



Representing 12 states and including rural and tribal, urban, and suburban communities, the cohort promising models and lessons learned available to all public libraries across the country.

**Cultivate Indy** *Open to All*  
 Neighborhood Economic Center

**Cultivate Indy** is a small business center and program that works to cultivate entrepreneurial skills for low-income and minority communities living in rural Independence, KS. This initiative will provide state-of-the-art tools to help individuals have access to resources that can further their small business endeavors, such as high-quality software for graphic design, sound, and video editing. Cultivate Indy will work with over eight different local and regional organizations to provide training, insight, and guidance on starting, running, and growing small businesses. The goals of this initiative are to offer state-of-the-art resources, have 100 individuals enrolled in the program the first year; launch 20 minority/low-income owned businesses by the end of the grant period, and to create a local economic development coalition to continue and expand services following the grant period. The key component to Cultivate Indy, is that as entrepreneurs progress, they will receive memberships to local organizations such as Independence Main Street, and the local Chamber of Commerce. This will allow minority and low-income voices a seat at the table when they otherwise would not have the chance.



**Independence Public Library**  
 Independence, Kansas

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