



THE PROJECT SEARCH AT JEFFERSON HEALTH

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

BARIATRIC DEPARTMENT HOSTS INTERN FOR FIRST TIME AT STRATFORD HOSPITAL

Rachel is the first Project SEARCH intern to train in the Bariatric Surgery department at Jefferson Stratford Hospital. Since beginning her second rotation there last month, Rachel has learned transferable clerical skills while bringing a bit of joy to patients undergoing bariatric surgery.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



HOLIDAY TRADITIONS

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health interns get into the holiday spirit at Jefferson's hospitals in Cherry Hill and Stratford by giving back to the community and celebrating with peers, mentors and co-workers.

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PAGE 10 BRINGING HOME THE GOLD

BARIATRIC DEPARTMENT HOSTS INTERN



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Rachel organizes post-op informational packets and prepares gift bags, including Bari Buddy Bear. Bari is not just a toy, though; according to department manager Megan Sabin, patients hug the stuffed bear after surgery to relieve pain when coughing. Besides Bari Buddy Bear, the bags contain chapstick, hand sanitizer, and sharps containers. Most important is the folder Rachel prepares with post-op instructions and directions on safely using the sharps containers to dispose of needles used after surgery. In addition to organizing the information packets and bags, Rachel updates the department's bulletin boards. She will also begin interacting with patients during the second part of the rotation. Rachel said she is learning and practicing communication, clerical, and fine motor skills in this internship. One of her many strengths is her attention to detail.

Beth Kaplan, Project SEARCH instructor, works closely with Vice President of Operations Frank Rocco to identify departments where interns can learn and develop transferable job skills. Beth and the department managers then create a task list to teach these skills.

For more information on hosting an intern in your department, contact Beth Kaplan at Jefferson Stratford Hospital or Ernie Laux at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital.



Bariatric Manager Megan Sabin with Rachel



Next Steps

INTERVIEWING FOR SECOND ROTATION

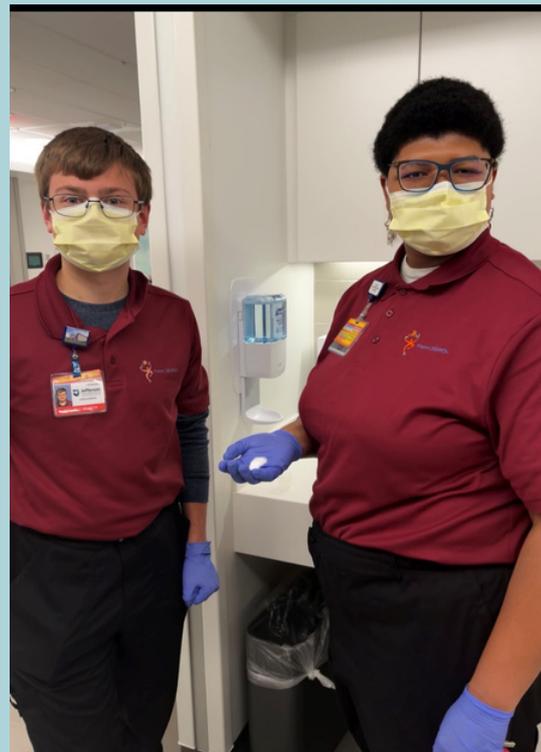
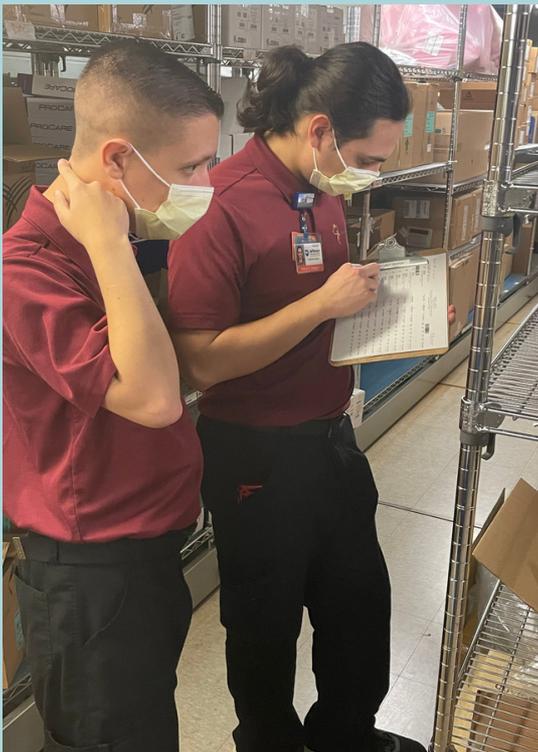


Pictured above is DJ interviewing with storeroom manager Dave Koss.

Project SEARCH interns completed their first 12-week internship rotation on December 23rd. Before transitioning into the second rotation, they revised their resumes and brushed up on their interviewing skills. Two or three department managers from participating departments interviewed each intern in the Cherry Hill and Stratford programs. After the interviews, department managers decided who they would offer the opportunity to intern in their department. Competitive interviews prepare interns to achieve competitive employment in the community after graduation.

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 benefits both peers: the trainer develops communication and teaching skills, while the trainee gets a head start on learning essential tasks for their next rotation. Pictured below are Seth, DJ, Josh and Dominique.





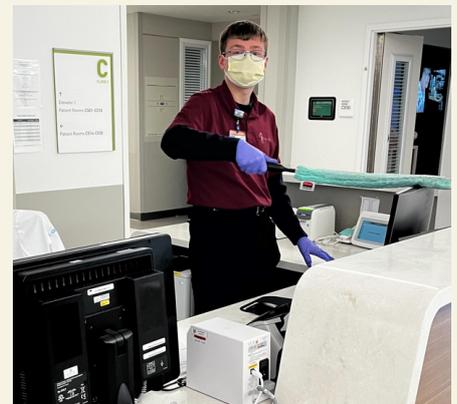
SECOND ROTATION: JEFFERSON CHERRY HILL HOSPITAL

Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital interns began their second rotation on January 3. They are now at about the midpoint of the rotation and are mastering many new skills. When an intern masters a skill, new skills are added so that by the end of the rotation, they have developed competitive, marketable job skills. Project SEARCH adopts the philosophy that people have the right to choose their path in life. However, they must earn the right to work; and, therefore, that right depends on the person's preparation. Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health provides interns the training necessary for that preparation.



"People with disabilities have the right to choose a path toward education and employment. However, while freedom of choice is given, the right to work is earned. Earning the right to work is dependent upon the student's preparation."

-- Stephen Simon



Clockwise, from top left, is Dominique in Environmental Services, DJ in Storeroom, Dylon in Patient Transport, Josh in Environmental Services, Sam in Food and Nutrition, Leif in Health Information Management, Jordon in Pharmacy, and Seth in Surgical Services.

SECOND ROTATION: JEFFERSON STRATFORD HOSPITAL



Jefferson Stratford Hospital interns also began their second rotation on January 3. This second of three rotations runs until March 24. The final rotation begins on March 27.



Stratford interns are excelling in their second rotations. Clockwise, from top left, is Molly in Physical Therapy preparing for the next patient. Connor is in Patient Transport on his way to transport a patient. Rachel, who is featured on pages 1 and 2 for her work in Bariatric Surgery, is also learning tasks in Physical Therapy. Scott, in Food and Nutrition, is prepping food and washing dishes. Andy is interning in Admissions, where he has the opportunity to develop good communication skills. Betsy in EVS is cleaning offices and visitor areas of the hospital.



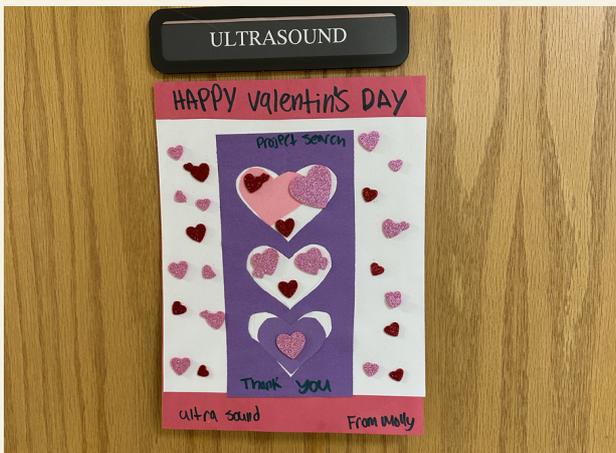


Interns celebrate the holidays by giving back

Celebrations are part of the culture at Jefferson Health, and Project SEARCH interns are immersed in that culture. During the winter season, interns enjoyed a holiday meal with their co-workers, competed in the gingerbread decorating contest, and designed and delivered Valentine's cards.

Interns also experienced the value of giving by partnering with Fearless Women Ministries to hold a food drive for community members in need. Interns collected grocery store gift cards and non-perishable food items, organized the goods, and loaded up Skills Trainer Heather Edwards' vehicle. Heather, with her family and other volunteers from Fearless Women Ministries, delivered meals to more than 100 individuals just before Thanksgiving. Jefferson Health employees, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee and Business Advisory Council members, families, and friends of Project SEARCH contributed to the success of the food drive. A special thank you to Heather, who has spearheaded this food drive for three years. Heather, who recently left JFCS and Project SEARCH to direct the children's ministry at Gloucester County Community Church, will continue to partner with Project SEARCH for this annual food drive.

Project SEARCH interns also helped Jefferson with a special project -- labeling hundreds of chocolate bars with the words "Teamwork." The chocolate was given out by members of Jefferson Health's leadership team to thank employees for their commitment.

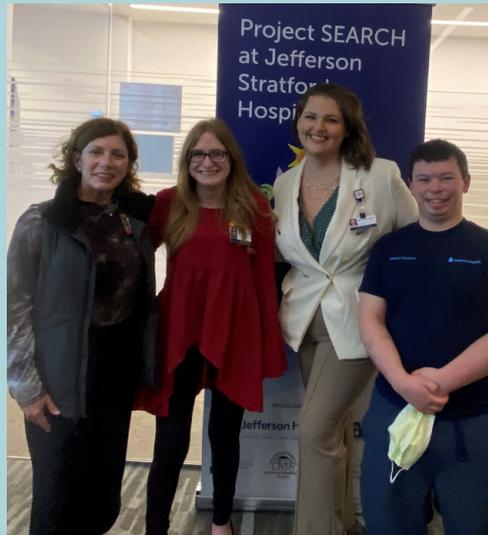


Pictured above in the top row is a Valentine's card from Molly for the ultrasound department, and Project SEARCH at Jefferson Stratford Hospital interns Connor, Andy, Scott, Rachel and Betsy with non-perishable items for the food drive; in the bottom row are Jefferson Stratford Hospital interns Rachel, Betsy, Connor, and Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital interns Sam and Dominique.

Notes from the Steering Committee



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health held two well-attended information sessions in December at Jefferson Stratford Hospital and Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital. Parents, school district case managers, and community members learned about Project SEARCH and the application process for the upcoming program year from Project SEARCH



Steering Committee members. Special speakers at the event included Jefferson employees Hugo Kim, Pharmacy Tech, and Billy Zieger, and Jessica Kelokates, both Patient Transporters. All three employees are graduates of Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health and now champion the program by speaking to interested students and parents, and encouraging and mentoring current interns. Pictured, left to right, are Janeene Martin, JFCS Project SEARCH Manager/Senior Employment Specialist; Jessica, 2021 graduate; Rebecca Bigwood, Jefferson Health Corporate Manager; Billy, 2019 graduate; and Hugo, 2022 graduate.

Welcome Back Jennifer Veneziani, NJ DVRS Burlington County Manager

At the January meeting, the Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee welcomed back Jennifer Veneziani to Project SEARCH. Jennifer returned to DVRS and the Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee after a year's absence, where she served 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 are all happy to welcome Jen back to the committee. We appreciate her expertise and passion for helping people meet their aspirational employment goals.

Congratulations and Thanks to Cheryl Vail

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health thanks Cheryl Vail for her guidance and support of our program over the past four years. Cheryl, who was the NJ State Project Search Liaison since 2019, has taken a new management position with DVRS. While she will no longer be on our steering committee, she will still be involved with Project SEARCH. We wish her much success in her new role. Congratulations, Cheryl.

The Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Steering Committee includes 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 Services of South Jersey.

Business Advisory (BAC) Council News



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health BAC to Host Virtual Job Fair

On March 13, Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health Business Advisory Council (BAC) members will conduct mock interviews with the interns to prepare them for the BAC job fair scheduled for April 21 at 10 a.m. at the Y.A.L.E. School Performing Arts Building.

At the job fair, select employers will meet and interview talented interns who have gained valuable transferable work experience during the Project SEARCH program year. Over the past several years, the job fair has been a success for interns and employers alike. Employers including Wawa, Cooper University Hospital, AtlantiCare, Jefferson Health, McDonald's, Grace Company Management, and First Harvest Credit Union, have met and interviewed interns at the job fair, later hiring them for entry-level positions that aligned with the interns' aspiration goals.

To learn more about the job fair, contact BAC Member Janeene Martin, JFCS Project SEARCH Job Developer, at jmartin@jfedsnj.org

In addition to organizing and preparing the interns for the Job Fair, BAC members support the Project SEARCH program by mentoring the interns and networking in the community. BAC members include Kate Burch, Grace Company Management; Cheryl Casciano, NJ DVRS; Debbie Deissroth, (Chair) DD Coaching and Consulting; Rob Deissroth, DD Coaching and Consulting; James Farren, CVS; Kathy Heid, First Harvest Credit Union; Sue Learn, DIY Media Group; Heather Lindstrom, Jefferson Health; Irene Perez, NJ DVRS; Cris Quinones, Wawa; Duane Rohr Sr., CVS; Joeliza Rosado, TRUIST; Michael Stevenson, First Harvest Credit Union; and Jaime Whalen, Truist. Also on the BAC are Project SEARCH on-site staff members, Ernie Laux, Beth Kaplan, Kelly Almas, Margaret Smith and Shannen Murphy; and Project SEARCH Coordinator Darlene Anderson.

Thanks to Angela Lucas, who has served on the BAC since its inception in 2016. Angel has been instrumental in mentoring interns, networking with employers, and supporting the annual Job Fair coordination. We wish her all the best as she transitions from her role at HireAbility!

Special welcome to new members, Joeliza Rosada and Irene Perez.



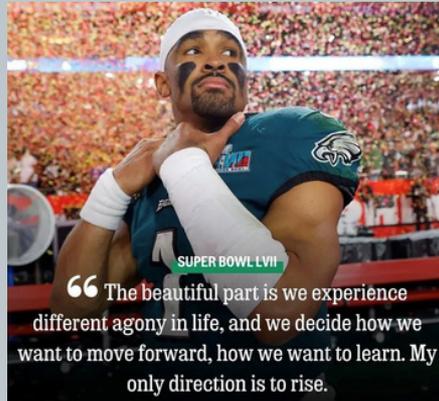
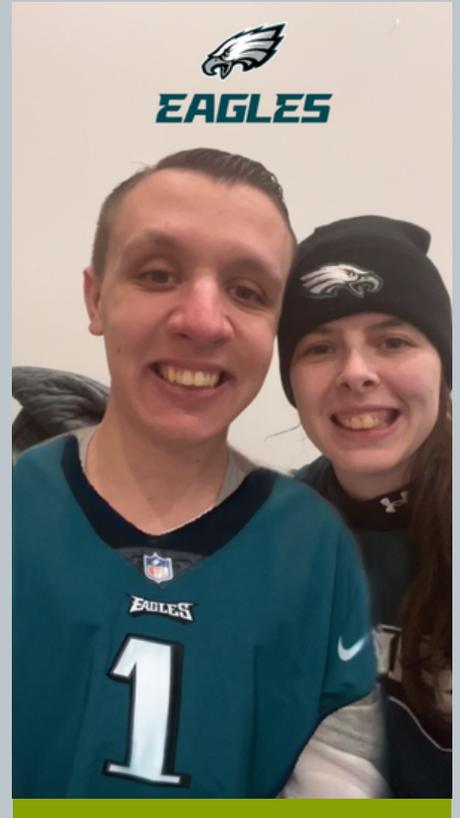
On January 9, Project SEARCH interns from Jefferson's Cherry Hill and Stratford hospitals met their BAC mentors in person for the first time at a holiday luncheon hosted by Debbie Deissroth, BAC Chair. Seth, standing, is introducing himself to the BAC members and telling them about his experience interning in Surgical Services.

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

LEARNING FROM DEFEAT



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health interns and staff shared pictures of their Super Bowl LVII celebrations featuring families and pets. Fans appreciate the great season and the Eagles' hard work and dedication, despite falling short in the championship. Jalen Hurts' words to the media about the loss are inspiring and can be applied to many aspects of life. He said, "I think the beautiful part about it is everyone experiences different pains, everyone experiences different agonies in life, but you decide if you want to learn from it. You decide if you want that to be a teachable moment- I know that I do... My only direction is to rise." Thank you, Eagles! Here's to Super Bowl LVIII!

Pictured clockwise are Job Developer Janeene with her husband Brion and Twiggy; DJ's Eagles Cake, Seth with his sister Paige; Sam's dad, Adam, at Super Bowl LVII in Phoenix; Ernie's cats, Cali (on the TV stand) and Moo (on the floor), watching Ernie watch the game; and Josh with his dog, Jersey.



Hired! 2022 Grads in the Workplace



Sean began employment at Jefferson Health Cherry Hill Hospital in Patient Transport after graduating from the Project SEARCH program. Sean has been an asset to the Patient Transport team by conducting wheelchair and stretcher round-ups, to ensure proper distribution and availability. Sean is also instrumental in running oxygen tank round-ups, which involve checking the regulators to assess if the tank is full or almost empty. Once that is determined, Sean replenishes empty tanks with new ones. Lastly, Sean supports the department by responding to dispatch via the Rover app to pick up and deliver specimens to the hospital lab. Management and co-workers appreciate Sean's contributions to the department.



Erik is working in Guest Services at the Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital. Erik welcomes and provides information to guests, escorts patients to various locations throughout the hospital and carries a Jefferson-issued phone so he can be contacted when patients from Medical Oncology need to be transported to their appointments within the hospital. A patient, who visits the wound care unit, recently told Erik's mentor, Renee, that when she arrives at the hospital to receive treatment and sees Erik in the lobby, she cheers. She said Erik takes good care of her by escorting her to the department and carrying her walker. Erik, who's been working in the department for about 90 days, says his favorite part of his job is helping people get where they need to go and meeting and interacting with people.

Clint: A Winner On – and Off – the Rink

Clint, a graduate of the Jefferson Stratford Hospital Project SEARCH program, started working in the Utility Department at Friends Village Senior Living facility in December 2022. While hired in the Utility Department, Clint expressed interest in learning about food prep; so about once a week, Clint assists the chef on duty with various tasks, such as cutting fruit and filleting chicken. Additionally, Clint is always willing to come if there is a last-minute call-out. Management is pleased with Clint's performance, saying he is highly reliable and has a great work ethic. During Clint's spare time, he participates in NJ Special Olympics. Clint recently competed in the NJ Special Olympics Winter Games in Floor Hockey and was instrumental in leading his team to victory and clinching the gold medal! Congratulations, Clint!



Project SEARCH Bulletin Board

Interested in hosting a Project SEARCH intern?

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

Beth Kaplan in Stratford at
(856) 495-1525 bkaplan@yaleschoolnj.com



Deadline Approaching:

**Applications for
Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health
2023-24 Program Year Due March 1.**

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

[Click to apply.](#)

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 08064
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)													
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November (20)							December (17)							January (20)						
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May (22)							June (5) - 180							July						
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- 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 WXXW (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)

**SAVE THE DATE FOR GRADUATION
JUNE 7 AT 6 P.M.
JEFFERSON CHERRY HILL HOSPITAL**

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



IN COLLABORATION WITH

