

### Economic Development After a Pandemic

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# Economics

"a social science concerned chiefly with description and analysis of the production, distribution of goods and services"

# Community

- " a unified body of individuals: such as
  - the people with common interests living in a particular area
  - a body of persons of common and especially professional interests scattered through a larger society"



A shift in perspectives around time has occurred...



### Priorities

### Scheduling

### **Focus on Talent Attraction**

- Amenities and Placemaking Activities
- Infrastructure for Growth
- Education that Attracts

# What kind of placemaking activities have you implemented in your community?

### How did you develop those activities? What strategies did you utilize?

# **Connecting Place & Quality of Life**

- "The way in which cities have been developed over the last fifty years has left a growing number of citizens isolated and unable to engage in the world around them. If we are to survive the coming demographic shifts, we must acknowledge the connection between place and quality of life. More importantly, we must envision how our shared downtowns can exist as incubators for inclusive placemaking strategies."

### **2019 Main Street Great** Lakes Conference

Relating Business to Talent to Community



Not just any workers, **talented** workers



Not just any place, **quality places.** Talent can live anywhere and they **choose quality.** 

### Talent Wants Community

Not just any business, *a wide range of businesses.* Variety provides *opportunities*.

## What gaps exist in your community?

How can you work collaboratively to fill those gaps?



# Investing in Your Economy

- "Investment decisions are made by people in terms of their time, talent or money, based upon an assessment of the anticipated benefit or return."
  - 2019 Main Street Great
  - Lakes Conference

### The State of the Rural Economy in Indiana

### September 2022

### **Ball State University**

CBER – Center for Business and Economic Research CLASP – Rural Policy Research Institute Center for Local and State Policy

Srikant Devaraj, Ph.D. – Research Economist and Research Assistant Professor, CBER Dagney Faulk, Ph.D. – Director of Research, CBER Michael Hicks, Ph.D. – Director of CBER David Terrell, MBA – Executive Director, Indiana Communities Institute Emily Wornell, Ph.D. – Research Assistant Professor, CLASP Cade Deckard – Undergraduate Research Assistant, CBER Hannah Pitzer – Undergraduate Research Assistant, CBER Sean Weiss – Undergraduate Research Assistant, CBER



BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

# Quality of Life



### Growth

- "The actual effect of quality of life on employment growth is more than 3x stronger than that on population growth over the same period. These findings confirm that improvements in quality of life attract people and jobs, and that the effects matter in rural counties, not solely in large urban centers."
  - The State of the Rural Economy in Indiana Ball State University

- Tax-Exempt Bond Programs
  - Shooting Range Grants
  - Indiana Trails Program  $\bullet$
- **Indiana Placemaking Activation Grants** ullet
  - Land and Water Conservation Fund  $\bullet$ 
    - State Revolving Loan Programs
  - Indiana Public Art Activation Grants
    - T-Mobile Hometown Grants
    - CreatINg Places/Patronicity
      - IAC Arts Project Support
      - Community Foundations
        - CDBG
        - AMEX Backing Small

# Resiliency



