Mid-Columbia Economic Development District

Community Profile
County Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Oregon; Klickitat and Skamania, Washington
City The Dalles
Population 2,474

Description
Sponsor Mid-Columbia Economic Development District
Supervisor Amanda Hoey

Assignment The Mid-Columbia Economic Development District was established in 1969 by its five member counties who realized that by sharing a common workforce, a common geography and a number of other important factors, their economic fates were tied together. They realized that by joining together they would benefit from better access to economic development loans and grants, pooled technical assistance, marketing, and administrative resources, and most importantly, they would be able to bring a regional approach to their economic development efforts. Over the years Mid-Columbia Economic Development District’s membership has grown to include cities, ports and chambers of commerce within the five county region.

The RARE participant placed with the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District will act as the District’s representative and point-person helping to rollout the Agora Investment Platform. The Agora Investment Platform enables community leaders to navigate the funding system much more efficiently. The RARE participant’s primary function will be to enhance community capacity for project development and funding with use of the newly developed Agora Investment Platform. Specifically, the participant will support community leaders in their identification of projects and articulation of projects in a way that multiple funders can quickly grasp.

Meet Margaret Hanna
Margaret received her Bachelor of Arts in History and Urban Studies from Trinity University. As a student, she strived to comprehend the world of transportation, water use, mapping, health and education, and real estate in order to better understand how the ranch she grew up on might continue to exist in the ever-developing Front Range of Colorado. After graduating from Trinity University, Maggie served as an El Pomar Foundation Fellow where she worked in northeastern Colorado as well as in the Pikes Peak region on regional councils, helping distribute $400,000 in grants to rural nonprofits and government entities. Following her year with the RARE Program, Margaret plans on attaining a graduate degree in the planning and community development field and ultimately returning to the family ranch.