

2014 Summer Internship Program

The “Summer Internship Program” is completing their second successful year in Erie County with three interns being employed by Erie County non-profit organizations. The program was started with the idea to introduce Erie County students to working in the non-profit corporate world and to attempt to have these same students remain in Erie County. In 2013 two of the three student interns are still employed by their host site organizations.

This 2014 summer internship program was made possible as the result of grants from the Sam S. and Rose Stein Foundation, the Wightman-Wieber Foundation, the Murray and Murray Charitable Foundation, and The Erie County Community Foundation. Total grants received totaled \$11,500.00. Add this amount to a carryover from 2013 of \$5,383.50 and this program will carryover \$4,803.50 to 2015 with a goal of adding additional interns in the coming future.

The internship committee selected three Erie County organizations as host sites. They were The Erie County Health Department, City of Sandusky Recreation Department, and Ability Works. These host sites were each given two applicants which they then interviewed and made their final selection. The three interns were from three different Erie County high schools and are students at University of Dayton, Ohio Wesleyan, and Boston University.

The Erie County Health Department selected Timothy Cutler from Perkins as their intern. Tim’s duties were working with the Community Health Division in helping with the WIC program, Disaster Preparedness, Community Disease program, and Food and Nutrition Summer program. Tim also helped with various summer programs such as Day with Dad, Back to School, and the Community Gardens.

The Sandusky City Recreation Department selected Kaitlyn Eckert from Margaretta as their intern. Her duties included running the Coaster Classic Softball Tournament, the Monday Evening Outdoor Movies, overseeing the playground programs and help in the office management of Mills Creek Golf Course. Kaitlyn also helped out with about 30 summer camps of varying size.

Ability Works selected Bethany Zettler of Edison. Bethany’s responsibilities were in overseeing the work program that Ability Works has with Kalahari in which the participants work as servers, clean up, and tear down after events. She also developed the Sibling Relationship Program which aided the handicapped sibling with separation from their brother/sister due to marriage, leaving for college, and/or having children of their own.

With two years under our belt, the internship committee has learned a lot and will be upgrading our processes as we desire to improve the participants’ experiences and increase the numbers in the coming years.