



# **HOMETOWN**

COLLABORATION INITIATIVE

*Building Blocks for High Quality Communities*

Highlights of the Initiative

# Initiative Partners



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**The Indiana Office  
of Community &  
Rural Affairs (OCRA)**



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**Purdue University**

Purdue Center for Regional  
Development

Purdue University Extension



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**Ball State University**

Ball State University's  
Indiana Communities  
Institute

College of Architecture and  
Planning – Urban Design



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**Part 1:**  
Initiative Overview

# What is HCI?



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HCI is an initiative available to Indiana communities that are committed to building on their existing assets. It focuses on three Building Blocks:

**1**

## LEADERSHIP

Develop a **new generation of local leaders** who will take an active part in addressing community priorities.

**2**

## ECONOMY

Build a **supportive community environment for small businesses and entrepreneurs.**

**3**

## PLACEMAKING

Investing in place through **community design, public space development, tourism, local foods**, or other quality of life initiatives

# Eligible Communities



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**Have a population of  
25,000 or less**

(Can include cities, towns or counties that meet the population size requirement)



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**Are willing to invest a  
modest amount of  
financial resources into  
the HCI initiative (\$5,000)**

(May come from any combination of public, private and/or nonprofit sources and can be reinvested in your community. Only required of communities selected to be part of HCI)



# Benefits to Your Community



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Training and technical assistance from state agency (OCRA) and university professionals



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Access to a well-trained community coach



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High quality data prepared about your community or county



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In-Depth “Building Block” to address priority needs



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Seed funding for your Capstone Project



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More people caring and involved in the community



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**Part 2:**  
Initiative Phases



**3** Capstone

Planning for  
Our Future

**2** Building  
Blocks

Leadership

*Developing a  
New Generation  
of Leaders*

Economy

*Growing Small  
Businesses &  
Entrepreneurs*

Placemaking

*Investing in  
Your Place*

**1** Foundation

Building Our Team



# Phase 1: Foundation (18 hours)



|                                      |   |         |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------|
| Gathering Facts                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Data SnapShot</li><li>Existing Community Plans</li><li>Community Survey</li></ul>   | 5 hours |
| Discovering Community Capital Assets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Community Capitals Framework</li><li>Our Team Assets</li><li>Our Community Assets &amp; Barriers</li></ul>  | 3 hours |
| Planning Community Forum             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Plan the Forum</li><li>Market the Forum</li></ul>   | 2 hours |
| Conducting the Community Forum       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Host the Forum</li></ul>  | 3 hours |
| Learning Our Building Block Options  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Learn About the Leadership, Placemaking, and Economy Building Block Opportunities</li></ul>   | 2 hours |
| Selecting Our Building Block         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Review all Information Collected</li><li>Determine Building Block to Consider</li><li>Assess Community Capital Assets Available</li><li>Make Decision on Building Block to Pursue</li></ul> | 3 hours |

# Phase II: The HCI Building Blocks



The HCI community selects one of the Building Blocks to pursue,

The amount of time required depends on the Building Block that is chosen



**PLACEMAKING:**  
Investing in Your Place



**ECONOMY:**  
Growing Small Businesses & Entrepreneurs



**LEADERSHIP:**  
Developing a New Generation of Leaders

# Phase II: Building Block Options



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## LEADERSHIP

### Developing a New Generation of Leaders



## ECONOMY

### Growing Small Businesses and Entrepreneurs

- ✓ **Program Track:** Creating a Regional Entrepreneurial System Together
- ✓ **Program Track:** Community Business Retention & Expansion



## PLACEMAKING

### Investing In Your Place

- ✓ **Program Track:** Enhancing the Value of Public Spaces
- ✓ **Program Track:** Enriching Place through Community Design
- ✓ **Program Track:** Embracing the Power of Travel
- ✓ **Program Track:** Rebuilding Your Local Food System

# Phase III: Capstone Project



## Key Steps

- 1** Team identifies proposed project
- 2** Project has a strong connection to the team's Building Block activities
- 3** Public feedback on the proposed project is sought
- 4** Team completes Capstone Project proposal
- 5** Plan is then submitted to State HCI Coordinating Team for review
- 6** If approved, seed grant awarded to the community

# The Application



The HCI application has six questions and is scored out of **150 total possible points**.

| Scored Item   | Maximum Points Possible |
|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Q1:</b> Description of your community  | 15                      |
| <b>Q2:</b> Discussion of major benefits of being part of HCI  | 25                      |
| <b>Q3:</b> Discussion of obstacles/challenges and how community will address them   | 15                      |
| <b>Q4:</b> Description of how HCI involvement is connected to the local strategic plan  | 20                      |
| <b>Q5:</b> Discussion of recruitment and replacement of team members  | 15                      |
| <b>Q6:</b> Diversity, depth and commitment of the proposed HCI Coordinating Team (including information gathered from the site visit) | 50                      |
| <b>Overall:</b> Quality and Completeness of Proposal  | 10                      |

# The Application



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Applications are available  
as a Microsoft Word  
fillable form at  
**[www.indianahci.org](http://www.indianahci.org)**



If you have questions about  
the HCI application or  
program, address them to  
**[info@indianaHCI.org](mailto:info@indianaHCI.org)**

# Key Dates

## *Summer 2016 HCI Application*



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**Oct. 3, 2016, 2:00 pm EST:** Webinar, “How to Write a Competitive Application”

**Nov. 4, 2016, 4:00 pm EST:** Applications are due to [info@indianahci.org](mailto:info@indianahci.org)

**Nov. 17, 2016:** Communities selected for site visits are announced

**Nov. 28 – Dec. 16, 2016:** Site visits conducted to selected communities

**Jan. 19, 2017:** Announcement of new HCI communities