The Center for Economic Development (CED) at Cleveland State University conducts applied research and provides technical assistance as a think-tank for regional economic development. The CED’s researchers apply academic rigor to data-driven analyses and have a well-earned reputation for conducting unbiased, sound, and policy-relevant studies informing economic development intermediaries, governments, and companies in Northeast Ohio (NEO) and the State of Ohio.

The CED has been a U.S. EDA University Center since 1985. The EDA University Center assistance in the region includes studying entrepreneurship, innovation ecology and advanced manufacturing, economic inclusion, and providing service and technical support. The CED conducts cross-industry analyses, performance of economic clusters, regional growth strategies development and evaluation, workforce development, innovation, entrepreneurship, economic impact studies, and program evaluation.

### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

**Entrepreneurship:** Provides technical assistance and applied research support to transfer innovation created in universities to companies, supports entrepreneurship training for university’s students and local entrepreneurs. The CED also provides research findings on the characteristics of entrepreneurs, companies, and the components of regional support systems to aid the region’s entrepreneurship ecology, start-ups and early-stage companies’ ecosystem, and the technology transfer of innovation.

**Innovation Ecology & Advanced Manufacturing:** Focuses on researching the ecology of innovation and advanced manufacturing due to its strategic location in a manufacturing region. This area of expertise focuses on the introduction of new technologies, which is studied through research on knowledge flows, science and innovation policies, high-tech industries and occupations, measures of research and development, and universities and regional growth.

**Economic Inclusion:** Collaborates with organizations across NEO to bring awareness to inclusion and equity across our region. The CED highlights this focus in its Economic Inclusion Roundtables that tackle an open dialogue on inclusion in economic development initiatives.

**Service and Technical Assistance:** Fills a critical information gap in NEO's regional growth, linking partners through applied economic development research and technical assistance. The CED informs policymakers and is involved in the development and evaluation of regional and state economic development strategies and policies. The Center supports activities of EDDs, governments, philanthropic organizations, economic development intermediaries, and other EDA stakeholders by providing knowledge, data, and technical assistant to the service area.