

# LISC

Indianapolis  
*Helping neighbors  
build communities*

- LISC began 25 years ago with an initial capitalization of \$10 million
- LISC has invested over \$6 billion into 3,000 local economic development groups
- LISC has funneled as much as \$270 million a year in grants, loans, and equity investments into their projects.

# LISC Indianapolis Mission Statement

LISC Indianapolis helps resident-led, community-based development organizations transform distressed communities and neighborhoods into healthy ones – good places to live, do business, work and raise families

## LISC operates on two strategic levels

- Level 1: Intense investment in seven comprehensive investment areas
- Level 2: Responsive support for individual community development projects throughout Indianapolis

# LISC Programs

- Fostering Comprehensive Community Development: Great Indy Neighborhoods
- Supporting Economic Development: FOCUS Initiative
- Increasing Family income wealth and employment: Centers for Working Families
- Improving Access to quality education: Charter Schools
- Supporting healthy environments and lifestyles: NFL Fields



**FOCUS**

Fostering Commercial Urban Strategies

Jump-starting commercial development in Indianapolis' urban neighborhoods.

**Mission:** To jumpstart commercial development in urban neighborhoods of Indianapolis and create dynamic models for community–supported revitalization.

*Collaborators:*

LISC

City of Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce

ICND

# FOCUS Program Components

- Intense Support for Key Corridors
- Commercial Development Tool Box Available Citywide



# 7 Targeted Corridors

- Seven Corridors
- Staffing grants for coordinators
- Intense marketing of district
- Priority for Tool Box
- Now realigning with comprehensive investment areas



# FOCUS Tool Box

## Technical Assistance Program

- Provides small grants to secure expertise for early-stage commercial development
- In 2007, \$57,000 was provided in grants to assist ten organizations

## Brownfield Grant & Loan Program

- Provides grants to help transform potentially contaminated sites into usable properties
- In 2006 and 2007, \$33,000 in grants assisted 5 critical projects and helped 5 groups

# Commercial Façade Improvement Program

- Grants assist business owners in making visible improvements to the front of their properties
- LISC partners with the City of Indianapolis, Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership, Indianapolis Downtown, Inc., and State Farm Insurance Company
- In 2007, \$300,000 was committed to 44 businesses for façade improvements



East 10<sup>th</sup> Street

## Tool Box (continued)

### Indy Site Finder ([www.indysitefinder.com](http://www.indysitefinder.com))

A unique tool that allows developers, prospective business owners and community leaders to search for commercial, industrial, and retail property in the city

### Strategic Acquisitions Fund

- \$1 Million fund created with loans from Citizens Gas, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Clarian Health.
- Offers flexible funding source to help organizations acquire commercial real estate that is strategically located and ripe for development

# FOCUS Program Impact

1.5 Million S.F. of  
Commercial Space  
Redeveloped

\$2.7 Million Invested in  
Corridors 2005-07 by  
LISC

110 Businesses  
Attracted in 3 years

49 Public Space  
Improvements





## FOCUS Funding Partners

- Annie E Casey Foundation
- Central Indiana Community Foundation
- Citizens Gas & Coke Utility
- City of Indianapolis
- Indianapolis Neighborhood Housing Partnership
- Living Cities
- Lilly Endowment Inc.
- State Farm Insurance Company