



2021 SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DECLARES PROJECT HOPE WEEKS

On Tuesday, June 15th, K/PACEDC interns along with Director Maureen Elbert presented a declaration to the Board of Supervisors from Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties asking them to proclaim the weeks of June 21st-July 2nd as Project Hope Weeks.

Project Hope aims to help provide children, teens, and adults in need with care packages containing personal hygiene items. These items going to those rescued from unaccommodating homes will greatly benefit them and provide opportunities.

Dylan Berte, Madelyn Cink, Ben Degen, Elyse Gabor, and Grayson Rowlet were the interns who presented the declaration to the Kossuth Supervisors. After the presentation, the Supervisors were proud to officially decree the weeks of June 21st-July 2nd as Project Hope Weeks.

This proclamation is vital, as it spreads county-wide awareness on an official level which will help garner further support of the project. We would like to sincerely thank both the Kossuth and Palo Alto Boards of Supervisors for supporting Project Hope. Their willingness to proclaim Project Hope Weeks exemplifies their care for the Project and the children it comforts. We would also like to thank every business and individual donor who supports Project Hope. On behalf of all the interns, we would like you to know that your generosity and support will make a difference!

-Grayson Rowlet, City of Bancroft



Pictured above: the interns with the Kossuth Co. Board of Sup. Interns back row from left to right: Elyse Gabor, Grayson Rowlet, Ben Degen, Madelyn Cink, and Dylan Berte. Board of Sup. Members front row from left to right: Kyle Stecker, Galen Casey, Donnie Loss, Jack Plathe, Roger Tjarks.

PROJECT HOPE

Project Hope is an annual service project providing hope and comfort to children, teens, and adults who are in need of assistance. Overseen by Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation, the Kossuth/Palo Alto interns run the community service project, working hard to organize, package, and deliver items to those in need. The packages containing essential personal hygiene items are delivered to Kossuth and Palo Alto Law Enforcements, schools, and human service departments for them to distribute to those in need.

On June 15, 2021, five interns gathered in front of the Kossuth Board of Supervisors requesting to establish Project Hope Weeks from June 21 to July 2. After receiving approval from the Board of Supervisors, the K/PACEDC was busy gathering donations of personal hygiene items from community members and local businesses. Interns even set up a stand at Party in the Park in Algona on June 29th in order to collect personal hygiene items and bring more awareness to Project Hope in both counties. The items that were donated include shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, razors, and shaving cream. Those interested in contributing were also able to make cash donations with the money being used to purchase hygiene items that were needed to fill the bags. Through the donations of generous community members, Project Hope can provide relief to people in need. Once all personal hygiene items were collected, the Kossuth/Palo Alto finished bags were then delivered to local departments, on behalf of all the interns and the Kossuth/Palo Alto for your continued support and generous donations



Pictured: The Interns dropping off Project Hope Bags at the Algona Police Station (above) & Palo Alto Sheriff Department (below).



County Interns organized and packaged all items. The organizations, and schools to assist those in need. On County Economic Development Corporation, thank you for Project Hope. **-Elyse Gabor, Algona Advance**



SECRETS TO SUCESS WITH BRENDA CLARK HAMILTION

First impressions are everything. "Studies show that, once a negative first impression has been made, it takes seven additional positive encounters to overcome their initial, negative impression of us." Such an astounding fact may panic most people upon hearing it, but throughout preparation and awareness, negative first impressions can be avoided entirely and you can find yourself on the path to success. Questions about how to gain more respect, how to avoid being underestimated, and even how to achieve a more positive response from others can all be answered through key components regarding professionalism. On Tuesday, June 2, Brenda Clark Hamilton, who is a professional speaker, shared her knowledge on business etiquette and proper first impressions with interns from the K/PACEDC Intern Program.

Brenda Clark Hamilton is a professional speaker with *Fresh Coffee* Professional Growth Programs, who gives over 100 speeches a year to various companies, groups, and organizations. Her main focus was informing the interns of the three ways that make someone professional: their appearance, their behaviors, and their attitude.

First covered at the meeting was the impact professional attire has in various settings, both in and out of the workplace. Considering, "seventy percent of the executives responding to a national survey agreed that workplace attire affects an employee's state of mind and behavior. Two-thirds agreed that employees who wear more professional attire advance faster in their careers," a quote from Susan Moren's book, *How To Gain the Professional Edge*, that Brenda shared with the interns which cues in on the importance of how you are dressed in the workplace. The best way to show you do not care is by creating a sloppy, inattentive look that does not adhere to professional attire standards. Brenda shared that by considering professional guidelines and presenting yourself with a cleaned up, groomed, and intentful look, you will set yourself up for professional success.

Besides the right attire, Brenda stressed the impact behavior holds in the workplace as well. Doing a thorough job in the workplace is the perfect place to start, through active listening skills, following through on your tasks, and simply keeping a neat workspace. A large amount of professional behavior has to do with how you handle your image even outside of work. Brenda relayed a story of a top job candidate who was turned away after an employers heard his immature voicemail for his cell phone number.

Tying into professional behavior, obtaining the right attitude also affects workplace success. Having a positive, approachable attitude, Brenda indicated, creates a likable employee. Avoiding complaining and not talking down about tasks you are asked to do are also key components to setting yourself up for a successful career. The interns were able to take these concepts back to their own workplaces.

Brenda Clark Hamilton was able to give the interns numerous essential insights on first impressions, professional wardrobes, and business etiquette. All of the skills amount to providing a solid base not only at an intern level, but for the rest of the interns' careers. The interns are extremely grateful to Brenda for taking the time to share her knowledge and expertise in the professional world.

-Reese Rosenmeyer, K/PACEDC

Pictured: The Interns listening to Brenda Clark Hamilton as she explains what appropriate work place attire looks like.



What Is Your Business Attire IQ?

See if you are a master of professional workplace attire and participate in the same quiz the interns took!

Directions: Order the following types of business dress from most professional (#1) to most casual (#10).

Women...

- ___ Slacks with sweater
- ___ Business dress with or without sweater
- ___ Two-piece matching skirted suit
- ___ Business dress with jacket
- ___ Slacks with blouse/top and jacket
- ___ Two-piece matching pantsuit
- ___ Casual pants with casual shirt or sweater
- ___ Slacks with blouse or sweater set
- ___ Skirt with blouse or sweater set
- ___ Skirt with blouse/top and jacket

Men...

- ___ Slacks with shirt and tie
- ___ Slacks with sweater
- ___ Slacks with shirt, tie, and blazer
- ___ Slacks, shirt, and sport coat
- ___ Casual pants with sweater
- ___ Casual pants with short-sleeved shirt
- ___ Two-piece matching suit, shirt, and tie
- ___ Slacks with shirt, tie, and sport coat
- ___ Slacks with shirt, tie, and sweater
- ___ Casual pants with long-sleeved shirt



SEEKING PROFESSIONAL GROWTH: REAL COLORS CLASS

Have you ever wondered what color you are? Maybe you have a GOLD personality because you love being organized and in control. Maybe you're an ORANGE because you are relaxed and like to go with the flow. The "Real Colors Class" that the interns attended taught them about how their personality relates to one of four colors: GOLD, GREEN, ORANGE, and BLUE. The class also provided insight on how to recognize different color traits in others and work with each personality.

On Tuesday June 8th, interns gathered at the Kossuth County Election Center to discover what their personality color was. Our speaker, Patti Guenther, got to know everyone's name before we got started. Before beginning, she had everyone do an exercise on assumptions. We wrote a fact on a notecard that no one should know, and then Guenther took the cards to mix up and redistribute among us. We then had to go around and find the person who the card belonged to. We learned that you cannot just make assumptions about people, we need to actually get to know them. Once everyone was seated, she explained the purpose behind this activity, gave an explanation on what we were going to do during the class, handed out the quiz, and off we went determining what color we were!

In the handout, the interns had four different colored cards. They were first asked to start on the picture side and order them from most to least like them. Next, the interns were asked to do the same thing for the description side of the card. Then everyone was asked to take a final questionnaire. After a short quiet period where everyone was diligently working on the questionnaire, everyone was asked to tally up all of the points from the three parts which gave the much-anticipated results!

After going through the Color's process, we found out what our fellow interns were. This was a challenging process to really help determine our colors, how we interact with others and know our color could change as we enter the workforce full time. Our group had diverse results, but the largest group were the BLUE's whose personality consisted of individuals who are caring, compassionate, sympathetic, and supportive. We had a tie of GOLD and GREEN personalities. A GOLD personality would be a very detailed, organized, consistent person who can be very predictable since they do not like change. Now, a GREEN personality would be someone who is always curious, love efficiency, prefer to be on their own, and are very analytical. Out of our entire group, we only had one ORANGE personality, which would be the go-with-the-flow, fun, spontaneous people. Now, everyone has a little bit of each color in them, but individuals do tend to gravitate towards their primary and sometimes even a secondary color.

Every person present at this class at least learned more about themselves if not more about their fellow peers. The "Real Colors Class" allows for individuals to get to better know themselves and understand why they are the way they are. Interns can definitely use the skills learned in this class to help further understand family, friends, and even co-workers to create a better environment for all. Thank you, Patti Guenther!

-Lily Hill, Kossuth County Extension

Pictured on the middle right photo from left to right during an ice breaker at the session are: Hope Dohlman, Tyler Rozema, Grayson Rowlet, Trisha Rightman, Luke Fevold, Elyse Gabor, Reese Rosenmeyer, Anna Berke, Patti Guenther, Morgan Schmidt, Lily Hill, and Elizabeth Holm.

Pictured on the bottom right are Interns Morgan Schmidt, Lily Hill, and Elyse Gabor taking the quiz to determine their color personality.



Pictured Above: Patti Guenther describing the different types of color personalities.



MANAGE YOUR MONEY

Thank you!

From all of the Kossuth/ Palo Alto 2021 Summer Interns, thank you to all of the Kossuth & Palo Alto Businesses for providing this Summer Intern Program.

On Tuesday, July 13th, the K/PACEDC Interns were given the opportunity to hear from Tascha Wyckoff and Sean Noonan from Farmers State Bank regarding the importance of making wise financial decisions as young adults.

The main topic for this skill building session revolved around credit. Tascha spoke over a variety of topics such as: what a credit report is, information in one's credit report, how one's credit affects their financial relationship with banks when it comes time to purchase a car or house, how to build and maintain one's score, and more. Tascha ended her presentation by stating how good credit leads to a happy and successful life. Her professional advice was able to give interns a better understanding as to how their decisions today can either help or hinder their success later in life.

Tascha and Sean concluded the session with words of caution regarding Identity Theft. They warned about the dangers that can accompany Identity Theft as well the ease that it can occur in the modern age. In conclusion, they offered tips on what we as young adults can do to help safeguard our identity now and, in the future, such as shredding papers with personal information before throwing the papers away. The interns were able to learn many important and essential tools from Tascha and Sean that will assist them throughout their financial journey!

-Luke Fevold, EPS

Pictured to the left: Group Photo at the Manage Your Money event. Front row (left to right): Madelyn Cink, Anna Berke, Lily Hill. Back row (left to right): Luke Fevold, Dylan Berte, Tascha Wyckoff (Farmers State Bank), Reese Rosenmeyer, Grayson Rowlet, Sean Noonan (Farmers State Bank).



INTERN GOLF OUTING EVENT



On Friday, June 11th, the 2021 summer interns competed against each other in a 9 hole, 4-person best shot golf tournament. There were interns from businesses around Kossuth and Palo Alto counties, as well as their CEO's who joined in on a day full of golf, fun, and food! This year's golf outing was held at the North Kossuth Golf Club in Bancroft. Since the golf outing did not take place last year due to Covid-19, there was certainly a nice comeback turn out. The event started with a warm welcome and thanks given to the supporting businesses. The gifts, prizes and other items were donated to Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation from companies in the surrounding area. The interns were given drawstring bags filled with snacks, lip balm, a towel, hat, and golf balls to help them throughout the day.

As everyone finished up their nine-hole round for the day, the CEO's and interns were invited back to the clubhouse where lunch was provided. Everyone enjoyed grilled hamburgers and chips. While people were finishing their delicious meals, awards were honored and given out for the longest drive and the longest putt. The friendly competition was between both men and women to see which interns had the most impressive golf skills. The longest drive for men was awarded to Grayson Rowlet, an intern from the City of Bancroft. The men's longest putt was awarded to Luke Fevold, an intern from EPS. Morgan Schmidt from New Cooperative was awarded with the longest drive for women and the women's longest putt winner was Hope Dohman from Smithfield Foods. Awarded with the lowest team score of 35 was the group with interns Grayson Rowlet and Morgan Schmidt. Three teams tied for the highest score of 39 which included interns Anna Berke, Reese Rosenmeyer, Lily Hill, Chris Conlon, Jace Pringnitz, Livia Miller, and Laurel Degen. Each Intern received a gift bag filled with prizes donated from local businesses.

Although the day started off windy, both the CEO's and interns ended up enjoying a beautiful day on the golf course filled with fun and friendly competition. The event was a perfect way for interns to connect and build relationships with area CEO's and Supervisors from local companies. This day would not have been possible without the support from Kossuth and Palo Alto County area businesses. The 2021 Interns would like to extend a huge thank you to all sponsors for their continuous support. We are looking forward to the rest of the 2021 summer intern program.

-Anna Berke, K/PACEDC Intern



2021 SUMMER **INTERN ROSTER**

ALGONA PUBLISHING

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ALUMA

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CENTRAL FINANCIAL

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CIY OF BANCROFT

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Livia Miller

Jace Pringnitz

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Elizabeth Holm

Travis Massner

EPS

Luke Fevold

FARMERS STATE BANK

Madelyn Cink

IOWA STATE BANK

Chris Conlon

KOSSUTH COUNTY

ENGINEER'S OFFICE

Ben Degen

Dylan Berte

KOSSUTH COUNTY

EXTENSION OFFICE

Lily Hill

K/PACEDC

Anna Berke

Reese Rosenmeyer

NEW COOPERATIVE BODE

Morgan Schmidt

SMITHFIELD FOODS

Tyler Rozema

Hope Dohlman

STATELINE COOPERATIVE

Braden Brown

Weston Long

Andrew Benken

Brett Doege

2021 K/PAEDC Interns &
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Through Covid-19"**

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Pharmacists Mutual Companies/

PMC Advantage Insurance Services

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Snap-on

Spa-Dee-Dah, too

Stateline Cooperative

The Market

Threads

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