



**E·C·G·R·A**  
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

# Annual **Report**

**2021-2022**

ECGRA's mission is to elevate Erie County by empowering nonprofits and small businesses toward Economic and Community Development.

## Board of Directors:

**Chair** Dale E. Barney  
Retired

**Vice Chair** Dominick D. DiPaolo  
Retired District Judge

**Treasurer** Whitey Cleaver  
Retired

David S. Sample  
Owner, Corry Lumber Company Inc.

Kelly Hess  
Superintendent, Harborcreek School District

Carol Loll  
Retired

Michael J. Paris  
Owner, The Blue Barn

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## ECGRA Staff

Perry Wood, Ed. D.  
Executive Director

Tom M. Maggio, AICP  
Grants Manager

Tammi L. Michali  
Office Manager

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# Financials

## Assets:

Checking	\$41,780.76
Savings	\$16,613,686.28
Accounts Receivable	\$6,332,635.00
Prepaid Expenses	\$10,556.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$22,998,658.04</b>

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## Equity:

Begin	\$13,318,259.55
Net Income	\$10,562,740.45

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# Erie's Inclusive Recovery: A Lesson in Cooperation

How to invest is a question many are asking as 2021 saw an unprecedented influx of grant dollars from the state and federal government. The American Rescue Plan Act, the Jobs Act, the Innovation Act, the Infrastructure Bill, all created billions in financing tools for local communities to make important decisions that will impact a generation.

ECGRA is a prolific grant maker operating in an economic development community, not a vacuum. And some of the problems our community faces are wicked. That's why we joined with other grant makers, industries, and local governments to engage the Nowak Metro Finance Lab at Drexel University headed by Dr. Bruce Katz to enable a community driven approach with an eye on the future of our community.

Community engagement efforts led to the creation of a Nerve Center that will bring together leaders to communicate about important community projects, monitor competitive funding sources, and position Erie County to leverage local funds. A collective impact approach was adopted by ECGRA, Erie County, the City of Erie, Erie Community Foundation, Erie Insurance, Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership and the Jefferson Educational Society. Together we created a cooperative investment playbook.

**Question: How will Erie County invest for the future?**  
**Answer: Together**

This approach looked at the top 25 projects in Erie County from the project Resolve Plastics Initiative to strengthening the core downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. The idea of collective impact is the playbook's central tenant. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are the core ingredients of the playbook.

This is known as a convener role – a role we take seriously. ECGRA has played this role in the past in setting up the Beehives, the Mission Main Street Initiative, and Renaissance Block programs. By adding a collective impact element to this project, ECGRA joins with other leaders in blazing a new approach to economic and community development.

## IMPACT

# Small Business

**“The NWPA Innovation Network is a success today because of the phenomenal support from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and Dr. Perry Wood. Without the grant provided to the network, the significant growth of the services and outreach the NWPA Beehive Network members provide would not have been possible. The grant helped to fund the construction and development of the Innovation Entente Lab at Mercyhurst University, the expansion of the number of students working in each lab and gaining valuable applied experience, and the depth of the Network’s community outreach.”**

Brian Fuller, Director of Operations, Ridge College of Intelligence Studies and Applied Science, Mercyhurst University

Designed to catalyze our regions private sector and develop Erie’s entrepreneurial ecosystem by assisting small business development, building collaborations and offering a broad spectrum of financing products that help start, grow and reinvent small business.

Beehive funding is designed to catalyze 501(c)3, nonprofit organizations such as universities to participate in the economic development system of Erie County. Beehive grants provide vital matching funds to encourage the development of entrepreneurial support services at local institutions that have this purpose in their mission.

Recipient	Category	Amount
<b>Edinboro University Foundation</b>	Beehive	\$86,000.00
<b>Erie Regional Library Foundation</b>	Beehive	\$47,000.00
<b>Gannon University</b>	Beehive	\$84,500.00
<b>Mercyhurst University</b>	Beehive	\$5,000.00
<b>Youth Leadership Institute of Erie</b>	Community Enterprise Financing Loan	\$124,080.00
<b>TOTAL SMALL BUSINESS</b>		<b>\$346,580.00</b>

## IMPACT

# Neighborhoods & Local Communities

**“This grant from ECGRA is going to be beneficial to the renovation and preservation of the Downing Galbraith Mansion. The mansion provides so much character to the different events that are held here throughout the year and this will help enhance those experiences.”** Judy Husted, President, Woman’s Club of Erie.



The mission of Neighborhoods and Communities grants are to invigorate neighborhoods and main corridors, boosting local buying efforts and to combat blight. Part of this program is the Anchor Building Grant Program, which provides funding to enable local governments, non-profits, and municipal authorities to strengthen a community, neighborhood, or commercial district by redeveloping, enhancing, and preserving an underutilized or vacant building that has the potential to serve as a catalyst for greater investment and commercial or social activity.

ECGRA has invested over one million into anchor buildings in Erie County over the past four years. By directing focus on areas with historic buildings that can be adaptively re-used thanks to the quality of original construction and marquee locations, ECGRA is investing dollars wisely and stimulating economic impact as well as positive outcomes.

Recipient	Program	Amount
<b>Albion Borough</b>	Anchor Building	\$48,000.00
<b>Borough of Edinboro</b>	Mission Main Street	\$34,900.00
<b>Borough of Girard</b>	Renaissance Block	\$25,625.00
<b>Borough of Union City</b>	Renaissance Block	\$60,000.00
<b>Borough of Union City</b>	Mission Main Street	\$4,000.00
<b>Erie Downtown Partnership</b>	Mission Main Street	\$45,892.00
<b>Impact Corry</b>	Renaissance Block	\$100,000.00
<b>Our West Bayfront</b>	Renaissance Block	\$10,000.00
<b>Our West Bayfront</b>	Mission Main Street	\$133,810.00
<b>Performing Artists Collective Alliance</b>	Anchor Building	\$50,000.00
<b>Preservation Erie</b>	Mission Main Street	(\$2,591.18)
<b>Sisters of Mercy</b>	Renaissance Block	\$25,000.00
<b>YMCA of Greater Erie</b>	Renaissance Block	\$25,000.00
<b>TOTAL NEIGHBORHOODS &amp; LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>		<b>\$559,635.82</b>



## IMPACT

# Quality of Place

**“ECGRA funding allows the expERIENCE Children’s Museum the opportunity to provide “pop up” STEM experiments to our nearly 64,000 annual visitors. These hands-on experiments are included in admission and give kids and families the opportunity to learn a STEM concept in a fun way! Funding from ECGRA also provides the community with FREE admission to the museum during the 3-day Celebrate Erie festival. We are so grateful for this support and are extremely proud to be recognized as a Lead Asset in the Erie Community.”** Ainslie Brosig, Executive Director, expERIENCE Children's Museum.

Quality of Place is more than just a title. It’s a way of living - and living in a community where we can foster civic pride, promote overall well-being while driving tourism and help to attract and retain talent in Erie County. Community Assets, Lead Assets, Special Events, and all help keep our vision going.

More than \$600,000 have been invested this past year in that mission. From fairs to neighborhood parks, children's centers to music, ECGRA understands that these events and places are critical to all of our well-being.

Recipient	Program	Amount
Albion Area Fair	Special Events	\$12,268.75
Albion Area Fair	Community Assets	\$8,000.00
AmeriMasala	Community Assets	\$5,000.00
Asbury Woods Partnership	Special Events	\$1,217.50
Booker T Washington Center	Community Assets	\$15,000.00
Boro Women & Family Services	Community Assets	\$3,362.00
Borough of Edinboro	Special Events	\$1,000.00
Borough of Edinboro	Community Assets	\$21,250.00
Borough of Girard	Community Assets	\$25,000.00
Borough of Union City	Special Events	\$300.00
Borough of Union City	Community Assets	\$25,000.00
Boys & Girls Club of Erie	Community Assets	\$15,000.00
Boy Scouts of America, French Creek Council	Special Events	\$1,973.70
CAFÉ	Special Events	\$3,875.00
City of Corry	Community Assets	\$12,500.00
Community Shelter Services	Community Assets	\$8,499.00
Corry Higher Education Council	Special Events	\$500.00
Crime Victim Center of Erie	Special Events	\$1,669.15
Crime Victim Center of Erie	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
Dafmark Dance Theatre	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
Downtown Edinboro Arts & Music Festival	Community Assets	\$10,000.00
Downtown North East	Community Assets	\$10,000.00
Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation	Special Events	\$18,820.00
Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
Edinboro Highland Games	Community Assets	\$8,000.00
Edinboro University Foundation	Special Events	\$1,212.00
Erie Art Company	Special Events	\$1,250.00
Erie Center on Health & Aging	Community Assets	(\$4,648.76)
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	Special Events	\$4,044.00
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
Erie County Veterans Memorial Park	Community Assets	\$13,500.00
Erie Downtown Partnership	Special Events	\$7,500.00
Erie Downtown Partnership	Community Assets	(\$3,878.27)
Erie Homes for Children & Adults	Special Events	\$3,077.00
Erie Lions Club Save an Eye Game	Special Events	\$975.00
Erie Police Athletic League	Community Assets	\$8,000.00
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership	Special Events	\$5,000.00
Erie Yesterday	Community Assets	\$11,501.00
Fairview Parks & Recreation Authority	Community Assets	\$5,000.00

Recipient	Program	Amount
Film Society of NWP	Pilot	\$15,000.00
Film Society of NWP	Special Events	\$5,900.00
Film Society of NWP	Community Assets	\$7,500.00
Gaudenzia	Special Events	\$200.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	Special Events	\$1,115.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	Community Assets	\$12,365.12
Harborcreek Little League	Community Assets	(\$10,250.00)
Headwaters NRC Trust	Community Assets	\$9,295.00
Impact Corry	Community Assets	\$25,000.00
Iroquois School District Foundation, The	Special Events	\$5,200.00
Jefferson Educational Society	Special Events	\$20,000.00
JFK Center	Community Assets	\$5,479.00
Lake Erie Fanfare	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society	Special Events	\$2,250.00
Maggie Knox Western	Community Assets	\$7,500.00
Mercy Center for Women	Special Events	\$1,201.00
Mercy Center for Women	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
Multicultural Community Resource Center	Community Assets	\$15,000.00
New Localism Associates	Pilot	\$50,000.00
Nonprofit Partnership, The	Special Events	\$4,046.25
Northwestern Community Youth Center	Community Assets	\$15,000.00
Partnership for a Healthy Community	Pilot	\$50,000.00
Penn State, The Behrend College	Immediate Human Relief	(\$39,788.78)
Performing Artists Collective Alliance	Community Assets	\$10,000.00
Presque Isle Light Station	Community Assets	\$5,000.00
Sacred Heart Church	Special Events	\$497.15
Saint Joseph Church Bread of Life Community	Special Events	\$6,000.00
Sisters of Saint Joseph Neighborhood Network	Special Events	\$1,821.80
United Way of Erie County	Community Assets	\$5,000.00
Waterford Community Fair Association	Special Events	\$8,950.00
Wattsburg Agricultural Society	Special Events	\$9,700.00
Wattsburg Wrestling Club	Community Assets	\$8,000.00
WQLN Public Media	Community Assets	\$15,000.00
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	Special Events	\$3,600.00
Young Artists Debut Orchestra	Community Assets	\$15,000.00
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie	Special Events	\$385.75
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie	Community Assets	\$12,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$635,734.36</b>

## IMPACT

# Municipalities

ECGRA continues to foster relationships between Erie County’s 38 municipalities with the multi-municipal grants that encourage economic growth and cooperation between municipalities, nonprofits and more. Impact Corry and their strategic municipal airport business development plan was a recent recipient of that award – bringing life to an essential regional asset.

**“ECGRA makes the investments that move forward community and economic development projects across Erie County. ECGRA funding was essential to the development of the Corry-Lawrence Airport business plan, which will be used to reinvigorate the airport, the region, and develop an aviation career training asset in Erie County.”** Chuck Gray, Community Development Director, Impact Corry

Recipient	Amount
Borough of North East	(\$33,700.87)
County of Erie	\$172,643.27
Girard Township	\$17,000.00
Greene Township	\$172,643.27
Impact Corry	\$25,000.00
Jefferson Educational Society	\$100,000.00
McKean Township	\$172,643.27
Millcreek Township	\$172,643.27
Summit Township	\$706,267.90
Waterford Township	\$172,643.27
West Erie County EMA	\$5,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,682,783.38</b>

## IMPACT

# Youth & Education

ECGRA is an investor in our future includes shaping the children of tomorrow by providing them with skillsets acquired through obtaining jobs. Teenagers learn valuable skills like time management, financial responsibility and respect. Shaping our workforce of tomorrow - ECGRA invested over \$160,000 in the future of our youth.

Recipient	Category	Amount
Greater Erie Community Action Committee	2020 Summer Jobs	\$11,480
Greater Erie Community Action Committee	2021 Summer Jobs	\$150,000
<b>TOTAL SMALL BUSINESS</b>		<b>\$161,480</b>

**“The Summer JAMS program really benefits young adults and employers building towards their future together. This is an excellent chance for kids to explore opportunities they might not know exist. We have hired a full-time employee from this program and hope to add another one after this summer’s session. We are extremely grateful for the funding of programs like these because it brings the community together building for the future.”** - Shawn Jones, Tooling Manager, Executool Precision Tooling & Molding



# Annual **Report** 2021 - 2022

5340 Fryling Road  
Suite 201

Erie, PA 16510  
(814) 897-2690

**ECGRA.org**