

Planning Implementing and Evaluating Youth Programming with Buckley Air Force Base and the CO National Guard

Mentors: [Claudia Meeks](#), [Tim Aston](#) and [Frederique Grim](#)

Location: Arapahoe County

County Mentor and Application Contact

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Region Participation

Arapahoe County

Goals, Scope and Objective

Arapahoe County Extension offers robust programs in 4-H youth development, family and consumer sciences, civic engagement through the Family Leadership Training Institute, energy, horticulture, community development, and outreach. The Arapahoe County 4-H program currently involves more than 300 youth in 4-H clubs, more than 3,000 youth participating in outreach activities, and 88 adult volunteers.

The internship will focus on the development of 4-H educational programming for youth, creating program outreach and marketing plans, and developing youth programming with Buckley Air Force Base and the Colorado National Guard. The internship will provide program planning, implementation, and evaluation of 4-H day camps, 4-H military programs, STEM outreach, community embryology programs, and events and activities at the Arapahoe County Fair.

PRU Activities

The internship will support traditional 4-H youth development programs and project initiatives as well as summer camps and enrichment programs that focus on content areas such as STEM, agricultural literacy, climate, natural resources, wildlife, and animal sciences.

Learning Outcomes and Professional Development

This internship will provide the student with hands-on learning opportunities focusing on communication skills, teamwork, successful work habits, critical thinking and problem solving, professional resiliency and adaptability, and developing partnerships with community organizations and leaders. The internship will also be an excellent opportunity for a student to learn transferable skills related program development, delivery, and evaluation.

Stakeholder Support

This internship will actively collaborate with Buckley Air Force Base, the Colorado National Guard, Arapahoe County and Aurora libraries, and the Arapahoe County Fair. Arapahoe County Extension works closely with these partners to provide youth educational programs and community engagement opportunities. This intern will work to develop new program opportunities with these partners.

Mentorship Experience

As the county mentor, Claudia Meeks, has over six years mentoring interns through Extension programs in Colorado and Tennessee. She enjoys providing students with transferable skills in problem-solving, teamwork, and adaptability. She believes that Extension provides a unique opportunity for students to gain hands-on learning experience working with diverse audiences, building and developing community partnerships, cross collaboration within Extension programs, and program management skills. Claudia's approach to mentorship is to encourage creativity and ownership of programs, teamwork and collaboration, and provide support and guidance to support student's professional growth.

CSU Faculty

We will reach out to agricultural education faculty Kelly Enns and Mike Martin to provide on campus mentoring.

Travel Funds

Travel funds will be available through Arapahoe County Extension.