

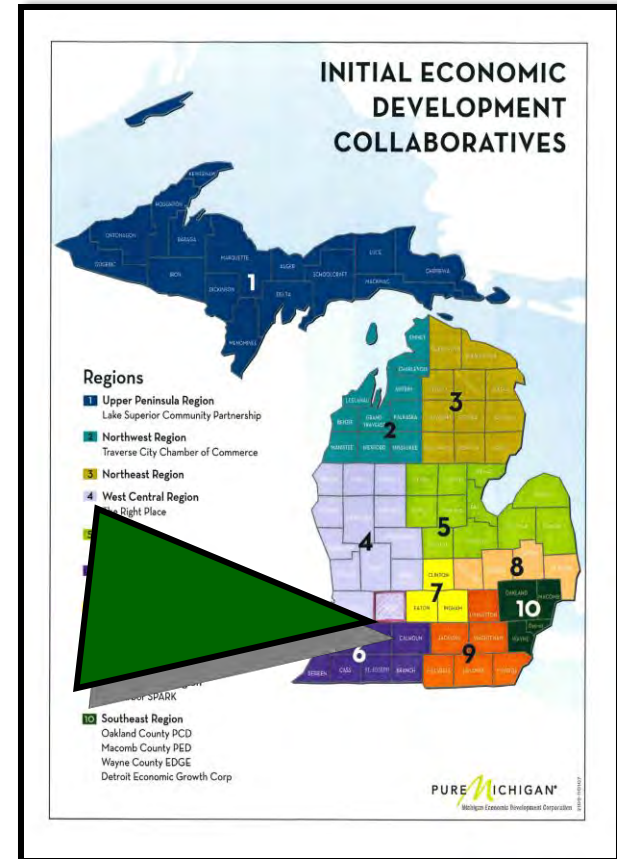
# The Revolving Loan Fund

Working Effectively and Collaboratively in  
Barry County

Creating a Revolving Loan Fund through  
a grass roots philanthropic strategy

# Where is Barry County?

- ▶ Barry County is part of the Region 4 Economic Development Collaborative
- ▶ Rural county of about 58K residents
- ▶ Conveniently located between Grand Rapids, Lansing, Kalamazoo and the lakeshore as a bedroom community





Barry  
Community  
Foundation

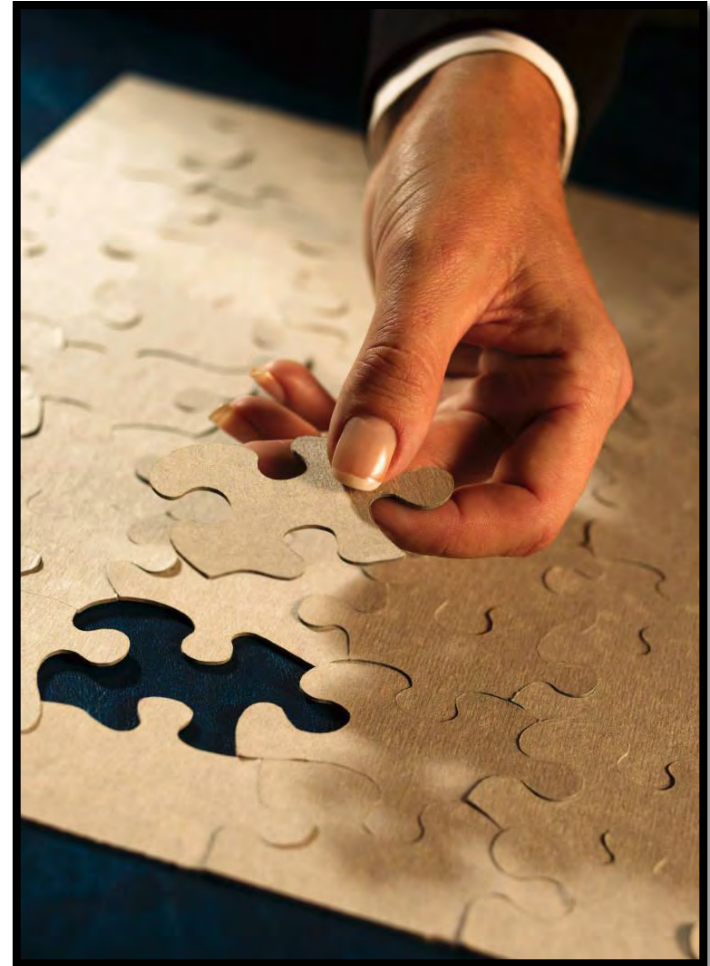
For Good. For Barry County. Forever.



- Collaborative spirit through a “HomeTown Partnership” initiated by the Barry Community Foundation.
- The Barry County Economic Development Alliance and the Barry Community Foundation along with other partners focus on fostering a solid Rural Economy through common vision for:
  - Entrepreneurship
  - Leadership
  - Youth Initiatives
  - Enhancing Community Assets

# Overview

- ▶ Identified need for a chain hotel in Hastings in 1975
- ▶ 2006 adoption of the HomeTown Competitiveness model established in Nebraska and revised the model to fit Barry County “HomeTown Partners” (HTP)
- ▶ 2008 – 7 Elements of a Healthy Community - shift in grantmaking creating a Healthy Economy Fund





# 7 Elements of a Healthy Community



# BCF Board Strategic & Priority Grantmaking

- Based on Seven Elements
- In 2008 as the economy tanked for many, Barry County's core base of employers remained strong albeit quiet about growth potential.
- BCF Board Selects Economy for Priority Funding, designating 40% of unrestricted grantmaking portfolio to the Economy Element
- The Balance or 60% funds the other 6 elements





# Site & building infrastructure



## Loan Exploration





# The Barry Community Revolving Loan Fund

- Gifts from six different donors
- Funds held separately from the traditional funds held by BCF
- To support the economic vitality of Barry County through mission related investment vehicles.
- Advisors are: Economic Alliance & BCF
- Total Value of Fund: \$1,325,000.00
- Total Value of Loan: \$1,025,000.00
- Additional Donors: \$ 20,000.00

# Results of Local Investment



Holiday Inn Express opened for business in August 2013

- 64 rooms
- Indoor swimming pool
- Conference Center
- Employs about 10 people
- Active community supporter





the barry county kids savings program

# KICKSTART

TO CAREER









# Contacts

- Bonnie Gettys, President & CEO  
Barry Community Foundation  
[Bonnie@barrycf.org](mailto:Bonnie@barrycf.org)