



# 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

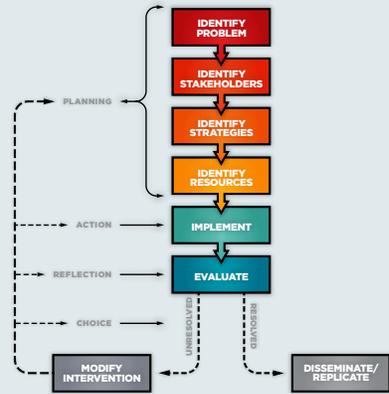
The Center for Community and Economic Development is committed to creating, applying, and disseminating valued knowledge through responsive engagement, strategic partnerships, and collaborative learning. We are dedicated to working with communities to co-create sustainable prosperity and equitable economies.

## Principles of Community Development

The CCED adheres to a set of guiding community development principles that:

- promote active and representative citizen participation;
- engage community members in issue identification;
- help community members understand economic, social, political, environmental, and psychological effects;
- build upon community assets and emphasize shared leadership;
- seek alternatives to any efforts that are likely to have adverse impacts; and
- increase leadership capacity, skills, confidence, and aspirations in the community development process.

## Community Development Problem-Solving



## Current CCED Initiatives

### University Center for Regional Economic Innovation (REI)

The University Center for Regional 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 Association (EDA)..

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

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 an Innovate Michigan! Summit highlighting tools, models, policies, and programs that can create a more equitable economic environment in Michigan.

The REI ecosystem operates on an annual cycle (August-September) seeking initiatives with high growth entrepreneurship strategic planning and development with outcomes that are competitive within the context of the global knowledge economy.

For more information: [reicenter.org](http://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](http://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](http://domicology.msu.edu)

### Comprehensive Economic Recovery Initiative (CERI)

In July 2020, CCED was commissioned by the U.S. Department of Commerce to aid Michigan communities in responding to and overcoming the COVID-19 global pandemic. The Comprehensive Economic Recovery Initiative (CERI) included providing technical assistance, training, applied research, and capacity building to communities and regions under four pillars:



- Resiliency Planning – Plan comprehensively to speed recovery for distressed communities.
- 21st-Century Communication Infrastructure – Support activities that will increase access and use of digital and online platforms in rural and low-income urban communities for civic engagement, commerce, health care, and education.
- Circular Economies – Support the development of products and services that maximize the reuse of local or regional supply chains aimed at eliminating waste and the continual use of nonrenewable resources.
- Financial Resilience – Increase and expand the capacity of community financial institutions and individuals to invest in local businesses to mitigate the vicissitudes that result from less accessible and viable capital markets for small businesses.

Drawing from MSU CCED's long history of community-engaged scholarship, CERI focused on supporting the most distressed communities and regions in Michigan. CERI identified and engaged a broad base of stakeholders to work together on projects within the four pillar areas indicated above. Over the project period, the CERI team worked with Economic Development Districts; higher education institutions; local, state, and private leaders; nonprofits; state agencies and associations; and others invested in pursuing sustainability, equity, and resiliency in disadvantaged communities and regions during the COVID-19 crisis. The CERI team commissioned 16 projects under the CERI award.

For more information: [ced.msu.edu/foundations-of-socially-just-and-equitable-communities](http://ced.msu.edu/foundations-of-socially-just-and-equitable-communities).

[ced.msu.edu](http://ced.msu.edu)



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