

Project: Regional Economic and Community Development in Southern Indiana

Client: Radius Indiana

Term: Spring 2015

Faculty Mentor: Professor Frank Nierzwicki

Summary:

The SPEA Capstone group was tasked with recommending economic and community development strategies for the Southern region of Indiana. The recommendations are provided for three categories that the Capstone team determined to be pivotal to the region's development goals. First, the team recommended building external and internal marketing, in addition to tourism mapping, to promote tourism in the region. Second, the team recommended strategies to lead workforce development in the public, private and non-profit sector sectors. Third and finally, the team recommended that Indiana University establish a "Rural Center of Excellence" charged with managing four focus areas, including "1) Rural Business & Cooperative Development, 2) Rural STEM & Education, 3) Rural Health & Substance Abuse and 4) Rural Technology & Connectivity.