

## 2021 CSU-Extension Internship Proposal

### Contacts:

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### Mentorship Team:

Katie Russell and Emily Lockard – CSU Southwest Colorado Research Center

Darrin Parmenter – Interim Director/Horticulture Agent for Southwest Colorado (San Juan Basin)

Susan Opp – Professor, Department of Political Sciences

### Location:

The Intern will serve primarily in Montezuma and Dolores Counties of the San Juan Basin region in Southwest Colorado. This unique area of the Four Corners of Colorado is rich in cultural heritage, agriculture lifestyles and natural beauty for outdoor enthusiasts.

### Internship Experience:

This internship will provide learning opportunities for an individual to gain real world experience in a variety of community engagement projects. These projects will have a focus in Community Food Systems, Food Security, and Rural Economic Development initiatives. In addition, there will be a strong emphasis in developing community partnerships with underserved populations in our area.

We expect this intern to develop useful community resource guides. These guides will assist in creating impactful collaborative community Extension programs. In addition, the guides will provide applied researched based information for Extension and Community partners to use as a road map to long-term community health and well-being. Furthermore, the guides will identify essential components to address how best Extension can assist community organizations to carry out our missions.

An intern should have strong skills in communication both written and orally; willingness to perform practical agricultural tasks; a genuine interest in rural communities and lifestyles; a respect for diverse audiences; the ability to be a self-starter and motivated.

The intern will work closely with multiple community stakeholders. This includes organizations that focus on community health and well-being for our indigenous lands and peoples. These connections will provide practical professional development opportunities.

This internship will provide an exciting opportunity for an individual to provide applied research to Extension offices in rural Colorado. The intern will gain real life experiences and knowledge of how Extension engages and implements programs that affects their communities.

### Housing and Travel

Affordable housing in the city of Cortez has been identified. Travel to and from the project locations and professional development opportunities will be covered through local Extension offices.