

## Why are we doing this work?

To help students and their families overcome rural poverty

## What is the challenge?

### Schools

Pathway  
Definitions

Academic  
Readiness

Student/ Family  
Awareness

### Employers

Ensuring ROI if  
they invest in  
student training

Lack of:  
Understanding  
of law around  
internships

Understanding  
around Explorer  
Programs

Ready-made  
investment  
program

## Why is this the right work for rural education?

- ❖ Gives students access to internships, jobs, and post-secondary education that otherwise would not be accessible
- ❖ Medical careers are a viable way to make a living in rural America
- ❖ Cost of living is less in rural America
- ❖ Demand is high (see Governor's Plan 2.0)
  - Fast Growing Sector/Known Shortages
  - Skills are Transferrable
- ❖ Diversity of jobs in the field has broad appeal
- ❖ There are already 54 sector partners
- ❖ 45%+ minority students (SC & SFT BOCES)
- ❖ 19%+ students in poverty (SC & SFT BOCES)
- ❖ Rural college enrollment rate 27% less than metro or suburban areas

## Theory of Change:

Middle School STEM Exposure ⇒ High School Academic Prep via district & employer engagement ⇒ Early College/Internships/Explorer Programs/CTE Course Credential Acquisition ⇒ Job Placement & Continued Education



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# Education Summit

College and Career Readiness



## Next Steps:

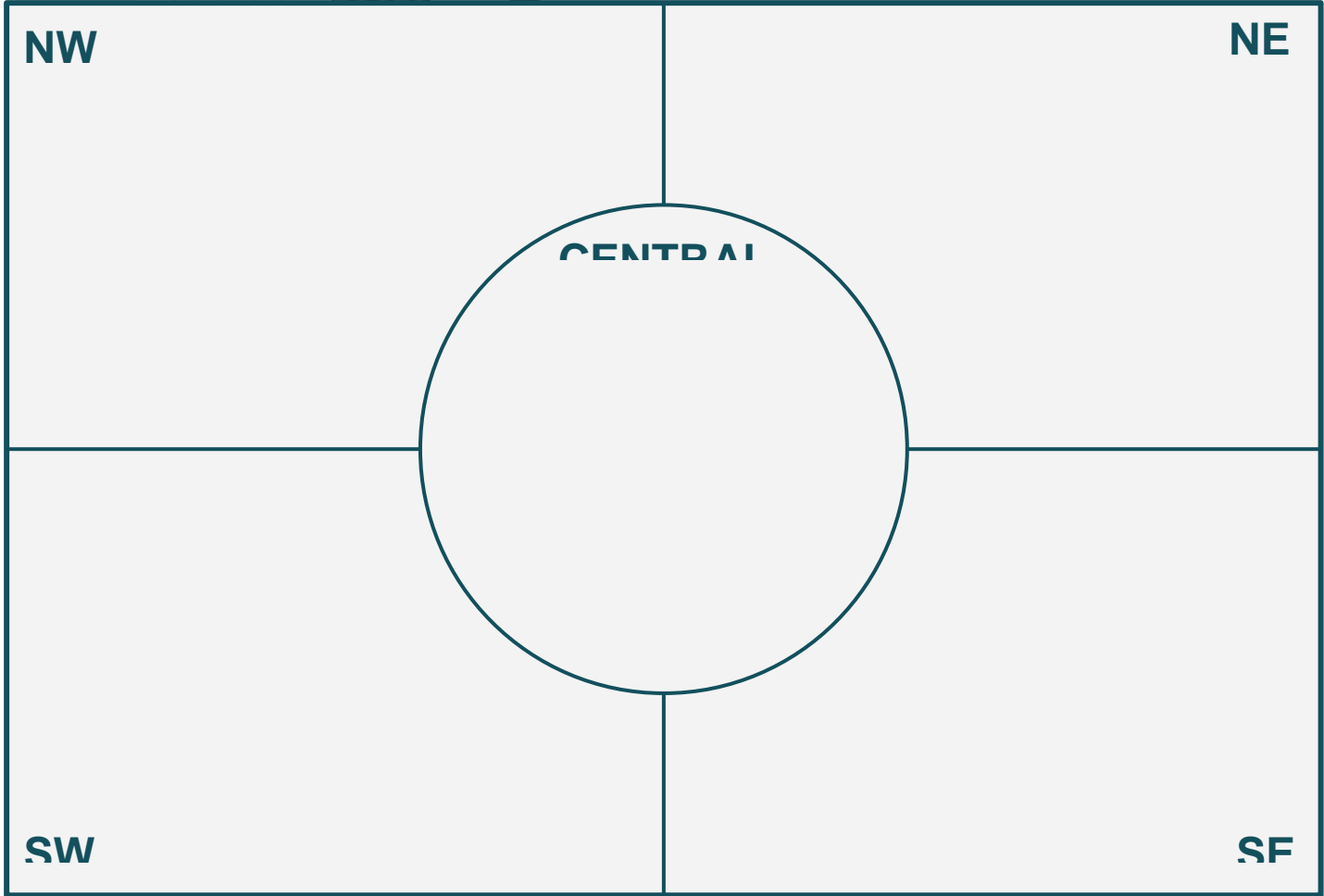
1. Map out what is happening across the state and what could lend to this effort at the Rural Summit.
2. Secure funding for program development.
3. Assign [AmeriCorps staff](#) (August 2017)
4. Clarify law around student internships and explorer programs for sector partners.
5. Create sponsorship program for sector partners with student requirements to mitigate risk
6. Map pathways in SFT and SC BOCES geography and fill-in gaps with higher ed, CO Digital Learning Solutions, etc.

## Expected Outcomes:

- ❖ 30-40 students (10% of combined graduating class) from the SFT and SC BOCES obtain a medical credential and are earning a living-wage job and meeting the needs of medical employers

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**What is already happening across Colorado?**

**Breakout Session Notes**



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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Student Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Soft skill development</li> <li>● Internships</li> <li>● Apprenticeships</li> <li>● Bio-Med program through PLTW</li> <li>● Career classes</li> <li>● CTE courses</li> <li>● Agriculture education</li> <li>● Adams State Nursing Scholarships (San Luis Valley)</li> <li>● World Language Day</li> <li>● Pathways with Pueblo CC</li> <li>● Vocational Cert for HS students on 5<sup>th</sup> day (location?)</li> <li>● USFC Internships local contractors</li> <li>● AHEC Career Exploration Day</li> <li>● CU Pre-Health Day</li> <li>● On-line Licensure</li> <li>● I-CAP</li> <li>● Community College partnerships</li> <li>● Workforce Development Council</li> <li>● Concurrent Enrollment</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenges for students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Soft skill development</li> <li>● Essential skills</li> <li>● Not knowing local workforce needs</li> <li>● Problem- solving skills</li> <li>● Clear pathways/opportunities</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Employer Opportunities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CCE courses with 9-12 HS instructors</li> <li>● Econ Development Council</li> <li>● Life-skills</li> <li>● Web-based learning</li> <li>● Job search assistance</li> <li>● Arkansas Valley Manufacturing</li> <li>● Physics</li> <li>● Businesses come to visit schools and interact with students</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenges for employers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Differing vocabularies - Internships and onboarding</li> <li>● Reaching youth/schools to fill needs</li> <li>● Digital literacy challenge</li> <li>● Reconciling investment &amp; ROI</li> </ul>



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### The Valley

- [Adams State University Internships](#) Service learning guest speakers and job shadowing
- [Reach your Peak](#) - CMC and NWCC and Colo Mesa U
- Teacher Prep
- FFA program Welding and Animal Husbandry
- Family members contribute
- Essential skills taught by Job Corps to build community relations
- Hiring Career Ed course for HS

### How Do We Bridge the Gap?

- Apprenticeships and Internships
- Real life Experience in career fields
- Sector partnerships
- Colorado Workforce Council
- I-CAP
- Community College enrollment