**Job Title**: Director of Economic & Community Development
**Department**: Economic & Community Development
**Location**: Brown County, Ohio
**Reports to**: County Administrator
**FLSA Status**: Exempt

**Position Summary**:
The Director of Economic & Community Development for Brown County will lead and manage the county’s efforts to enhance economic development, foster business growth, and create a robust, sustainable environment for investment and job creation. The Director will work closely with local government officials, business leaders, community organizations, and other stakeholders to promote Brown County as an ideal location for economic expansion and investment. This role is key in advancing strategic economic initiatives, securing funding, and fostering collaborative partnerships to drive regional growth.

**Key Responsibilities**:

* **Economic Development Strategy**: Develop, implement, and oversee the county’s long-term economic development strategy, with a focus on business retention, expansion, and attraction.
* **Grant and Funding Management**: Research and identify funding opportunities, including state, federal, and private-sector grants, to support development projects. Prepare applications and manage grants for economic development initiatives.
* **Business Engagement**: Serve as the primary liaison between local government, businesses, and economic stakeholders. Provide consulting and support for businesses, both existing and new, to navigate local and state regulations, incentive programs, and funding opportunities.
* **Collaboration & Networking**: Work with local, regional, and state agencies to align efforts and resources to stimulate economic growth in the county. Foster relationships with key industry leaders, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations.
* **Workforce Development**: Coordinate with educational and training organizations to support workforce development and ensure a skilled labor force for Brown County’s growing businesses.
* **Marketing & Promotion**: Develop and implement a marketing plan to promote Brown County as an attractive location for businesses, talent, and investors. Represent Brown County at local, regional, and national conferences and events.
* **Economic Analysis & Reporting**: Monitor and analyze economic trends, demographics, and industry performance to identify new opportunities and risks. Prepare regular reports for county leadership, stakeholders, and the public.
* **Team Leadership & Supervision**: Supervise and mentor development support staff. Foster a collaborative, results-oriented environment.

**Required Qualifications**:

* Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration, Economics, Urban Planning, Public Administration, or a related field. A Master’s degree is preferred.
* Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in economic and/or community development, business development, or a related field, with at least 2 years in a leadership or supervisory role.
* Proven ability to develop and implement successful economic development strategies.
* Strong understanding of local, state, and federal funding mechanisms, economic policies, and incentive programs.
* Demonstrated experience in building relationships with diverse stakeholders, including government, business, and community leaders.
* Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, with the ability to present complex information in a clear and compelling manner.
* Strong organizational, project management, and problem-solving skills.
* Ability to work independently and as part of a team in a dynamic, fast-paced environment.
* Knowledge of Brown County’s economic landscape is a plus.

**Desired Skills**:

* Experience with economic development tools such as tax incentives, tax increment financing (TIF), and Opportunity Zones.
* Familiarity with GIS and other economic development software.
* Strong public speaking and presentation skills.
* A collaborative mindset and ability to work in a team-oriented environment.

**Compensation**:
Salary will range from $78,000 to $90,0000 and will commensurate with experience. The county offers a comprehensive benefits package, including health insurance, retirement plan, paid time off, and professional development opportunities.

**How to Apply**:
Interested applicants should submit a resume, cover letter, and three professional references to the Brown County Administrator, Sarah Beath at SBeath@BrownCountyOhio.gov.