# *Jobenomics:* The economics of small business and job creation.



*Jobenomics Erie Freedom Farms Goal:* Create 650 new direct jobs within the next 5-years with initial emphasis on veteran-owned businesses.

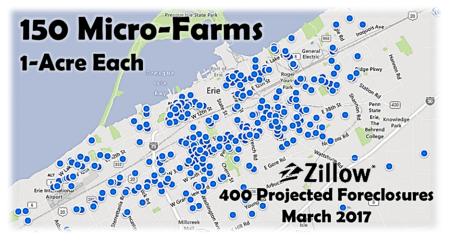
Chuck Vollmer 4 April 2017



# **Urban Agriculture**

Jobenomics Erie Program	Direct Jobs (est. 5 Years)	% of 3,500 Job Goal
Urban Agriculture	650	19%
Micro-Farms (150)	450	13%
Controlled Agriculture Center	200	6%

- 650 new <u>direct</u> jobs within next 5-years (not including temporary demolition, construction or long-term indirect jobs)
- Initial location: 1573 West 39<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie (VMCE)





Initial focus will be on hydroponic and vertical indoor farming.

# **Jobenomics ACTS Freedom Farms**

- Team: Jobenomics is teamed with ACTS Freedom Farms of America
- Mission: Provide a solution to the world's food shortage through self-sustaining and supportive live-work communities.
- Vision: Provide quality foods in harmony with the global environment, while empowering individuals to become an important partner in high-tech controlled environment agriculture.
- Strategy: 1) home ownership combined with an agriculture career, 2) corporate owned hydroponic commercial growing operations and 3) contracted privately owned and operated micro-farmers







Veteran Owned...Hydro-organically Grown



Initial operations: 20,000 veteran-owned micro-farms in 5-years.

# **Jobenomics Erie Freedom Farms**



Initial cadre will be mostly veterans (vetting and financing considerations) but will also include non-veterans.



- Central controlled agricultural center (AG Core) manage and source crop production, processing, distribution and sales to fresh market outlets (grocery, restaurants, and international).
- Each micro-farm will consist of the land, 2,500 sq. ft. home and a leased state-ofthe-art hydroponic and vertical agriculture 6,000 sq. ft. greenhouse that will be equipped and supplied by AG Core.



Estimated \$60,000 annual salary per micro-farmer.

### **Greenhouses & Technologies**





#### ACTS FFA is partnered with leading indoor controlled AG companies. 4

# **Erie Veteran-Owned Firms**



Initial effort will involve veterans but be expanded to other demographics.

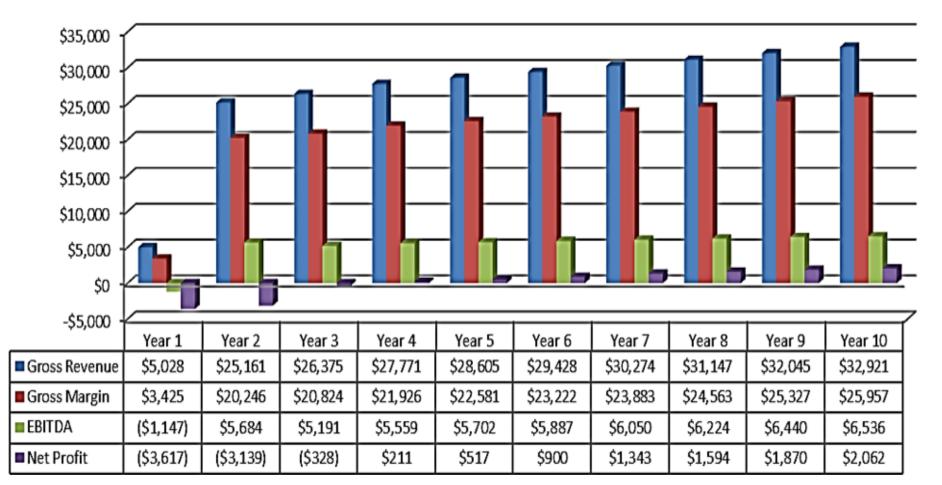
Source: U.S. Census Bureau (2012)	Erie City	Erie County
Total Firms	6,280	18,667
Men-owned firms	55%	58%
Women-owned firms	31%	30%
Minority-owned firms	16%	7%
Veteran-owned firms	8%	9%
Number of Veteran-owned firms	471	1,639

Veterans Miracle Center Erie (VMCE), a highly respected local 501c3 non-profit organization, will lead Jobenomics Erie's veterans programs..



John Kowalczyk, VMCE Founder, leads J-Erie's veterans programs.

#### Jobenomics Erie Freedom Farms Estimated Financials (in 000s) AG Core + 100 Micro-Farms

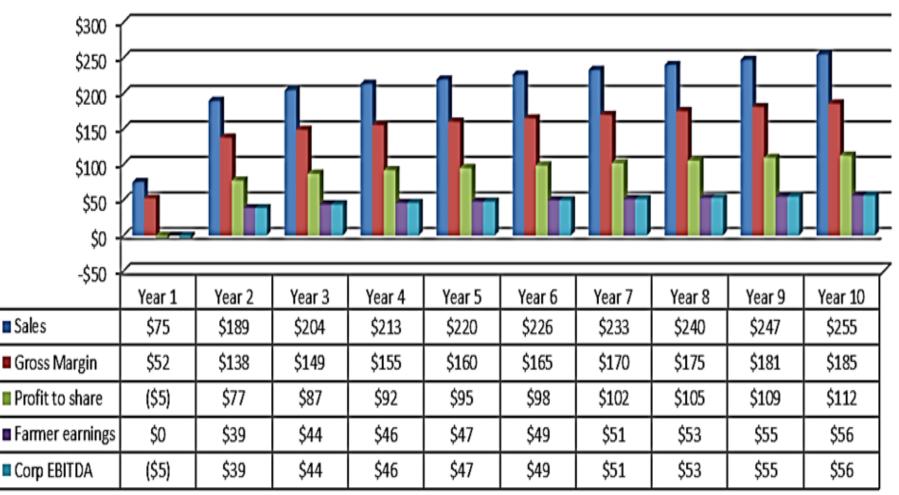


Estimated \$30,000,000+ annual revenue to Erie.

**IOBENOMICS** 

Erie, Pennsylvania

#### Jobenomics Erie Freedom Farms Estimated Financials (in 000s) For 1 Micro-Farm



Estimated \$56,000 annual farmer earnings.

**IOBENOMICS** 

Erie, Pennsylvania

# **Sources Of Funding & Support**



#### Startup Capital & Support

- Corporate sponsorship
- Government bonds and grants
- Debt financing and/or equity investment (7%-9% interest)
- Special programs (e.g., HUD Section 203, 3 and 8 funding, EB-5)
- Philanthrocapitalism

#### Sustaining Capital & Support

- Urban mining and urban agriculture profit sharing
- Corporate hiring and subcontracting
- New business hiring and profitability
- Mezzanine financing
- Micro-business loans

ACTS Freedom Farms has securing funding for the equipment (estimated \$75 to \$100 million depending on configuration). Erie needs to raise seed-capital (\$10 to \$13 million) for initial operational expenses and building lease/improvement costs.