Student Internship – Gateway Lodge & Inn/ Black Bear Cabin

The Need:
The Gateway Lodge & Inn and the Black Bear Cabins both owned and operated by the same person not only had accumulated a number of IT projects they hoped a student would complete for them they also had a very deep seeded need for an improved Broadband connection.

The PennTAP Connection:
Early in 2012, PennTAP specialist received a call from DCED with a referral from Senator Mary Jo White’s office to the Gateway Lodge. Gateway Lodge was in desperate need of a broadband upgrade.

The Project:
PennTAP and Gateway Lodge worked to determine the best route for Gateway and Black Bear Cabins to go for Broadband upgrades. Once the connection was upgraded discussion turned to what tools they could now pursue and their potential IT projects were noted. Two students were then selected and began work in May 2012 for 300 hours each of assistance.

The Outcome:
The students provided updates every couple of weeks to IST Professor Jim Jansen, and PennTAP contacted the owner every so often to verify all was going well.

The Students (Andy Glass & Greg Wenner)
- Implemented back-up and sharing programs
- Trained employees on New technologies
- Analyzed, re-configured, developed and drew up schematics on 5 networking systems
- Installed 21 security cameras and a system for those throughout the lodge and the cabins.
- Wrote a Social Media Marketing plan

Businesses recognized economic benefits of $360k+.

“My experience at the Gateway Lodge has been monumental in providing insight to the technology needs of a small business. I gained problem solving skills that will help me as I build a career in the technology field.”
Greg Wenner,
IST Intern
Pennsylvania State University

“I would highly recommend considering a PennTAP referral for internship. This was a great program.”
Deb Adams,
Owner/Inn-Keeper
Gateway Lodge & Inn and Black Bear Cabins

About the Company
Gateway Lodge & Inn & Black Bear Cabins
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Deb Adams, Innkeeper

County: Jefferson & Clarion
Employees: 32
Industry: Tourism