Are you interested in entrepreneurship, economic development, banking, and resilience? This is an excellent opportunity for you to intern with the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (NCRCRD), based at the College of Agriculture, Department of Agricultural Economics, on the project focused on the interrelatedness of rural businesses, farms, and community banks! We are looking for students from any major that have excellent analytical and communication skills and an interest in research and Extension.

Research & Extension Internship

We are looking for a qualified Intern who will participate in the research and Extension project assessing the role of small business/farm’s personal relationships with community banks in rural Indiana.

Essential duties and functions

The successful applicant will:

- Write an academic literature review on business resilience, rural banking, and social interlinkages;
- Gather secondary data and assist in developing data snapshots on small entrepreneurship and economy on county-level using various data resources;
- Collaborate with team members to develop and implement a small business/farm’s online survey;
- Assist in developing key informant interviews with community bank representatives;
- Assist in analyzing the survey and interview data;
- Contribute to drafting a final report.

Expected skills and abilities

Must possess required knowledge, skills, abilities, and experience and be able to explain and demonstrate that the essential functions of the job can be performed, including:

- Experience using computers and related software (Excel, PowerPoint, Qualtrics, etc.);
- Data analysis, especially involving quantitative and qualitative data;
- Ability to identify variables and utilize various resources to gather data;
- Ability to establish databases to maintain or track data;
- Ability to contribute to research documents;
- Effective planning and organizing skills;
- Effective in oral and written communication.

This Research & Extension Internship will start on or after March 1st, 2021, and end on February 28th, 2022. The work schedule will be up to 10 hours a week at $10/hr., depending on schedule and availability. Interns will have access to training, mentorship from experienced researchers and Extension professionals, and an opportunity to conduct and publish research.

Application: Please send a one-page letter of interest and up-to-date resume to Dr. Zuzana Bednarikova (zbednari@purdue.edu).