



CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

About CCED

For over 50 years, the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) has designed, implemented, and evaluated innovative community-based solutions to local problems through responsive engagement, strategic partnerships, and collaborative learning. This innovative approach served as the national model for university-community partnerships established by the Community Outreach Partnership Act. Over 150 university-community partnerships were supported through this federal program.

The Center for Community and Economic Development is an academic unit housed in the MSU Office of University Outreach and Engagement.

Building Prosperity Through Innovative Development

The CCED, in partnership with on- and off-campus partners, seeks to:

- create and nurture collaborative environments to support innovative learning in community and economic development;
- provide training and direct assistance to increase the knowledge-based skills of community-based organizations, private enterprises, and public institutions;
- conduct and facilitate cutting-edge research to assist the development and implementation of effective problem-solving strategies;
- deploy multidisciplinary university capacity to respond to the complex and interrelated problems of distressed communities; and
- promote and expand the university's capacity to provide training, direct assistance, and research that effectively addresses critical community challenges.

With its Lansing office on Michigan Avenue, CCED has renewed and deepened its commitment to innovative community development. Located approximately midway between the State Capitol and the MSU East Lansing campus, the East Michigan Avenue location symbolizes a bold university-community nexus borne of award-winning performance in the past and strategic imperatives designed for the sustainable prosperity of Michigan communities in the future.

Mission

The Center for Community and Economic Development is committed to creating, applying, and disseminating valued knowledge through responsive engagement, strategic partnerships, and collaborative learning. We are dedicated to working with communities to co-create sustainable prosperity and equitable economies.

Principles of Community Development¹

Co-Learning. Engage in mutual learning and capacity building among professionals and community members through reflective practice, experiential knowledge, professional development, and scholarship.

Collaboration. Bridge boundaries of place, sector, discipline, identity, and interest to integrate diverse perspectives and resources in shared decision-making and co-creation.

Community-Driven Practice. Center those most directly impacted in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of community initiatives, policies, programs, and research that affect their lives.

Community Power. Respect the ability of community members to develop and sustain a strong self-image, create shared power, and think and do for themselves.

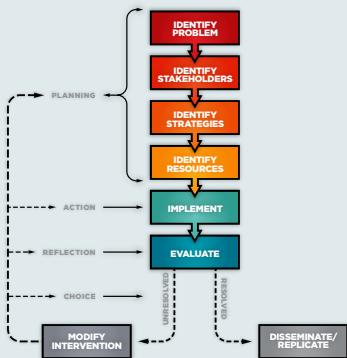
Dignity within Diversity. Practice and foster cultural humility, nonjudgmental listening, and accountability for any harm done.

Economic Autonomy. Strengthen local ownership and stewardship of community assets and wealth building opportunities.

Social Justice. Identify, resist, and dismantle systems of oppression experienced by both historically marginalized groups and emerging social identities.

Sustainability. Practice and foster careful deliberation of the cultural, social, economic, and environmental impacts of actions and inactions over time.

Community Development Problem-Solving



¹<https://cdsociety.org/about/#aboutprinciples>

Current CCED Initiatives

University Center for Regional Economic Innovation (REI)

The University Center for Regional and Economic Innovation (REI) was created in 2011 by the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) and funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Since its establishment, REI has built a network of community and economic development stakeholders, including economic development practitioners, higher education institutions, private- and public-sector leaders, workforce development boards, community action agencies, public utilities, commercial lenders, and EDA Economic Development Districts. This network assists in producing economic development strategies to create high growth entrepreneurship and jobs in distressed regions of Michigan.

REI's structure also allows it to leverage the experience and assets of other Michigan higher education institutions, economic development organizations, and experts. The center actively draws upon resources from within Michigan State University and other colleges and universities from across the state, including faculty expertise, data resources, and student expertise. REI's Co-Learning and Innovation Fellow projects draw upon the aggregate knowledge and experience of practitioners, scholars, and leaders to create actionable knowledge and design innovative development strategies.

The University Center for Regional and Economic Innovation leverages four pillars of focus in co-creating with partners:

- Resiliency Planning
- Financial Resiliency
- 21st-Century Communications Infrastructure
- Circular Economies

These strategies come to fruition in three project types: Co-Learning Plans; Student-Led, Faculty-Guided Technical Assistance; and Innovation Fellows.

Each year, REI hosts the Innovate Michigan! Summit highlighting tools, models, policies, and programs that can create a more equitable economic environment in Michigan.

For more information: reicenter.org

CCED Flint

MSU established its presence in Flint in 1994. CCED-Flint is dedicated to working with Michigan communities to improve the quality of life through research and innovative strategies. We achieve this mission in the following ways:

MSU and Community Partnerships

CCED helps bring science and community wisdom to bear on critical, community-defined issues. Currently these initiatives include:

- the creation of an equitable and sustainable regional food system;
- responding to the Flint water crisis and historical trauma; and
- long-term health of Flint children coping with lead poisoning.

Neighborhoods Without Borders

Working to dismantle systemic and institutional racism—understanding white power, privilege, and African American history in Flint—CCED-Flint supports and organizes direct action to help build a more equitable and just multiracial community. Currently these efforts include:

- learning opportunities that transform understandings of the oppression caused by white power and privilege and its resulting racism;
- engaging in positive and authentic conversations to create greater understanding across cultures and groups in Flint; and
- diminishing barriers that prohibit full civic participation for all people.

For more information: ced.msu.edu/programs/cced-flint

Projects in Brief

Domicology

Domicology is a new concept describing the built environment and the life cycle of structures. The field of domicology seeks to eliminate the current landfill-dependent structural demolition waste stream and to reimagine the built environment, recognizing that structures have a useful life cycle and at the end of a structure's life we maximize the equitable use, reuse, or recycling of the materials. Domicology seeks to identify sustainable and innovative tools, models, policies, practices, and programs to eliminate abandonment; develop human-resource training models for the industry; and research present technical, economic, and policy challenges in structural abandonment while seeking to reduce the negative social, economic, and environmental impacts.

For more information: domicology.msu.edu

Rural Readiness Tribal Fellowship Planning Project

The Rural Readiness Tribal Fellowship Planning Project is a pilot economic development fellowship working with five sovereign nations focused on Tribe-identified resiliency planning needs to help build capacity and lay a framework for more equitable development and long-term investment. This project was developed and is coordinated through the Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED), in collaboration with the MSU Native American Institute (NAI), MSU Extension, and local, state, and federal partners. Tribal Nations served include: Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Bay Mills Indian Community and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The pilot fellowship helps address Tribe-identified needs, build cross-sector collaboration, development readiness, partnerships and planning, as well as rural capacity building. In addition, the fellowship co-creates a professional development and 12-month work experience for competitively selected Tribal community members residing within their nations who also demonstrate a commitment to living there and applying their skill building long-term. In this way, the development of local leadership helps buffer against future shock by preparing at the local level for future unforeseen crises.

For more information: ced.msu.edu

ced.msu.edu



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