



CREATING ECONOMY

During the height of the Rubber Capital era, Middlebury was a bustling business center full of thriving small businesses. As the city's primary economic engine declined, so did job accessibility. The absence of opportunity only reinforced Akron's struggles with housing, employment and developing a thriving economy. Ultimately causing neighborhoods like Middlebury to fall behind.

\$27,478

average household income
for Middlebury resident

4TH

LOWEST average
household income of the 24
neighborhoods in Akron, OH

\$11,016

annual income per capita

30%

decrease in total
population since 2000

**WE WANT TO SEE OUR NEIGHBORS
HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE
IN THEIR CURRENT CONTEXT.**

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CUTTING THE RED TAPE

Our efforts will be devoted to cutting the red tape strangling our small businesses and undermining entrepreneurship to improve the economy of Middlebury. To achieve this goal, we will provide potential entrepreneurs with unique opportunities and assistance to meet their needs.

ADVOCACY

INSPIRE

CONNECT

MOBILIZE

AKRON FOOD WORKS –

Akron's first shared-use incubator kitchen space.

- + **Estimated cost for build out and operations is approximately \$225,000**
- + **A space for all users; from startups to established small food businesses**
- + **Development – Provide entrepreneurs with necessary training to make their product a reality; from market analysis to showcasing their products to local retailers**
- + **To achieve this goal, we will provide potential entrepreneurs with unique opportunities and assistance to meet their needs.**

HOUSING
PLACEMAKING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

