

# East Central Indiana Talent Collaborative

April 2021 Update

Dear ECITC Stakeholder,

Spring is in the air, students and teachers are eyeing the end of the school year, and there is hope for in-person summer activities. It is an optimistic time of year!

The East Central Indiana Talent Collaborative seeks to harness the optimism, creativity, resourcefulness, experience, and wisdom in ECI to address complex challenges like population decline, educational attainment, and career success.

We need you and your colleagues to join us! **Please forward this update** to fellow optimists, creators, innovators, educators, experienced leaders, and community champions in ECI.

To stay in the loop through our monthly updates, email [Erin Moore](#).

## Let's celebrate our counties!

**Rush** and **Randolph Counties** kicked off their county coalitions this month. Great work! If you would like to connect with your county's coalition, contact [Caitlin Fleenor](#).



Henry County's Corey Murphy, president of the economic development alliance, highlighted the importance of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Talent Region designation and the ECI Talent Collaborative in the [Henry County Chamber's Spring 2021 Magazine](#) (page 8). Thank you, Corey!

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

## Talent Region: Collaboration is key to our success

**E**arly in 2021, Henry County, as part of East Central Indiana's Forge Your Path coalition, was named a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Talent Region, a statewide designation awarded to Indiana communities focused on working collaboratively to attract, develop and connect talent.

The Chamber of Commerce Workforce Development Committee was instrumental in Henry County's participation in this important long-term work necessary for our community's prosperity.



**EDC DIRECTOR**

Corey Murphy

**More about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Talent Region**

- Watch the EDC website for updates: [growinhenry.com](http://growinhenry.com)
- To learn more about ECI Forge Your Path, please visit: [forgeeci.com](http://forgeeci.com)

**Need help explaining the Talent Collaborative?**  
 Check out our new PowerPoint presentation and one-page handout about the ECI Talent Collaborative and Forge ECI.



Power Point Presentation



Handout

If you're curious about the **collective impact approach**, this 2-minute video is a great introduction.



### Calls to Action:

- Remember to add [Forge ECI](#) to your website and follow/tag @ForgeECI on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).
- We welcome the chance to share about the ECI Talent Collaborative with your organization. Just reach out to [Caitlin Fleenor](#) or [Erin Moore](#).

### Keeping our eye on the prize

Partners across the region collaboratively established the following goals for the ECI Talent Collaborative. We want to keep them front and center!

<b>Talent Attraction</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Boost ECI population trends; result in <b>net zero by 2030</b> . <b>Strategy:</b> Forge Your Path Lifestyle Marketing Initiative.
<b>Talent Development</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Increase postsecondary educational attainment of more than 9,000 ECI Hoosiers by 2025. <b>Strategy:</b> County coalitions and regional cradle-to-career development coalitions.
<b>Talent Connection</b>	<b>Goal:</b> Increase ECI median household income and earnings by 7.5% by 2025. <b>Strategy:</b> Regional industry networks for pipeline development in healthcare, education, technology, trades, and advanced manufacturing.

**Define and prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion.**

## News to Use

[Classroom Jumpstart](#). Graduating college seniors who accept full-time teaching positions at a Title I or high poverty preK-12 school in East Central Indiana are eligible for early access to free donated classroom supplies through **Classroom Connections of ECI**. A new teacher typically takes between \$1,000 - \$3,000 worth of new supplies on their first shopping trip. Questions? Contact [Stacy Wheeler](#), CCECI Executive Director.

**Regional Recovery Virtual Panel.** Indiana's new budget makes major investments in regional development – collaboration across city and county lines for talent attraction, quality of life, job creation and business investment. How can regionalism drive Indiana's post-COVID recovery, and what challenges are still in the way?

Register for the Indiana Fiscal Policy Institute virtual panel discussion on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, featuring **Mark Muro**, Brookings Institution; **Senator Travis Holdman**; **Mayor Scott Fadness**, City of Fishers; and **Heather Ennis**, Northwest Indiana Forum.

### **We want to highlight you!**

Share your good work related to talent attraction, talent development, and talent connection. Send details and photos to **Erin Moore** for an upcoming update.

#### ***Delaina Boyd***

ECITC Backbone  
Ball State Office of  
Community Engagement  
**dboyd@bsu.edu**  
765-285-2770

#### ***Erin Moore***

ECITC Backbone  
Ball State Office of  
Community Engagement  
**eemoore2@bsu.edu**  
765-285-6690

#### ***Lauralee Hites***

Stratavize Consulting  
**lauralee@stratavize.com**  
765-914-2847

#### ***Caitlin Fleenor***

Stratavize Consulting  
**caitlin@stratavize.com**  
419-680-3614