

Making the Dollars Go Further

Venture capital seems like a straightforward term. Venture is generally defined as a risky or daring journey or undertaking. Capital, in this context, is simply money. In other words, venture capital (VC) is investing financial resources in the hope the risky journey delivers a profitable return on investment based on the company's success.



But VC comes in many shapes and forms. The terminology – early stage, seed, Series A, scale, mezzanine, etc. – doesn't always carry universal meaning. And in at least one area, growth capital to help take an organization with a strong early start to the next level, Indiana is lacking in homegrown resources.

Starting on Page 20, we take a look at the VC dilemma (Indiana ranks 35th in the latest *Indiana Vision 2025* Report Card metric) on several fronts. A roundtable discussion is followed by stories on angel investing, a growing number of out-of-state firms doing business in Indiana and two pages of explanatory charts and graphics. We're confident these will provide you with a firmer understanding of the VC world.

Our yearlong innovation series focus on Recovery Force (Page 34) also examines how that company has financed its efforts. Most of the money thus far has come from within the state, but it is reaching the stage where future investments are likely to be from the coasts.

We keep the spotlight on money with a banking/finance/investment special section. The lead story on financial fraud provides some startling examples of the intricate challenges businesses face today. Additional articles deliver insights on federal regulations and trends in retirement plans. We also profile some fast-growing organizations in the banking and accounting worlds.

Is it true that "money makes the world go round" (a popular saying as well as song from the early 1970s movie *Cabaret*)? Whether you believe so or not, there's no denying that it is a critical ingredient in business start-ups, investment, growth and operations.

Thank you, as always, for your support of the Indiana Chamber and *BizVoice*®.

Sincerely,

Kevin M. Brinegar
President and CEO



Indiana Chamber Mission:

Cultivate a world-class environment which provides economic opportunity and prosperity for the people of Indiana and their enterprises.



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To inform and influence

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