

Vision Corner Learning Center
Vision Corner Partnership Board

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THE NEXT ERA OF VISION CORNER STRATEGY & IMPACT

Vision Corner Welcomes New Leadership Amid Exciting Growth and Opportunities for Community Engagement

Union City, IN — August 2024 — Vision Corner Learning Center, both a physical building and a bold, multi-sector collaborative dedicated to advancing education, economic, and community development, announces a leadership transition. Having built a firm foundation for our work, Vision Corner is set to amplify its impact, accelerating growth through dynamic collaborations between education and industry and deepening our community engagement to unlock new opportunities for youth and families.

Vision Corner: A Hub for Economic Development and Educational Excellence

Vision Corner is a powerful catalyst for regional economic and community development through the seamless integration of education and employment. Through this innovative approach, we are revolutionizing the local education landscape, equipping students with unparalleled college and career readiness and opening doors to expansive opportunities.

We are grateful for our vibrant community and the network of talented experts and champions supporting our work, including our pending READI funders as we await approval for our \$4M ask. Vision Corner serves as a powerful exemplar of the transformative impact that targeted investment like READI and Next Generation School Improvement Grant (SIG) funds can have on community growth.

Leadership Transition: Welcoming Steve James as Interim Executive Director

After guiding our organization through an extraordinary launch, Karen Lloyd will be stepping down as our Founding Executive Director at the beginning of the 2024-2025 school year. Karen has been an invaluable part of Vision Corner's success and her dedication and hard work have culminated in many significant achievements, such as finalizing the building, welcoming student enterprises, and our unforgettable community events. Karen will continue to follow her heart in service of our students as she transitions into a teaching role, and we wish her all the best. Our

founding Vision Corner Board Chair noted, "Just as she did for Vision Corner, Karen stands to impact the lives of many, and I am grateful for her efforts in opening Vision Corner's doors and for a ribbon cutting that will forever be embedded in the history of this community."

Long-time community- and industry-leader Steve James will step in as Interim Executive Director of Vision Corner. As the former President and CEO of Frank Miller Lumber, Steve brings extensive experience in strategic growth and operational management. Karen Lloyd noted, "I am so excited about Vision Corner's next step, and I believe Steve is just the person to get that rolling." His expertise will be invaluable as Vision Corner enters its next phase in partnership with RAZ-32, our multi-district collaborative. Steve will work closely with Jo Ann McCowan, Executive Director of RAZ-32, whose expertise in career and technical education will further elevate Vision Corner's impact. Steve's leadership combined with the collaborative strength of RAZ-32 will drive forward our shared goals for education excellence, economic development, and community upliftment. Steve affirms that "I came here 12 years ago to help change the culture of a company; now I get to help change the culture and transform a community. I can't wait to see what we are going to create here at Vision Corner."

Get Involved & Join Us for What's Next

We're committed to regional strategy, collaboration, and impact that ensures every student can reach their fullest potential. Under Steve's leadership and with the guidance of our dedicated advisory board, Vision Corner is now ready to embark on a new phase of growth. Our entire team of talented experts are committed to a shared vision, in partnership with our vibrant community and generous donors. We are grateful to be in relationship with a network of community champions, including our pending READI funders as we await approval for our \$4 million ask. To move this work forward, your support is vital, and we are confident in the positive change we can achieve together.

As we enter the next period of strategic planning, we need to hear from you!

In alignment with the vision of VC, we want this work to be led by key stakeholders: community members, employers, education leaders, and partners. To engage in this work, please sign up for a focus group or complete our survey to help shape the future of Vision Corner. We will be hosting several focus groups and distributing a survey to gather your valuable insights and ideas. Your participation is crucial in shaping the future of Vision Corner. Please stay tuned for opportunities to engage.

Join Us for the Annual Vision Corner Fiesta, Saturday September 28th

To celebrate our progress and launch the next phase of growth, we invite you to the Annual Fiesta. This event will showcase the expanding college and career opportunities for our students through our RAZ-32 collaborative, which connects shared pathways across school districts.

Thank you for your unwavering support and for being a cornerstone of the Vision Corner family. Together, we are poised to make an extraordinary impact and drive transformative change in our community.

In partnership,

Karen Lloyd Outgoing Executive Director, Vision Corner

Steve James Interim Executive Director, Vision Corner

Vision Corner Partnership Board

Chad Spence, Board Chair Mayor of Union City

Neal Adams Superintendent of Randolph Eastern

Jason Troutwine Vice President at Reid Health

Linda Puccini School Board Member

Chad Bolser Chancellor of Ivy Tech Richmond

Aaron Black Superintendent of Liberty Perry

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Justin Jones Director of Randolph Eastern

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