

Project SEARCH Monthly

Middlesex Health



Project SEARCH


 IMPACT
(MARC Community Resources)


Intern Spotlight

This month, our spotlight is on Scott. Scott has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to perform at his very best each day. Scott works with punctuality, a team approach, empathy, and a commitment to always follow the rules. He encourages his peers and colleagues, is flexible with the demands of his department, advocates for himself and others, and is motivated to service the hospital to make sure the building is "spotless for the patients". Keep up the amazing work, Scott!

Reminders

Upcoming Days Off

Friday, April 3rd

We will be off for Good Friday!



Second Rotation

Second rotation began on 12/15,
and the final day is Friday, 2/20.



Facebook

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



Halfway Done, Fully Committed

We are past the halfway mark through second rotation, which means our 2025-2026 class of interns is already over halfway through their Project SEARCH journey. This rotation, each intern is diligently working toward a higher level of independence within their departments by demonstrating a strong initiative and flexibility to complete their assigned tasks. The group is building on their skills learned in their first rotation to compile a portfolio of valuable and transferrable employment skills. We have completed our first round of employment planning meetings for

this rotation, where each intern was able to present their progress in their rotation and receive insightful feedback from their team. There are several interns who have been granted more independence in their departments and are on track to be fully independent with their tasks by the end of second rotation. During classroom time we have most recently placed an emphasis on professional communication, interpersonal skills, and time management. We look forward to witnessing the continued growth of our cohort throughout the remainder of the rotation.

Dimitar Tashkovski

860-984-5340

dimitar.tashkovski@marc-cr.org

dimitar.tashkovski@midhosp.org

Contact Us:

Brianna (Bri) Martin

860-984-5090

brianna.martin@marc-cr.org

brianna.martin@midhosp.org

Project SEARCH Classroom extension: x6681

The Lasting IMPACT of Job Coaches

Project SEARCH helps prepare our interns for the workforce... but what happens when they get a job?

Did you know: Agencies like IMPACT are able to provide support to the people we serve throughout their employment journey in whatever capacity they need. While our interns search for, secure, and maintain employment, they have the ability to be supported up to a specified amount of hours per week. Throughout the hospital you may run into our two IMPACT job coaches, Nevaeh and Melody. They are tasked with checking in with our employed graduates and supporting them in ways such as: observing them on the job, receiving feedback from their supervisors and colleagues, making sure they stay up to date on their Healthstreams and other requirements, supporting them with additional training, and working to maintain and build more professional skills and overall independence. Nevaeh and Melody are crucial members of our team who provide long-term support to those we serve, to help ensure their growth and success with their competitive employment.



Pictured above: Melody (left) and Nevaeh (right), our IMPACT job coaches who are full time at Middlesex Hospital to support our employed graduates.

This Month in Photos



Top left: Nathan in the dishroom, preparing to unload the dishwasher.



Top right: Tessa in a supply room on a nursing floor, combing through supplies to ensure all is up to date.



Bottom right: Hayley and her mentor Nick, training on pushing hospital beds.

"We have to transcend our differences to transform our future." —António Guterres

We are actively recruiting for the 2026-2027 Project SEARCH year. If you know someone who may be interested, please reach out to Dimitar Tashkovski for more information.

Project SEARCH Timeline

2/20: Final day of 2nd rotation

2/23-2/27: Classroom week
(Resume edits, interview prep)

3/2: 3rd rotation begins

4/3: Off for Good Friday

5/22: Final day of 3rd rotation

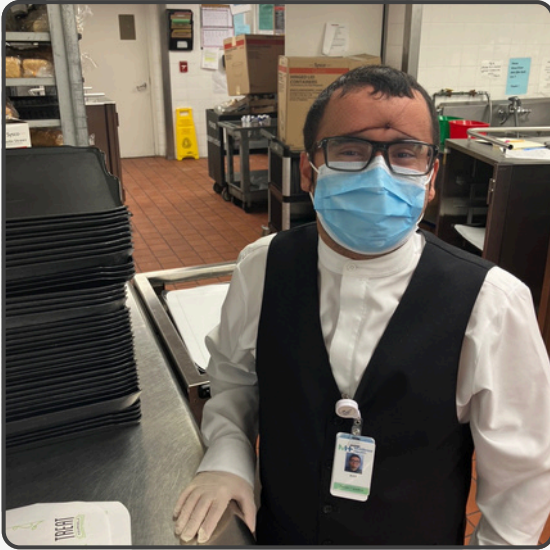
5/25: Off for Memorial Day

5/26-6/4: Classroom
(Job applications, graduation prep)

6/5: Graduation!

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

Second Rotation Updates



In the kitchen, Alex has been training on tray passing alongside his mentors in the department. Alex learned his tasks quickly and is privy to the kitchen procedures including hand hygiene, and tray passing for patients who are diabetic or have a risk for aspiration. Alex is comfortable navigating the hospital and finding patient rooms, utilizing his spreadsheet to record which rooms he needs to deliver to. His polite nature and bubbly personality assist him with forming positive and professional relationships with his mentors and colleagues, and he confidently announces “food service!” to patients upon entering their room, ensuring he confirms their name and date of birth before delivering their tray. Alex has been given a higher level of independence with his tray passing duties as his mentors take a ‘back seat’ to ensure he can complete his tasks on his own. He has also been introduced to additional floors to deliver trays to, ensuring he has a well-rounded experience with delivering trays to floors that might slightly differ from typical nursing units.

Lyndell continues to build confidence with his tasks in the mail room. Lyndell is being mentored by Andrew, a Project SEARCH graduate who is employed with IST, the mailroom and copy center company. Every morning, Lyndell and his mentor go on the outside mail run, which has a total of 9 stops around the hospital campus. Lyndell’s attention to detail and his strengths with technology have assisted him with learning how to sort and postmark mail through the postage machine each day. He is also completing the inside mail run daily, which has over 50+ stops throughout all areas of the hospital. Lyndell scans the barcode at each stop to record his mail delivery and ensures that the run is completed in a timely manner. Lyndell has also demonstrated flexibility during his training if the mail run takes longer than anticipated, to ensure his tasks are completed before leaving for the day.

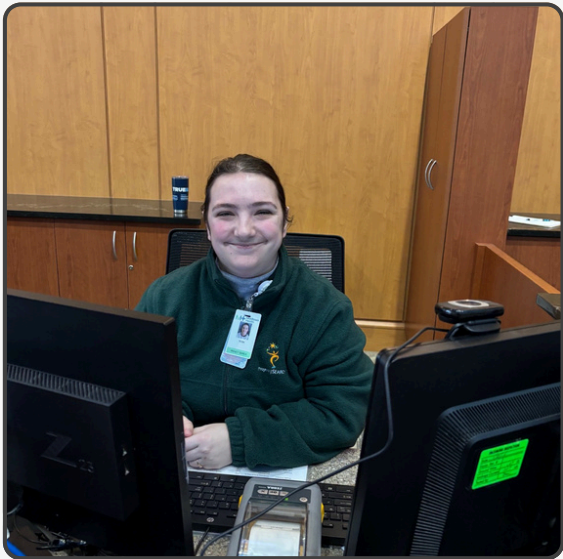


In the patient transport department, Hayley is becoming more familiar with the hospital layout and navigating through different floors. Hayley is being mentored by Nick, a Project SEARCH graduate who has been employed with the patient transport department for about 2.5 years. She is training on making ‘pump rounds’, by going around the hospital to collect IV pumps to be cleaned, stored, and delivered to nursing units who need them. Hayley is also learning about patient discharge procedures, as well as patient transfers within the hospital for appointments like MRIs or CT Scans. Hayley is practicing safe wheelchair handling with her mentor before transporting patients. She most recently began practicing pushing the large hospital beds and learning the proper way to handle and navigate with them.

Scott is demonstrating independence and initiative in the EVS department. Scott works on collecting trash and recycling around the hospital on all floors, ensuring the hospital's offices and shared spaces are tidy and well-maintained. He has also spent time training on cleaning and maintaining the many staircases around the hospital, which is extra essential during the season of wet boots and salted sidewalks! Scott has developed positive relationships with his EVS team and acts as a team player to support his colleagues. If he sees another EVS worker with a cart full of trash, he offers to take it for them so they do not have to go down to the compactor outside. Scott's dedication to showing up as his best self every day, and his flexibility on the job, have accelerated his progress and growth throughout this rotation.



Tessa's job task assignments have evolved and grown over this rotation to reflect a variety of essential employment skills. She has been working with the clinical team to complete Environment of Care rounding on patient floors, to identify areas that should be addressed in anticipation of the Joint Commission visit to the hospital this spring. Tessa completes walk-throughs of the floors to take notes on anything from making sure the ceiling tiles are in pristine condition, to ensuring that the supply rooms are organized and that equipment is properly stored. Her work and feedback are essential to the clinical teams during this busy season to ensure they are prepared for the Commission's arrival. In addition, Tessa has most recently began collaborating with the information desk in the hospital lobby to gain experience in a more secretarial role. Tessa is learning to greet visitors, contractors and vendors, create visitor badges, navigate the patient census, direct visitors to their destination, and deliver notes and flowers to patient floors.



In the dishroom, Nathan has progressed to take on more independence and self-direction with his tasks. He has taken on the responsibility of 'breaking down trucks' after breakfast and lunch each day, clearing off trays, sorting dishes and running everything through the dishwasher. He also trained on unloading the dishwasher and learning where each item belongs when putting them away. His pace and focus have improved with each passing day and Nathan's confidence has blossomed over the last few weeks. He is a team player and has developed positive and friendly relationships with his dish room colleagues as well as the rest of the kitchen staff. Nate is also improving with his time management and his initiative so he can independently complete tasks while his colleagues are on break.

