Technology-Based Economic Development

Grant Awards ∙ FY-18

**Awardee:** University of Idaho Foundation with Innovation Collective, Apple Inc., and Coeur d’Alene Area Economic Development Corporation

**Grant Title:** *Apple Swift Coding and Lending Library*

The University of Idaho was awarded an INL grant to promote talent development and coding skills training across the state with the Apple Swift coding platform. The grant provided funding for the creation of a MacBook lending library in Coeur d'Alene to support rural, tribal, veteran and female entrepreneurs as they pursue the Apple Swift coding credential. Today, there are 750 Idahoans registered to participate in the Inspire Idaho program, with 32 percent having an annual income under $20,000, 44 percent registered female participants, and 55 percent with no coding experience.

**Awardee:** Boise State University Foundation with Butte County Economic Development

**Grant Title:** *Butte County Economic Development Community Guide*

With a population of 2,500, Butte County is the third-least populous county in Idaho and focuses its economy on agriculture and energy. Similar to many rural areas, Butte County faces a unique set of opportunities and challenges when it comes to economic development. This grant allows Butte County, the city of Arco, and students in Boise State University’s School of Public Service to work together and establish an action-oriented economic development plan for the area. Not only will this project help foster and guide economic growth for Butte County, but it also will give BSU students the opportunity to work on a real-world project.

**Awardee:** Custer Economic Development Association with Lost River Economic Development

**Grant Title:** *Business Growth Videos and Equipment*

Custer Economic Development Association (CEDA) aims to increase the visibility of its county and the companies within it by purchasing and utilizing video equipment. With this high-tech hardware, CEDA will work with Lost River Economic Development to promote recreational tourism, help local merchants, and recruit new business to the area by producing and sharing videos.

**Awardee:** Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council with Clearwater County Economic Development

**Grant Title:** *Igniting Innovation - 3D Printer*

Computer-aided design (CAD) and 3D printing allow inventors and entrepreneurs to rapidly draft, produce and edit scale models of potential products. By purchasing high-tech equipment, including a 3D printer, SolidWorks, and a Smartboard with the INL grant, Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Council will aid Igniting Innovation participants by providing them with the ability to rapidly prototype and innovate.

**Awardee:** Trailhead

**Grant Title:** *Women in Entrepreneurship Training Program*

Launched in 2015, Trailhead is a Boise-based non-profit organization focused on business development for thinkers, creators and entrepreneurs. After receiving a grant from INL, it launched a women-oriented “Idea, Set, Go” series to help entrepreneurs articulate business ideas, access mentor networks and provide entrepreneurial training.

**Awardee:** The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes with Tribal Planning Department

**Grant Title:** *Grant Writing for Business Plan and Feasibility Studies*

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes comprise more than 5,800 individuals, 63 percent of whom currently live on the reservation. Although this area historically faced high poverty and unemployment rates, the Tribes are moving forward with economic development projects including contracting a grant writer partially with funds from an INL grant. Building leadership and grant writing capabilities will enable the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to achieve additional economic development success.

**Awardee:** College of Southern Idaho Foundation with Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization, and Business Plus

**Grant Title:** *Military Veterans to Workforce*

Attracting an experienced workforce, collaborating with career training partners, and partnering with private businesses help economies grow. The College of Southern Idaho Foundation plans to expand their work in these areas -- with a specific focus on military veterans transitioning to civilian careers. With this funding, CSI Foundation and Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization will host a Hiring Our Heroes workforce summit, participate at job fairs, and reach out to veterans interested in working in Idaho. This project will help combat the employment gap created by historically low unemployment rates and strengthen talent pipelines across industries.

**Awardee:** Regional Economic Development for Eastern Idaho Foundation

**Grant Title:** *Science, Technology, and Research Program*

The Regional Economic Development for Eastern Idaho (REDI) supports 14 counties in eastern Idaho to drive talent attraction and awareness of federal programs in key technology sectors. In October of 2017, REDI hired a Science Technology and Research (STAR) Director with the aim of promoting relevant federal programs, private businesses, and entrepreneurial startups. STAR is focused on building a robust science, technology and research cluster along the eastern Idaho corridor.

**Awardee:** Region IV Development with Idaho Rural Partnership

**Grant Title:** *Turning Ideas Into Action*

Since 2000, the Idaho Rural Partnership (IRP) has researched and reported on the economic, social and governmental aspects of communities through the Community Review program. IRP reports provide a detailed, specific and unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing rural areas, helping guide community leaders and members towards sustainable growth. After receiving a grant from INL, IRP plans to expand their review program to include the publication of “Turning Ideas into Action,” and staff attendance at the Governor’s Capital for a Day program. These opportunities will help establish IRP as the premier resource for strengthening Idaho’s rural towns, and expand its ability to foster coordinated approaches to rural development.

**Awardee:** Idaho STEM Action Center Foundation with Idaho Technology Council

**Grant Title:** *Statewide Idaho Knowledge Report*

Idaho’s economy has a significant focus on technology and innovation -- a presence that has grown in recent years. With help from an INL grant, the Idaho Technology Council will develop the Idaho Knowledge Report focused on the complex and cognitive jobs of the future. This annual report will help ITC build strategies to grow a stronger knowledge-based economy and help technology companies build, grow and thrive across the state.