2022 Extension Summer Internship Program Abstract

“Career pathways for a local workforce”

Montezuma County Extension is excited to offer an internship to a passionate CSU student interested in Community and Economic Development. Montezuma County is located in rural SW Colorado and home to the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal reservation. The region is a tourist destination for its abundant cultural significant sites and outdoor recreational activities.

This dynamic internship will have the intern working directly on an impactful rural Community and Economic development initiative. Career pathways for a local workforce is an initiative of community stakeholders looking to provide the educational needs for a thriving economy. The initiative will engage and connect local industry, businesses and entrepreneurs with higher educational institutions in providing the training and skill building needs for a strong local workforce.

The internship will enhance the on-going partnership between the Extension office and Pueblo Community College Southwest Mancos campus with the goal of providing relevant and affordable access to education in rural Colorado. The intern will also collaborate with other key stakeholders such as Ute Mountain Ute Tribe Department of Higher Education, Homegrown Talent Initiative, Montezuma County Economic Development Team and Region 9 Economic Development district.

The internship will also allow an intern to explore and/or focus on sustainable food systems and agricultural business development. The agricultural community could greatly benefit on how upskilling educational programs best recruit, retain, enhance and expand agricultural operations in our area.

The intern will have a motivated mentorship team of campus faculty, Extension field staff and a community stakeholder to assist in gaining valuable experience and developing strong learning outcomes. CSU students should apply if they are interested in rural Community and Economic Development, Workforce Development, Food Systems and overall community building.