

## Supporting Prosperity, Advancing Rural Knowledge for Small Businesses (SPARK): Community-Based Small Business Incubator Network

## **PROJECT SNAPSHOT**



GRANTEE

**DRIVE (Driving Real Innovation for a Vibrant Economy)** 



STATES IMPACTED

Pennsylvania, North Carolina, New York, Ohio, Tennessee, West Virginia



ARC FUNDING

\$189,720



**PARTNERS** 

Building Bridges to Careers (BB2C), Bucknell University, Ben Franklin Technology Partners, Bradford County Alliance, Develop Tioga, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, Susquehanna University, Venango Chamber of Commerce, Venango Economic Development Authority, Clay County Chamber of Commerce, Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, Grow Partnership, Friends of Downtown Hendersonville, Delaware Chenango Madison-Otsego Board of Cooperative Educational Services, Innovative Community Solutions, Williamson Renaissance Development, Dickinson Group, NC IDEA, WVU Extension, WVU Public Education Collaborative



ANNOUNCEMENT DATE

October 2024

## STATES IMPACTED



## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

DRIVE will use ARISE funding to evaluate the viability of establishing a multi-state network of rural incubators to provide resources to support and grow small businesses in rural areas in six Appalachian states. These incubators would ensure that small businesses in 14 counties would be better prepared to successfully enter the economy.

DRIVE and partners bring a combined \$138,289 in matching funds. This project will create 14 concept plans for each potential incubator site, as well as one feasibility study to inform future implementation doing the one-year performance period.