Maker Movement
Community Development

Maker Spaces as Entrepreneurial Hubs

Impact areas
Engaged Ohios, Vibrant Communities

Importance
The 3D printing market will be worth over $30 billion by 2022, allowing makers to quickly prototype and test products. Additionally, The crowdfunding industry grew to over $34 billion in 2015, allowing communities to invest directly in the products and ideas they love. Today more than ever, anyone can make and sell products. In fact, peer-to-peer ecommerce through Etsy generated more than $2.4 billion in sales of hand-made and vintage goods and services in 2015 alone.

Ideas for Extension events
Create a makerspace in your county office and host events on innovation, community problem-solving, and entrepreneurship.

Offer workshops on creating 3D printed prototypes.

Provide training on how to take a maker project to mass market.

Host workshops for artists and makers on starting and maintaining a successful small business.

Help connect local makers and artists to consumers by hosting a mini Maker Fest in your community.