

DUBOIS STRONG

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IN OTHER NEWS

Enterprise Loan Fund



A 5 year \$50,000 Enterprise Loan Fund (ELF) loan for Hill Corporation, a specialty furniture maker in Ferdinand, was signed on December 4, 2015.

Want more information about ELF? [Click here.](#)

Interested in applying? [Click here.](#)

Annual Meeting



Save the Date: April 20, 2016 @ Ferdinand Event

Dubois Strong Newsletter - January 2016

It is a new day in Dubois County. Our existing businesses are growing, entrepreneurship remains on the rise and we are becoming more connected. The growth our county has seen over the past year is incredible. Dubois Strong is dedicated to continue leading, supporting and collaborating for the advancement in our communities.

Our mission is to maximize our resources and assets to foster economic growth in Dubois County. We have laid the foundational work in 2015 to ensure that 2016 is another year of improvement for the businesses and communities in our county. We are focused on growing the workforce population, providing systematic business retention and expansion programs, attracting complementary businesses, and supporting new startups.

Please consider supporting Dubois Strong in 2016 as we work to implement all aspects of our strategic plan and the ways in which it addresses our county's critical needs.

Our private sector relationships are critical to carrying forward the positive momentum that our organization is realizing both within and around Dubois County. When you invest in Dubois Strong everyone is a success. Should you have any questions about Dubois Strong or the attached information, please contact our staff at success@duboisstrong.com or call 812-482-9650.

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2015 Dubois Strong Successes

- Created the Housing Committee and completed the County's Housing study with extensive projects commenced in Jasper, Huntingburg and Ferdinand
- Developed the Logistics Council, and in conjunction with VUJC, established a CDL Training program to address the shortage of truck drivers in Dubois County

Center.

[Click here](#) to read about
Keynote Speaker: Dr.
Richard Baker, Director,
Indiana State University
Center for Unmanned
Systems



Ready to invest in Dubois
Strong? [Click here.](#)

- Supported the formation of Current Blend in February 2015. This organization provides resources to further entrepreneurship in Dubois County. A physical location was opened in June 2015 as a place to foster young entrepreneurs
- Reviewed 13 loan applicants and lent over \$50,000 from the Enterprise Loan Fund (ELF) to assist local start ups and expansion of existing businesses
- Collaborated with Purdue Technical Assistance Program to provide training to local businesses on increased profitability and productivity, as well as improvement in leadership skills through training programs
- Assisted with connectivity issues in Dubois County; from upgrading data and information networks with high speed fiber to I-69 infrastructure integration with the Mid-State Corridor initiative

Key Strategies for 2016

Workforce Growth

- Promote continued development of workforce housing
- Determine the skills and training needed for county employers
- Collaborate with VUJC to improve workforce training opportunities
- Strengthen workforce attraction within and outside Indiana
- Support and collaborate on county “quality of place” initiatives

Business Growth

- Offer resources and support to local businesses to assist with expansion and growth
- Support of Mid-State Corridor project for connectivity to I-69
- Conduct a Radius Indiana supply chain study to advance business attraction to Dubois County
- Implement website enhancements to attract site selectors
- Develop site selector focused printed marketing materials
- Partner with other area local and regional Economic Development organizations
- Continue promotion of shovel ready sites: Huntingburg, Jasper and the Ferdinand Industrial Park

Entrepreneurial Growth

- Aid in the expansion of Current Blend programming
- Provide formalized resources to develop start-up companies into engines of growth
- Promote Enterprise Loan Fund to new and existing businesses

Organizational Growth

- Deliver educational opportunities at monthly board meetings

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