



The Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Quarterly Newsletter

Celebrations are part of the culture at Jefferson Health, and Project SEARCH interns are immersed in that culture. During the winter season, interns participated in the gingerbread decorating contest and helped prepare for and enjoy the holiday meal. Jefferson Health also celebrated the one-year anniversary of its new Patient Pavilion in Cherry Hill. To express appreciation for the incredibly hard work of all its staff during the recent COVID-19 surge, Jefferson Health provided lunch from a variety of local restaurants. Being included in these events is not just about fun though; what makes Project SEARCH stand out among other transition programs is that the interns and on-site staff are immersed in every aspect of the work culture. They face the same challenges - like adhering to guidelines and mandates - and enjoy the same sense of accomplishment when big and small challenges are met. Like all employees, they are a valued part of the Jefferson Health family.



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Pictured clockwise are Stratford Project SEARCH Interns Stephen, Clint, Berry, Andrew and Hugo with on-site staff Nancy and Beth; Nick and Ethan making a gingerbread house for the hospital department gingerbread house competition; Liam at the one-year anniversary of the opening of the new Patient Pavilion; Andrew and Hugo with gifts from the hospital; and Cherry Hill Project SEARCH Interns Nick, Jack, Erik, Will, Ethan, Matthew, Liam and Sean.

Project SEARCH Partners with Fearless Women to Provide Meals

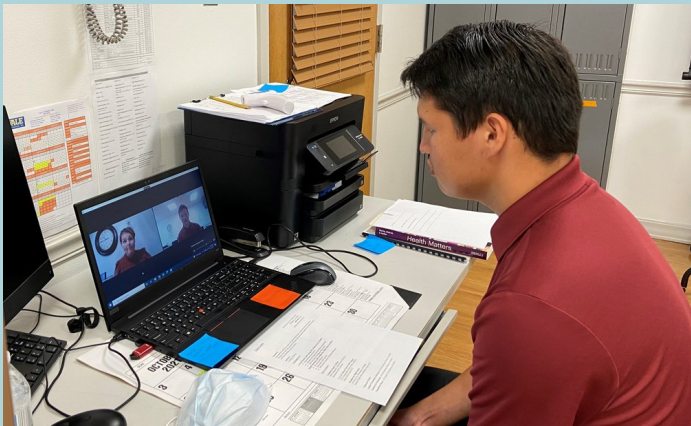


Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health interns teamed up with Fearless Women Ministries for the second year in a row to provide Thanksgiving and holiday meals for more than 250 people in the South Jersey community. Interns collected non-perishable food items and grocery store gift cards, organized the items, and loaded up Heather Edwards' vehicle. Heather, JFCS Project SEARCH Skills Trainer, and her family, along with other volunteers from Fearless Women Ministries, delivered the meals to families in time for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The Jefferson Health - New Jersey Diversity and Inclusion Council, Jefferson Health employees, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council, and families and friends of Project SEARCH contributed to the success of the food drive. More pictures are on the next page.



Next Steps

INTERVIEWING FOR SECOND ROTATION

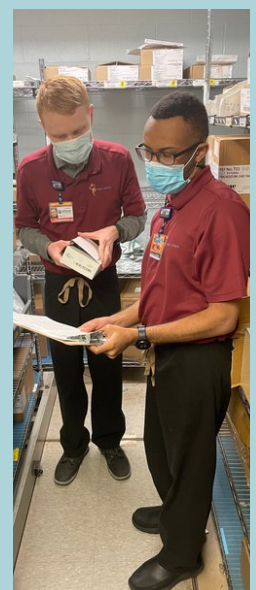


Project SEARCH interns completed their first 12-week internship rotation December 23rd. Before transitioning into the second rotation, they revised their resumes and brushed up on their interviewing skills. Each intern in the Cherry Hill and Stratford programs interviewed with two or three department managers from Food Service, Storeroom, HIM, Healthcare Access, Environmental Services, Surgical Services, Physical Therapy, Patient Transport, and Pharmacy.

Pictured above is Clint interviewing virtually with Rebecca Bigwood, Corporate Manager, Patient Transport. Virtual interviews, uncommon just two years ago, are now the norm. Interns in Project SEARCH are developing the necessary skills to compete in this new normal.

PEER TRAINING

Peer training, conducted between rotations, is an essential part of the learning process in Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health. Outgoing interns teach skills to incoming interns in the participating departments. Peer training is beneficial to both peers: the trainer develops communication and teaching skills, while the trainee gets a head-start on learning essential tasks for his next rotation.



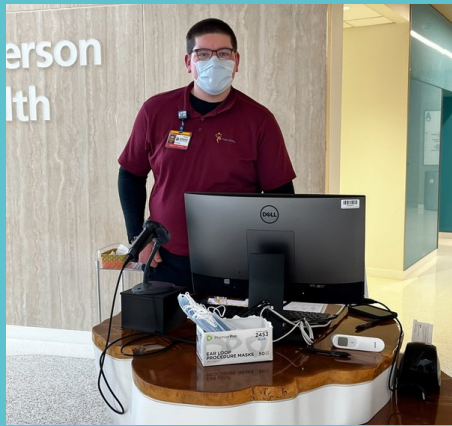
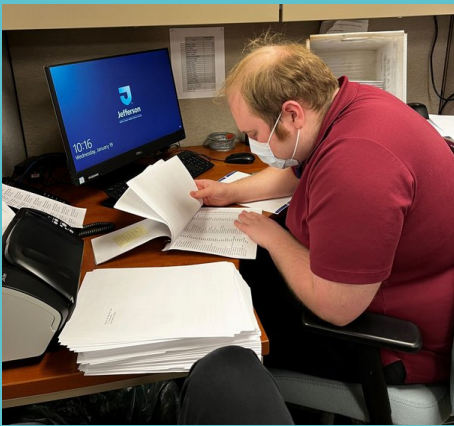
Clockwise from top left are Sean training Matthew to sanitize and restock in the Medical Imaging Department; Matthew showing Jack how to check in new stock in the Pharmacy; Ethan in Storeroom explaining to Nick where to find items and fill orders; and Liam training Will in Environmental Services how to clean and sanitize on patient floors.

SECOND ROTATION: JEFFERSON CHERRY HILL HOSPITAL

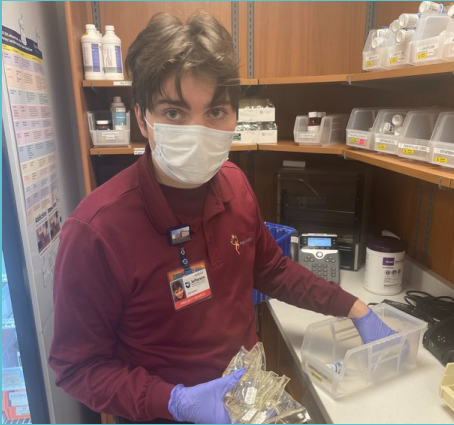
Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital interns began their second rotation January 4. They are now at about the midpoint of the rotation and are mastering many new skills.



Will, in the Environmental Services Department, stocks the entire hospital with clean linens and loads the scrub-ex machine with new scrubs for the surgical staff. He is excelling in this multi-task position. **Matt** is loading the blanket warmer with the fresh linens that Will delivers to Medical Imaging.



Ethan, in Health Information Management, is checking addresses to make sure that the mailing addresses are correct for future mail and billing. **Erik** in Healthcare Access greets and checks in patients and then directs or escorts them to their destination.



In Pharmacy, **Jack** is checking in magnesium bags making sure there are no expired dates. Other tasks include checking all meds for expiration dates, filling prescription orders for the patient floors from the carousel and checking in and putting away new stock. **Liam** pulls and fills orders in the Storeroom for all departments in the hospital.



Sean is working in Patient Transport and is loving the experience. He said that he "enjoyed working in Medical Imaging but likes Patient Transport even better." **Nick** has returned to Food Service for his second rotation to learn additional skills like cleaning, stocking, and delivering meal trays to patients.

SECOND ROTATION: JEFFERSON STRATFORD HOSPITAL

Jefferson Stratford Hospital interns also began their second rotation January 4. This second of three rotations runs until March 18. The final rotation begins March 21.



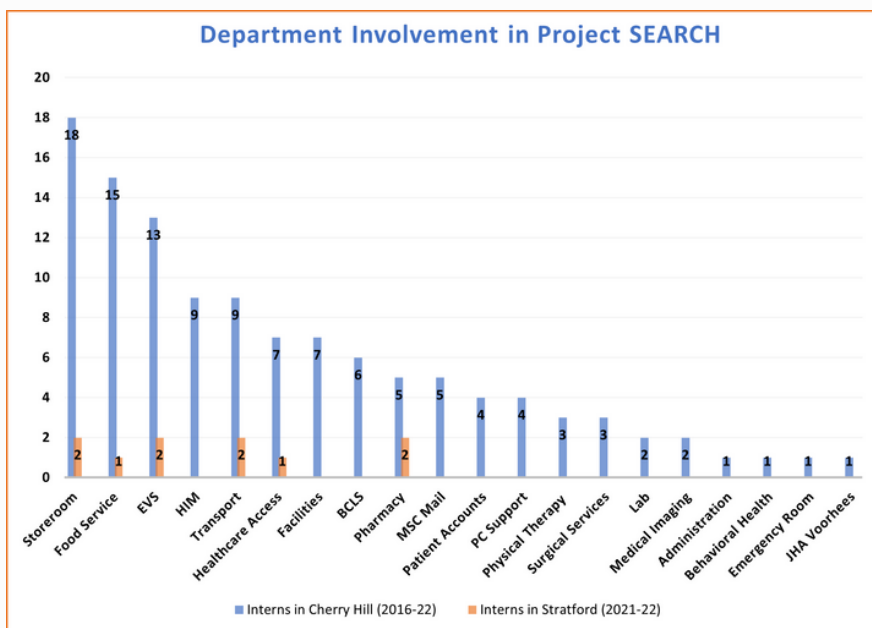
Stratford interns are excelling in their second rotations of the Project SEARCH program. Clockwise from top left is **Berry** with Raphael in Patient Transport. Raphael is showing Berry how to determine which transport is next. Berry said he loves working in patient transport because he enjoys talking to the patients and his co-workers. **Hugo** is in Admissions greeting patients and guests. **Stephen** is in Storeroom picking supplies for hospital departments. **Clint**, in Environmental Services, is stocking clean linens; and **Andrew** is in Pharmacy pulling medications prescribed for patients from the carousel.





DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATION DRIVES PROJECT SEARCH LONGTERM SUCCESS

Since 2016, 20 departments at Jefferson Health have participated in the Project SEARCH program by hosting interns who are interested in developing transferable job skills learned and practiced in the departments. The Project SEARCH teachers and skills trainers collaborate with department managers to develop lists of tasks that interns master over three 10-week rotations. Mentors within each department support the interns' efforts by teaching and modeling the necessary skills. Each participating department has had a significant impact on the long-term employment success of individual interns and on the overall success of Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health, which continues to be recognized nationally for its innovation and excellent outcomes. The Word Cloud above and chart below illustrate department involvement; but what the charts do not show is the impact hosting just one intern might have. While the Emergency Department and Jefferson Medical Group's Voorhees office hosted only one intern so far -- in the program's first year -- both departments ended up hiring their intern, and these two employees are still working in the departments five years later. Administration also, so far, has hosted one intern and that intern will begin as a Jefferson Health HIM Analyst later this month. In total, 50 interns have been trained in 3 of 20 different departments at Jefferson Health. 95% of graduates have obtained meaningful competitive employment at Jefferson Health Hospital (30%) or with an employer in the community (70%). The participating departments and the managers and mentors within them demonstrate the Jefferson Health mission - to improve lives. Now, that's something to be proud of!



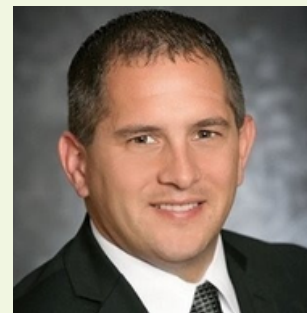
INTERESTED IN HOSTING AN INTERN?

If you would like more information about hosting an intern, contact Beth in Stratford at bkaplan@yaleschoolnj.com or Ernie in Cherry Hill at Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu or elaux@yaleschoolnj.com. If you would like an intern in your department during the third rotation that runs from March 21 - June 6, please reach out by March 1.

Notes from the Steering Committee

Steering Committee Members, on-site staff, interns and family members thank Diane Rossi (pictured right) who recently retired as Vice President of Operations of Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Diane's support and enthusiasm for Project SEARCH enabled us to expand the Project SEARCH Program to the hospital in September of 2021. Diane, Project SEARCH Business Liaison in Stratford, was essential in laying a strong foundation for Project SEARCH, connecting us with numerous departments who have since embraced the program, hosting five interns this first program year. Participating departments include Patient Transport, Storeroom, Food Service, EVS, Pharmacy, and Admissions. Thank you again to Diane for her leadership in implementing Project SEARCH in Stratford. Additional thanks to Wendy Sutherland, the department managers and mentors, and all the employees who make our interns and team feel so welcome. Diane will be missed!

Project SEARCH is looking forward to working closely with Frank Rocco, MSN, RN, NE-BC, (pictured right) who started as the VP of Operations on January 31. Frank served as Corporate Director of Nursing at the Cherry Hill campus since May 2014. Frank has been an avid supporter of Project SEARCH in Cherry Hill since 2016 when our program began.



Lisa Dutterer, Vice President of Operations at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Project SEARCH Business Liaison, was recently featured in a [SJ Magazine article](#) that focused on her leadership in the planning, construction, and move - during the pandemic - into the hospital's new Patient Pavilion. **"Compared to the pandemic, something like moving into a new building doesn't seem like a big deal,"** Dutterer explains in the article. **"But that new building represented an entirely new level of care we'd be able to offer our patients, which became even more vital during that time."**

In the article, Lisa also describes Jefferson Health's mission - to improve lives - and how Project SEARCH is one of many ways Jefferson walks out its mission. With everything else Lisa manages, we appreciate her support of our program and the shout out to Project SEARCH:

SJ Magazine writes "Another exciting initiative improving lives under Dutterer's leadership at Jefferson Cherry Hill is Project SEARCH, a one-year transition program providing training and education leading to employment for young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities. **'Our leaders and staff have the opportunity to mentor interns in partnership with instructors from the Cherry Hill-based Y.A.L.E. School,'** says Dutterer. **'Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital was the program's first site in South Jersey, and we recently graduated our fifth class of interns. We're also proud to have received a Project SEARCH National Award for Employment Outcomes and a 2020 Spotlight on Innovative Employment Award. We are incredibly honored to be part of this program, making a difference in the lives of the interns and their future.'**"



Pictured here at the one-year anniversary celebration of the new Patient Pavilion are Lisa Dutterer; Jennifer Knopple, Human Resources Business Partner; and Rebecca Bigwood, Corporate Manager, Patient Transport. Jennifer and Rebecca have supported Project SEARCH in various ways over several years. Jennifer has interviewed Project SEARCH applicants for each new cohort as part of the selection committee; and Rebecca welcomes interns into the Patient Transport department for training.

Steering Committee Welcomes New Teacher Beth Kaplan



At the December meeting, the Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee welcomed Beth Kaplan, who joined the Project SEARCH program in November as the lead Special Education Teacher at Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Beth, who has a master's degree in Special Education, comes to Y.A.L.E. School from the Pemberton Township School District. In addition to her background in education, Beth brings experience in communications and marketing from a business and non-profit perspective. Beth has embraced her new role as the lead instructor of Project SEARCH/Y.A.L.E. and eagerly welcomes the opportunity to develop her interns and expand the program. Y.A.L.E. School and the Steering Committee are very pleased that she has joined the team. Kelly, who was on loan from Cherry Hill, helped launch the program in Stratford and transitioned back after acclimating Beth to the program and hospital.

Beth is pictured on the left with Nancy Muldowney, JFCS Project SEARCH Skills Trainer, and Kelly Almasy, Y.A.L.E. Assistant Teacher/Skills Trainer, Cherry Hill.

The Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee is composed of leaders from five partner agencies: Jefferson Health, Y.A.L.E. School, The NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities, The NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service of South Jersey.

Business Advisory (BAC) Council News

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health BAC to host Virtual Job Fair

On January 24th, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Business Advisory Council (BAC) members conducted virtual mock interviews with the interns to prepare them for the BAC virtual job fair scheduled for April 25th at 12:30 p.m. At the conclusion of the mock interviews, Duane Rohr, CVS, said, "All of the students did a great job, and you can tell that they have been through training as they were well prepared." Ryan Bennett, Truist, added, "I always appreciate when a candidate asks a thoughtful question like this intern did at the end of the interview."

At the job fair, participating employers will have an opportunity to interview interns who have gained valuable transferable work experience during the Project SEARCH program year. Over the past several years, the virtual job fair has been a success for interns and employers alike. Employers including Wawa, Cooper University Hospital, Atlanticare, and Jefferson Health have met and interviewed talented interns at the job fair, later hiring them for entry level positions.

To participate in the job fair, contact BAC Members Janeene Martin, JFCS Project SEARCH Job Developer, at jmartin@jfedsnj.org and/or Angel Lucas, JEVS/hireAbility at Angela.Lucas@jevshireability.org.

In addition to preparing the interns for the Job Fair, BAC members support the Project SEARCH program by mentoring the interns and networking in the community. Other BAC members include Barbara Abrams, JFCS; Chris Brodt, Panera; Kate Burch, Grace Company Management; Debbie Deissroth, (Chair) DD Coaching and Consulting; Rob Deissroth, DD Coaching and Consulting; Carl Donato Jr., Wawa; Kathy Heid, First Harvest Credit Union; Sue Learn, DIY Media Group; Mark Ludes, MBB Management; Kyle McCormick, Occupational Training Center; Jennifer Van Seters, Stockton Graduate Student; Tracey Weicker, Pepsico; Jennifer Veneziani, NJ DVRS; Alexandra Villegas, WOOPS; and Jaime Whalen, Truist. Also on the BAC are Project SEARCH on-site staff members, Ernie Laux, Beth Kaplan, Kelly Almasy, Heather Edwards, and Nancy Muldowney; and Project SEARCH Coordinator Darlene Anderson.

Special Welcome and Thanks

A special welcome to new BAC members Ryan Bennett from Truist Bank, and Duane Rohr and Heather Mauk from CVS who joined in January. **Thank you to all BAC members** for supporting Project SEARCH, especially Carl Donato who is our longest serving member. Carl has demonstrated his commitment and dedication to the council and its growth since inception in 2015.

And last but not least, a fond farewell to Jennifer Veneziani who announced at the Jan. 24th BAC Meeting that after 15 years she is leaving the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities and Vocational Rehabilitation Services for a new role as a Community Relations Manager with the NJ Division of Temporary Disability and Family Leave Insurance. As an original Steering Committee Member, Jen was instrumental in the planning and launching of the Project SEARCH program at Jefferson in 2016, then Kennedy -- the first Project SEARCH program in South Jersey. She worked closely with the first cohort of Camden County interns before taking on a new position with DVRS as a consultant with the Business Outreach Team. Jen remained active on the Business Advisory Council, Chairing the Council in the 2018-19 program year. We appreciate all Jen has done for people with disabilities, especially her work with Project SEARCH.

To learn how you and your company can make a difference in the lives of young people with disabilities, contact Debbie Deissroth, BAC Chair, at debbie.deissroth@positioningpeople4success.com

From the Interns' Desks



My mentor Amanda and I on her last day in the Health Care Access - Admissions Departments.

Contributed by Hugo, Intern in Admissions, Jefferson Stratford Hospital.



I was shoveling the snow. I did a good job of helping.

Contributed by Liam, Intern in the Storeroom Jefferson, Cherry Hill Hospital.



Hugo and I were playing in an ice hockey tournament in North Jersey. We played 3 games and won 2 out of 3 games in the tournament. Hugo and I each scored a goal or 2, which made us very happy and proud. We had a lot of fun.

Contributed by Erik, Intern in Patient Transport, Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital.

Thank you!

Project SEARCH Alumni News

HIRED! PS GRAD IN THE WORKPLACE



Jordan, a 2021 graduate, interned in Pharmacy during his third rotation in Project SEARCH. After developing skills in Patient Transport and Physical Therapy (Magee Rehab), Jordan found his niche in the Pharmacy Department. After graduation, Jordan was determined to find similar work in a pharmacy near his home in Burlington County. Jordan was hired in December as a Pharmacy Tech at the CVS in Mt. Laurel. His tasks include greeting customers at the pickup window, looking up pertinent information on the computer, and retrieving filled prescriptions from the waiting bins. In addition, Jordan returns scripts to stock if an item is no longer needed, and he is beginning to process prescriptions by counting out medication and labeling the bottles. This photo, taken by his proud dad, was shared on Facebook with the caption "Congratulations to our son Jordan on the new job at CVS! You have worked hard. You have learned much. Thanks to the one-year internship at Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health. Congratulations!"

2021 Grad named Most Valuable Person at Cooper

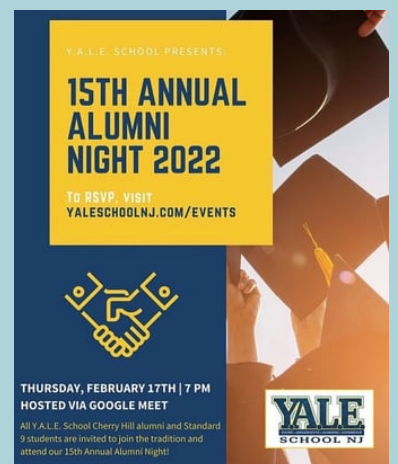


Marcus, 2021 Graduate, was named Most Valuable Person in December 2021 at Cooper University Hospital in recognition for his valuable contributions.

This was the second award Mars has received since starting in the food service department last summer. In September, Mars was named "Rookie of the Month."

Congratulations to Marcus in his continued success at Cooper University Hospital!

Y.A.L.E. to host Alumni Night



Project SEARCH, Y.A.L.E. Cherry Hill, and S-9 graduates are invited to attend this event. [Click here to register.](#)

Project SEARCH Bulletin Board

Happy Valentines Day!

*Graduation
June 6 at 6 p.m.
Save the date!*



CAN'T-MISS INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE
For parents of students with disabilities through age 21



JANUARY-APRIL

JOIN US FOR THE COMPASS SPEAKER SERIES 2022

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
Join us by registering at: yaleschoolnj.com/events

GUIDANCE • PREPARATION • SUPPORT

Important decisions lie ahead for parents and guardians of children, teens, and young adults with special needs. Gather information from experts to plan confidently for independent living, employment, education and training, as well as adult services. Specialists will also guide parents through financial preparations for benefits eligibility and guardianship options.



<p>EVENT 1 Wednesday 1/12/22 • 7 pm</p> <p>New and Later: A Systematic Approach to Transition Preparation</p> <p>Presenter: • Bethany Chase, Training and Consultation Specialist for Employment & Training Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities</p> <p>Resources and Options for Readiness • Y.A.L.E. Transition Team for High School and 18-21 Programs</p>	<p>EVENT 4 Wednesday 3/9/22 • 7 pm</p> <p>Overview of PA Services for Transitioning Young Adults in Pennsylvania</p> <p>Presenter: • Jill Grossberg, MSS, LSW Office of Vocational Rehabilitation PA Department of Labor and Industry</p>
<p>EVENT 2 Wednesday 2/16/22 • 7 pm</p> <p>Financially Speaking: How to Prepare for Financial Eligibility - SSI Benefits, Adult Services and Special Needs Trusts</p> <p>Presenter: • Michael Byrne, CMC Lighthouse Planning Consultants</p>	<p>EVENT 5 Wednesday 3/23/22 • 7 pm</p> <p>Transitioning to DOD Services</p> <p>Support Coordination Supports and Resources</p> <p>Stand by Me: Guardianship and Supportive Decision Making</p>
<p>EVENT 3 Wednesday 3/2/22 • 7 pm</p> <p>NJ DVRS Services: How DVRS Assists Work-bound and College-bound Young Adults also Benefits Counseling: Why Full-time Work and Government Benefits Are Allies, not Enemies</p> <p>Presenter: • Cheryl Vail, NJ DVRS</p>	<p>EVENT 6 Wednesday 4/6/22 • 7 pm</p> <p>Stand by Me: Guardianship and Supportive Decision Making</p> <p>Presenter: • Michael R. Brower, Legal Disability Rights New Jersey</p>

The Y.A.L.E. Compass Speaker Series provides information from experts to help parents and guardians navigate the educational and developmental turning points ahead. Educators and service providers are also welcome to attend.

All Speaker Series events are free and open to the public! To register, go to yaleschoolnj.com/events



COMPASS SPEAKER SERIES 2022

Register now for the Y.A.L.E. Compass Speaker Series, providing information from experts to help parents and guardians navigate the educational and developmental turning points ahead. This series is free and open to the public. Educators and service providers are also welcome to attend.

Since 1976, Y.A.L.E. School has provided a positive approach to learning for students with disabilities ages 3 to 21, who need a specialized setting in order to benefit from education. We offer a continuum of educational and support services to meet the needs of a wide range of students, including those with social, emotional, learning and behavioral disabilities living across Southern and Central New Jersey, as well as the Greater Philadelphia area.

Register at: yaleschoolnj.com/events





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Deadline Approaching!

Applications for Project SEARCH 2022-23 Program Year Due March 1.

Don't miss out on an experience of a lifetime!

[Click here to apply.](#)

HIRING?

Consider a Project SEARCH Graduate.

Contact

**Janeene Martin, Job Developer
jmartin@jfedsnj.org**

Interested in hosting an intern?

Contact Ernie Laux in Cherry Hill at (856) 524-2039 Ernie.Laux@jefferson.edu or Beth Kaplan in Stratford at (856) 495-1525 bkaplan@yaleschoolnj.com



Virtual Job Fair

Meet qualified job seekers with experience in:

Clerical/Data Entry	Patient Transport
Hospitality/Guest Services	Stockroom/Storeroom
Building Maintenance	Environmental Services
Pharmacy	Food Service

**Monday, April 25
12:30 to 2 p.m.**

Please RSVP by April 1

Janeene Martin jmartin@jfedsnj.org 856-630-1306
Angel Lucas Angela.Lucas@jevshireability.org 609-412-1254

See video link of previous years' job seekers and how inclusive hiring can work for your business: <https://jfcssnj.org/supported-employment/>

IN COLLABORATION WITH
Jefferson Health, YALE, CTRC, NEXT, JICS

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



IN COLLABORATION WITH

