

PS JEFF

The Project SEARCH at Jefferson Quarterly Newsletter

Project SEARCH at Jefferson celebrated the start of its fifth year on September 11th with nine interns signing on with Jefferson Health, promising to bring the best version of themselves to the internship program each and every day. They all agreed to work hard to prepare for gainful employment in a meaningful job, either at Jefferson or at another business in the community. Lisa Dutterer, Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital Chief Administrative Officer and Project SEARCH Business Liaison, welcomed the interns along with Peggy Chapman, Y.A.L.E. School Assistant Director; Ernie Laux, Project SEARCH Teacher; Kelly Almasy, Y.A.L.E. Skills Trainer; and Heather Edwards, JFCS Skills Trainer. In a typical year, our celebration would include family, friends, Steering Committee Members and Jefferson staff members, but due to COVID-19 and strict safety protocols the celebration was limited.

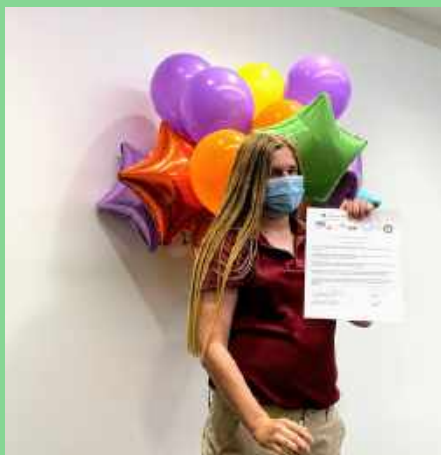
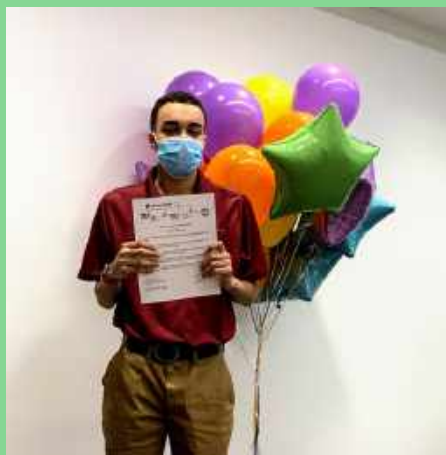
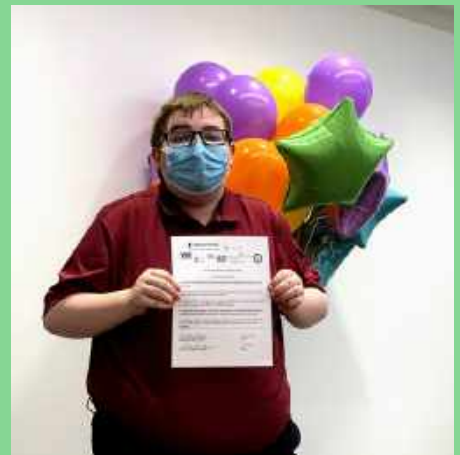
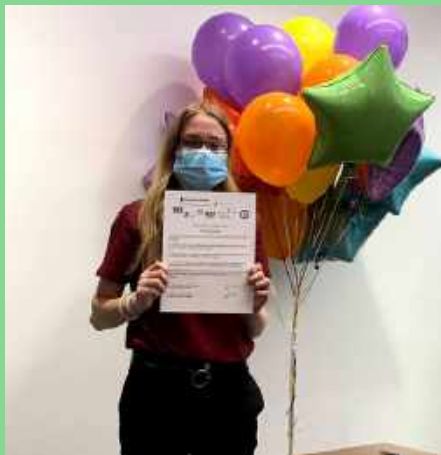
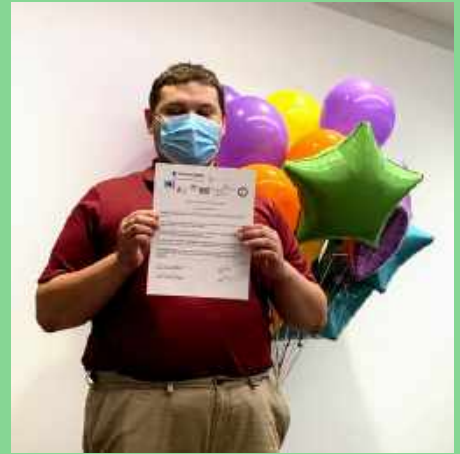
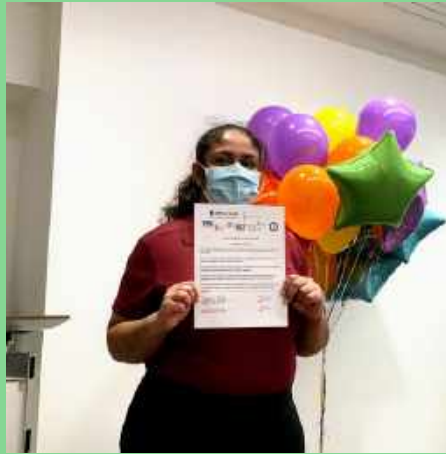


I PROMISE TO BRING THE BEST VERSION OF MYSELF TO THIS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM EACH AND EVERY DAY.



SIGNING DAY.....PG 1 & 2
GETTING ON BOARD.....PG 3
PROJECT SEARCH IN THE NEWS.....PG 4
HIRED! PS GRADS IN THE WORKPLACE.....PG 5
PS JEFF BULLETIN BOARD.....PG 6

NINE NEW INTERNS BEGIN THEIR PROJECT SEARCH JOURNEY



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Interns
Naitri, Owen, Marcus, Jordan, Jessica, Dalton, Eddie, Amelia, and William

LET'S GET ON BOARD



Patient Experience Orientation



5-10 rule



HIPAA Training



Infectious Disease



On their first day, September 8, 2020, Project SEARCH Interns hit the ground running. Like every Jefferson employee, they began rigorous orientation in Human Resources, Security, HIPAA, Patient Experience, and Infectious Disease. Interns also received their Jefferson badges and Project SEARCH uniforms and settled into their very own offices to polish their resumes and interview skills. Finally, each intern interviewed with department managers and were chosen for internship positions in the following departments: Storeroom, Environmental Services, Food Service, Patient Transport, Facilities, Magee Rehab, Pharmacy and Healthcare Access. Interns began their first rotation on Sept. 29.

PROJECT SEARCH IN THE NEWS

The images and text below are interactive. Please click underlined text to check out the news stories.

2018 GRAD GETS NEW DIGS



Individuals with special needs celebrate move-in at Weinberg Commons

August 17 marked a milestone in housing for adults with special needs in Southern New Jersey, as the first residents moved into the special needs apartments ...

[View more photos](#)

2019 GRADUATE CHRIS HIGGS SKATES WITH FLYERS



Flyers receive messages from those who the team has positively impacted

Flyers receive surprise video messages from those whose lives the team has positively impacted

[View more photos](#)

PROJECT SEARCH AT JEFFERSON HEALTH RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARDS

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health has been named the winner of an international Project SEARCH award in the category of Innovative Employment. [The Spotlight on Innovative Employment](#) recognizes teams that develop quality jobs and rewarding careers that make use of the skills and experience participants gained in their internships. The Project SEARCH leadership team — which selected the winners — was particularly impressed with the examples of hired Project SEARCH graduates working on the front lines of the COVID-19 response at Jefferson.



Project SEARCH at Jefferson was also recognized with its third [Employment Outcome Award](#) for its high employment rate of Project SEARCH graduates. Three other NJ Programs also received Employment Outcome Awards.

PROJECT SEARCH GRADS WORKING AS ESSENTIAL EMPLOYEES

Erin Riehle, Co-founder and Director of Project SEARCH, explores the unintended consequences of policies intended to protect employees with disabilities during the Covid-19 Pandemic in "Employment Resilience: People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities are Critical Frontline Workers."



[Billy and Anthony](#), pictured here before the Covid-19 Crisis, are two Project SEARCH at Jefferson graduates recognized in Erin's presentation on Essential Employees.

HIRED! PS GRADS IN THE WORKPLACE

Kenny is the first of the 2020 class to be hired - not once but twice! He began his employment journey at DocuVault prior to graduation, but due to COVID-19, was released. He was snatched up shortly thereafter by UPS, where Kenny's high energy and fast pace make him a perfect fit for the Package Handler position. Somehow Kenny still has enough energy at the end of each shift to go for a long bike ride or a workout at the gym.



Cathy, a 2019 graduate, was hired shortly after graduation at both McDonalds and Medford Leas, a retirement community in Medford. Cathy has a contagious smile that brightens the day of customers and residents alike.



Melissa, a 2019 graduate, is back to work at Goodwill Industries after a short furlough due to Covid. Melissa uses a communication-assistance device and a computer to sort and label garments. Melissa's excellent memory is one of her greatest assets on the job. Her work keeps the Goodwill stores stocked so that customers can get just what they need.

Tyler, from the Project SEARCH class of 2019, was hired last February as a custodian at Kingsway Church in Cherry Hill. At the height of COVID-19, Tyler was furloughed but quickly regained his part-time status ensuring proper sanitization and safety of the church. Tyler recently had his employment review and told his supervisor that the things he likes most about the job is, "Keeping the church clean," and "Being part of a team." Kingsway is happy to have such a dedicated worker as part of their team!

HIRING?

**Consider a Project SEARCH Graduate.
Contact Janeene Martin, Job Developer,
at jmartin@jfedsnj.org**

PS Jeff Bulletin Board

CHECK US OUT:

UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS

Project SEARCH at Jefferson
will be holding four virtual
information sessions this fall.

Nov. 12 at 6 PM
Nov. 13 at 9 AM
Dec. 9 at 6 PM
Dec. 10 at 9 AM

For more information contact
Kitty Slater at (856) 482-5252
ext. 373 or
kslater@yaleschoolnj.com

Interested in hosting an intern?

Contact Ernie Laux at
(856) 524-2039
Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu

Learn More About Project SEARCH

Y.A.L.E. School: Project
SEARCH at Jefferson

Project SEARCH
International

Links to Resources

JFCS

NJ DDD: Graduates Aging Out
of the School Systems

NJ DVR

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



We improve lives by preparing young people with autism and other developmental disabilities for success in integrated, competitive employment.



Jefferson Health®

HOME OF SIDNEY KIMMEL MEDICAL COLLEGE