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**Jr. COSTEP Summer 2014**  
**East Central University**  
**Billings Area Office**  
**Billings, Montana**

I am currently participating in a Jr. COSTEP internship in Billings Montana. I am employed through the Commission Corps and detailed to the Indian Health Service. When I arrived I talked with my supervisor Joe Amiotte and we set up my schedule for my internship and also picked a project for me to complete and present before I left.

My project was to conduct two seatbelt surveys one for Fort Washakie, which is the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone tribe in Wyoming, and one for the Blackfeet Tribe in Browning Montana. The seat belt survey in Fort Washakie was already started so I just needed to complete the actual surveys. I stayed in Lander Wyoming for a week and helped with the completion of the surveys. The outcome was about 26% of the members on the reservation wore their seatbelt. The Browning seatbelt survey had not been implemented yet so I led a group of volunteers to start and finish the Complete North Carolina Protocol Seatbelt Survey for Browning. Things didn't go as smooth as planned but I managed to finish the seat belt survey with the results being an 18.6% usage rate.

During my internship I also helped with a rabies clinic for the Crow Reservation. The rabies clinic was 3 days long and we averaged about 100 dogs per day. I witnessed a pretty large dog fight and also noticed the rarity of leashes on the reservation. I enjoyed talking to the people of the Crow Tribe, they were very nice and appreciated that we were giving free rabies vaccinations to help keep their dogs and family safe.

When in the field I mostly performed food booth inspections for the Crow Native days Pow Wow, Blackfeet North American Indian Days Pow Wow and Crow Fair Pow Wow. Crow Native days had about 12 different food vendors in a circle around a pavilion. The first two days I stayed with my partner learned how to properly give a food booth inspection. The main electricity for the food vendors was not working very well so there were many cold holding temperature problems. The solution for this particular case was to have someone working for that particular food booth to get bags of ice and place them on each shelf of the refrigerator. The North American Indian Days in Browning Montana was a smaller pow wow but had more events on the fairgrounds. There were about 10 vendors that surrounded the pavilion in Browning. The biggest problem that we saw during this pow wow was waste water issues. There was not a designated place to dump grey water so vendors were dumping their grey water next to their food booth. There were people walking through the grey water and dogs that were drinking from the puddles of grey water. Also some vendors were dumping in or near eating areas and cooking areas. The solution for this problem was to talk to the tribal leader for the pow wow and worked out a plan to try and have somebody haul a barrel to the pow wow grounds for grey water, and have the grey water transported to the nearest sewage pumping station daily.

I have enjoyed my experience with the Indian Health Service and would like to work with the Commissioned Corps and the Indian Health Service. I will be relieved of my duties August 29<sup>th</sup> and will go back to Oklahoma and hope for the best in my pursuit of a career for the Indian Health Service.