

# UNIVERSITY/COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI)

The Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) at Youngstown State University (YSU) was established in 1967 as the Center for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS) to act as a research and public service arm of YSU. The mission of CURS has been to integrate professional staff, faculty, students, and other University resources to focus on issues and problems of urban and regional development through an ongoing program of basic and applied research and technical assistance and by providing training for local government, community, and economic development organizations and businesses.

In 2015, CURS transitioned to REDI and assumed an added role as “Navigator” in providing research-based, implementation-focused economic development support services for the Mahoning Valley. REDI’s focus reflects a “plan-implement” process which parallels the familiar “design-build” process often seen in the architecture and construction industries. This focus will enable REDI to help identify and quantify challenges and opportunities, support economic development implementation, and provide a broad array of support services throughout the Mahoning Valley.

REDI offers federal, state, and private grant-writing, and it provides valuable GIS mapping and data services to a number of local and regional government, nonprofit organizations, and social service agencies throughout the region.

Recent initiatives include studies, strategy development, or project implementation related to Community Crime Prevention, Community Health Initiatives, Green Infrastructure, Urban Transportation, Neighborhood Parks Restoration, Road Condition Assessment, Wayfinding Signage, and Comprehensive Community Planning.

## Center for Human Services Development

The Center for Human Services Development (<https://ysu.edu/center-for-human-services-development>) is an externally-funded, community outreach department. With the mission to work with organizations and faculty to build capacity through the support of services and research, the Center’s main objective is to increase the ability of organizations to serve the people of the Mahoning Valley. Led by experienced professionals, the Center works to provide a variety of services to community agencies and departments across campus.

### The scope of the Center is:

- Establishing and maintaining networks or linkages among service providers and the broader community.
- Offering technical assistance for social service program evaluation.
- Providing training for agency directors, boards, and staff members.
- Conducting community-wide needs assessments and sharing information.
- Helping organizations to develop strategic plans.
- Identifying and obtaining grants for community organizations that are working collaboratively to address community needs.

### Professional Services:

- Technical assistance
- Evaluation
- Grant writing
- Data analysis

- Program and grant management
- Professional development

The Center (<https://ysu.edu/center-for-human-services-development>) is housed in the Beeghly College of Education and can be contacted by calling (330) 941-3469.

## Continuing Education

Continuing education non-credit programs offer area residents a wide variety of adult study or lifelong-learning courses and seminars to meet the needs of a changing society for updating and upgrading professional skills, for mid-career adjustments, and for lifestyle changes.

Area residents participate annually in more than 200 non-credit programs, many of which are in the academic disciplines and professional areas, varying from half-day seminars to multi-week courses conducted in local business and government settings and other off-campus locations.

## Center for Creative Retirement The College for the Over Sixty

The Over Sixty program is a state-mandated program providing for the enrollment of Ohioans 60 years of age or older (who have been residents of the state for the preceding 12 months) in undergraduate credit classes on a space-available basis. Residents who meet eligibility requirements based on income level may earn credit toward a degree through the Over Sixty program.

## Community Counseling Clinic

The Community Counseling Clinic (CCC) is a training clinic for students who are earning their master’s degree in counseling. The clinic’s counselors and trainees provide individual, family, couples, and group counseling services to YSU students and their families, as well as all children, adolescents, and adults living in Youngstown and its surrounding communities.

The CCC offers a relaxed and confidential environment to discuss personal, relationship, academic, or work-related problems. Examples of matters which may cause one to seek counseling include: academic success-related concerns, relationship problems, family conflicts, adjustment-related problems, depression, anxiety, career indecision, and loss and grief issues. Talking with a counselor can be an important first step in making desired life changes.

Day and evening appointments are available. Appointments can be made in person or by calling (330) 941-3056. The CCC is located in Room 3101 in the Beeghly College of Education, which is at the corner of Fifth and Rayen avenues. Free parking is available. Additional information is available at the Community Counseling Clinic (<http://www.ysu.edu/community-counseling-clinic>) website.

## The Ohio Small Business Development Center

### The Ohio Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and export assistance Network at youngstown state university

The Ohio Small Business Development Center (SBDC) and Export Assistance Network at YSU is part of the most comprehensive and effective business assistance network in the nation. Its purpose is to help existing businesses develop, grow, and retain a competitive advantage in the ever-changing global economy while helping entrepreneurs realize their goals of business ownership.

In Ohio, the SBDC program is a partnership of the Ohio Development Services Agency and the U.S. Small Business Administration. Locally, the SBDC is hosted by Youngstown State University and the Williamson College of Business Administration. The Center provides professional, in-depth business, exporting, and international trade consulting and training to existing and new

business ventures to help foster a strong and successful business community in the counties they serve. There is no fee for the consulting services, and all company and project information is held in strict confidence.

The Ohio Small Business Development Center and Export Assistance Network at YSU is located in the Williamson College of Business Administration – Room 1155, and can be reached at: (330) 941-2140.

## **Telecommunication Services**

### **WYSU-FM, 88.5 MHz**

Youngstown State University owns and operates WYSU-FM, a 50,000-watt radio station that serves the Mahoning and Shenango Valley region with fine arts and news and information programming from its studios in Cushwa Hall. The station broadcasts a mix of news and classical music programs on its main analog channel, on its HD1 (digital) channel, and as an Internet stream; it also broadcasts all-classical music on its HD2 channel and second Internet stream. The station broadcasts at 88.5 MHz in Youngstown, at 88.1 MHz in Ashtabula, and 97.5 MHz in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania.

WYSU-FM is non-commercial, listener-supported public radio, committed to being the community's leading source for trusted, in-depth news, engaging conversation, and music that stimulates the mind and spirit.

As one of Youngstown State University's most visible daily representatives to the community, WYSU also strives to be a valuable ambassador to that community, providing a forum to promote the artistic and intellectual activities of the university. The core of the radio operation is a full-time professional staff. Youngstown State University students whose qualifications meet professional broadcasting standards are also employed to support various aspects of the station's operations.

### **FM-SCA Programs**

The University transmits special educational programs for the sight-disabled on a multiplex basis using a sub-carrier frequency of 67 kilohertz.

## **Western reserve public media, Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio**

The University is a member of NETO (Northeastern Educational Television of Ohio), a public television consortium of the state universities at Akron, Kent, and Youngstown, which operates UHF Channels 45 and 49.

Common transmitters at Salem and Akron broadcast programs acquired from the Public Broadcasting Service and the Ohio Educational Television Network as well as local programs produced at Kent, Akron, and by contract at Youngstown.