

Oregon Coast Community College (CORE)

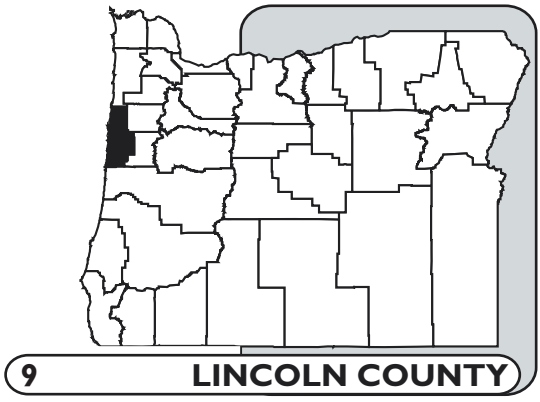
Community Profile

Population 44,000 (Lincoln County)

Location Newport

Position Description

Sponsor Oregon Coast Community College Small Business Development Center and the CORE Collaborative



Supervisor Guy Faust, Director,
Oregon Coast Community College Small Business Development Center

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 Lincoln County, the RARE participant will work on several projects including: a youth entrepreneurship program; a social entrepreneurship venture; investigating the creation of a two year Entrepreneurship Degree Program at the community college; an asset mapping effort; and the continued support of a local business incubator. 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 RARE participant needs strong organizational skills, people skills, and should be an effective communicator, both verbally and in writing. S/he should enjoy helping people, should be a motivated self-starter, and capable of implementing plans.

RARE Participant



Justin Overdeest

Justin Overdeest, a California native, received an undergraduate degree in business entrepreneurship from the University of Southern California, the only such program in the country. After graduation, Justin put his skills to work as a Peace Corps volunteer, first on the border of the Dominican Republic and Haiti where he worked on a variety of community development projects including: community reforestation projects; the development of solar panels and water filtration systems; animal husbandry; cultivating vegetable gardens; and creating handmade clay stoves and latrines. He then did a second Peace Corps term in the northern Andes of Peru, working specifically in health and small business, where he aided in the creation of a small non-profit organization based in a rural town of two thousand people. To join the RARE program, Justin forewent graduate school on the east coast in international development to pursue further experience in entrepreneurship development here in the United States.