



The Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Quarterly Newsletter

2022 PROJECT SEARCH GRADUATES



Congratulations to Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health 2022 Graduates from Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Pictured in back, from left, are Stephen, Erik, Hugo, and Nick; in the middle are Jack and Berry; and in the front row are Ethan, Sean, Andrew, Liam, Will, Matthew and Clint. Read more in Jefferson's *Connections* employee newsletter by clicking the image.

Project SEARCH Graduates Display their Certificates



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Graduation Highlights



Jefferson Stratford Hospital VP of Operations and Project SEARCH Business Liaison Frank Rocco planned a graduation celebration luncheon for the five Stratford interns on June 1. He told the interns, managers and guests that he appreciated that Diane Rossi, his predecessor, wanted to bring Project SEARCH to Stratford after it had been at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital for many years. Now, he said, he gets to grow Project SEARCH at Stratford and know all the interns every year. "I feel like I got to know you pretty well in just the four months since I got here," Frank told the interns. "I know something about all of you, and I can't wait until graduation to meet your families and share some more memories."

Frank added: "You are a special group - the first Project SEARCH group for Stratford. We might have many more interns - I hope we do - but we'll never be able to take away from the first group. I'm very proud of Project SEARCH. I'm very proud to be a part of it. Thank you for welcoming me." Frank gave each intern a gift bag with a T-shirt that said, "Inaugural Project SEARCH Class: Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Celebrating You, Class of 2022!"

The images below are interactive - be sure to click!

13 Project SEARCH Interns Graduate from Work-Transition Program

Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital

From left: Assistant Director of Y.A.L.E. School Peggy Chapman, Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital VP of Hospital Operations Lisa Dutterer, William Potts, Sean "Jack" Carrison, Ethan Wozorek, Sean Catalide, Matthew Williams, Project SEARCH/Y.A.L.E. School Instructor Ernie Laux, Nick Garcia, Liam Testman, Erik Carlson, Project SEARCH/Jewish Family and Children's Services Skills Trainer Heather Edwards, and Project SEARCH/Y.A.L.E. School Skills Trainer/Teacher Assistant Kelly Almayo

Thirteen young adults received Project SEARCH graduation certificates at an outdoor ceremony, marking their participation in a longstanding work-transition program at **Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital** and, for the first time, **Jefferson Stratford Hospital**. These Project SEARCH interns reported to both hospitals every day throughout the school year, working and learning alongside Jefferson Health's employees.

Jefferson Stratford Hospital

From left: Jefferson Stratford Hospital VP of Operations Frank Rocco, Stephen Hyland, Andrew Goebel, Clint Lowe, Project SEARCH/Y.A.L.E. School Instructor Beth Kaplan, Jesse "Berry" Wilson-Hill and Hugo Kim

Jefferson Health - New Jersey has been involved with Project SEARCH - an international work-transition program for young adults with autism and other developmental disabilities - since 2016. The program is a collaboration among several partners, including **Jefferson Health, Y.A.L.E. School, the NJ Division of Developmental Disabilities, NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Samost Jewish and Family Children's Service**. Since its launch more than six years ago, 50 students from Cherry Hill's Y.A.L.E. School have "graduated" from the Project SEARCH program at our three hospitals. Almost half of this year's graduates have been hired by Jefferson. Others found employment with various businesses in the community.

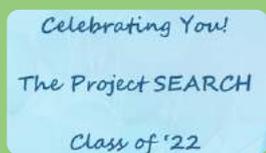
Project SEARCH interns work in a variety of departments that teach them job skills, including Food Service, Storeroom, and Environmental Services, Patient Transport, Pharmacy, and Health Information Management. The students also receive classroom instruction through the Y.A.L.E. School. Project SEARCH was developed at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and has more than 670 interns at host sites in 48 states and nine countries.

Stratford Storeroom Manager **Nancy Sylvester** recently hired Cherry Hill intern **William Potts** to work for her.

Congratulations from Project SEARCH Founders



Special wishes were sent to all Project SEARCH graduates via video from Project SEARCH Founders **Susie Rutkowski** (left) and **Erin Riehle** (right). To hear their remarks, click the image above. To read an article published in Jefferson Health's *Connections* employee newsletter or to view the "Celebrating You" slideshow and the "Aspirations" booklet, click the images on the left.



Thank you, Jefferson!



On June 7, the day after graduation, the graduates returned to Jefferson Health departments where they trained over the past 10 months to deliver "thank you" mugs to the managers and mentors who supported them. Project SEARCH would not be possible without the volunteers in each participating department who model employability skills and train the interns in specific complex job tasks to prepare them for employment at Jefferson Health or in the community. Pictured here are just a few of the many who impacted the 13 young men who participated in Project SEARCH at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Jefferson Stratford Hospital this past year.



NOTABLE AND NOTEWORTHY

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Receives National Recognition

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital was recognized with an "Excellent Outcome Award" at the 15th annual Project SEARCH Conference in Baltimore, MD, on July 26. The Program received the award for achieving 88% employment outcomes for the 2020-21 program year. 2021 Graduates are employed doing meaningful, rewarding work with excellent South Jersey employers including Jefferson Health, Cooper University Hospital, CVS, GCM Gofer Parts, Moorestown Friend's School, and Mt. Laurel Animal Hospital. Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health has received recognition for high employment outcomes each year since its inception.

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health partners include Jefferson, the Y.A.L.E. School, the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities, the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service of Southern New Jersey.

In addition to being recognized for its outstanding outcomes, members of the Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee presented at the conference. Peggy Chapman, Y.A.L.E. School Director, and Darlene Anderson, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Coordinator, joined Holly Opatick, Project SEARCH National Coordinator, in presenting "Funding Formulas for Project SEARCH" to an audience of about 60 people. Beth Kaplan, Project SEARCH instructor at Jefferson Stratford Hospital, was unable to attend but contributed to the presentation.



Pictured, from left: Susie Rutkowski, Project SEARCH Co-Founder and Education Specialist; Solo Okonkwo, NJ DVRS Project SEARCH Coordinator; Cheryl Vail, NJ DVRS Program Planning and Development Specialist; Darlene Anderson, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Coordinator; Peggy Chapman, YALE School Director; and Erin Riehle, Project SEARCH Founder and Co-Director.

JFCS Director of Disability Services Retires after 22 Years of Service



On June 29th, Barbara was honored with a celebration at Katz JCC. Among the many guests was Jonathan (left), a 2019 Project SEARCH Graduate, and Janeene Martin (right), Project SEARCH Job Developer. Barbara (center) and Janeene were essential in helping Jonathan move into Weinberg Commons, where he is living independently while working at Wawa.

Barbara Abrams, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council member, retired on June 30 after 22 years of service to Jewish Family and Children's Service as the Director of Disability Services. Barbara was instrumental in the planning and launching of Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health, then Kennedy, in 2016. Barbara said of her work with Project SEARCH: "I say this frequently, and it is the honest truth, that Project SEARCH has been one of the highlights of my career at JFCS. I have always loved the mission of this program and what made it even more special, was the Project SEARCH team. Over the 6 years it has been so satisfying to watch the impressive growth of the program."

Hired!

2022 Grads in the Workplace

Seven grads hired just after graduation; Five at Jefferson Health!



Five Project SEARCH graduates were hired by **Jefferson Health** after developing job skills during their internships in the Project SEARCH programs at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Congratulations to these five talented young men, and thank you to Jefferson Health for believing in them. Shown above is Will, who interned at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and was hired by Jefferson Stratford Hospital in the storeroom just before graduation. Nick, who excelled in food prep and working the grill, accepted an offer from Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital's Food Service Department. Liam is working in the EVS Department at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and is pictured here enjoying Carnival Day with his new colleagues. Hugo, second row, impressed his Pharmacy manager during his Project SEARCH rotations and secured a job in the pharmacy at Jefferson Stratford Hospital, a first for our program. Sean, who loves working with people, was hired to transport patients at Jefferson Cherry Hospital. He joins three other Project SEARCH alumni hired by the department. In total, 12 Project SEARCH alumni are working at Jefferson Health - New Jersey.

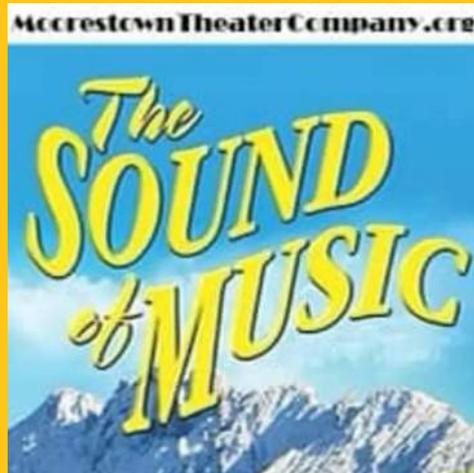


Hired by Business Advisory Council member company **GCM Gofer Parts** is Stephen, below left, packaging machine parts. Matthew, below right, is working at **Zena's Shoes** as a Warehouse Associate. Both Stephen and Matthew are excelling at their new jobs. Congratulations, Stephen and Matthew!



Project SEARCH Alumni News

2019 Graduate Performs in Classic Musical



2019 Project SEARCH Graduate Cathy performed in The Sound of Music July 20-28. Cathy was cast in the role of Fraulein Schmidt (left), assistant to Frau Schmidt who was performed by Cathy's mom. Cathy also performed as part of the ensemble (right). Cathy said, "I am so excited and honored to be performing in this show with the Moorestown Theater Company."

Since graduation from Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health in Cherry Hill, Cathy has been working at McDonald's in Medford. Since her employment, Cathy has increased her hours and responsibilities including processing orders at the take-out window and cashiering.

2022 Graduate Recognized for Artistic Talent

During the Project SEARCH year, Ethan, a recent Project SEARCH graduate, not only developed job and employability skills, but in his spare time continued to develop his artistic skills. His keen attention to detail is evident in both his drawing and his computer skills, which makes him a good fit for a data entry position in an office setting.

Ethan's artwork is displayed at the Second Annual Tri-State Disability Art Show. Ethan earned a certificate and award ribbon from the Art Educators of New Jersey - AENJ.

To see Ethan's work along with others on display, visit the extended showing of the Tri-State Disability Art Show at the Perkins Center for the Arts in Collingswood. The show runs until August 26.



Project SEARCH Bulletin Board

Welcome New Interns

BrightHorizonS9

To order Project SEARCH attire, [click here](#)

**COUNTDOWN
TO DAY ONE!!
SEPT. 8, 2022**

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

*Project SEARCH
Signing Celebrations
Sept. 9*

*Cherry Hill
10 a.m.*

*Stratford
12:30 p.m.*



Y.A.L.E. SCHOOL, INC.
2022-2023

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health
Jefferson Cherry Hill 2201 Chapel Ave, West Cherry Hill, NJ 08002 856-528-3905
Jefferson Stratford 18 E. Laurel Road Stratford, NJ 08084 856-346-6332

School Hours: 8:30 am — 2:30 pm
Delayed opening time: 9:30 am
Early dismissal time: 1:00 pm
On early dismissal days, there is no allotted lunch period.

August					September (16)					October (20)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31														
November (20)					December (17)					January (20)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31														
February (19)					March (23)					April (18)				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31														
May (22)					June (5) = 180					July				
M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F	M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31														

August	
25-31	New Staff Orientation
September	
1-2	Staff In-Service (Orientation)
5	Labor Day
6-7	Staff In-Service (Orientation)
8	First Day of School for Students
26	Rosh Hashanah
October	
5	Yom Kippur
November	
24-25	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
26-31	Winter Recess
January	
2	Winter Recess
16	Martin Luther King Day
February	
20	Presidents Day
March	
April	
7	Good Friday
10	Spring Break
May	
29	Memorial Day
June	
7	Possible Last Day for Students
18	Juneteenth

School closed
Early dismissal
Staff in-service day
Issued: May 11, 2022, Rev. May 26, 2022
Campus calendars in PDF format available online at www.yaleschool.com/downloads
School closing info on our website www.yaleschool.com, TV channels 3, 6, 10 and FM radio WKXW (101.5) as Y.A.L.E. School Cherry Hill.
Sign up for text message Emergency Alerts at www.yaleschool.com/alerts-signup (parents/guardians only—bus drivers contact campus office)

CLICK

HIRING?

Contact Janeene Martin, Job Developer jmartin@jfedsnj.org

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



IN COLLABORATION WITH

