



# Spring 2020 Internship

with the Valley Alliance of Worker Co-operatives

“dedicated to building a sustainable local economy by facilitating the support, development and promotion of worker co-operatives in Western Massachusetts and Southern Vermont”

## VAWC Data Collection

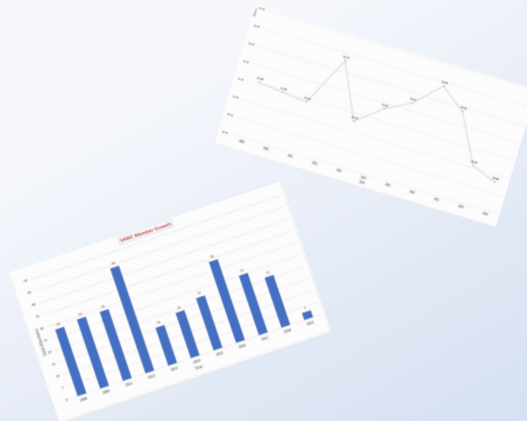
Interning for VAWC this semester has allowed me to exercise, and gain more experience with, data collection and data analysis. While collecting data I found that I was also building communication skills. I was able to communicate with VAWC members and co-ops throughout the whole process of compiling data.

One of my main projects this semester was to curate a series of data sets for VAWC co-ops and their statistics over the years.

These data sets were then used to analyze the progress VAWC has had over the years as a whole.



To give visuals to the numbers, I was also able create different graphs to present at the annual conference.



## Establishing Interco-operative Relations with Credit Unions



As I have experience with working for a couple credit unions and having knowledge of the functions and dynamics of credit unions, Adam thought it would be neat to initiate interco-operative relationships between VAWC and a few local credit unions.

This project allowed me to learn more about how to design, propose and, launch ideas.

To begin this project, I researched and gathered contacts from many local credit unions surrounding Western, MA and Southern, VT.

Adam and I then came up with a few ideas for collaborations with credit unions and co-ops.

This included an idea of establishing scholarship opportunities or a scholarship fund, for education in cooperatives.

We were also looking to explore a collaboration with UMass Five CU and their BuzzPoints program. This program could be used to benefit both the credit union and

participating co-ops.

