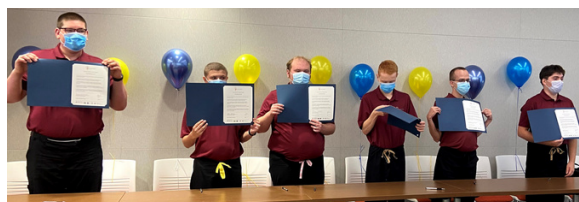
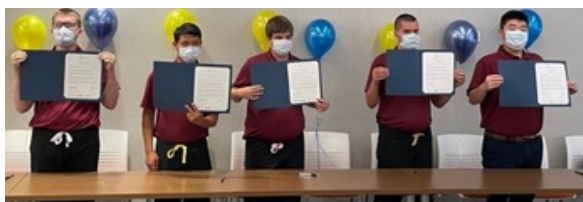


# The Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Quarterly Newsletter



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health celebrated the start of its sixth year on September 9th with Project SEARCH interns promising to bring the best version of themselves to the internship program each day. All agreed to work hard to prepare for gainful employment at the end of the program, either at Jefferson or at another business in the community. Project SEARCH is an internationally renowned, business-led transition program that helps young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities transition from high school to competitive employment and productive lives. This nationally recognized Project SEARCH program is administered by Y.A.L.E. School in partnership with Jefferson Health, Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service, NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities.

Lisa Dutterer, Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital Vice President of Operations and Project SEARCH Business Liaison (pictured below) welcomed the interns on behalf of herself and Diane Rossi, Jefferson Stratford Hospital Vice President of Operations and Project SEARCH Business Liaison. In her welcome, Dutterer explained Jefferson's values to the interns. "First, we value putting people first. In any decision that we make, we ensure that we put people first," she said. "Our next value," Dutterer continued, "is to be bold and think differently. Sometimes people come up with new ideas, new ways of doing things. You may have a new way of thinking about something, and I encourage you to share that with Ernie and the team. They will also have a lot of new ideas to share with you."

"And the last value is we do the right thing. We will always attempt to do the right thing for our patients, our families, and our employees. Now that you are part of that family, we are here to support you as we work to improve lives, put people first, be bold and think differently, and do the right thing."

Eight interns are participating in Project SEARCH at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and five are participating at Jefferson Stratford Hospital, the long-awaited second program site. The Jefferson sites are two of more than 600 programs worldwide.

Also welcoming the interns (pictured above) are Ernie Laux, Y.A.L.E. School Teacher; Lisa Dutterer, Jefferson Cherry Hill VPO; Peggy Chapman, Y.A.L.E. School Assistant Director; Janeene Martin, JFCS Project SEARCH Supervisor and Job Developer, Heather Edwards, JFCS Skills Trainer. Middle row: Kelly Almasy, Y.A.L.E. School Teacher and Skills Trainer; Darlene Anderson, Program Coordinator; Nancy Muldowney, JFCS Skills Trainer. Not pictured: Helen VanOsten, Assistant to Lisa Dutterer; and Ken Bishop, Director of Patient Experience.

Top pictures, left to right: Stratford Interns Andrew, Clint, Berry, Stephen, and Hugo; Cherry Hill Interns Erik, Sean, Ethan, Will, Matthew, and Jack. Not pictured: Cherry Hill Interns Liam and Nicholas.





# GETTING STARTED: FIRST ROTATION

## JEFFERSON CHERRY HILL HOSPITAL

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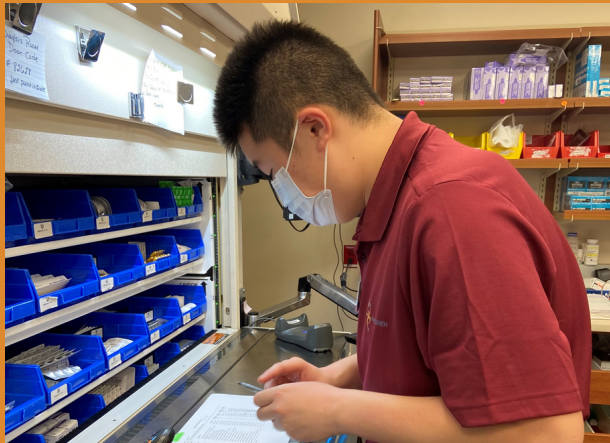
The interns are about halfway through their first rotations and are developing many transferrable job skills. Pictured clockwise from top left are interns from the Cherry Hill program: Liam in Environmental Services, Matthew in Pharmacy, Nicholas in Food Service, Will in the Storeroom, Ethan in the Storeroom, Erik in Patient Transport, Jack in Facilities, and Sean in Medical Imaging. This first of three rotations began October 1 and runs until December 23.



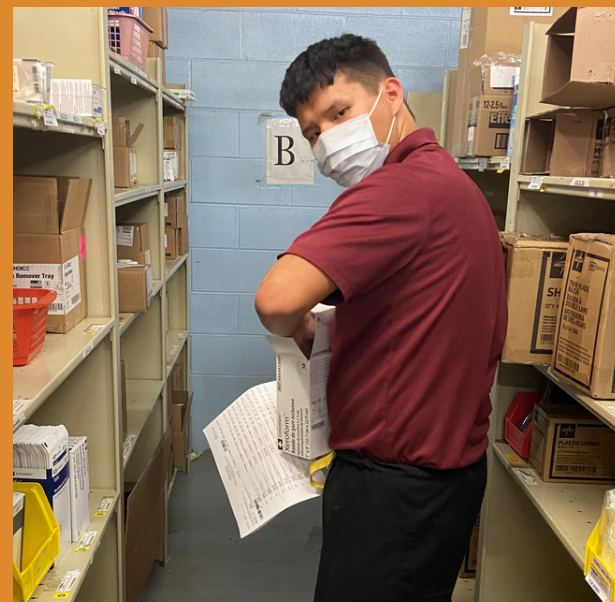
# GETTING STARTED: FIRST ROTATION

## JEFFERSON STRATFORD HOSPITAL

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Stratford interns received a warm welcome from the department managers and mentors in the first rotation of the first program year of Project SEARCH at Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Clockwise from top left are Hugo in Pharmacy, Andrew in Patient Transport, Clint in the Storeroom, Berry in Environmental Services, and Stephen in Food Service.





# From the Training Rooms

## Meet the Project SEARCH On-Site Teams

Project SEARCH on-site teams support the interns by teaching employability and job skills. In the first three weeks of the program, they lead the interns through Jefferson Health's orientation in Human Resources, Security, HIPAA, Patient Experience, and Infectious Disease. They also teach resume writing and interview skills to prepare interns for interviewing with several department managers who agreed to host an intern during the first rotation. Once the interns start in their departments, the on-site team is "on the move" throughout the hospitals, teaching new skills, monitoring progress, and addressing challenges. An important part of their role is identifying skills that interns can learn within each department that will prepare them for employment upon graduation. The team analyzes tasks, prepares instructions, develops task lists, creates supports and identifies natural supports within each department.

Ernie Laux, Special Education Teacher, and Kelly Almasy, Assistant Teacher and Skills Trainer, both from Y.A.L.E. School, and Heather Edwards, Assistant Teacher and Skills Trainer from Jewish Family and Children's Service, have been a team for several years now and are familiar faces in the halls and departments of the Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital. The team meets the interns daily for a morning huddle in the Project SEARCH Training Room, which recently moved over from the MSC building to the main hospital. Kelly, however, is on loan this fall to Project SEARCH at Jefferson Stratford Hospital, helping to launch the new program there. Joining Kelly in Stratford is Nancy Muldowney, Skills Trainer from Jewish Family and Children's Service. Kelly and Nancy meet the interns each morning in the training room adjacent to the cafeteria dining area.

In addition to the on-site team is Janeene Martin, Project SEARCH Job Developer, who is often at one of the Jefferson hospitals getting to know the interns as she works with them to find competitive and rewarding employment upon graduation.



To learn more about Project SEARCH or about hosting an intern, stop team members as they make their rounds throughout the hospital supporting interns at work. Or in Cherry Hill contact Ernie Laux at (856) 524-2039 or [Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu](mailto:Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu); or in Stratford contact Kelly Almasy at (609) 506-2398 or [kalmasy@yaleschoolnj.com](mailto:kalmasy@yaleschoolnj.com).

Pictured above left in their training room are Stratford on-site team members Kelly and Nancy with interns Stephen, Clint, Berry, Andrew and Hugo. Pictured below and right are the Cherry Hill on-site team members Heather and Kelly with Ethan and Will, and Ernie with Will.



# HIRED!

## PS GRADS IN THE WORKPLACE

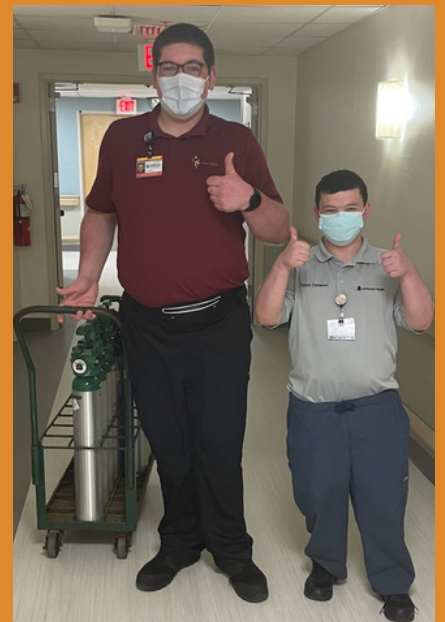


### PROJECT SEARCH GRADS HIRED IN PATIENT TRANSPORT

Naitri, a 2021 graduate (pictured above), was hired just after graduation by Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital in the Patient Transport Department. Naitri interned in Patient Transport in both her second and third rotations because she knew that's where she wanted to land. Kudos to Naitri and appreciation to Rebecca Bigwood, Corporate Manager Patient Transport, who enthusiastically supports the Project SEARCH program by hosting our interns and recognizing ALL their abilities.

Gabe, a 2020 graduate (pictured top right), was also recently hired in the Patient Transport Department at Jefferson Washington Township Hospital. Gabe graduated during the height of the pandemic and continued to build upon skills at employment he obtained at Wawa, thanks to the support of Business Advisory member, Carl Donato, Store Operations Regional Recruiter. With his perseverance to obtain his driver's license and his aspiration to work in Patient Transport, Gabe landed his dream job this fall.

Including Naitri and Gabe, Rebecca has hired three Project SEARCH graduates in the Patient Transport Department. Billy, who graduated in 2019, has worked at Jefferson for more than two years. Billy worked all through the pandemic, supporting Jefferson's first value of "putting people first." He exemplifies that value not only in his regular duties but by also serving as a mentor to Project SEARCH interns interested in learning to transport patients. Billy is pictured (above right) with Erik (on left) who is currently interning in Patient Transport.



### 2021 Graduate Mars: Rookie of the Month at Cooper University Hospital

Congratulations to Mars (right), who was recognized as September 2021 Rookie of the Month at Cooper University Hospital! Mars was hired in the Food Service Department at Cooper just after graduation after he impressed Cooper recruiters during our Business Advisory Council's Reverse Job Fair. Prior to being hired, Mars completed his third rotation of the Project SEARCH Program at Cooper, interning in the Food Service Department.





# Bulletin Board

## CHECK US OUT: UPCOMING INFORMATION SESSIONS

Families, educators and community members can learn more about Project SEARCH on Dec. 9 at 7 p.m. or Dec. 10 at 10 a.m.

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

## Interested in hosting an intern ?

Contact Ernie Laux at  
(856) 524-2039  
[Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu](mailto:Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu) or

Kelly Almasy at  
(609) 506-2398  
[kalmasy@yaleschoolnj.com](mailto:kalmasy@yaleschoolnj.com)

## Learn More About Project SEARCH

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

Project SEARCH  
International

## Links to Resources

JFCS

NJ DDD: Graduates Aging out of  
the School Systems

NJ DVR

Parents - Employment  
Planning Meetings begin  
the week of Nov. 8.  
See you soon!

## HIRING?

Contact  
Janeene Martin  
Job Developer  
[jmartin@jfedsnj.org](mailto:jmartin@jfedsnj.org)





## PROJECT SEARCH Holiday Food Drive

Until November 19, 2021

Please bring your non-perishable food donations to:

2201 Chapel Ave W  
Attn: Project SEARCH  
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

18 Laurel Rd E  
Attn: Project SEARCH  
Stratford, NJ 08084

Please contact:

Heather Edwards via text – (856) 404-1562 with any questions, concerns, or drop-off.

Drop-off: 8:30am-2:30pm

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### WE NEED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Canned Goods
- Stuffing
- Mac and Cheese Boxes
- Pasta
- Gravy
- Pasta Sauce
- Cereal
- Crackers
- Peanut butter and Jelly
- Grocery Store Gift Cards to help purchase perishable items

**FEARLESS**  
*Women*  
MINISTRIES.ORG

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YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS  
HOLIDAY SEASON! WE ARE PARTNERING WITH FEARLESS WOMEN.





# THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



IN COLLABORATION WITH

