Marcus Mueller
Nonprofit Studies Minor

A business administration major from Butte, Marcus Mueller had always cared about helping others and supporting causes like conservation and animal rights. Then one evening at a potluck, he learned about UM’s chapter of the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, an organization that provides training and enrichment for future nonprofit professionals. He began attending the NLA’s meetings and quickly found himself on his way to a minor in nonprofit studies.

Marcus says he valued the NLA for the opportunity it gave him “to engage with the community and really get to know nonprofit leaders in Missoula through service projects.” His most influential experience proved to be the internship he completed as part of the nonprofit studies minor. “At Missoula Aging Services,” he says, “I realized that I had a knack for understanding the issues seniors face. I also found it invaluable to simply just know the programs and current developments within the nonprofit community.”

Throughout his undergraduate years, Marcus participated in numerous small projects like Service Saturdays at Ronald McDonald House, Watson’s Children’s Shelter, Montana Food Bank Network, and the ZACC. All of these experiences, he says, provided “excellent networking connections and a career path.”

Since graduating from UM in 2011, Marcus has earned a master’s in nonprofit management and a master of public administration, both from the University of Oregon. Recently relocated to Portland, OR, he is preparing to enter a career in aging and disability services.