

North Santiam Canyon Economic Development Corporation

Community Profile:

Population 1,537

Location Mill City

Position Description:

Sponsor North Santiam Canyon Economic Development Corporation

Supervisor Mia Mohr

Assignment

The RARE participant will be responsible for starting a sustainable microenterprise program that will serve current and potential business owners in the North Santiam Canyon. The program will include outreach, training and technical assistance, business capital assistance, and long term sustainability. Outreach tasks will include an assessment to determine the current and future microenterprise facilitation needs and promotion of the program to community partners and potential beneficiaries. Training tasks will include identifying local business needs and developing workshops. The RARE participant will train entrepreneurs on personal effectiveness, economic literacy, and business skills such as developing a business plan, assessing entrepreneurial readiness, business financing, and e-commerce. Technical assistance tasks will involve one-on-one counseling to review business plans, assist with loan applications, and match new entrepreneurs with mentors for advice and support. Business capital assistance will include the development of a system to assist entrepreneurs access credit from financial institutions and partnering agencies. Long-term sustainability involves the identification of on-going funding opportunities for program support and sustainability. In addition, the RARE participant will be responsible for the networking and coordination of multiple project stakeholders.

Required Skills

The RARE participant will need to be a self-guided individual with some working knowledge of rural communities. The participant should also be familiar with microenterprise development or be a person who has owned or operated a small business.

RARE Member: *Rob Anderson - 2004-2005, Year 11 Participant*

Born in Enterprise, OR, Rob Anderson has a B.S. in Business Administration from Oregon State University. Rob served as an Americorps VISTA volunteer with the Chemeketa Small Business Development Center in Salem, OR. While in VISTA, Rob assisted with the design of a full service microenterprise program. Rob also served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Kapan, Armenia. He currently teaches English as a Second Language through the Chemeketa Community College Literacy Volunteers program.