



MIDDLE MICHIGAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Local Economic Development Organization Receives \$100,000 in Grant Funding

Defense Industry Growth Area Grant awarded to Middle Michigan Development Corporation to support defense industry growth in Isabella, Clare, Arenac, Gladwin, and Gratiot Counties

Mt. Pleasant, MI October 1st, 2018 - The Michigan Defense Center located at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) has announced that they will be granting funds to the Middle Michigan Development Corporation (MMDC) to support defense industry growth in Isabella, Clare, Gratiot, Arenac and Gladwin Counties. Collaboratively, these organizations will utilize funding to develop a sustainable network and database of private-public manufacturers and businesses for the purpose of facilitating industry growth particularly in the areas of Defense and Homeland Security.

“This is a fantastic opportunity for us to showcase the businesses and manufacturers located within our region,” stated Jim McBryde, President and CEO of Middle Michigan Development Corporation, “but it is also a chance to provide greater assistance to area businesses looking to diversify their customer base and the products they manufacture through defense opportunities.”

In addition to developing a database, MMDC will be partnering with Arenac County Economic Development Corporation, Gladwin County Economic Development Corporation and Greater Gratiot Development, Inc. to assist area businesses in considering defense diversification in coordination with the regional Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) office located at Saginaw Future with the goal of creating at least fifty new jobs as a result of this effort. The Central Michigan University Research Corporation (CMURC) also will be promoted as a high-tech innovation center for the region and as a source for research and development.

“We are so pleased that Middle Michigan Development Corporation pursued this grant. We have been looking for an economic development partner in Region 5 that we can work with to support Michigan’s businesses interested in growth within the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security industry growth sectors,” stated Sean Carlson, Executive Director of the Michigan Defense Center.

Other partnering agencies contributing to this project will include the Central Michigan Manufacturers Association (CMAA), the Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Mid Michigan College, Michigan Works! Region 7B, Great Lakes Bay Michigan Works!, and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation.

About Middle Michigan Development Corporation:

Middle Michigan Development Corporation was established in 1981 as an economic development organization representing both Isabella and Clare Counties. MMDC is incorporated as a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization with the State of Michigan and is focused on growing the economy with services designed to retain, expand and attract businesses. In 2017, MMDC assisted area companies and organizations with \$455,410 in grants awarded with our grant writing assistance.

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