



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SIGNING CELEBRATIONS

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health welcomed 13 interns during two Signing Celebrations on September 11 at Jefferson Cherry Hill and Stratford Hospitals.

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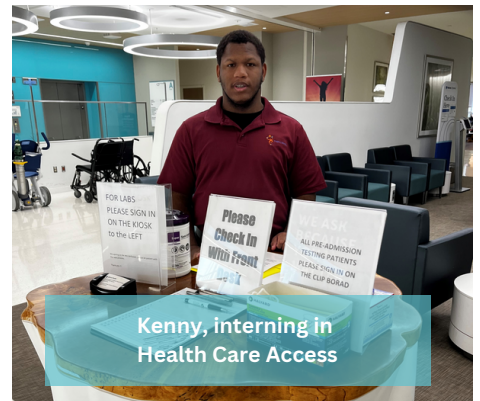
INTERNS LEARN NEW SKILLS IN 12 HOSPITAL DEPARTMENTS

The internship is the cornerstone of Project SEARCH. During the program year, each intern participates in three 11-week internship rotations in hospital departments where competitive, marketable, and transferable skills are learned. Interns are about halfway through their first rotation, which began October 1 and runs until December 23. Kenny, pictured right, is interning in Health Care Access, where he checks in patients and escorts them to the diagnostic lounge.

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Interns Jason, Tymeir, Owen, Paige, Patricia, Phoebe and Kenny with on-site team Kelly, Ernie and Maria, and JFCS Job Developer Janeene Martin, Y.A.L.E. Director Peggy Chapman and VP of Operations Lisa Dutterer



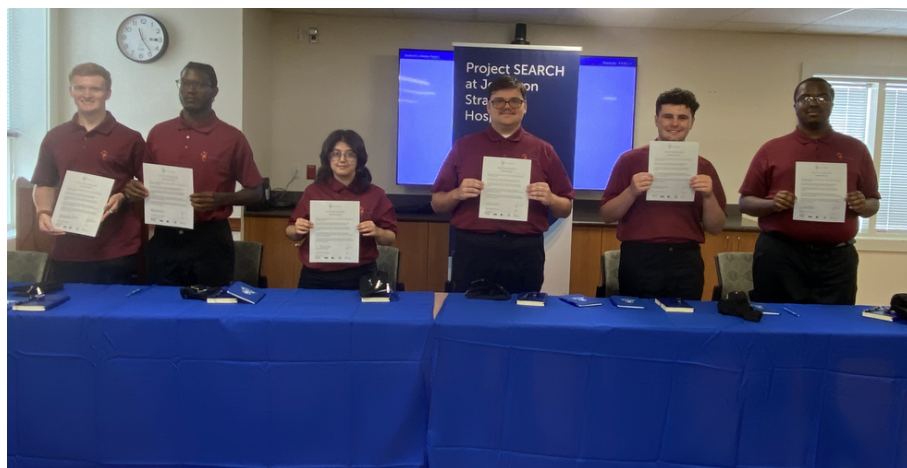
Kenny, interning in Health Care Access

MEET THE TEAM

Project SEARCH interns are supported on-site by two teams of professionals from Y.A.L.E. School and Samost Jewish Family and Children's Service (JFCS). The Cherry Hill team includes Ernie Laux, Special Education Teacher, and Kelly Almasy, Assistant Teacher and Skills Trainer, both from Y.A.L.E., and Maria DeStafanis-Turner, Skills Trainer from JFCS. The Stratford team includes Beth Kaplan, Special Education Teacher, and Margaret Smith, Assistant Teacher and Skills Trainer, both from Y.A.L.E., and Shannen Murphy, Skills Trainer from JFCS. In addition to the on-site team is Janeene Martin, JFCS Project SEARCH Job Developer, who is often at one of the Jefferson Health program sites helping graduates find jobs or coaching new hires.



Interns Jacob, V, Abdul, Connor, Sean, and Ian with on-site team Shannen, Beth and Margaret



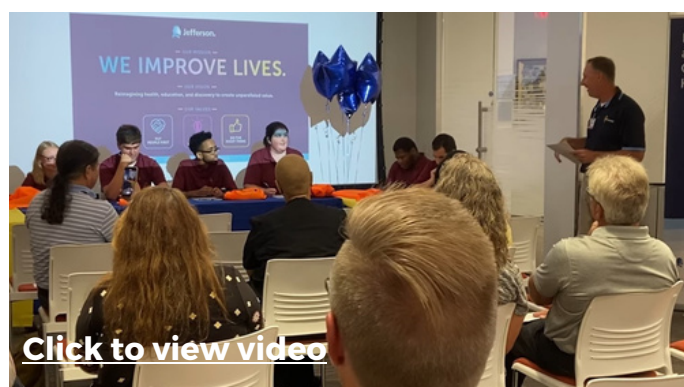
SIGNING CELEBRATIONS

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During the celebrations, all interns committed to working hard each day to prepare for gainful employment at the end of the program, either at Jefferson Health or at another employer in the community. The Project SEARCH programs at Jefferson Stratford Hospital and Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital are 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. Six young adults are participating at Jefferson Stratford Hospital and seven are participating at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital.

Welcoming the interns to Jefferson Stratford Hospital Project SEARCH were VP of Operations and Project SEARCH Business Liaison Frank Rocco, Y.A.L.E. School Director Peggy Chapman, and Project SEARCH Instructor Beth Kaplan. To hear Rocco's welcome remarks, click the video, above right.

Welcoming the interns to Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital Project SEARCH were VP of Operations and Project SEARCH Business Liaison Lisa Dutterer, Chapman, and Project SEARCH Instructor Ernie Laux. To hear Dutterer's welcome remarks, click the video below. To hear Project SEARCH Instructor Ernie Laux lead the Cherry Hill interns making their commitment to the program, click the video at the bottom. Also in attendance were Steering Committee members from JFCS, Y.A.L.E., DVRS and DDD, hospital managers and mentors, and numerous family members.



Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health

Internship Agreement

I promise to bring the best version of myself to this internship program each and every day.

I will ask for help, when needed, and bring any challenges to the attention of my mentor, manager or Project SEARCH staff.

I understand that I am expected to comply with Jefferson Health's policies and procedures in order to remain in the Project SEARCH program.

I understand this program is designed to prepare me for gainful employment in a meaningful job, either at Jefferson Health or at another business in the community.

I understand that my success is largely dependent on my own effort to learn each day and fully apply my talents and abilities in the internships to which I am assigned.

Project SEARCH Intern

Date

Project SEARCH Teacher

Date

IN COLLABORATION WITH





CHERRY HILL HOSPITAL: THE FIRST ROTATION

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Pictured clockwise is Patricia interning in Food and Nutrition where she restocks beverages and snacks and serves hot entrees. Phoebe is with her mentor, Ronda, in Environmental Services where she is responsible for cleaning several floors of the hospital. Jason is interning in the storeroom learning to read the pick list and retrieve the supplies to be delivered throughout the hospital. Owen is in the pharmacy learning to check expiration dates, fill prescription orders for the patient floors from the carousel, and check in and put away new stock. Tymeir, with his mentor Roxanne in Environmental Services - Linens, is stocking the entire hospital with clean linens and loading the scrubEx machine with new scrubs for the surgical staff. Paige is interning in Patient Transport. Her mentor Jaylen is posing as a patient so that Paige can practice safely navigating the hospital halls with a patient on board. Continue to the next page to see what the interns are up to at the Project SEARCH program at Jefferson Stratford Hospital.





STRATFORD HOSPITAL: THE FIRST ROTATION

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Jefferson Stratford Hospital interns are excelling in their first rotations. Pictured clockwise is Jacob interning in Food and Nutrition, stocking beverages and snacks, sanitizing tables, making Wawa Coffee, preparing fruit cups and serving entrees. Ian is interning in Environmental Services delivering linens to various departments, filling the scrubEx machine with clean scrubs, removing trash, and pictured, top right, cleaning the hospital lobby. Connor, shown changing a ceiling tile, is interning in Facilities, learning a variety of maintenance skills including HVAC, electric, plumbing, and painting. Connor is not only gaining new skills - he's also gaining new friends. On his birthday, the guys in facilities celebrated Connor's special day. Abdul, with support from his mentor Irene, is learning to transport patients safely through the hospital. V, interning in Bariatric Surgery, is shown below preparing information packets for patients. Sean, bottom left, is in Admissions where he answers calls, greets, directs and escorts visitors.

Interns from both sites will continue to hone their skills in the first rotation until December 23, when they will break for winter vacation. Upon their return, they will interview with managers for a spot in their second rotation.



FROM THE TRAINING ROOM

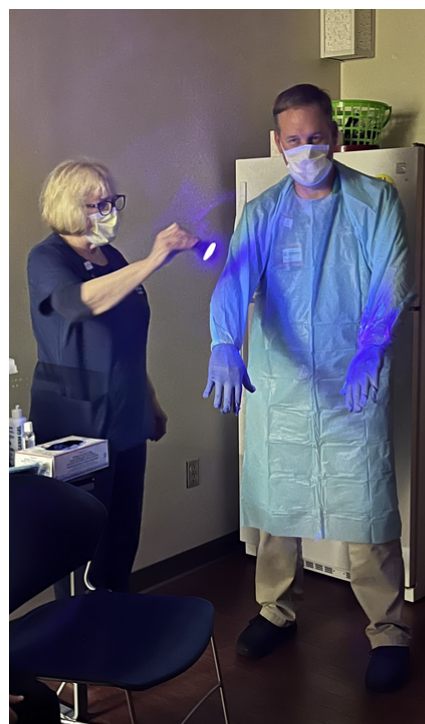
PUMPKIN CONTEST WINNERS

The interns at the Project SEARCH program at Jefferson Stratford Hospital, competing against other hospital departments, won the "scariest pumpkin" award. The winning pumpkin was designed and painted by V. All the interns will be treated to Chick-fil-A, the vendor of their choice. Teacher Beth Kaplan says she is proud of their team-building efforts and the recognition they received.

Pictured below are the interns with their pumpkins, including the award-winning "Scariest Pumpkin."

INTERNS COMPLETE JEFFERSON ORIENTATION IN PREPARATION FOR DEPARTMENT ROTATIONS

In the first few weeks of the program, the on-site teams lead the interns through Jefferson Health's orientation, including topics from Human Resources, Security, HIPAA, Patient Experience, and Infectious Diseases. Ernie, pictured below with Mary Miller from Infection Control, may look ready for Halloween, but he is actually being tested for germs. The on-site team also teaches resume writing and interview skills to prepare interns for interviewing with several department managers who agree to host an intern during the first rotation. Patricia and Tymeir, pictured below, are practicing interview skills together in the training room at the Cherry Hill hospital. Once the interns start in their departments, the on-site teams are "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 to prepare them for employment upon graduation. The team analyzes tasks, prepares instructions, develops task lists, creates supports, and identifies natural supports within each department.



NOTES FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health welcomes new Steering Committee members Brian Duffy, Rebecca Bigwood-Dooley and Lauren Romano.

Duffy, Interim Vice President of Operations of Jefferson Stratford Hospital, serves as business liaison for the program at Jefferson Stratford Hospital. He has supported Project SEARCH since its inception in 2016. Director of Physical Therapy & Rehabilitation Services for Jefferson Health East Region, Duffy has hosted interns in the physical therapy departments at both Jefferson Cherry Hill and Jefferson Stratford hospitals. He is stepping into the big shoes of Frank Rocco who recently moved over to Jefferson Washington Township Hospital as Interim VP of Operations. Rocco, who served as business liaison for the Stratford program, was instrumental in guiding the program through two successful program years. He worked closely with Project SEARCH Instructor Beth Kaplan to grow the program and increase the number of participating departments. The steering committee thanks both Duffy and Rocco for their support of Project SEARCH.

Bigwood-Dooley, Corporate Operations Manager at Jefferson Health-NJ, is also joining the committee. She has been a staunch supporter of all three Jefferson Health Project SEARCH programs. Bigwood-Dooley has hosted interns in the patient transport departments at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Jefferson Stratford Hospital and has hired graduates at all three New Jersey hospitals.

Romano, Y.A.L.E. School Standard 9 Transition Program Supervisor, also joins the committee. She is supporting the Y.A.L.E. Project SEARCH on-site staff and interns on a daily basis. She has worked with the Y.A.L.E. S-9 program for several years, and says she is excited to expand her role with Project SEARCH and the steering committee.

Project SEARCH appreciates the support and expertise that these new members bring to the committee.

AUTISM NJ CONFERENCE

Y.A.L.E. School and NJ DVRS teamed up to share information about Project SEARCH at the **Autism NJ Conference** in Atlantic City on October 19 and 20. NJ State Project SEARCH Liaison Solo Okonkwo, left, Y.A.L.E. School Director Peggy Chapman, right, Y.A.L.E. Southeast Campus Principal and Director Ann Davidson, and Project SEARCH Coordinator Darlene Anderson shared information with hundreds of family members, school representatives, and support agencies throughout the two-day event. In addition to spreading the word about New Jersey's Project SEARCH programs, Okonkwo shared information about DVRS services and Chapman, Davidson and Anderson shared information on Y.A.L.E School programs.





happy THANKSGIVING



FEARLESS
Women

Holiday Food Drive

Project SEARCH is partnering with Fearless Women again to help provide meals for the holidays to families in need. We are in need of the following items.

Please bring in by November 17th.

Stuffing
Mashed Potatoes
Cranberry Sauce
Canned Vegetables
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Rice
Gravy
Mac N Cheese

Cereal
Coffee & Tea
Tomato Sauce
Spaghetti
Cake Mix
Brownie Mix
Biscuit Mix
Tuna Fish

Contact Beth, Ernie or Darlene for more information

Interested
in hosting
an intern ?

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

Beth Kaplan at
(856) 495-1525
Beth.Kaplan2@jefferson.edu



HIRING?

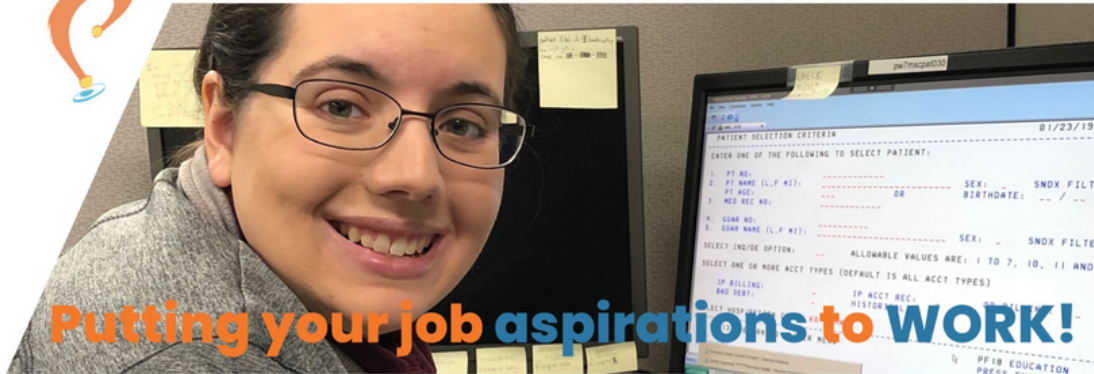
Contact
Janeene Martin
Job Developer
jmartin@jfedsnj.org





Project | SEARCH at Jefferson Health

Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital
Jefferson Stratford Hospital



Award Winning Program Six Consecutive Years 2017-2023

Including:

- 100% Outcomes Award - July 2023
- Excellent Outcomes Award - July 2023
- International Project SEARCH Award: Spotlight on Innovative Employment - July 2020

WHY CHOOSE US?



Only Project SEARCH program in NJ with enhanced autism-to-work training from NEXT for AUTISM



SUCCESS! Over 95% of graduates obtain competitive employment!

- Avg. 40% employed by Jefferson Health
- Avg. 60% employed elsewhere in the community
- Avg. hourly wage \$15.20

REGISTER:

www.yaleschoolnj.com/Events

More Info: kslater@yaleschoolnj.com

IN COLLABORATION WITH



VIRTUAL LUNCH AND LEARN

NOVEMBER 15 - 12:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 6 - 12:00 P.M.

Learn about both programs from our certified teaching staff. Hear how skills gained in these programs lead to lifelong benefits for interns.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

FOR PARENTS, CASE MANAGERS & STUDENTS

DECEMBER 7

TWO LOCATIONS

Jefferson Stratford Hospital - 10:00 A.M.
18 E. Laurel Road, Stratford NJ 08084

Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital - 7:00 P.M.
2201 Chapel Avenue, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002

STUDENT MEET & GREET

JANUARY 11

- ~ Tour both programs in one day
- ~ Chat with interns and department heads
- ~ See what a day is like for an intern

Please help spread the word about our upcoming Information Sessions to anyone who might be interested in learning more about Project SEARCH at Jefferson Health.

To register, click here.



Project | SEARCH at Jefferson Health

Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital
Jefferson Stratford Hospital

Ready to prepare for the workforce and get the skills you need to obtain a job that's important to you?

Project SEARCH leads the way to “aspirational employment.”

Project SEARCH is a 10-month opportunity to gain real work experience in a professional business setting. Students are referred by their school districts. Accepted students receive employment training through Y.A.L.E. School at Project SEARCH at Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Jefferson Stratford Hospital from September 2024 – June 2025, in collaboration with Jefferson Health and state agencies. *

Our program is an outstanding choice! Here's why:

40% of graduates have been employed by Jefferson Cherry Hill Hospital and Jefferson Stratford Hospital, in positions including the following departments:

Emergency Department Supply Tech
KHA Administration File Clerk
Patient Transport
Health Information Management Analyst

Food Services
Storeroom
Environmental Service
Pharmacy / Pharmacy Technician



60% of graduates have been hired in the community by top employers such as:

Global Geeks
Eden Corporation
AtlantiCare
Virtua Hospital
Powerback
Marshalls
Lowes
Sodexo
Wawa
Cooper Hospital

Kingsway Church
CVS Pharmacy
Pancheros
CTDI
Honey Grow
AMC Theaters
GCM Gofer Parts
First Harvest Credit Union
Zena's Shoes
Moorestown Friends School



Now Accepting Applications for the 2024-2025 School Year!
Contact Kitty Slater: kslater@yaleschoolnj.com
or go to: www.yaleschoolnj.com

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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



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