must be to cultivate, support and institutionalize sound civic traditions and responsive, informed processes for change.

In a knowledge economy context, other specific concepts that assume greater importance include **regional action**, **collaborative networks** and **effective leadership**.

### *Regional Action*

In the global knowledge economy the metropolitan area (or city-region) has emerged as a critical unit of economic competition. When choosing among locations in which to live, work, or do business, individuals and firms look beyond narrowly defined political boundaries to consider the assets of an economic region as a whole.

Economic regions in which local units fail to collaborate because of geopolitical boundaries or persistent social conflict are therefore likely to face limited opportunities for future growth and development of population or economy. Communities capable of acting in a coordinated fashion will have greater capacity to conduct the region-wide assessments, planning, and actions needed to compete in today's environment. It is important to develop the capacity to identify more clearly and respond more swiftly or effectively to emerging region-wide opportunities.

Space still matters. Despite early predictions that information and communication technologies would diminish the significance of distance, location continues to be an important factor in determining outcomes of economic competition among communities. In a knowledge economy, however, different features become relevant to location decisions. Growth tends to concentrate in places with a demonstrated capacity for innovation and creativity, rather than those with abundant natural resources, nearby markets, or other traditional location features. Because both financial capital and “creative capital” (people with advanced knowledge and skills, now the key factor in productivity) are highly mobile, the places that succeed are those best able to attract – or develop and retain – highly skilled creative people.

### *Networks*

To act as a unified region does not necessarily require eliminating defined structural boundaries. Coordinated region-wide *governance* – and not regional *government* in a formal or structural sense – is the crucial goal. A region benefits by overcoming existing divisions to cultivate and grow *functional networks* that enable key organizations, firms, and individuals to consider, plan and act together on the basis of common goals.

Because space matters in new ways, robust relationships are necessary to develop the qualities of place. The “creative class” of young talented workers and “footloose firms” that drive economic growth are no longer as restricted by natural resources, cheap labor, and capital. Additional factors, such as a workforce that is both highly skilled and adaptable to change, and a community-wide “enterprise culture” that fosters and rewards innovation and risk. A community can achieve such goals by developing and utilizing dense webs of dynamic relationships among many diverse partners, which may require reinventing relationships among existing partners. For example, the dual demands that a region offer a highly skilled workforce, from which new knowledge firms may draw talent, and also encourage access to jobs in rapidly growing industries and firms that employ creative workers, suggest that regional development in a knowledge economy will benefit from bringing together key stakeholders currently focused on workforce development (concerned with *where firms want to locate*) with those engaged in broader community development initiatives (concerned with *where people want to live*).



Figure 1. *Lessons in Brief*

**Good news travels fast:** Many of the specific initiatives that are applauded as innovative and exemplary are adopted quickly by many communities across the country. Rapid diffusion may limit the comparative advantage of implementing an innovative practice, but also may intensify the comparative disadvantage of not adopting emerging practice tools.

**Good practices travel in packs:** Whether by a single multifunction organization or a coalition of independent organizations, effective practices are often implemented together with other tools as coordinated elements of a community-wide effort addressing multiple dimensions of the knowledge economy.

**Old wine in new bottles:** Many practices widely regarded as exemplary are in fact familiar tools or techniques, retargeted to address knowledge economy factors. This is not meant as criticism – good vintage wines are valued with good reason.

**Size (or scale) matters:** For certain dimensions of the knowledge economy, the best local practice is often found in concert with policy framed and action taken at a state or even national scale.

**Variety is the spice of life:** Best practices are evident across a wide range in terms of who leads, funds, and participates in local initiatives, and how much interest is generated and impact observed.

**Old problems persist:** Even in regions in which ‘best practices’ are abundant, sustaining programs over time may be a challenge, especially if they lack effective implementation, well-documented benefits, or lackluster champions.

**Process trumps project:** Effective practices are often attributable in greater measure to an underlying sustained and robust community planning process, rather than by virtue of innovative features inherent to the project or program.

**Still no silver bullets:** As is the case for any effort at intentional community change, there is neither a magic formula nor a one-size-fits-all solution to effective planning and development practice in the global knowledge economy.

**Persistence pays:** In the context of an ever-changing global context, communities that commit to a long-term continuous change and improvement process are more likely to succeed than those that seek one-time fixes or short-term success.

In addition to new and stronger relationships among current stakeholders, communities must develop networks and processes that welcome the participation of new partners. For example, there are inherent limits to strategies that serve only to attract current “creative class” individuals to meet the workforce needs of growing knowledge businesses. Sustaining a knowledge-based economy over time will require the local development of creative talent. Emerging trends in human capital development (e.g., the growing emphasis on early childhood development as a means to help children become creative adults committed to lifelong learning) suggest an opportunity, to which a number of communities have begun to respond, for incorporating preschool, infant, and even prenatal programs under the economic development umbrella.

### *Leadership*

Vital to effective leadership is clear, consistent, and continuous campaigning and promotion of the basic elements of a comprehensive inclusive regional strategy. In a knowledge economy, leadership must support planning and participation from all quarters. To implement a new regional agenda, champions of a common community vision must include not only elected officials and business leaders, but credible community leaders from every sector and level. Individual leaders are important, but they need a broad base of support in order to succeed.

Leadership for the knowledge economy also must give clear voice to the future. Too often, the private sector partners that are engaged in high-profile regional initiatives have been limited to established industries that represent a community’s past economic realities. The perspectives and needs of the small emerging knowledge businesses that will drive a region’s future economic growth must be invited, heard and understood in the planning process.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY: A GUIDE FOR LOCAL PRACTICE

## II. BEST PRACTICES CATALOG

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY: A GUIDE FOR LOCAL PRACTICE

## About the Catalog

The catalog of best practices was developed to serve the goal of stimulating awareness and encouraging more effective action to develop local economies in the context of the global knowledge economy. In 2004 the MSU Knowledge Economy Research Team released a *County-Level Knowledge Economy Index* to help local and regional planners in Michigan account more systematically for knowledge economy factors in community self-assessment. To complement the *Index*, the practice catalog intends to offer examples to help planners and other community stakeholders design viable strategies in response to priorities identified by self-assessment. The catalog highlights a broad range of innovative local economic development initiatives that have been undertaken in different communities in response to various dimensions of the global knowledge economy.

The best practices catalog is framed around dimensions of the knowledge economy adapted for MSU's county and metropolitan *Michigan Knowledge Economy Index* reports from the New Economy Index, developed by Rob Atkinson with the Progressive Policy Institute and now continued by Atkinson with the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. The *New Economy Index* (available online at [www.ppionline.org](http://www.ppionline.org) and [www.itif.org](http://www.itif.org)) presents state and metropolitan level indicators indicating engagement in the knowledge economy. The five dimensions as presented in the *Michigan Knowledge Economy Index* include: Knowledge Jobs; Innovation; Digital Economy; Globalization; and Dynamism.<sup>1</sup>

Examples of practice included in the catalog were identified by reviewing recent awards for exemplary practice given by national and international organizations including the Economic Development Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the State Science and Technology Institute, the International Economic Development Council, the Stockholm Challenge, and the Intelligent Communities Forum. Additional examples were drawn from the academic literature, publications for practitioners, and the project advisory committee.

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1. In the *Guide* and practice catalog, the Dynamism category has been recast as Creative Community to better reflect the growing significance in the knowledge economy of arts and culture and creative community planning processes.

The best practices catalog may be approached in several ways. Individual entries are brief so one can quickly browse the catalog to trigger ideas for new local approaches. Readers can also seek practices that relate to specific priorities or program elements. A reader not previously responsible for economic development is likely to find value in the entire *Guide* as an orientation to the knowledge economy context, and use the catalog to observe the range of possibilities.

Figure 2 provides an illustration of the format used for catalog entries. Entries are listed in alphabetical order and numbered. Catalog entries include online references for additional information about practices of particular interest. Indexes are provided to permit searching for entries by location and by relevant topics and keywords.

*Figure 2. Sample Catalog Entry*

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## 1. Name of Project or Initiative

Location

Starting Date

Brief description of project or initiative highlighting unique, innovative, or exemplary characteristics.

### Keywords:

Up to five keywords for each entry to classify entries by key features or unique characteristics

### Related Entries:

Name and Number of Other Similar Catalog Entries

### For more information:

One or more websites to visit for more information

## Alphabetical List of Catalog Entries

1. Adlershof
2. Advanced Technology Development Center
3. Ann Arbor Angels
4. Ann Arbor SPARK
5. Arboretum Ventures
6. Art of Ohio
7. Artspace Projects, Inc.
8. Austin Technology Incubator
9. Automation Alley
10. Avalon Theatre
11. Beanstalk
12. BioHouston, Inc.
13. Biotech Bound
14. Boston Wireless Task Force
15. Business Accelerator Program
16. Business Innovation Factory
17. Canada's Technology Triangle
18. Catalyst Connection
19. Center for Advanced Technologies
20. Center for Economic Growth
21. Center for Emerging Technologies
22. Central Massachusetts Talent Retention Project
23. College 360
24. College City
25. Community Media Center
26. Corpus Christi Digital CDC
27. Council for Entrepreneurial Development
28. Cproperty Real Estate Search
29. Cultural Collaborative
30. Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network
31. EAST Initiative
32. EcityGov Alliance
33. Economic Development GIS
34. Economic Gardening
35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp Series
36. Evora Digital District Project
37. Explore San Mateo / Silicon Valley Prospector
38. Gainesville Area Innovation Network
39. Gladstone Municipal Wireless
40. Great Lakes Interactive Marketing Association
41. Golden Capital Network
42. Grand Angels
43. Great Lakes Entrepreneur's Quest
44. Great Lakes Interchange
45. High Impact Program
46. Houston Inventors Association
47. IC2
48. Idealliance
49. Imagine Toronto
50. Indus Entrepreneurs
51. Information Technologies Center
52. Information Warehouse



## Alphabetical List of Catalog Entries

53. InnoCentive
54. Innovation Network
55. Innovation Philadelphia
56. Innovation Works
57. Automation Alley International Business Center
58. International Business Community Initiative
59. International Trade Division
60. Internettroy
61. Intertech Science Park
62. Ireland's Information Age Town
63. Isle of Wight Sustainable Tourism Initiative
64. Issy.com
65. Kalamazoo Promise
66. Knowledge Industry Partnership
67. LaGrange Internet Television
68. Lessons From the Land
69. Maricopa Partnership for Arts and Culture
70. MaRS Centre
71. Master Plan of Regional Informatization
72. Mayor's New Economy Task Force
73. Michigan Tech Enterprise Corporation
74. Michigan Entrepreneur TV
75. Model D Media
76. MoshPit!
77. North Portland Online
78. NY Loves Nanotech
79. OneCommunity
80. Online City Hall
81. Online Permits
82. Other Side of the Stethoscope
83. Paducah Artist Relocation Program
84. The Point Community Development Corporation
85. San Diego Science Alliance
86. Sandia Science and Technology Park
87. Science Careers Videoconferencing Series
88. Silicon Valley Chinese Engineers Association
89. Start Up
90. SynerG
91. Tampa Bay Technology Forum
92. TechTown
93. Tell the World!
94. Torpedo Factory Art Center
95. Turku Science Park
96. Tuscon's Commercial Property Online
97. Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement
98. Wireless Washtenaw
99. World Business Chicago
100. YP!

Table 1. Practice Catalog Entries Classified by Knowledge Economy Categories

Catalog Entry	Knowledge Jobs	Human Capital	Innovation	Digital Economy	Globalization	Creative Community
1. Adlershof			X	X		X
2. ATDC		X		X		
3. Ann Arbor Angels	X		X			
4. Ann Arbor SPARK	X	X	X			X
5. Arboretum Ventures	X		X			
6. Art of Ohio				X		X
7. Artspace Projects, Inc.		X				X
8. Austin Tech Incubator		X		X		
9. Automation Alley	X	X				X
10. Avalon Theatre						X
11. Beanstalk		X		X		
12. BioHouston, Inc.	X		X			
13. Biotech Bound	X	X				X
14. Boston Wireless				X		X
15. Bus. Accelerator Program	X		X			X
16. Bus Innovation Factory	X		X			X
17. Canada's Tech Triangle	X				X	X
18. Catalyst Connection	X	X				
19. Ctr for Adv. Technologies	X	X				X
20. Ctr for Economic Growth	X	X				X
21. Ctr for Emerging Tech	X		X			
22. Central MA Talent Retention		X				
23. College 360		X		X		X
24. College City		X		X		X
25. Community Media Center				X		X
26. Corpus Christi Digital CDC				X		X
27. Council for Ent. Development			X			X
28. Cproperty	X			X		X
29. Cultural Collaborative						X
30. DEN			X			
31. EAST Initiative		X		X		
32. EcityGov Alliance				X		X
33. Econ. Dev. GIS	X			X		X
34. Economic Gardening	X		X			
35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp	X		X			X

Table 1 (continued)

Catalog Entry	Knowledge Jobs	Human Capital	Innovation	Digital Economy	Globalization	Creative Community
36. Evora Digital District		X		X		
37. Explore San Mateo	X			X		X
38. GAIN	X	X	X			X
39. Gladstone Municipal Wireless				X		
40. GLIMA	X					X
41. Golden Capital Network		X	X			X
42. Grand Angels			X			X
43. GLEQ			X			X
44. Great Lakes Interchange	X	X	X			
45. High Impact Program	X					X
46. Houston Inventors			X			X
47. IC2			X			
48. Idealliance	X		X			
49. Imagine Toronto		X	X			X
50. Indus Entrepreneurs			X		X	X
51. Info Tech Center	X	X				X
52. Info Warehouse	X			X		
53. InnoCentive			X	X		
54. Innovation Network		X	X	X		
55. Innovation Philadelphia	X	X				X
56. Innovation Works	X		X			
57. International Business Center					X	
58. IBC	X				X	X
59. Int'l Trade Division					X	
60. Internettroy	X			X		
61. Intertech	X					X
62. Ireland's Info Age Town	X			X		X
63. Isle of Wight		X				X
64. Issy.com				X		X
65. Kalamazoo Promise		X				X
66. KIP		X		X		X
67. LaGrange Internet TV				X		X
68. Lessons From the Land		X		X		X
69. Maricopa Arts & Culture		X				X
70. MaRS Centre			X			

Table 1 (continued)

Catalog Entry	Knowledge Jobs	Human Capital	Innovation	Digital Economy	Globalization	Creative Community
71. Regional Informatization				X		X
72. New Economy Task Force	X	X				
73. MTEC		X	X	X		
74. Michigan Entrepreneur TV			X	X		
75. Model D Media		X				X
76. MoshPit!	X	X	X			
77. North Portland Online				X		X
78. NY Loves Nanotech	X					X
79. OneCommunity				X		X
80. Online City Hall				X		
81. Online Permits	X			X		X
82. Other Side Stethoscope		X				
83. Paducah Artist Relocation		X				X
84. The Point CDC		X				X
85. San Diego Science Alliance		X				X
86. Sandia S&T Park			X			
87. Science Careers		X		X		
88. SVCEA			X		X	X
89. Start Up			X		X	X
90. SynerG		X				X
91. Tampa Bay Tech Forum	X		X			X
92. TechTown	X	X	X			
93. Tell the World!	X				X	X
94. Torpedo Factory						X
95. Turku Science Park			X			
96. Tuscon's Property Online	X			X		X
97. VIDA	X	X				X
98. Wireless Washtenaw				X		
99. World Business Chicago	X				X	X
100. YP!	X				X	

## 1. Adlershof

Berlin, Germany

1991

A thousand-acre science and technology park and media city in Berlin, Adlershof has about 650 resident businesses and additional urban development elements on a site that also includes residential space, parkland, and separate industrial sites.

### Keywords:

Higher Education Partnership  
Science & Technology Park

Media Applications

Property & Real Estate

### Related Entries:

86. Sandia Science and Technology Park

95. Turku Science Park

### For more information:

<http://www.adlershof.de/?L=14>

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## 2. Advanced Technology Development Center

Atlanta, Georgia

1987

A widely recognized leading science and technology incubator affiliated with Georgia Institute of Technology that serves Georgia entrepreneurs to commercialize new technologies and grow knowledge-based businesses.

### Keywords:

Growing Knowledge Industries

Business Incubator/Accelerator

Commercialization

Entrepreneurship

Higher Education Partnership

### Related Entries:

8. Austin Technology Incubator

21. Center for Emerging Technologies

### For more information:

<http://www.atdc.org>

### 3. Ann Arbor Angels

Ann Arbor, Michigan

2002

A network of independent organizations that collaborate to bring together angel investors and early stage technology-based companies in Southeast Michigan; typical investments are between \$250,000 and \$2.5 million.

**Keywords:**

Technology Sector

Early Stage Capital

**Related Entries:**

41. Golden Capital Network

42. Grand Angels

**For more information:**

<http://www.annarborangels.org>

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### 4. Ann Arbor SPARK

Ann Arbor, Michigan

2005

A regional economic development organization that promotes the Ann Arbor region as a hub of innovation and offers entrepreneurial education and business development services.

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Career Information

Entrepreneur Training

Promoting Community Identity

Multifunction Organization

**Related Entries:**

20. Center for Economic Growth

55. Innovation Philadelphia

**For more information:**

<http://www.annarborspark.org>

## 5. Arboretum Ventures

Ann Arbor, Michigan

2002

A venture capital firm that specializes in medical device, diagnostic and healthcare service sectors, with an emphasis on the upper Midwest. Arboretum prefers a hands-on, relation-based approach to assisting entrepreneurs with startup firms; its first fund is \$24 million.

### Keywords:

Health Care Sector

Early Stage Capital  
Entrepreneurship

### Related Entries:

3. Ann Arbor Angels

41. Golden Capital Network

### For more information:

<http://www.arboretumvc.com/>

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## 6. Art of Ohio

Athens, Ohio

2006

An online sales and marketing initiative for local craft entrepreneurs in 29-county rural Ohio region, integrated with entrepreneurship training, business incubation and other small business development services.

### Keywords:

Entrepreneur Training

Online Commerce

Arts & Culture  
Promoting Community Identity

Rural

### Related Entries:

10. Avalon Theatre

60. Internettroy

### For more information:

<http://www.acenetworks.org/foodventures/index.php?page=113>

## 7. Artspace Projects, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

1979

A nonprofit organization that develops and manages property and provides consulting and community-building services, to make available affordable space for artists and arts organizations to support both the arts community and the overall economy.

### Keywords:

Talent Attraction & Retention

Arts & Culture

History & Heritage

Property & Real Estate

### Related Entries:

83. Paducah Artist Relocation Program

94. Torpedo Factory Art Center

### For more information:

<http://www.artspaceusa.org/>

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## 8. Austin Technology Incubator

Austin, Texas

1999

A nonprofit technical business incubator at the University of Texas at Austin and a program of IC2. Since 1989, 150 companies raised \$720 million in capital and generated \$1.5 billion revenue and 10,000 jobs; ATI recently launched new incubators for Clean Energy, Wireless, and Information Technology sectors.

### Keywords:

Energy Sector

Information Technology Sector

Business Incubator/Accelerator

Commercialization

Higher Education Partnership

### Related Entries:

2. Advanced Technology Development Center

47. IC2

### For more information:

<http://www.ic2.org/main.php?a=2&s=0>



## 9. Automation Alley

Troy, Michigan

1997

A multi-sector collaborative organization that conducts workforce and business development initiatives to support area technology companies, and markets the Automation Alley brand to grow the knowledge economy and enhance the image of Southeast Michigan and its local communities.

**For more information:**

<http://www.automationalley.com>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training  
Developing Skilled Workforce  
Promoting Community Identity  
Membership Organization  
Multifunction Organization

**Related Entries:**

- 17. Canada's Technology Triangle
- 78. NY Loves Nanotech

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## 10. Avalon Theatre

Easton, Maryland

1994

An historic 1921 theatre that was restored in the 1980s but failed to become profitable before being sold at auction to the town of Easton; now leased and managed by the Avalon Foundation, Inc., Avalon Theatre once again serves as a social, educational and artistic hub of the community.

**For more information:**

<http://www.avalontheatre.com/>

**Keywords:**

Arts & Culture  
Asset-Based Development  
History & Heritage

**Related Entries:**

- 7. Artspace Projects, Inc.
- 94. Torpedo Factory Art Center

## 11. Beanstalk

Albany, New York

1999

An online clearinghouse managed by the Center for Economic Growth to connect college students with employers in the Capital Region and Tech Valley of eastern New York State. Intended to retain high-quality college graduates to provide a skilled workforce to growing companies in Tech Valley.

**For more information:**

<http://mybeanstalk.com>

**Keywords:**

College and University Students  
Developing Skilled Workforce  
Internships  
Talent Attraction & Retention

Online Information

**Related Entries:**

22. Central Massachusetts Talent Retention Project

23. College 360

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## 12. BioHouston, Inc.

Houston, Texas

2002

A nonprofit corporation founded by Houston-area academic and research institutions to grow the region's life science industry by working to stimulate technology transfer and research commercialization; activities emphasize training and networking events and resources around a theme of "Convene, Communicate, and Catalyze."

**For more information:**

<http://www.biohouston.org/>

**Keywords:**

Life Sciences Sector

Commercialization  
Entrepreneurship  
Higher Education Partnership  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

46. Houston Inventors Association

61. Intertech Science Park

## 13. Biotech Bound

Indianapolis, Indiana

2004

An industry and higher education partnership to provide financial and supportive services to help at-risk young adults overcome educational and social barriers so they may earn associate degrees from Ivy Tech State College and obtain entry-level biological and chemical technician jobs in area biotechnology and health care firms.

### Keywords:

Life Sciences Sector  
Health Care Sector

Educational Assistance  
Developing Skilled Workforce

Equity/Social Justice

### Related Entries:

21. Center for Emerging Technologies

97. Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement

### For more information:

<http://www.ipic.org/foryoungpeople/bio.htm>

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## 14. Boston Wireless Task Force

Boston, Massachusetts

2006

A task force established by Boston Mayor that concluded the best route to wireless Internet access for the city would be to form a non-profit entity to develop and operate a citywide WiFi network as an open wholesale system to provide universal, low-cost broadband access and serve as a platform to support innovation and entrepreneurial activity.

### Keywords:

Digital Infrastructure  
Wireless Broadband

Equity/Social Justice

Planning Document

### Related Entries:

79. OneCommunity

98. Wireless Washtenaw

### For more information:

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/wireless/>

## 15. Business Accelerator Program

Ann Arbor, Michigan

2002

A program of Ann Arbor SPARK that helps start-up businesses shorten the time required to attract capital and other critical resources to begin operations. Offers individual coaching on business planning; introductions to potential investors, management talent, professional services, suppliers, and customers; and assists with market research, intellectual property validation, and product planning.

**For more information:**

<http://www.annarborspark.org/business-resources/launching-your-business/business-accelerator/>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Entrepreneur Training  
Mentoring

Networking

**Related Entries:**

35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp Series

89. Start Up

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## 16. Business Innovation Factory

Providence, Rhode Island

2004

A membership organization of large and small businesses in Rhode Island that explores and tests innovative business models for effective public-private partnerships. BIF conducts research, hosts training and networking events, and facilitates pilot experiences to enable members to test new models of collaboration.

**For more information:**

<http://www.businessinnovationfactory.com>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Entrepreneur Training

Networking

Membership Organization  
Research Report

**Related Entries:**

18. Catalyst Connection

53. InnoCentive

## 17. Canada's Technology Triangle

Waterloo-Kitchener, Ontario, Canada

1998

A nonprofit private-public partnership to keep, grow, and attract innovative businesses and entrepreneurs in growing industries to Canada's Waterloo Region by marketing the region as an attractive location for global investment and talent.

### Keywords:

Advanced Manufacturing Sector  
Technology Sector

Export Assistance  
Foreign Direct Investment

Promoting Community Identity

### Related Entries:

9. Automation Alley

93. Tell the World!

### For more information:

<http://www.techtriangle.com>

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## 18. Catalyst Connection

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

1988

A nonprofit organization that provides training and consulting to manufacturing and technology companies on business growth, productivity improvement and workforce development, conducts training for the existing workforce and implements business-education-community partnerships to develop the future workforce.

### Keywords:

Business Services/Training  
Advanced Manufacturing Sector  
Technology Sector

Developing Skilled Workforce

### Related Entries:

54. Innovation Network

56. Innovation Works

### For more information:

<http://www.catalystconnection.org/>

## 19. Center for Advanced Technologies

Detroit, Michigan

1993

An initiative of Focus: HOPE that seeks to overcome impacts of racism and poverty by offering a manufacturing engineering curriculum that leads to associate or bachelor degrees through Lawrence Technological University, Wayne State University or the University of Detroit Mercy. The program has graduated more than 100 students.

### Keywords:

Advanced Manufacturing Sector  
Career Information  
Industry-Education Partnership  
Developing Skilled Workforce  
Equity/Social Justice

### Related Entries:

13. Biotech Bound  
97. Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement

### For more information:

<http://www.focushope.edu/education/cat.htm>

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## 20. Center for Economic Growth

Albany, New York

1988

A regional economic and business development organization in the Capital Region and Tech Valley of eastern New York State that promotes the region as a location for high-technology industries. Provides assistance to support local companies, attract new investment, and prepare the region's local communities for future opportunities.

### Keywords:

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Growing Knowledge Industries  
Promoting Community Identity  
Membership Organization  
Multifunction Organization

### Related Entries:

17. Canada's Technology Triangle  
78. NY Loves Nanotech

### For more information:

<http://www.ceg.org>

## 21. Center for Emerging Technologies

St. Louis, Missouri

1995

Partnership of the St. Louis region's private, public and academic sectors that provides specialized incubator services and facilities for advanced technology companies. Provides financing and individualized business development and technology support, operates a 92,000 square foot incubator/lab facility for life science and other research companies, and offers training for technology entrepreneurs throughout the region.

**For more information:**

<http://www.emergingtech.org>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training  
Life Sciences Sector  
Technology Sector  
Business Incubator/Accelerator  
Entrepreneur Training

**Related Entries:**

2. ATDC  
8. Austin Technology Incubator

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## 22. Central Massachusetts Talent Retention Project

Worcester, Massachusetts

2006

Research project conducted for the Central Massachusetts Regional Development Council to recommend ways to increase talent retention. Based on surveys of students and interviews with employers and college administrators, 2006 report revealed the region loses more graduates than it retains, and suggested close coordination between the region's higher education and business communities.

**For more information:**

[http://www.wrrb.org/reports/Talent\\_Retention.pdf](http://www.wrrb.org/reports/Talent_Retention.pdf)

**Keywords:**

College and University Students  
Industry-Education Partnership  
Talent Attraction & Retention  
Research Report

**Related Entries:**

11. Beanstalk  
66. Knowledge Industry Partnership

## 23. College 360

Cleveland, Ohio

2005

Online guide for students at more than a dozen colleges and universities that provides information about opportunities to “explore, learn, work, and play” in Northeast Ohio. Aims to help individual students better prepare for the future and at the same time attract and retain students to provide an engaged and educated workforce.

**For more information:**

<http://www.college360.org>

**Keywords:**

College and University Students  
Internships  
Talent Attraction & Retention  
Online Information  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

24. College City  
66. Knowledge Industry Partnership

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## 24. College City

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2002

An initiative uniting area colleges, tourism, and government to link students with the many industries and internship opportunities in the Pittsburgh region, to enrich the college experience and better prepare students for life after college.

**For more information:**

<http://thecollegecity.com>

**Keywords:**

Career Information  
College and University Students  
Talent Attraction & Retention  
Online Information  
Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

23. College 360  
55. Innovation Philadelphia



## 25. Community Media Center

Grand Rapids, Michigan

1980

A nonprofit organization to assist local organizations and residents in using technology and media tools by providing opportunities for people to use media to more freely share their stories and exchange ideas; offering media literacy resources and tools to inform and empower media consumers; and delivering technology education and high-tech media services for nonprofit organizations in West Michigan.

**For more information:**

<http://www.grcmc.org>

**Keywords:**

Media Applications  
Online Information  
Technology Skills Training  
Asset-Based Development  
Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

- 71. Regional Informatization
- 77. North Portland Online

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## 26. Corpus Christi Digital CDC

Corpus Christi, Texas

2002

Nonprofit corporation created by the city to leverage Corpus Christi 's WiFi infrastructure to connect government, public safety, education, business, health care, and residents. Conceived as a network to use technology to assist in meter reading, the planned WiFi infrastructure developed into a multi-purpose network to meet city government service needs and provide residents expanded access to Internet.

**For more information:**

<http://www.ccdcdc.org>

<http://www.ctexas.com/wifiportal>

**Keywords:**

Digital Infrastructure  
E-Government  
Wireless Broadband  
Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

- 79. OneCommunity
- 98. Wireless Washtenaw

## 27. Council for Entrepreneurial Development

Durham, North Carolina

1984

Entrepreneurial support organization with more than 4,000 active members representing over 1,100 companies that supports development of the entrepreneurial culture of the Research Triangle and North Carolina. Provides a forum for entrepreneurs in a range of industries and stages of development to interact with investors, service professionals, researchers and policy makers.

**For more information:**

<http://www.cednc.org>

**Keywords:**

Early-Stage Capital  
Entrepreneur Training

Networking  
Promoting Community Identity

Membership Organization

**Related Entries:**

30. DEN

50. Indus Entrepreneurs

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## 28. Cproperty Real Estate Search

Rochester Hills, Michigan

2006

Searchable online property and site locator database intended to make it easy for companies to learn about commercial real estate in the City of Rochester Hills. Provides detailed information searchable by square footage, acreage, location, availability, zoning, usage, and other characteristics. The company providing the technology used for the site is also located in Rochester Hills.

**For more information:**

<http://www.cproperty.net/rh>

**Keywords:**

Business Attraction & Expansion

E-Government  
Online Information

Property & Real Estate

**Related Entries:**

37. Explore San Mateo

96. Tuscon's Commercial Property Online

## 29. Cultural Collaborative

### San Antonio, Texas

2004

Planning effort in San Antonio to develop a strategic agenda for the city's creative economy. Resulted in a lasting network that is currently assembling the city's first directory of the people, businesses and organizations that make up its creative sector.

#### Keywords:

Arts & Culture  
Promoting Community Identity  
Planning Report

#### Related Entries:

63. Isle of Wight Sustainable Tourism Initiative

72. Mayor's New Economy Task Force

#### For more information:

<http://www.sanantonio.gov/art>

[http://www.sanantonio.gov/edd/driver\\_industries/Crea/ti\\_crea.asp](http://www.sanantonio.gov/edd/driver_industries/Crea/ti_crea.asp)

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## 30. Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network

### Hanover, New Hampshire

1999

Department of Dartmouth College under the office of the provost that provides hands-on educational experiences and advice in business development, complemented by traditional classroom based programs and student independent studies, to help the Dartmouth community learn and implement entrepreneurship.

#### Keywords:

Business Incubator/Accelerator  
Commercialization  
Entrepreneur Training  
Higher Education Partnership

#### Related Entries:

54. Innovation Network

47. IC2

#### For more information:

<http://www.den.dartmouth.edu/index.htm>

## 31. EAST Initiative

### Little Rock, Arkansas

1996

Student-centered educational model that emphasizes project-based service learning to develop creative and adaptive problem solving skills and encourage lifelong learning. Students teams work on practical problems using the latest digital and media technologies. Model is employed in several hundred schools around the U.S. EAST also organizes trainings and conferences for students and educators.

**For more information:**

<http://www.eastinitiative.org>

<http://www.eastproject.org>

**Keywords:**

Educational Assistance  
Industry-Education Partnership  
K-12 Education

Media Applications  
Technology Skills Training

**Related Entries:**

13. Biotech Bound  
85. San Diego Science Alliance

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## 32. EcityGov Alliance

### Bellevue, Washington

2000

Group of eight local governments that partnered to provide better access to government services and information over the web. First project was an online permitting website built upon collaboration among local building officials with support from city managers. Alliance is a membership organization with executive board made up of city managers or chief administrative officers of member agencies.

**For more information:**

<http://www.ecitygov.net/home>

**Keywords:**

E-Government  
Online Commerce  
Property & Real Estate

**Related Entries:**

36. Evora Digital District Project  
81. Online Permits

### 33. Economic Development GIS

Charlotte-Mecklenburg, North Carolina

1992

Interactive mapping and database search tool developed by a private-public partnership to provide online information for use by businesses considering relocating to Charlotte-Mecklenburg, and for local businesses considering expansion or relocation within the region.

**Keywords:**

Business Attraction & Expansion

E-Government  
Online Information  
Online Mapping

Property & Real Estate

**Related Entries:**

28. Cproperty Real Estate Search

37. Explore San Mateo

**For more information:**

<http://gischamber.co.mecklenburg.nc.us/website/chamber>

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### 34. Economic Gardening

Littleton, Colorado

1987

Approach to local economic development practice that seeks to build the local economy from the inside out by encouraging innovation and helping small companies grow (in contrast to the traditional practice of business recruiting, or "economic hunting"). Provides local stakeholders with tactical and strategic information and links local enterprises to external resources.

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training  
Growing Knowledge Industries

Entrepreneurship

Asset-Based Development

**Related Entries:**

45. High Impact Program

75. Model D Media

**For more information:**

<http://www.littletongov.org/bia/economicgardening>

## 35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp Series

### Ann Arbor, Michigan

2002

Program of Ann Arbor SPARK that helps entrepreneurs accelerate the process of defining, refining, and launching a new business. Twelve two-person teams are selected for an intensive two-day program led by a seasoned entrepreneur and various local business experts to develop solid business plans and investor presentations which are then presented to a panel of venture investors.

**For more information:**

<http://www.annarborspark.org/business-resources/launching-your-business/boot-camp>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Entrepreneur Training

Mentoring

Networking

**Related Entries:**

76. MoshPit!

89. Start Up

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## 36. Evora Digital District Project

### Evora District, Portugal

2005

Regional web portal to make municipal, regional, business, and tourism services and information available online for the District of Evora. With funding from from national government and European Union, association of 14 municipalities launched project to extend the e-government infrastructure of Evora to the rest of the District in partnership with the University of Evora and regional development groups.

**For more information:**

<http://www.evoradistritodigital.pt>

**Keywords:**

E-Government

Online Commerce

Online Information

Rural

**Related Entries:**

32. EcityGov Alliance

64. Issy.com

## 37. Explore San Mateo

### San Mateo, California

1991

Online database to map property and community information so prospective businesses can search for and map available office, R&D, manufacturing, and retail properties. create site-specific demographic and industry analysis, map businesses by industry. Now joined in Silicon Valley Prospector, a common site with twenty other communities in the region.

**For more information:**

<http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/business/prospector.html>

**Keywords:**

Business Attraction & Expansion

E-Government

Online Information

Online Mapping

Property & Real Estate

**Related Entries:**

28. Cproperty Real Estate Search

33. Economic Development GIS

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## 38. Gainsville Area Innovation Network

### Gainseville, Florida

1985

Coalition of entrepreneurs, inventors, private firms, investors, service providers, and others to foster entrepreneurship and grow technology business sector in North Florida. Provides practical support through monthly meetings, guest speakers, workshops, and other networking and educational activities. Also seeks to promote the region; member companies provide internships for area students.

**For more information:**

<http://www.gain-net.org/public/index.asp>

**Keywords:**

Technology Sector

Internships

Entrepreneur Training

Networking

Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

54. Innovation Network

91. Tampa Bay Technology Forum

## 39. Gladstone Municipal Wireless

Gladstone, Michigan

2003

Public-sector initiative using wireless technology to deliver high-speed Internet access as municipal service to residents and businesses of a small rural community near Michigan-Wisconsin border (population 5,000).

**Keywords:**

Digital Infrastructure  
Wireless Broadband

Rural

**Related Entries:**

- 26. Corpus Christi Digital CDC
- 98. Wireless Washtenaw

**For more information:**

<http://www.gladstonemi.org/broadband.htm>

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## 40. Great Lakes Interactive Marketing Association

Troy, Michigan

1996

Network of high-tech professionals in Southeast Michigan that has grown into a statewide and regional network of licensed local chapters providing networking and educational programs for technology professionals. Since 2001 GLIMA has been affiliated with Automation Alley.

**Keywords:**

Technology Sector

Networking

Membership Organization

**Related Entries:**

- 9. Automation Alley
- 100. YPI!

**For more information:**

<http://www.automationalley.com/autoalley/GLIMA+Network/>



## 41. Golden Capital Network

Chico, California

2001

Multi-state organization in the Western United States to support entrepreneurship and improve access to early-stage financial capital; conducts training, coaching, and mentoring for entrepreneurs and hosts events to connect entrepreneurs with the private equity sector and public entrepreneurship initiatives.

**Keywords:**

Early-Stage Capital  
Entrepreneur Training

Mentoring  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

5. Arboretum Ventures

27. Council for Entrepreneurial Development

**For more information:**

<http://www.goldencapital.net>

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## 42. Grand Angels

Holland, Michigan

2004

Regional investment group that provides financing with a relatively patient exit strategy; also offers networking and mentoring to support the success of young growing companies. Focused on serving West Michigan, Grand Angels is a member of the Angel Capital Alliance, which is nurtured by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

**Keywords:**

Early-Stage Capital  
Entrepreneurship

Mentoring  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

3. Ann Arbor Angels

41. Golden Capital Network

**For more information:**

<http://www.grandangels.org>

## 43. Great Lakes Entrepreneur's Quest

Ann Arbor, Michigan

2000

Annual business competition and year-round educational program to help entrepreneurs start, develop or accelerate a high-growth business; by offering classes, training, coaching and mentoring for participants.

**Keywords:**

Early-Stage Capital  
Entrepreneur Training

Mentoring  
Rewards or Incentives

**Related Entries:**

35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp Series

89. Start Up

**For more information:**

<http://www.gleq.org>

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## 44. Great Lakes Interchange

Troy, Michigan

2000

Network of businesses, learning institutions and governments to support innovation, new technologies and commercialization of new ideas across a wide array of industries; the Interchange served as a model for the Michigan Smart Zone program.

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Commercialization  
Higher Education Partnership  
Science & Technology Park

**Related Entries:**

73. Michigan Tech Enterprise Corporation

92. TechTown

**For more information:**

<http://www.greatlakesinterchange.com>

## 45. High Impact Program

Louisville, Kentucky

2004

Public-private initiative that provides targeted business assistance to a limited number of local area firms for the express purpose of growing the region's knowledge economy. Participants are selected to receive services on the basis of specific criteria identifying them as "gazelles" (rapid growth) "renaissance firms" (undergoing significant transition) or "enablers" (facilitating growth of other firms).

**For more information:**

<http://www.greaterlouisville.com/highimpactprogram/>

**Keywords:**

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Business Services/Training  
Asset-Based Development  
Mentoring  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

15. Business Accelerator Program  
16. Business Innovation Factory

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## 46. Houston Inventors Association

Houston, Texas

1983

Group with more than 200 individual members holds twice-monthly meetings to hear expert speakers and network with fellow inventors. Peer-to-peer network also offers programs on the fundamentals of transforming new ideas into marketable products, and encourages members to learn from others' direct experience.

**For more information:**

<http://www.inventors.org/>

**Keywords:**

Commercialization  
Entrepreneur Training  
Networking  
Membership Organization

**Related Entries:**

12. BioHouston, Inc.  
50. Indus Entrepreneurs

## 47. IC<sup>2</sup>

### Austin, Texas

1977

Longstanding institute at the University of Texas at Austin to promote research and educational excellence. Seeks “constructive forms of capitalism” to help communities grow and prosper. Combines technology, entrepreneurship and education in a variety specific initiatives.

#### Keywords:

Entrepreneurship  
Higher Education Partnership  
Research & Development  
Multifunction Organization

#### Related Entries:

- 8. Austin Technology Incubator
- 30. Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network

#### For more information:

<http://www.ic2.org>

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## 48. Idealliance

### Winston-Salem, North Carolina

1998

Organization of academic, business and government leaders created to help grow specialized technology sectors and redevelop downtown Winston-Salem. Developer and now owner of Piedmont Triad Research Park, a center for life science research and information technology.

#### Keywords:

Growing Knowledge Industries  
Information Technology Sector  
Life Sciences Sector  
Research & Development  
Science & Technology Park

#### Related Entries:

- 54. Innovation Network
- 61. Intertech Science Park

#### For more information:

<http://www.ideallianceinc.org>

## 49. Imagine Toronto

Toronto, Canada

2005

Eighteen-month research and planning project to develop detailed strategy for Toronto to leverage its existing creative economy assets for future economic and social development. Led by experts at the University of Toronto, team identified strategies from around the world to leverage creative activities for economic development and conducted case studies of three US and three European cities.

**For more information:**

<http://www.imagineatoronto.ca>

**Keywords:**

Higher Education Partnership  
Promoting Community Identity  
Research Report  
Planning Document

**Related Entries:**

63. Isle of Wight Sustainable Tourism Initiative  
70. MaRS Centre

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## 50. Indus Entrepreneurs

Global Network

1992

Global network for entrepreneurs, executives, and professionals with roots in the Indus region with 12,000 members in 47 chapters across 11 countries. Seeks to foster entrepreneurship through mentoring, networking, and education; offers a range of programs in addition to hosting the world's largest professional conference for entrepreneurs.

**For more information:**

<http://www.tie.org>

**Keywords:**

Entrepreneur Training  
Immigrant or Ethnic Group Ties  
Mentoring  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

40. Great Lakes Interactive Marketing Association  
88. Silicon Valley Chinese Engineers Association

## 51. Information Technologies Center

Detroit, Michigan

1999

Program of FOCUS: Hope that provides industry-certified training in network administration and desktop & server administration in collaboration with industry partners including Cisco, Microsoft, and the Computer Technology Industry Association. More than 570 students have graduated from the program and are earning competitive wages in professional careers.

### Keywords:

Information Technology Sector  
Educational Assistance  
Industry-Education Partnership  
Skilled Workforce  
Equity/Social Justice

### Related Entries:

19. Center for Advanced Technologies

97. Valley Initiative for Development and Advancement

### For more information:

<http://www.focushope.edu/education/itc.htm>

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## 52. Information Warehouse

Indianapolis, Indiana

2003

Online database to provide market information, site selection assistance, and economic development expertise to life sciences, advanced manufacturing, information technology, logistics, and motorsports companies considering locating in central Indiana.

### Keywords:

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Growing Knowledge Industries  
Targeted Sectors  
Online Information

### Related Entries:

33. Economic Development GIS

96. Tuscon's Commercial Property Online

### For more information:

<http://www.iredp.com>

## 53. InnoCentive

Andover, Massachusetts

2001

Online clearinghouse to connect life science and chemistry researchers with firms needing to fill specific intellectual property needs - "seeker" firms post a challenge (e.g., physiological marker of pleasure in small mammals), and the scientist who meets the challenge receives professional recognition and financial award.

**For more information:**

<http://www.innocentive.com>

**Keywords:**

Life Sciences Sector

Commercialization  
Research & Development

Online Information

Rewards or Incentives

**Related Entries:**

16. Business Innovation Factory

48. Idealliance

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## 54. Innovation Network

Marion, Indiana

2001

Partnership between higher education institutions and the Grant County Economic Growth Council to encourage and assist entrepreneurship development from within this northern Indiana county; planning for high-speed telecommunications infrastructure and working with emerging and existing employers to develop and retain a local workforce with technological skills.

**For more information:**

[http://www.grantcoindevelopment.com/innovative\\_overview.htm](http://www.grantcoindevelopment.com/innovative_overview.htm)

**Keywords:**

Skilled Workforce

Entrepreneurship  
Higher Education Partnership

Digital Infrastructure

Multifunction Organization

**Related Entries:**

30. Dartmouth Entrepreneurial Network

52. Information Warehouse

## 55. Innovation Philadelphia

### Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2002

Regional partnership led by high-level public and private officials to promote the visibility and growth of Greater Philadelphia's economy by establishing networks and events to support development of the creative economy, the young professional workforce, international connections, and innovative ideas about Philadelphia's economic future.

**For more information:**

<http://www.ipphila.com/>

**Keywords:**

Growing Knowledge Industries

Talent Attraction & Retention

Arts & Culture

Promoting Community Identity

Multifunction Organization

**Related Entries:**

4. Ann Arbor SPARK

20. Center for Economic Growth

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## 56. Innovation Works

### Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

1987

Organization that invests capital, business expertise, and other resources into high-potential technology companies with potential for regional economic impact; the single largest investor in seed-stage companies in the region. Also provides resources for manufacturers to adopt new technologies; part of a statewide network that fosters innovation to stimulate Pennsylvania's economic growth and prosperity.

**For more information:**

<http://www.innovationworks.org>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Growing Knowledge Industries

Advanced Manufacturing Sector

Early Stage Capital

Multifunction Organization

**Related Entries:**

18. Catalyst Connection

45. High Impact Program



## 57. International Business Center

Troy, Michigan

2002

**Keywords:**

Export Assistance  
Foreign Direct Investment

Program of Automation Alley to better connect Southeast Michigan to the global economy by helping small and mid-size foreign companies, international government entities and educational institutions to establish a presence; and preparing existing small and mid-size companies to export knowledge-based products and services, conduct international business, and plan for global expansion.

**Related Entries:**

9. Automation Alley  
59. International Trade Division

**For more information:**

<http://www.automationalley.com/autoalley/International+Business+Center/About+the+IBC/>

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## 58. International Business Community Initiative

Fairfax County, Virginia

1996

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training  
Export Assistance  
Foreign Direct Investment  
Promoting Community Identity

Program of the Fairfax County Economic Development Authority to assist international companies interested in expanding or relocating their operations to the county; provides free confidential services and information specifically targeted towards foreign-owned firms; affiliated offices in Silicon Valley, Bangalore, Frankfurt, London, Seoul and Tel Aviv.

**Related Entries:**

59. International Trade Division  
99. World Business Chicago

**For more information:**

<http://www.fairfaxcountyeda.org/international.htm>

## 59. International Trade Division

Albuquerque, New Mexico

2004

**Keywords:**

Export Assistance  
Foreign Direct Investment

Division of Albuquerque Economic Development Department conducts consultations, promotion, trade missions and shows, and market research to help local companies sell goods and services, particularly scientific and technical services, in foreign markets and attract foreign investment into Albuquerque.

**Related Entries:**

57. Automation Alley International Business Center

58. International Business Community Initiative

**For more information:**

<http://www.cabq.gov/econdev/internationaltrade.html>

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## 60. Internettroy

Troy, Michigan

1998

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Online Commerce  
Technology Skills Training

Membership Organization

Initially a committee of the Troy Chamber of Commerce to provide workshops on the Internet for fellow business members; expanded in 2000 to help internet-based firms prosper, and promote Troy as the premier Internet/technology center in Michigan; combines education and training programs, high profile issue discussions and "Best of the Web" awards for Chamber members.

**Related Entries:**

6. Art of Ohio

79. OneCommunity

**For more information:**

[www.internettroy.com](http://www.internettroy.com)

## 61. Intertech Science Park

Shreveport, Louisiana

1998

Initiative of area foundation to diversify region's extraction-based economy to include knowledge-based industries built on assets of Louisiana State University and three major private hospitals located within one-half mile of each other. Research park is supported by 16-year ad valorem tax millage from Caddo Parish Commission.

### Keywords:

Growing Knowledge Businesses  
Life Sciences Sector  
Higher Education Partnership  
Science & Technology Park  
Asset-Based Development

### Related Entries:

48. Idealliance  
86. Sandia Science and Technology Park

### For more information:

<http://www.intertechsciencepark.com>

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## 62. Ireland's Information Age Town

Ennis, Ireland

1997

Irish town dating to the 12th century that won a competition awarding £15 million private investment in digital infrastructure and services for the community, making the town of 18,000 the most "wired" community in Ireland. Organizes activities of all kinds to link the community, retain young residents, and grow the economy; has made most progress in residential services, educational applications and business development.

### Keywords:

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Digital Infrastructure  
Technology Skills Training  
Equity/Social Justice  
Promoting Community Identity

### Related Entries:

25. Community Media Center  
64. Issy.com

### For more information:

[http://198.103.246.211/profiles/ennis\\_e.asp](http://198.103.246.211/profiles/ennis_e.asp)  
<http://industryennis.ie>

## 63. Isle of Wight Sustainable Tourism Initiative

Isle of Wight, United Kingdom

2000

Participatory process undertaken by a group of tourism stakeholders on the Isle of Wight to foster more social and environmental inclusion in tourism. Conducted strategic planning through stakeholder workshops, parish meetings and an island-wide conference, leading to consensus on development and launch of an island-wide accreditation program for tourism businesses.

**For more information:**

<http://www.greenislandtourism.org/>

**Keywords:**

Arts and Culture  
Asset-Based Development  
Promoting Community Identity  
Planning Document  
Rural

**Related Entries:**

29. Cultural Collaborative  
49. Imagine Toronto

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## 64. Issy.com

Issy les Moulineaux, France

1994

French city that pioneered the first use of many new technologies, such as mobile TV, fibre optic Internet access, powerline communication, mobile remote support for the elderly, mobile phone payment of parking fees, and online payment of school meals. Beyond free public Wi-Fi, online information and municipal services, Issy uses technology to facilitate participatory budgeting and Internet voting among neighborhood councils.

**For more information:**

<http://www.issy.com/>

<http://www.intelligentcommunity.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=157>

**Keywords:**

Digital Infrastructure  
E-Government  
Online Information  
Online Commerce  
Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

62. Ireland's Information Age Town  
80. Online City Hall

## 65. Kalamazoo Promise

### Kalamazoo, Michigan

2005

Private donor initiative that pays for graduates of Kalamazoo Public Schools to attend higher education institutions in Michigan. Students living in the school district who attend KPS at least four years are eligible to receive assistance; up to 100% of tuition and fees are paid, depending on years of residency and number of grades attended in KPS.

**For more information:**

[www.kalamazoopublicschools.com](http://www.kalamazoopublicschools.com)

**Keywords:**

College and University Students  
Educational Assistance  
K-12 Education

Equity/Social Justice  
Rewards or Incentives

**Related Entries:**

13. Biotech Bound  
31. EAST Initiative

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## 66. Knowledge Industry Partnership

### Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2002

Coalition of civic, business, government, and higher education with goal to retain college students attending Philadelphia's many colleges and universities. Organizes strategies around engagement with students throughout their college career, and works in collaboration with other regional organizations including Campus Philly and Innovation Philadelphia.

**For more information:**

<http://www.kiponline.org>

**Keywords:**

College and University Students  
Talent Attraction & Retention

Online Information

Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

23. College 360  
24. College City

## 67. LaGrange Internet Television

LaGrange, Georgia

2000

Public information technology initiative to provide all community residents with access to email and the internet access. Research found positive outcomes but concluded impacts were limited by an emphasis on technology infrastructure without sufficient understanding of how residents will utilize information technologies.

### Keywords:

Digital Infrastructure  
E-Government  
Technology Skills Training  
Equity/Social Justice  
Rural

### Related Entries:

25. Community Media Center  
39. Gladstone Municipal Wireless

### For more information:

[http://www.kltprc.net/foresight/Chpt\\_85.htm](http://www.kltprc.net/foresight/Chpt_85.htm)  
<http://www.edi.gatech.edu/articles/articlesans.cfm?ID=94>

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## 68. Lessons From the Land

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada

2002

First of a collection of interactive online cultural explorations based upon the traditional travel routes of the Northwest Territories' Aboriginal peoples. Coordinated by the Prince of Wales Northern Heritage Center, the project's first exhibit presents a virtual tour of the Idaa Trail, a traditional route of the Dogrib people, in a multi-media presentation in three languages with a resource guide for teachers.

### Keywords:

Media Applications  
Arts & Culture  
Asset-Based Development  
History & Heritage  
Promoting Community Identity

### Related Entries:

6. Art of Ohio  
10. Avalon Theatre

### For more information:

<http://www.lessonsfromtheland.ca>

## 69. Maricopa Partnership for Arts and Culture

Phoenix, Arizona

2004

Partnership funded by charitable organizations to advance arts and culture as a critical component of the region's prosperity, distinctiveness and vibrancy. Works to enhance participation in arts and culture activities, especially in education, and to build regional distinction and economic opportunities based on unique arts and culture experiences.

**For more information:**

<http://www.mpacarts.org>

**Keywords:**

Youth Development

Arts & Culture

Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

7. Artspace Projects, Inc.

84. The Point CDC

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## 70. MaRS Centre

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

2005

Focal point of Toronto's "Discovery District" to help Canada's next generation of technology companies become global market leaders. Fosters an entrepreneurial environment for emerging companies by providing facilities, risk capital, management resources, strategic business tools, access to global markets, and networking with international peers.

**For more information:**

<http://www.marsdd.com/>

**Keywords:**

Business Services/Training

Growing Knowledge Industries

Business Incubator/Accelerator

Commercialization

Entrepreneurship

**Related Entries:**

49. Imagine Toronto

92. TechTown

## 71. Master Plan for Regional Informatization

Chungbuk Province, Republic of Korea

2000

Provincial government initiative in South Korea led by planning to develop broadband infrastructure and provide training for residents to enable them to fully access and utilize the Internet.

**Keywords:**

Digital Infrastructure  
Technology Skills Training

Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

25. Community Media Center

79. OneCommunity

**For more information:**

<http://www.legco.gov.hk/yr01-02/english/sec/library/0102in20e.pdf>

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## 72. Mayor's New Economy Task Force

Grand Rapids, Michigan

2005

Committee established by Mayor George Heartwell to advise local government on future opportunities and policy options with respect to economic development in the knowledge-based economy. The report emphasized the need for entrepreneurship and a high-skilled workforce, and recommend targeted strategies to develop growing industries.

**Keywords:**

Growing Knowledge Industries  
Targeted Sectors

Developing Skilled Workforce

Entrepreneurship

Planning Document

**Related Entries:**

14. Boston Wireless Task Force

29. Cultural Collaborative

**For more information:**

<http://www.mediamouse.org/features/013006state.php>



## 73. Michigan Tech Enterprise Corporation

Houghton, Michigan

2003

A Michigan Smart Zone associated with Michigan Technological University and Finlandia University; operates three incubator facilities and provides support for commercialization, including training workshops, patent assistance, and marketing help.

### Keywords:

Business Incubator/Accelerator  
Commercialization  
Entrepreneurship  
Higher Education Partnership  
Rural

### Related Entries:

44. Great Lakes Interchange  
92. TechTown

### For more information:

<http://www.mtecsmart.com/>

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## 74. Michigan Entrepreneur Television

Birmingham, Michigan

2006

Weekly local-access cable television program in southeast Michigan that features topics and guests related to theme of entrepreneurship.

### Keywords:

Innovation  
Entrepreneurship  
Media Applications

### Related Entries:

46. Houston Inventors Association  
75. Model D Media

### For more information:

<http://www.michiganentrepreneurtv.com>

## 75. Model D Media

Detroit, Michigan

2005

Weekly electronic magazine and website that highlights positive development stories in Detroit. Includes residential neighborhood profiles, original reporting on local development, and news of arts and cultural happenings in Detroit emphasizing prospects for revitalizing the core city. Uses streaming video, guest bloggers and speaker series to reinforce its message. Related site provides similar content for the greater Detroit region.

**For more information:**

<http://www.modeldmedia.com>

**Keywords:**

Talent Attraction & Retention

Media Applications

Online Information

Networking

Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

34. Economic Gardening

74. Michigan Entrepreneur TV

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## 76. MoshPit!

Baltimore, Maryland

2002

Annual business plan competition that offers cash prizes totaling \$30,000 for teams of students from Maryland colleges and universities that propose technology based business ideas. Provides competitors with direct experience in every aspect of starting a business.

**For more information:**

<http://www.gbtechcouncil.org/events/mp>

**Keywords:**

Technology Sector

College and University Students

Entrepreneur Training

Rewards or Incentives

**Related Entries:**

35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp Series

43. Great Lakes Entrepreneur's Quest

## 77. North Portland Online

### Portland, Oregon

2003

Pilot project that uses the Internet to increase community interaction and involvement both with City government and between neighbors. Provides easy access to local government and community information, and online forum where neighbors and the city can discuss topics and issues.

#### Keywords:

Online Information  
Technology Skills Training

Equity/Social Justice  
Networking

#### Related Entries:

25. Community Media Center

71. Master Plan for Regional Informatization

#### For more information:

<http://www.portlandonline.com/northportland>

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## 78. NY Loves Nanotech

### Albany, New York

2004

Global marketing strategy to attract firms in five high technology sectors to the multi-county eastern New York State region. Highlights research and development concentration, skilled workforce, site assistance and incentives, and quality of life amenities. An initiative of the Center for Economic Growth's three-part strategy to Grow existing companies, Attract new firms and talent, and Prepare a skilled workforce.

#### Keywords:

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Growing Knowledge Industries  
Life Sciences Sector  
Nanotechnology Sector

Promoting Community Identity

#### Related Entries:

20. Center for Economic Growth

93. Tell the World!

#### For more information:

<http://www.nylovesnano.com>

## 79. OneCommunity

Cleveland, Ohio

2003

Nonprofit organization founded by public, private, and academic institutions to provide broadband infrastructure and technology services to public and nonprofit organizations in Greater Cleveland. Serves educational and government sectors, plus civic, healthcare and arts & culture organizations;. A 2006 initiative extended broadband access to neighborhood residents through a five square mile wireless mesh network.

**For more information:**

<http://www.onecleveland.org>

**Keywords:**

Digital Infrastructure  
Online Information  
Technology Skills Training  
Wireless Broadband  
Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

- 14. Boston Wireless Task Force
- 26. Corpus Christi Digital CDC

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## 80. Online City Hall

Elk Grove, California

2006

Municipal website that provides access to local government and community information and allows citizens to conduct many government transactions online.

**For more information:**

<http://www.elkgrovecity.org/online-services>

**Keywords:**

E-Government  
Online Commerce  
Online Information

**Related Entries:**

- 64. Issy.com
- 81. Online Permits

## 81. Online Permits

### San Jose, California

2000

Online access for citizens and development customers to obtain and track detailed information on the status of permit applications for proposed development within the City of San Jose. Registered users may also submit permit applications online.

#### Keywords:

E-Government  
Online Information  
Online Commerce

Property & Real Estate

#### Related Entries:

32. EcityGov Alliance

37. Explore San Mateo

#### For more information:

<https://www.sjpermits.org>

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## 82. The Other Side of the Stethoscope

### Chicago, Illinois

2004

Eight-week middle school course introduces students and families to opportunities in the healthcare field before planning high school curriculum. Provides teacher's guide, student supplement, family activity sheet, and copies of the *Chicago Tribune* to conduct research on healthcare careers; also includes an advertising campaign featuring area healthcare professionals discussing their career choices and educational experiences.

#### Keywords:

Health Care Sector

Career Information

K-12 Education

#### Related Entries:

85. San Diego Science Alliance

87. Science Careers Videoconferencing Series

#### For more information:

[www.iedconline.org/EDAmerica/Fall2005/students\\_3.html](http://www.iedconline.org/EDAmerica/Fall2005/students_3.html)

## 83. Paducah Artist Relocation Program

Paducah, Kentucky

2000

Program that provides financial and cultural incentives for artists to relocate to the city's Lowertown Arts District, including dual-use zoning, 100% financing for construction or rehabilitation, subsidized architecture or other professional services, and national marketing. More than 70 artists have relocated to Lowertown since the program began.

**For more information:**

<http://www.paducaharts.com>

**Keywords:**

Talent Attraction & Retention

Arts & Culture  
Property & Real Estate  
Rewards or Incentives

**Related Entries:**

- 7. Artspace Projects, Inc.
- 94. Torpedo Factory Art Center

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## 84. The Point Community Development Corporation

Bronx, New York

1993

Nonprofit community development corporation uses asset-based approach to provide services and programs for youth development and cultural/economic revitalization in Hunts Point section of the South Bronx. Provides opportunities for neighborhood residents to participate in performing arts; also supports local enterprise, pride of place, responsible ecology, and self-investment in the community.

**For more information:**

<http://www.thepoint.org>

**Keywords:**

Youth Development

Arts & Culture  
Asset-Based Development  
Equity/Social Justice  
History & Heritage

**Related Entries:**

- 68. Lessons From the Land
- 69. Maricopa Partnership for Arts and Culture

## 85. San Diego Science Alliance

San Diego, California

1995

Education and business consortium committed to enhancing science literacy in K-12 education in San Diego County. Provides information and annual awards to educators. Manages student Robotics program, sponsors annual High Tech Fairs and physics competitions, and developed a program to encourage middle school girls to explore careers in math, science, and engineering.

**For more information:**

<http://www.sdsa.org>

**Keywords:**

Career Information  
K-12 Education

Networking  
Rewards or Incentives

**Related Entries:**

31. EAST Initiative  
82. Other Side of the Stethoscope

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## 86. Sandia Science and Technology Park

Albuquerque, New Mexico

1999

Two hundred-acre technology community seeking to leverage the world-class facilities, technologies, scientists, and engineers of Sandia National Labs, including microelectronics development lab, robotic manufacturing science and engineering laboratory, and advanced manufacturing processes laboratory.

**For more information:**

<http://www.sstp.org>

**Keywords:**

Commercialization  
Higher Education Partnership  
Science & Technology Park

**Related Entries:**

1. Adlershof  
95. Turku Science Park

## 87. Science Careers Videoconferencing Series

Chicago, Illinois

2003

Interactive videoconference series through which sophomore, junior or senior level science classes are able to learn from Argonne National Laboratory technical professionals, in one of their laboratories, about their careers and the steps they took in preparing for the career, and about the work they are currently doing.

### Keywords:

Career Information  
K-12 Education  
Media Applications

### Related Entries:

- 82. Other Side of the Stethoscope
- 85. San Diego Science Alliance

### For more information:

<http://www.dep.anl.gov/sciencecareers>

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## 88. Silicon Valley Chinese Engineers Association

San Jose, California

1989

Nonprofit professional organization with over 6,000 members in the United States, Europe and Asia that organizes networking events and educational workshops on general topics of entrepreneurship, financial planning, and taxation, as well as on specific programs related to the laws and business practices that affect high-technology businesses operating between Chinese and the U.S.

### Keywords:

Entrepreneur Training  
Export Assistance  
Immigrant or Ethnic Group Ties  
Networking  
Membership Organization

### Related Entries:

- 40. Great Lakes Interactive Marketing Association
- 50. Indus Entrepreneurs

### For more information:

<http://www.scea.org>



## 89. Start Up

### East Palo Alto, California

1994

Nonprofit microenterprise initiative established by six Stanford Graduate School of Business students and community leaders to support locally owned and operated small businesses to bridge the "economic divide" between East Palo Alto and other Silicon Valley communities. Provides four-stage business training program (in English and Spanish), a business incubator, and associated resources and support services.

**For more information:**

<http://www.startupepa.org>

**Keywords:**

Business Incubator/Accelerator  
Entrepreneur Training  
Higher Education Partnership  
Immigrant or Ethnic Group Ties  
Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

35. Entrepreneur Bootcamp Series  
50. Indus Entrepreneurs

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## 90. SynerG

### Greensboro, North Carolina

2003

Networking organization that supports progressive cultural and policy-based initiatives to help build a city that is dynamic, vibrant, and diverse. Coordinates social activities, promotes networking activities, and serves as a clearinghouse for information.

**For more information:**

<http://www.synerg.org>

**Keywords:**

College and University Students  
Talent Attraction & Retention  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

40. Great Lakes Interactive Marketing Association  
100. YP!

## 91. Tampa Bay Technology Forum

Tampa Bay, Florida

2000

Nonprofit professional association of technology-related firms, investors, universities, entrepreneurs and others interested in growing the Tampa Bay region's technology-based economy; organizes networking and educational events for members, and works to support growth of the technology sector through promotion and advocacy to regional, state, and national audiences.

**For more information:**

<http://www.tbtf.org>

**Keywords:**

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Growing Knowledge Industries  
Entrepreneur Training  
Networking  
Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

- 27. Council for Entrepreneurial Development
- 38. Gainesville Area Innovation Network

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## 92. TechTown

Detroit, Michigan

2004

Twelve-city block research and technology park near the Wayne State University campus that manages an incubator facility with over twenty tenants and an accelerator program for science and technology businesses. Runs a Corporate IP Mining Program to help companies better utilize existing intellectual property and develop new product lines and is a partner in the Michigan Pre-Seed Capital Fund. Also offers internships, mentoring, and math and science tutoring.

**For more information:**

<http://www.techtown.org>

**Keywords:**

Youth  
Business Incubator/Accelerator  
Commercialization  
Higher Education Partnership  
Science & Technology Park  
Mentoring

**Related Entries:**

- 44. Great Lakes Interchange
- 70. MaRS Centre

## 93. Tell the World!

### Chattanooga, Tennessee

2003

Systematic marketing effort led and funded by the business community to stimulate entrepreneurial activity, business attraction and expansion. Set explicit goal of adding 20,000 jobs to the Chattanooga region over four years, and tracks and reports monthly progress (between ten and fifteen thousand recorded through three years).

#### Keywords:

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Growing Knowledge Industries  
Foreign Direct Investment  
Promoting Community Identity

#### Related Entries:

17. Canada's Technology Triangle  
99. World Business Chicago

#### For more information:

<http://www.chattanooga-chamber.com/telltheworld/home.asp>

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## 94. Torpedo Factory Art Center

### Alexandria, Virginia

1991

Restored 1918 waterfront factory that now houses 165 artists, 82 studios, six galleries, two workshops, an archeology museum and an art school. Attracts approximately 700,000 visitors annually. Promotes arts-based community revitalization, by selling packet to assist other communities develop arts centers.

#### Keywords:

Arts & Culture  
History & Heritage  
Property & Real Estate

#### Related Entries:

10. Avalon Theatre  
83. Paducah Artist Relocation Program

#### For more information:

<http://www.torpedofactory.org> 14

## 95. Turku Science Park

### Turku, Finland

1988

Science park in southwestern Finland focused on biosciences, pharmaceuticals, and ICT. A total of 13,500 people work in 750 companies, while students in the park's universities number nearly 30,000. Also contains Turku Technology Centre, a community of technology and service companies, research and education facilities, and development departments employing some 2,800 people.

#### For more information:

<http://www.turkusciencepark.com>

<http://2002.hightechfinland.com>

#### Keywords:

Entrepreneurship  
Higher Education Partnership  
Research & Development  
Science & Technology Park

#### Related Entries:

- 61. Intertech Science Park
- 86. Sandia Science and Technology Park

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## 96. Tuscon's Commercial Property Online

### Tuscon, Arizona

2000

An online site listing commercial and industrial properties available in the metro area. Site is maintained by Tucson Regional Economic Opportunities, Inc. but property information is submitted and updated by brokers. Features searchable database with interactive mapping and site-specific demographic and business analysis reports.

#### For more information:

<http://www.tucsonlocator.com/>

#### Keywords:

Business Attraction & Expansion  
E-Government  
Online Information  
Online Mapping  
Property & Real Estate

#### Related Entries:

- 28. Cproperty Real Estate Search
- 33. Economic Development GIS

## 97. Valley Initiative for Development & Advancement

Weslaco, Texas

2002

Nonprofit job training program to help low-income, unemployed and underemployed Rio Grande Valley residents get the training they need to secure a high-skilled, high-wage job. In addition to providing GED and other basic educational programming, VIDA provides specialized training programs designed to prepare participants for employment in growth industries of health care and advanced manufacturing.

**For more information:**

<http://www.vidacareers.org/>

**Keywords:**

Advanced Manufacturing Sector  
Health Care Sector

Educational Assistance  
Skilled Workforce

Equity/Social Justice

**Related Entries:**

13. Biotech Bound  
51. Information Technologies Center

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## 98. Wireless Washtenaw

Ann Arbor, Michigan

2005

Community wireless network initiative to provide all Washtenaw County residents access to wireless broadband; under development, partially deployed as of summer 2007. Promoted as a tool to attract business and retain young professionals, bridge the digital divide, and improve county government service delivery, without a burden on taxpayers.

**For more information:**

<http://wireless.ewashtenaw.org>

**Keywords:**

Digital Infrastructure  
E-Government  
Wireless Broadband

**Related Entries:**

14. Boston Wireless Task Force  
39. Gladstone Municipal Wireless

## 99. World Business Chicago

### Chicago, Illinois

1999

Nonprofit corporation to promote Chicago as a global business location. Led by top political and business leaders, WBC markets region's competitive advantages, coordinates business retention and attraction, promotes economic development policies to enhance Chicago's business climate, and provides free economic and industry data, information on site location and development incentives, and local contacts to prospective firms.

**For more information:**

<http://www.worldbusinesschicago.com/>

**Keywords:**

Business Attraction & Expansion  
Growing Knowledge Industries  
Foreign Direct Investment  
Promoting Community Identity

**Related Entries:**

- 17. Canada's Technology Triangle
- 93. Tell the World!

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## 100. YP !

### Benton Harbor, Michigan

2006

Young professionals network formed by early career employees at Whirlpool Corporation interested in ways to contribute more to the company. Formally sanctioned by company executives, YP! now has nearly 500 members and offers programs for employees, including a speaker series, a business book club, social and networking events, and opportunities to develop business consulting skills with small businesses in Southwest Michigan.

**For more information:**

<http://www.whirlpoolcorp.com>

**Keywords:**

Talent Attraction & Retention  
Networking

**Related Entries:**

- 40. GLIMA
- 90. SynerG

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY: A GUIDE FOR LOCAL PRACTICE

### III. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN A KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY: A GUIDE FOR LOCAL PRACTICE

## MSU Knowledge Economy Research Team Publications

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- Community News and Views: Economic Development in the Knowledge Economy*. (Summer 2003), Vol. 15, No. 3.
- Community News and Views: The Knowledge Economy*. (Winter 2003), Vol. 15, No. 1.
- Community News and Views: Working Wired*. (Summer 2001), Vol. 13, No. 1.
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## **Keyword Index to Catalog Entries by Knowledge Economy Category**

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1. Included are Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, western Pennsylvania, and upstate New York

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**Contact Us:**

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