Evaluating and Growing Economic and Community Development Internship

The internship of Evaluating and Growing Economic and Community Development will have Aleigh Aurin with the Jackson County CSU Extension Office and Bill Shuster with the Management Department at CSU as the mentors. It will be taking place in Jackson County (Walden), Colorado. There will be assistance in finding and paying for housing. You will be working with the local CSU Extension Office, The County Commissioners, and local organizations.

Jackson County is a Frontier County that is desperately trying to maintain its way of life. The goal of the completed internship is to find a way to work with the community and share education, information, and ways to best listen clearly and accessibly to the community.

The internship goals for this project include:

Establishing systematic communication processes to enhance relationship development

Research communication and relationship development

The intern will work to find the best and most efficient ways to communicate and gain involvement from the community.

Through this the goal is to have a better understanding of these terms and be able to teach and apply the information to the stakeholders and community

Enhance critical thinking to best identify appropriate channels, people, and programs for engagement,

An intern would work on critical thinking through understanding the community, applying their knowledge, and what they have learned to be able to find the best way to communicate and grow the community.

Gain community involvement with rural initiatives to enhance community pride and create real value.

The student outcomes for this project would including learning critical thinking skills, working with a community, how to engage with various ages/ethnicities/economic classes/etc. Another important outcome will include learning the impact Extension has on a community, how we can help a community, and what we really do in a local office. The intern will also learn of the programs within Extension, including the rural initiatives program.