Frostburg State University Senior Brooke Hughes completed her Communication Studies Capstone in the form a 3-credit semester long internship with the Mountainside Community Mediation Center. She worked alongside MCMC Program Coordinator Jerilyn Jackson as her Assistant Program Coordinator. She worked to help create and generate interest in the services that are offered by MCMC by planning events and working on different promotional materials to help bring in a larger body of participation to the organization and to educate the public on the services of MCMC. Hughes is the proud daughter of Scott and Donna Hughes, hailing from Pocomoke City, MD on the Eastern Shore.

While working with Jackson, Hughes assisted on several projects. A large portion of her internship was focused on creating a larger awareness for MCMC and the services they offer; she helped to organize many different fundraisers. One fundraiser took place at Wild Things Bar and Grill on Main Street in Frostburg, MD where there were drink specials and a trivia night. Raffle tickets were also sold for another fundraiser that was a giveaway of a “Fun in the Sun Basket” which included a free one hour massage. Altogether Hughes helped to raise $400 this semester with her efforts. Along with planning events she also created promotional flyers that were placed around the community as well as creating and managing MCMC’s own Twitter page which sent out posts informing the public of fundraisers, training sessions, and MCMC services. Alongside her fundraising duties she also helped with scheduling and facilitating mediations.

Hughes Capstone experience has benefitted her many ways. She says “Through my experience with MCMC I have learned a great deal about the effort and time that goes into planning and putting on events. With dreams of one day becoming an event planner this experience gave me a great deal of insight of what it takes to be successful within that industry. My organizational and time management skills have improved vastly since beginning this journey and because of that I feel much more prepared for what life has to throw at me once college is over.”

For more information regarding the Communication Studies major at FSU, contact Dr. Elesha L. Ruminski, department chair, at 301-687-4480 or elruminski@frostburg.edu. For more information pertaining to Mountainside Community Mediation Center, contact Jerilyn Jackson at 240-727-0408 or info@mountainsidemediation.org.