



The Mitchell County Chamber of Commerce has a central role in the county's economic recovery - it supports businesses starting up and growing. In partnership with the Mitchell County Economic Development Commission, the Chamber helps build the community's capacity to attract new businesses, promotes local businesses, and makes business-to-business connections. This project, donated by Creative Economic Development Consulting, is designed to bolster the Chamber's work in recovery and build long-term resilience.

## Organizational Resilience

Closer collaboration among community, tourism, and economic development organizations can significantly strengthen local impact. By reducing duplication, pooling limited resources, and aligning strategies, organizations can devote more resources to providing services and carrying out programs. Co-location and shared services encourage day-to-day coordination, faster decision-making, and a clearer "front door" for entrepreneurs, employers, visitors, and partners seeking assistance. One resilience strategy recommended in this study is closer collaboration between community, economic, and tourism organizations.



**Phase 1:** Form the "Mitchell County Collaborative" to bring together all of the organizations involved in community, tourism, and economic development. Establish priorities for the Collaborative by sharing strategic plans, programs of work, annual event plans, and major initiatives planned and underway.



**Phase 2:** Unify and align the programs of work, marketing calendars, and events of Collaborative members. Complete a gaps analysis, identify joint funding opportunities, align funding requests, and identify a joint project or initiative.



**Phase 3:** Explore opportunities for co-location and shared staff resources where value can be added to organizations and the work they do.

# Resilience and Recovery Strategies

The strategies focus on attracting more people to visit and experience Mitchell County, supporting business stability and growth, and building capacity for future economic resilience.

Promote "Open for Business"

Business Retention and Expansion

Infrastructure and Access

Recovery Finance and Project Readiness

Stabilization and Scaling Small Businesses

Housing Recovery and Workforce Stability

Workforce and Contractor Capacity

Space for Growth

Fill Market Gaps

Support Alternative Business Models