

Be Noble

Noble County Economic Development



October 2, 2023

A history of Noble County economic development

The first in a series of reports by Be Noble Inc.

Economic development over the years has helped make Noble County one of the top five counties in the nation for concentration of employment in manufacturing and raise household incomes. Focusing on economic development, and making workforce education systems a priority, has helped Noble County grow beyond its rich agricultural roots to become more resilient through diversification.

[Keep reading](#)

Get ready for READI 2.0

Northeast Indiana, including stakeholders in Noble County, have an opportunity to compete as a region to receive as much as \$75 million under Indiana's READI 2.0 initiative. In the first round of READI funding, Indiana regions received over \$487 million in support of 361 unique projects, leveraging more than \$12.2 billion in investments.



Learn more



Keep reading...

New Main Street Ligonier

Future Ligonier Alliance is now doing business as Main Street Ligonier. At a meeting in September 2023, an advisory board adopted a new mission statement:

Main Street Ligonier is dedicated to revitalizing our historic downtown district, fostering economic and

social vibrancy for residents and visitors through enriching experiences.

Noble County

OPTED IN FOR 2024: \$572,668.20

2023:	\$57,686.22 (Legacy amount from Local Health Maintenance fund/Trust)
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2024:	\$572,668.20
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County Match:	Average of county tax levy-related funds distributed to the LHD in the preceding three years (2021, 2022, 2023).
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2025 (Opt In):	Minimum: \$1,103,375.25	Maximum: \$1,471,167.00
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County Match:	Minimum: \$231,352.88	Maximum: \$308,470.50
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- OR -

2025 (Opt Out):	\$57,686.22 (Legacy amount from Local Health Maintenance fund/Trust)
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Graphic: Health First Indiana [Funding Map](#)

Noble County looks to invest \$572k in health initiatives

A historic funding package, and how it might be invested, was the topic of discussion when Dr. Lindsay Weaver, Indiana State Health Commissioner, spoke to a gathering of Noble County stakeholders at Augusta Hills Learning, Recreation and Community Center in Albion on September 20.

Keep reading

Fire Extinguisher Training

FREE

October 9, 2023

8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Community Learning Center



Kendallville Fire Department will speak about the most frequent fire code infractions in all workplaces. Attend and learn how to use a fire extinguisher to put out a fire. This training is designed for employers with 1st and 3rd shift workers.

Cost: FREE, made possible by The Kendallville Fire Department and Be Noble Inc. Please pre-register at thecommunitylearningcenter.org/events/

Kendallville
Fire Department



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Noble County Economic Development



Focus on skilling up

Free camp for middle schoolers

Collaborators in Northeast Indiana are excited to offer Manufacturing Experience 2023, a day camp for kids! The experiential camp, featuring advanced manufacturing technologies, returns on Saturday, Oct. 28 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and is open to middle school age kids. Seats are free and limited and pre-registration is required. Camp includes lunch & freebies.

[Learn more & register](#)



FREE TECHNOLOGY CAMP
for middle school-aged kids!

ENJOY TECHNOLOGY?
CURIOUS HOW THINGS WORK?

Saturday, October 28
9 AM - 3 PM
at the
iSMART Lab
Community Learning Center
Kendallville

Featuring
Advanced Manufacturing technologies!

Register now! **WORKNOBLE.ORG** Space is limited!



NORTHEAST INDIANA WORKS **FREEDOM ACADEMY** **IMPACT INSTITUTE** **iSMART**
DOH WOOD FOUNDATION **Be Noble**

Come join us and help lead this region's industrial revolution.
Our manufacturing begins with you.



PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

[Learn more](#)

Conference for manufacturing and supply chain professionals

The Dauch Center for the Management of Manufacturing Enterprises will host the 2023 conference, Digital Transformation in the Manufacturing Enterprise, on October 20 from 8

a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Beck Agricultural Center in West Lafayette. Multiple speakers will present. Admission is \$50 and registration is open through Oct. 13.

Grant writing workshop Nov. 9

The last in a series of nonprofit workshops, this one on Grant Writing, will happen on November 9, 2023, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Community Learning Center in Kendallville. The event is presented by the Dekko Foundation, Crossroads United Way, and Community Foundation of Noble County. Kathy Scott, Founder and Lead Grant Consultant with Wayfinder Grant Consulting, will present. Cost is \$40.



[Register](#)

SP  TLIGHT
on entrepreneurial ecosystem

Nominate a "Pioneer"

Pioneer Starts *Here* is a digital storytelling platform and movement that showcases the pioneers of Northeast Indiana, an 11-county region, in video form, in their own words. Pioneer Starts *Here* culminates with an annual event celebrating entrepreneurship by honoring those who



Nominate a Pioneer

create positive change in the community. Nominations are open now for the 2024 Pioneer Awards to be announced at Electric Works next spring. This is your chance to nominate individuals who have made an impact through community engagement, entrepreneurship, social advocacy, and/or creativity. Find examples [here](#).



OPEN MIC
SPEED PITCH

OCT 17, 2023
6-8 PM
Community Learning Center
401 E Diamond St.
Kendallville, IN

Hosted By:
elevate northeast indiana
Be Noble
Noble County Economic Development

Who's Invited:
Entrepreneurs
Innovators
Business Service Providers

Pitch Points:
1. What is the problem?
2. How are you solving it?
3. How are you different?
4. Who is on your team?
5. Next steps?
6. A non-money ask.

RSVP
NoblePitch.Eventbrite.com

*5 min pitch, no pitch decks, 5 min Q&A

Entrepreneurs invited to "pitch" ideas and needs

[Elevate Northeast Indiana](#) and [Be Noble Inc.](#) invite local entrepreneurs and innovators to an Open Mic Speed Pitch Event at the Community Learning Center in Kendallville on October 17th. Take the stage to present groundbreaking ideas or ventures. Local business service providers are also encouraged to attend this networking event.

[Read more](#)

Forbes names Indiana #1 state for starting a business

Listen to David Watkins, Senior Vice President for Entrepreneurship and Small Business at the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), talk on this podcast about the IEDC's efforts to support entrepreneurs, including the new Connect IND website. (Podcast sponsored by Duke Energy.)

Listen

TALENT DEVELOPMENT

News & Opportunities

Explore the iSMART Lab

If you have industrial training needs but are unsure what types of skills training can be provided through the iSMART Lab in Kendallville, we encourage you to explore



and learn more! Contact Freedom Academy to explore custom training to provide your employees with a pathway to a better future! Multiple [SACA Certifications](#) can be earned with classes led by Gold and Silver Certified trainers. Call (800) 200-6499 today!

Explore the Lab

Costs stall Albion's child care project

The Town of Albion has tabled efforts to bring a new child care center to the community. Project costs reportedly proved more than the town could fund. Thrive by 5, the child care coalition serving Noble and LaGrange counties, will nonetheless keep moving forward with plans to apply for grants totaling \$1.3 million.



New preschool gets funding boost

West Noble Nature Preschool, a new program in Ligonier that places emphasis on a nature-inspired approach to learning, has received a \$30,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Noble County. Funding. The preschool is operating Monday through Thursday as a partnership of Cole Center Family YMCA and West Noble School Corporation to enhance early learning and vital brain development before the age of five. A similar program is offered at Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center through a partnership with Cole Center Family YMCA and Central Noble Primary School. To learn more about the concept, visit <https://www.goshen.edu/merrylea/programs/nature-preschool>.

What does Be Noble do for local employers?

Check out Be Noble's "[EMPLOYERS](#)" landing page to see how we can help!

Invest in Noble County!

[Donate now!](#)



West Noble School Corporation is the latest employer to approve a partnership with **Thrive by 5** enabling school staff to participate in Noble County's [Tri-Share Program](#) for childcare. School board members approved the investment, with the Noble County Community Foundation matching up to \$5,000 of the amount the school will contribute to help offset the costs of child care needs for school employees.

A celebration of Mexican heritage and **Mexico's Independence Day** was held in Ligonier on September 15 for the seventeenth consecutive year. The event highlights Ligonier's Hispanic heritage. According to the 2020 Census, 56.8% of the city's 4,500 residents are Hispanic. Residents celebrated the holiday with a parade, live music, traditional dancing, food, and a beauty pageant. **Diana Macias** won first place and the crown in the pageant,

with **Arely Lucero** named first runner-up and princess. The event is made possible by an organizing committee of dedicated local citizens.



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