League of Oregon Cities

Community Profile

Population  Statewide, cities of less than 5,000

Location  Based in Salem, working statewide in cities of less than 5,000

Position Description

Sponsor  League of Oregon Cities

Supervisor  Jennie Messmer, Member Services Director

Assignment  The RARE participant will primarily work as the coordinator of the Small Cities Support Network, working with the 168 small cities in Oregon with populations of 5,000 or fewer. In this capacity, the participant will work to expand the network and coordinate resource and information sharing between cities in their region and across the state. The RARE participant will also help develop the work/extension plan of each Small Cities Region. The participant will engage in discussions with Small City participants regarding the success and continued improvement of the program during the placement period.

Required Skills  The RARE participant should have strong written and verbal communication skills, as well as strong organizational skills. The participant should have the ability to manage several projects and programs and should also be able to work well independently and with little direction. The participant should have experience coordinating meetings, strong computer skills, and be comfortable with significant amounts of travel.

RARE Participant

Kristin Chatfield grew up in northern Idaho, mostly in a town with no traffic light. Her taste for adventure took her to Randolph-Macon Woman’s College in Lynchburg, VA, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in International Studies with a concentration in Economics. She was able to spend a year studying in Europe, and while she loved the big cities, her travels only intensified her interest in planning and rural issues. Before coming to Oregon, Kristin was part of a Rural Recovery Task Force where she wrote grants on behalf of homeowners as well as collected personal stories from communities in Louisiana affected by Hurricane Rita. Kristin is in her second year as a RARE participant serving with the League of Oregon Cities.