CONNECT ecosystem constituents, CREATE our entrepreneurial pipeline, CULTIVATE established and growing businesses, CELEBRATE our successes

**CONNECT**

**CORE should help:**
- **Identify** ecosystem constituents.
- **Register & engage** constituents with CORE.
- **Gather** on a monthly basis to continue to build capabilities that strengthen the ecosystem.
- Create an online resource guide.
- Implement a “Resource Navigator” system.

**CREATE**

**CORE should help:**
- Engage talent pools with entrepreneurial programming. (Also, assess current programming to determine how to work with current resources.)
- Place additional focus on equity as we seek to engage talent pools.
- Provide broad entrepreneurial workshops, resources & events to the community.
- Identify and/or provide skill-based bootcamps to fill technical skill gaps.
- Develop systems to identify innovators & tech transfer opportunities.
- Connect systems for local job placement, internships & mentors.
- Create a system of affinity groups for specialized networking & content.
- Organize early-stage capital once deal flow has been improved.

**CULTIVATE**

**CORE should help:**
- Develop a system to collect & address entrepreneur needs.
- Develop systems to identify potential growth businesses.
- **Identify talent gaps & solutions** to benefit businesses & workforce.
- Identify and/or create professional development courses for established entrepreneurs.
- Investigate and knock down barriers to the development of additional infrastructure, real estate, quality of life “satisfiers,” etc.
- Identify systems to take advantage of tax / government incentives & programs that may encourage growth.
CELEBRATE

CORE should help:
- Develop an online, community-generated news hub for entrepreneurial content.
- Develop news partnerships between CORE & local content publishers.
- Post news via social media & facilitate connections between entrepreneurs & news partners.
- Gather to celebrate our wins. Part of our gatherings should focus on these wins.
- Develop plans to boost community fun. What could make Douglas County an even better place to live & work?

PROBING QUESTIONS

- When you reflect on your own experiences, what gaps did you encounter in the ecosystem:
  - When you were establishing your business?
  - As you run your business?
- What are the issues that keep you up at night?
- When reviewing the Ecosystem Blueprint graphic, which segments stand out as those that:
  - Are the most robust?
  - Require the most attention?
- What are some quick wins that we could experience in improving our ecosystem?
- How would you like to contribute to the work of Douglas County CORE?
- Who else should be involved in these discussions and the ensuing work?