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MORRIS

Contact:

Melissa Vangsness, Director of Communications
Phone: [320-589-6414](tel:320-589-6414), melissav@morris.umn.edu

Jenna Ray, Editor/Writer
Phone: [320-589-6068](tel:320-589-6068), jrray@morris.umn.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[Center for Small Towns Seeks Proposals for Community-Based Projects](#)

MORRIS, Minnesota (July 22, 2016)—The University of Minnesota, Morris Center for Small Towns (CST) seeks proposals for community-based projects. Projects employ the skills of University students, staff, and faculty to provide comprehensive services to small communities, connecting community partners to resources within the University of Minnesota system and throughout the state.

CST works closely with community-oriented groups like nonprofits, K–12 schools, and local government units to identify, understand, and initiate action on specific needs, pressing issues, and emerging trends that impact rural Minnesota. All CST projects incorporate undergraduate student interns, providing opportunities for Morris students to engage with and contribute to small communities. Previous projects have addressed issues such as housing, youth development, local food systems, community diversity, arts and culture, sustainability, and more.

CST activities, including community-based projects, are supported, in part, by a grant from the Otto Bremer Trust. Additional projects are implemented under the auspices of the Connecting Students and Communities (CSC) Program, a collaborative effort between CST and the [University of Minnesota Central and Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships \(RSDP\)](#).

All project applications are due Monday, August 15. Preference will be given to applicants that are able to provide a financial match to help offset the cost of student wages and travel expenses. To apply online visit z.umn.edu/projectapp. For more information or assistance, or to request a paper application, contact Program Coordinators Kerri Barnstuble at [320-589-6467](tel:320-589-6467) or kbarnstu@morris.umn.edu or Kelly Asche at [320-589-6453](tel:320-589-6453) or kasche@morris.umn.edu.

About CST

CST is a community outreach program housed at the University of Minnesota, Morris and serves as a point-of-entry to the resources of the University of Minnesota. Small towns, local units of government, K–12 schools, nonprofit organizations, and other University units are able to utilize CST’s resources as they work on rural issues or make contributions to rural society. CST’s mission is to focus the University’s attention and marshal its resources toward assisting Minnesota’s small towns with locally identified issues while creating applied learning opportunities for faculty and students.

About RSDP

The University of Minnesota Central and Southwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships foster community sustainability through citizen-driven University partnerships and sustainable development projects in agriculture-food systems, clean energy, natural resources, and tourism-resilient communities.

[View this story electronically.](#)

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at morris.umn.edu or call 888-866-3382.

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