

## **Community Development Unit Proposal: Collaboration**

The collaboration group has worked to identify short, medium, and long term goals that will increase the amount of CD collaboration with both internal and external partners. The main theme of the collaboration group's proposal is to enhance the CD unit's value with our current associations, and to effectively identify new entities to further increase collaboration and the scope of the CD unit. Through identification of the current entities with whom CD professionals engage and identification of the gaps in those associations, OSUE CD can target these untouched relationships to increase the awareness and value of the CD unit. The greater the number of organizations, businesses, institutions, and individuals that engage with the CD unit and its programming, the more resources and outlets the CD unit will have, and the more effective it will become.

### **Short term**

- Build a comprehensive list of all the organizations and institutions that CD professionals are already involved with and/or have close relationships.
  - o Build off the list of professional organizations already compiled by Rose.
  - o Other academic institutions, partnerships, non-profits, etc.
- Use this list to perform a gap analysis to identify the major areas the CD unit may be overlooking in its affiliations.

### **Medium term**

- Organize, design, and partner with these entities to form collaborative activities, events, or programs that will work toward their benefit and express the value offered by OSUE CD. Can be done by collaborating with current or new, targeted partners on a regional level.
  - o Build off already well-established relationships. Example: Create a new advisory panel with some of the County Commissioners who already work with CD professionals. Bring this panel together each year to see what more the CD Unit could do for them in their counties. Ask how we could collaborate with other organizations within their communities.
  - o Design new collaborative efforts with and/or for new partners. Example: Work with groups such as the Youngstown Manufacturing Coalition, Ohio Manufacturers Association, and Ohio Manufacturing Extension Partnership to hold a yearly conference that will increase collaboration among a region's manufacturers and offer education on current issues within the industry.
  - o Current Example: Shared Services Expo in Northwest Ohio – designed/organized by CD professionals to create increased collaboration among different governmental agencies that leads to better utilization of services/resources which can benefit multiple parties.

### **Long term**

- Increase collaborative efforts with new partners on a statewide level. Build off these initial, regional events and implement them in the other regions of Ohio, or hold a statewide event.