Community Profile

Population 104,471 (Douglas County)
63,447 (Coos County)

Location Roseburg

Position Description

Sponsor Umpqua Community Development Corporation and the CORE Collaborative

Supervisor Tracy Cleverdon, MEDAL Program Manager

Assignment This is one of five RARE positions sponsored by the CORE Collaborative. CORE, which stands for Connecting Oregon for Rural Entrepreneurship, is a collaboration funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and spearheaded by Oregon’s Rural Development Initiatives. While each of the five RARE assignments will vary based on the needs of the specific communities, all CORE positions will share a focus on creating and sustaining entrepreneurship development systems in economically distressed target areas. In Coos and Douglas Counties, the RARE participant will work with the Umpqua Community Development Corporation on several projects including: organizing workshops and trainings; coordinating the Advisory Board; conducting media outreach; and providing technical assistance for entrepreneurs as appropriate. While local leaders and entrepreneurs will spearhead CORE’s regional efforts, a CORE Statewide Advisory Board will bring together diverse lessons learned to ultimately impact statewide policy change.

Required Skills The ideal participant would have strong organizational skills, be proficient in the use of Microsoft Office, and should be an effective communicator, both verbally and in writing. S/he should be creative and should take initiative, especially when planning and marketing events. Knowledge of business development and entrepreneurship would be desirable.

RARE Participant

Emily Wecks, a native of California who now lives and works in Douglas County OR, is currently working on a degree in human services from Umpqua Community College. Emily has lived in the Roseburg area since high school and knows the people and the places of Douglas County. Before joining the RARE program and the CORE collaborative, Emily was an intern with the Umpqua Community Development Corporation and is familiar with the organization’s programs and clients. She has had significant work and volunteer experience, and is interested in the community development field.