

Program Implementation and Evaluation Intern Proposal Denver 4-H 2020

23. Evaluating youth education programming

Mentors: [Merielle Stamm](#), [Jenia Hooper](#), [Mike Martin](#), [Jean Glowacki](#) and [Wade Ingle](#)

Location: Denver

1. Extension mentor and application contact information.

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2. In what region(s) will the student be working (county/region/state)?

Front Range, City and County of Denver

3. In less than 150 words, please describe the proposed internship goals, scope, and objectives.

Denver County 4-H provides a variety of programs and events for the surrounding diverse community. Our programmatic efforts include events, concurrent out-of-school programs, and school enrichment. Each program and event helps fulfill the mission of helping youth reach their fullest potential, sparking interest in STEAM, and building and enhancing relationships with caring adults.

The scope of the internship would be centered around creating an evaluation tool for programs and events conducted by Denver 4-H. The intern would gain insights on the evaluation needs through helping with programs and events. The goal would be to research, develop, and pilot both summative and formative evaluation plans and tools for the diverse types of programs and delivery styles used by agents and AmeriCorps members.

The internship objectives include becoming familiar with evaluation methods, evaluation practices and instruments, and creating a tool that tracks behavior changes, program successes, and improvements for future programming.

4. Which PRU activities are included in the scope of this internship?

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4H Youth Development and community development.

5. What student learning outcomes do you anticipate and are there opportunities for professional development?

The student would have the opportunity to be involved with both program planning, delivery, and evaluation, and learn essential skills associated within each aspect.

The student will spend about 25 percent of their time planning and delivering various summer programs and events throughout the city and county of Denver. During this time they will gather insight into the needs of program participants that will ultimately help with the development of an evaluation plan for Denver 4-H. Diversity is a critical facet of the city, county and Denver 4-H's programs, and the tool must reflect and fit within this scope. Careful consideration must be taken so it can be used across diverse audiences and with a variety of populations.

Additionally, the student will conduct research on evaluation methods and tools currently used in 4-H and youth development, such as Common Measures. Next, the student will develop, test, and pilot an evaluation plan that includes evaluation questions, evaluation design, and data analysis.

Throughout the summer the intern will learn how to communicate with diverse audiences, community stakeholders and partners, while planning, implementing and evaluating programs. In addition, students will increase their knowledge of youth serving organizations in Denver as well interact heavily with a wide range of stakeholders. As a result, students will build professional relationships and grow their professional network in order to obtain additional opportunities in the future.

6. How does this internship support identified stakeholder needs in your county/region?

Denver 4-H is deeply immersed in the city's community, serving diverse audiences, and building and expanding partnerships. Denver 4-H works and collaborates with a plethora of community stakeholders including Denver Parks and Recreation, Denver Libraries, Denver Public Schools the Growhaus, The Bridge Project, the Dalia Center, and many more.

The intern will work directly with our community partners, and program participants to conduct a needs assessment that will help guide the evaluation plan and tool. The formative and summative evaluation tools will also help ensure that participants voices, concerns, and suggestions are heard and valued. Additionally, the evaluation tool will help Denver 4-H increase capacity, and effect valuable and systematic program changes that will directly help improve the lives of program participants.

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Lastly, nontraditional 4-H youth development, such as afterschool programming and school enrichment, spans throughout the Front Range region. We plan on sharing our evaluation plan and tool with neighboring counties who have similar programs, delivery modes, and audiences.

7. What is your experience with mentorship? In less than 100 words, please describe your experience with and approach to mentorship.

Previously Merielle mentored a student organization that matched incoming transfer students with current, successful transfer students. She organized events, trainings, and held office hours to help both students. Jenia has experience through previous employment with nonprofits and NGO's where she managed volunteer and community programs which included providing ongoing coaching and mentorship.

We want our intern to feel welcome, valued, heard, and appreciated. Their work and contribution is extremely valuable to Denver 4-H and our program participants. Our mentorship will be collaborative - we hope to guide and help our intern learn, while learning from them at the same time.

8. Are there on-going connections with CSU faculty associated with this project, or is there identified faculty interest?

We are currently in the process of reaching out to CSU faculty to see if there are opportunities for collaboration, partnerships, and interest. However additional support to identify those individuals would be helpful as the Denver 4-H staff are still relatively new to CSU extension.

9. Are travel funds available? Opportunities to provide student assistance with housing?

Travel funds will be available for expenses incurred while performing the duties of this position.