

# MONTCALM ECONOMIC ALLIANCE INVESTOR BREAKFAST

## HIGHLIGHTS - NOVEMBER 2018 TO NOVEMBER 2019

### REGIONAL FOOD HUB EFFORTS

The Alliance has continued its involvement with the Mid-Michigan District Health Department to support its efforts in creating a Food Hub in Montcalm County. If achieved, this would allow smaller farms to utilize the Food Hub to assist with the production, distribution, and marketing of their locally produced foods. The Alliance continues to attend meetings, coordinate conversations with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) and write letters of support for grants. The Alliance has also opened conversations with the Village of Edmore regarding potential year-round use of the Four Seasons Market.

### OPPORTUNITY ZONES

Informational resources have been developed by the Alliance on the two federally designated Opportunity Zones in Montcalm County, which include portions of Greenville and Eureka Township, as well as Stanton, Sheridan and surrounding areas. An Alliance representative recently attended a collaborative investor event held at Varnum LLP in Grand Rapids, where they were able to connect with potential Opportunity Zone investors and discuss possible projects in Montcalm County.

### COMMUNITY PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

This year, Howard City applied for and was awarded a \$1.8 million federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which will go towards much needed upgrades to water infrastructure in the Village. To assist Howard City with the grant application process, the Alliance designated a representative to become a Certified Grant Administrator (CGA) through a series of training courses and testing.

### 2014-2019 METRICS

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>WORKER TRAINING<br/>DOLLARS</b><br>\$1,340,262 | <b>COMPANY<br/>ASSISTS</b><br>1,359                   | <b>CAPITAL<br/>INVESTMENT</b><br>\$218,712,200 |
| <b>NEW &amp;<br/>RETAINED JOBS</b><br>853         | <b>NEW &amp; RETAINED<br/>PAYROLL</b><br>\$29,071,744 | <b>TOTAL<br/>PROJECTS</b><br>15                |

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Rob Spohr - President**  
Montcalm Community College

**Dave Seppala - Vice President**  
Isabella Bank - Greenville Division

**Gae Wolfe - Treasurer**  
Greenville Area  
Chamber of Commerce

**Michael Falcon - At Large**  
Howard City, MI

**Bruce Noll - At Large**  
Montcalm Conservation District

**Harmony Nowlin - At Large**  
Consumers Energy

**Josh Gibbs -  
Fundraising/Special Projects**  
Northern Trust Corporation

**Therese Thill**  
The Right Place, Inc.

**Bob Clingenpeel**  
Montcalm County

## 2018-19 MONTCALM ECONOMIC ALLIANCE INVESTORS

Howard City DDA | Eightcap, Inc. | Fairplains Township | Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health  
Montcalm Community College | Sidney Bank | City of Stanton | Greenville Tool and Die | Montcalm Area ISD  
Spectrum Health United Hospital | Montcalm Commission on Aging | Mid-MI District Health Dept  
United Way Montcalm-Ionia Counties | Consumers Energy | Greenville Public Schools | Carson City | Commercial Bank  
S. Michael and Cheryl Scott | Greenville Area Community Foundation | Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce  
Montcalm County | Chemical Bank | Meijer | Isabella Bank | Michigan One Community Credit Union | Bruce Noll  
Johansen Brothers Inc. | Kerschen Family | Josh Gibbs



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