

Project SEARCH

Monthly

Middlesex Health



Project SEARCH



IMPACT

(MARC Community Resources)



Intern Spotlight

This month, we would like to put the spotlight on Alex. Alex arrives to Project SEARCH each day with his infectious positive energy, eager to learn. Alex always takes critical feedback appropriately and does his best every day. This rotation in the kitchen, Alex is learning tray passing, and he has really excelled in this rotation so far. He has picked up on his assigned tasks quickly and always treats others with kindness and respect. Great job, Alex!



A New Year for Growth

The second rotation of internships is officially in full swing! Our interns are training on job tasks in their new departments, and are building their skillsets to prepare for independent employment. Over the transition week between rotations, the interns began creating their own resumes and reflecting on their goals for employment after Project SEARCH. Additionally, our entire cohort participated in an orientation to CPR with the Family and Friends CPR class, held by the education department at Middlesex Hospital.

We had our holiday luncheon with the Project SEARCH team and our executive sponsor, David Guiffrida, the VP of Operations at Middlesex Hospital. The interns were able to share about their experiences from first rotation, over a pizza lunch! So far, the group has adjusted well to their second rotation placements, and we have seen a positive shift in confidence and professionalism amongst the interns. We are looking forward to witnessing the growth that this rotation will bring and are anticipating the first round of employment planning meetings for this rotation.

Reminders

* Upcoming Days Off

Monday, January 19th
We will be off for MLK Jr. Day!

* Second Rotation

Second rotation began on 12/15, and will run through Friday, 2/20.



Facebook

Check out our new Facebook page:
Project Search - Impact, Inc.

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Project SEARCH Takes On CPR

This year, for the first time, our cohort participated in an orientation to CPR, the Family and Friends program from the American Heart Association. The interns learned about the importance of knowing CPR, when and why it is needed, and the appropriate way to give chest compressions. With the help of Scott and Dawn from the center for professional development, we were able to utilize the simulation lab, which is used for training purposes for students and clinical staff. Each intern practiced giving chest compressions to the mannequin, and their peers were able to see on the monitor if the compressions were adequate to restart the heart. The interns gave each other feedback, to straighten their elbows, make sure the compressions were deep enough, to improve their rhythm, etc. The group was also trained on the utilization of an AED machine, and each practiced using the machine on the mannequin. This training taught our group something new, but also empowered them by gaining life-saving knowledge and experience. It even sparked an interest in some interns who are now interested in becoming fully CPR certified. We are so thankful to Scott and Dawn for making this experience possible for our interns.

CPR Training Photos



“Our potential is only reached when the full diversity of all those that make up our communities is celebrated.”

-Stuart Milk



Pictured above: Lyndell and Andrew, a Project SEARCH graduate/mailroom employee, with Kris and Dee from the Switchboard at their holiday celebration.

A Special Thank You

We would like to give a huge shoutout and a special thanks to the amazing staff in the Switchboard at the hospital. Over the last couple of years, the “Switchboard Ladies” have developed great relationships with several of our interns as well as our graduates-turned-employees. The Switchboard is not just welcoming to our interns, but they go out of their way to make them feel seen, included, special, and cared for. Our interns/graduates who deliver the mail to the Switchboard leave each day with a smile on their face and a piece of candy in their pocket! Most recently, the Switchboard held their holiday party in the department, and they invited any Project SEARCH interns and alumni they know to join the festivities and stop by for a bite to eat. They have demonstrated unconditional compassion and have truly embraced us with open arms. Kris and Dee, thank you and your team for opening your hearts and your door for Project SEARCH and our interns.

Check out our new Facebook page! Project SEARCH - Impact, Inc.

Second Rotation Updates



Alex's second rotation placement is the kitchen, where he is training on tray passing. Alex has learned the kitchen procedures regarding hand hygiene, wearing his hairnet, keeping busy between rounds of trays, as well as learning his way around the hospital and how to navigate to patient rooms. Alex has learned to push the cart safely and appropriately, and has confidence when entering patient rooms to announce "Food service!" as well as confirming the patients' name and date of birth before delivering their meal. Alex is very mindful of precaution rooms and knows when he needs to put on PPE before entering a patient room. His mentors have provided extremely positive feedback about how quickly he is picking up on the tasks in the kitchen, and on days when the department is extra busy, Alex, alongside his mentors, has taken on multiple floors at once and maintained an appropriate pace as well as consistency with following all tray passing procedures.

For second rotation, Lyndell's internship is in the mailroom/copy center. Lyndell has been introduced to tasks including utilizing the postage machine and how to sort and stamp mail. He is also training on the inside and outside mail runs with assistance from his mentor. The outside mail run takes place each morning at 10:30 and has nine stops in departments on the hospital campus. The inside mail run takes place each afternoon and includes upwards of 55 stops around the hospital. Lyndell has been learning the layout of the hospital, the order of the run, the procedure for delivering mail, and the utilization of the handheld scanner to record his stops.



For her second rotation, Hayley was placed with the patient transport department. Hayley has been training alongside a mentor each day, learning skills such as completing 'pump rounds', where she and her mentor take inventory of the available IV pumps around nursing units, collect them, clean them, store them properly, and fulfill orders to bring pumps to whichever nursing unit requests them. Hayley is also shadowing the transport of patients for transfers or appointments within the hospital as well as patient discharges. She is learning the procedure for safely transporting patients, etiquette when interacting with patients, and how the department works to assign jobs via the handheld devices each staff member uses.



Scott has thrived in the EVS department and expressed an interest to build on the skills he has learned, so he is remaining with Environmental Services for his second rotation. Scott continues to make rounds to collect recycling and waste from departments all over the hospital, and has also trained on the lobby floor for servicing restrooms, servicing the hospital resident area, and removing trash from areas on the first floor. Scott anticipates training on floor and stairwell maintenance throughout this rotation as well as more independence with his assigned tasks.



Tessa is working with the clinical team on nursing floors for her second rotation placement. She has been training on tasks that mirror some of those of Patient Care Technicians, as well as organizational and inventory tasks on nursing units. Tessa has not only trained on keeping patient room cabinets stocked with linens, masks, and gowns, but she has also gone through every supply room on every nursing floor in the hospital, checking each and every individual item in the room to identify and remove any expired supplies. Tessa has also shadowed more clinical tasks including many facets of patient care and has demonstrated an impressive level of maturity and professionalism, while treating patients with empathy and kindness.

Nathan is training in the dishroom for his second rotation. Nathan has expressed interest in the dishroom since he started at Project SEARCH and approaches each day with an eagerness to learn. He is training on the daily tasks in the dishroom including breaking down trucks of trays and dishes from patients' breakfasts and lunches. He is learning to clear off and empty dishes and cups, sort each type of dish, and fill the dishwasher in a timely manner. He also sends through dishes from food prep and from the cooks throughout the day and attends to the trash when necessary. He is also learning to sweep, disinfect, and wipe down the area after the breakfast and lunch rushes.



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