We are asking for the privilege of joining those who have been conducting good research on immigration long before we arrived.
Our Vision

• To work **alongside** other organizations who recognize the economic potential of a proactive approach to immigration.

• To serve as an **academic point of connection** between everyone in the greater Midwest who is doing research on immigration.

• To help develop a **comprehensive research agenda** that will fill in the gaps and tell a complete story.
  – Facilitate a process of going after **major grants** that would **collectively benefit** all who are collaborating on this research.

• To help develop a **scalable approach** to measuring the economic impact (realized and potential) of immigration in midwestern communities.
  – Community to community benchmarks

• To push information gleaned from academic research into mainstream media.
Our History

• The vision for this consortium has grown out of my work as an independent consultant working for Ali Noorani’s team at National Immigration Forum.

• Growing awareness of the economic potential in immigration.
  – Particularly for the Midwest.
  – Belief that the economic argument for immigration reform is the one that will make reform possible.

• The vision has grown and evolved as I have shared it with those in leadership at Wright State University in Dayton, OH.

• I have personally funded all of the work that has gone into this project up to this point.

• We are seeking short term funding (July 1-Dec 31) of approximately $80K and long-term funding of $250-500K per year.
Part of the **urgency** in terms of starting immediately stems from the belief that the launch of this initiative could play a positive role in highlighting the economic case for immigration reform this summer, which may the best short-term window that we have to get the kind of reform that will help the Midwest economy. If we miss this window we may face a much longer wait for reform.
Deliverables

• Coordination of research and fund-raising.
• Amplification of research findings – mainstream media.
• Annual Conference - *MCIR Summit on Immigration Research*.
  – A place to present – “What do we know now?”
  – A place to refine – “What do we want to know next year?”
• E-Journal - *The MCIR Review of Immigration Research*.
• Coordination of applied research/consulting services for communities with welcoming initiatives, and those considering the economic benefits of becoming a welcoming community.
  – Grand Rapids vs Youngstown
• Edited Book?
Where do Immigrants Cluster in the Labor Pool in Clark County?

Dole
Packing lettuce for $16 K per year

SRMC
Fixing hearts for $525K per year
Developing the Economic Potential of New Immigrants

- Larger Numbers
- Less skilled
- Imported ambition and willingness to do labor
- **Research Focus:** Workforce development

- Smaller Numbers
- High skilled/high impact
- Imported talent and knowledge.
- **Research Focus:** Recruitment/Empowerment

Immigrant Integration
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lower Skilled Immigrants: Workforce Development</th>
<th>Higher Skilled Immigrants: Recruitment &amp; Empowerment</th>
<th>Economic Impact of Immigration</th>
<th>History &amp; Demographics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Retention of FB Students</td>
<td>Macro Impact: Midwest</td>
<td>Migration patterns in Midwest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to Justice</td>
<td>Law &amp; Policy</td>
<td>Micro Impact: Location</td>
<td>Current &amp; Projected Population by State &amp; County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>Recruitment Strategies</td>
<td>Micro Impact: Business</td>
<td>Comp list: Immigrant owned businesses by region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Wellbeing</td>
<td>Retention Strategies</td>
<td>Cost/ Benefit ROI</td>
<td>Legal differences by State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture &amp; the Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

carl@carlruby.com  (937) 305-9068
Current Status

• Seeking funding from the State of Ohio.
  – Letters of support would be helpful.
  – Increasing focus on workforce and economic development.
• Building alliances/selling the concept.
• Becoming more familiar with the good work that has already been done.
• Laying groundwork to approach foundations.

carl@carlruby.com  (937) 305-9068
Desired Timeline

• May 20 – Conference call. Initial Introductions
• June 11-13 – Face to face meeting. Global Great Lakes, Pittsburgh
  – What do we already know?
  – What gaps will we need to fill?
  – Can we agree to collaborate?
  – What will that look like organizationally?
  – Can we go ahead and announce our collaboration now?
• First MCIR Summit on Immigration Research.
  – March, 2015, Wright State University

carl@carlruby.com  (937) 305-9068
How you can help

• Share the best research already accomplished.
  – I would like to do a thorough lit review of what we already know.

• Agree to collaborate.

• Letters of reference/support.

• Help making a joint appeal to Foundations for both immediate and long term funding.

carl@carlruby.com  (937) 305-9068