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Community Engagement

Spring 2015

Courtney DeRocher - YWCA of Black Hawk County

Courtney DeRocher
University of Northern Iowa

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Courtney DeRocher - YWCA of Black Hawk County

Robert and Yvonne Koob Fund for Student Community Engagement

Instructions: Please work with your internship supervisor to fill out this form. Once completed, return to Julianne Gassman [redacted]

Name: Courtney DeRocher

Agency: YWCA of Black Hawk County

Intern's Phone Number and E-mail Address

[redacted] [redacted]

Organization Contact Person and Phone

Cyndi Ritter

[redacted]

Academic Advisor Person and Phone

Angie Widner

[redacted]

Future Plans for student:

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

What did you accomplish during your internship?

My internship at the YWCA provided a full range of opportunities for me to be a part of. I was able to plan and facilitate multiple programs such as Young Parents Together, Parents Achieving Success with Support, and Wize Girlz. I was also able to plan a conference for over 130 middle school girls in the community called the Young Women on the Move conference. This conference was my biggest time commitment while at my internship and I was able to learn a lot from it.

How did the internship benefit the student?

As the student, I was able to benefit in many ways through this internship. I was provided a lot of hands on experiences involving planning for programs and facilitating programs. I was also able to build confidence while working with the different groups. Being able to plan the Young Women on the Move Conference helped me a great deal in my organizational and leadership skills.

How did the internship benefit the agency?

The internship benefited the agency because the intern was able to work on tasks they may not have had time to work on themselves. The intern was able to put a lot of time and effort into the Young Women on the Move Conference working on many of the behind the scenes tasks. There was a lot of work done involving recruiting volunteers, contacting speakers, collecting donations, and gathering all of the participant information from the school counselors.

How does the internship benefit the community?

The YWCA provides many great programs that reach out to the community. The intern was able to help implement these programs and help them be a success. Some of the programs that reach out to the community include programs like Young Parents Together, Parents Achieving Success with Support, and Wise Girlz. These are just a few of the programs offered at the YWCA that I have helped with as the intern to help reach out and benefit the community.

(Student to complete) One quote that describes the experience gained from completing this internship (to be used for promotional materials; please specify author of quote)?

“Being a part of the YWCA as an intern in the Youth and Family Services department, I have been able to gain skills and knowledge through the hands on experience I have been a part of. This experience has played a great role in providing a solid foundation for the start of my future career.” –Courtney DeRocher

(Intern supervisor to complete) One quote that describes the impact the intern had on the community (to be used for promotional materials; please specify author of quote)?

“Such determination and dedication proves more than giving back to the community—it’s lending oneself to make a change one day at a time.” –Dina Plum

Please provide a reproducible photo of the intern in action at their internship for media purposes.



Courtney with some of the Wize Girlz participants at a UNI women’s basketball game.