



# Economy

Since 2014 the downtown has added nearly 100 net new small businesses and more than 165 net new full time equivalent (FTE) jobs. Our organization has raised more than \$5 million in public and private funds for capital improvements (now underway), and thanks to more than \$20 million of private investment and the rehabilitation of 300,000 square feet of commercial property, the downtown contains the largest concentration of office space in the Hazleton Area.

## Culture

We believe that art and culture are central to any downtown resurgence. Our organization is leading a \$3 million renovation project to establish a City Arts Center and Community Park to serve as the new focal point of the downtown. We are also working with partners to develop an Arts & Culture Strategic Plan. Every month we coordinate First Friday events to celebrate and promote the art, music, food, and cultural diversity of our community.

### Innovation

Our organization is a proud member of The Hazleton Innovation Collaborative (THInC), which is working to establish a culture of entrepreneurship and a network of educational and business resources to help grow new businesses here at home. Our organization is leading a \$1 million renovation project to convert a blighted property into the newPennStateHazletonLaunchBox, which will host programs to nuture innovation and entrepreneurship.

WE ARE BRIDGE BUILDERS! Our organization believes partnerships are the key to success. We actively work with more than 30 other organizations and businesses to build consensus, leverage resources, and empower stakeholders in order to implement our revitalization initiatives.



#### Priorities: The Next 5 Years

- Park, Arts Center, LaunchBox: Open for Business!
- · Arts & Innovation District Branding & Marketing
- Entrepreneurship Education & Assistance (via THInC)
- · Expanded Arts and Culture Programming
- Hispanic Business Integration and Community Leadership Development Programming
- Continued Blight Remediation & Facade Improvements
- Downtown Housing
- · Church St. Historic District
- New Business Recruitment Plan



### We need your help! There are several opportunities for giving:

- Neighborhood Assistance
   Program Partners (75% tax credit on donations)
- Sustaining Partners (five year pledged commitments)
- Annual Donors
- Donation of Appreciated Securities

Contact Krista Schneider at 570-455-1509 or kschneider@ downtownhazleton.org for more information!

# Five Year Fund Drive Goal: \$1,000,000



# 8:1 RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Since 2014 we have leveraged every donated dollar by the local community to raise more than eight dollars (\$5,000,000 in grants) needed to fund critical capital improvement projects throughout the downtown.

We plan to continue leveraging future donations to complete these projects, apply for additional grants, and develop important new programs identified by the community.

# Downtown Hazleton is ON THE RISE!

Over the next year we will be working to launch a new branding and marketing campaign for the downtown. Our vision is for Downtown Hazleton to be defined by vibrant art and cultural institutions and experiences that help bridge generations and ethnicities. Expressions of arts and culture will celebrate our community's history, perseverance, and diversity, and provide multifaceted opportunities for creative expression, social engagement, and education.