

## What is Project SEARCH?

Project SEARCH was developed at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center, a research environment that fosters visionary thinking and innovation.

It began in 1996, when Erin Riehle was Director of Cincinnati Children's Emergency Department. Erin felt that, because the hospital served individuals with developmental disabilities as patients, it made sense that they should commit to hiring people in this group. She wondered if it would be possible to train people with developmental disabilities to fill some of the high -turnover, entry -level positions in her department.

These jobs involved complex and systematic tasks, such as stocking supply cabinets. To learn more about the feasibility of her idea, she turned to Great Oaks Career Campuses and the Hamilton County Board of Developmental Disability Services.

Through this outreach, Erin met Susie Rutkowski, then the special education director at Great Oaks. Erin and Susie formed a partnership that was instantaneous, and together they turned the idea of filling a handful of jobs in Cincinnati Children's Emergency Department into a comprehensive, internationally recognized program model.

“PROJECT SEARCH HELPED PREPARE ME FOR THE WORKFORCE AND HELPED ME GET A JOB TOO. I FELT MORE CONFIDENT AND READY FOR THE REAL-WORLD AFTER MY INTERNSHIPS.

-Project SEARCH Graduate

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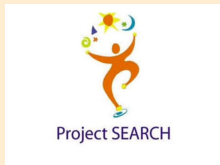


# Successful Employment Outcomes

## Awards and Job Placement Recognition

Job placement and successful long-term employment is based on the Intern's ability to learn and grow during their internships. Although job placement is not guaranteed, Vicar's Landing and Project SEARCH are both recognized each year that they have been in operation for their high level of employment outcomes & opportunities.

*Vicar's Landing is a special place. Their Members love living there and their Team Members love working there. At Vicar's Landing; You're Not Starting A Job, You're Beginning A Career!*



## Additional Benefits and Outcomes

- Post-Secondary Training and Internship Experience at no cost.
- Opportunity to work in a high-status organization and receive training
- Professional Resume with References and letters of recommendation from Vicar's Landing.
- Official Project SEARCH Certification
- Travel Training and more.



## Internships and Workplace Readiness: Curriculum Training.

There are Interns working throughout the departments of Vicar's Landing. Internships and Vocational Training take place working alongside of housekeeping, dining service and plant operations staff.

In addition to the on-site job coaching and vocational training, Project SEARCH also provides intensive, Workplace-Readiness Curriculum Training, for its interns. The curriculum, which is taught on site, focuses on self-advocacy, professional communication in the workplace, health and Wellness, managing stress and emotions, interview preparation, financial literacy, team building, technology, workplace safety and more.

## Student Eligibility

**THE FOLLOWING MUST BE RECOGNIZED AND/OR COMPLETED IN ORDER FOR A STUDENT TO BE CONSIDERED, ELIGIBLE, FOR PROJECT SEARCH.**

- The student must have a disability, graduated, and defer the receipt of their standard diploma in order to continue receiving services through SJCSO.
- The student must apply and be approved as a consumer of Vocational Rehabilitation, traditional client supported employment.
- The student must apply to Project SEARCH through an application process provided by St. Johns County School District.
- The student must undergo a Skills Assessment Day, located on site, to assess the student's level of vocational skills.
- If accepted, the student must commit to a one time, unpaid, 10-month internship program at Vicar's Landing. The student may have an outside part-time paid job as long as it doesn't interfere with Project SEARCH hours.
- The student must not have any prior commitments (financial obligations, future moves out of district, etc.) that could interfere with Project SEARCH.
- The student's final goal at the end of their internships must be employment with ongoing assistance through the supported employment model. These services are provided in conjunction with Vocational Rehabilitation and the Arc of St Johns or the clients chosen provider.