

# MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONTACT:**

Jenan Jondy, REI Coordinator

517-353-9555

1615 E. Michigan Avenue, Lansing, MI 48912

October 9, 2025

## **MSU's Center for Community and Economic Development Reaffirms Commitment to Michigan Communities Amid Federal Program Changes**

**East Lansing, MI** —The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) has officially notified Michigan State University's Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) that Fiscal Year 2025–26 funding for the University Center program has been “paused” due to federal budget constraints.

This decision is not a reflection of the performance of CCED's Regional Economic Innovation (REI) program. On the contrary, EDA has long recognized the significant contributions of University Centers to advancing regional job creation, fostering innovation, and supporting community and business expansion. Over the past decade, REI has partnered with communities across Michigan to implement more than 190 projects, leverage \$68 million in new investment, and equip local leaders with tools, research, and technical assistance to strengthen economic resilience.



### **University Outreach and Engagement**

Center for Community  
and Economic  
Development

1615 East Michigan Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48912

517-353-9555  
Fax: 517-884-6489  
[ced.msu.edu](http://ced.msu.edu)

While the abrupt termination of this longstanding federal partnership is disappointing, MSU remains fully committed to the important work of REI and its many statewide partners. Recognizing REI's strategic role in advancing community and economic development, and with the support of both on- and off-campus collaborators, CCED anticipates completing its proposed scope of work for 2025–26.

“Together with our partners, we’ve built a strong foundation of innovation and collaboration that has had a positive impact on under resourced communities across Michigan,” said Jenan Jondy, REI Project Coordinator. “Though the federal landscape has shifted, we remain committed to communities and seek to continue to deliver the tools and support that enable inclusive economic growth and resilience.”

### **About the MSU Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED)**

The Michigan State University Center for Community and Economic Development (CCED) is dedicated to sustainable economic growth across Michigan. As part of University Outreach and Engagement, CCED leverages academic resources with community-driven initiatives, focusing on applied research, capacity building, and innovative partnerships that address complex economic and social challenges. Through

programs like Regional Economic Innovation (REI), CCED has supported leaders and organizations in strengthening economic resilience, fostering development, and driving community-led transformation. Learn more at <https://ced.msu.edu>.

-----END-----