



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Board Session Agenda Review Form

Meeting date: _____

Department: _____

Title:

Management Update/Work Session Date: _____ Audio/Visual aids

Time Required: _____ Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Requested Action:

Issue, Description & Background:

Financial Impacts:

Impacts to Department & External Agencies:

List of attachments:

Presenter:

Department Head Signature: 

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR MARION COUNTY, OREGON

In the matter of proclaiming the month of)
March 2024 as Intellectual and Developmental)
Disability Awareness Month in Marion County.)
)

PROCLAMATION

This matter came before the Marion County Board of Commissioners at its regularly scheduled public meeting on March 06, 2024.

WHEREAS, no fewer than 3,300 residents of Marion County live with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, historically individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities have been marginalized, suffered discrimination and lack of access to their community and basic services, including employment, affordable housing, recreation, health and human services, and disaster response; and

WHEREAS, Marion County acknowledges the role of the community to engage and support the health, safety, prosperity, and success of every citizen, including individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Marion County acknowledges individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities are active and valued members of its community; and

WHEREAS, Marion County strives to support safe and healthy opportunities for individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities to engage with their communities; and

WHEREAS, Marion County is committed to promoting, supporting and developing options in health care, employment, housing, and community services that assure inclusive access for individuals who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Marion County invites and challenges its community to develop and promote accessible and affordable housing, opportunities for employment and community engagement, inclusive and accessible recreational activities and promote access to health services for people who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities so they may live in a world of choice and possibility; now, therefore

IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED that the month of March, 2024 is Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Marion County.

DATED at Salem, Oregon, this ____ day of _____, 2024.

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Chairperson

Commissioner

Commissioner



INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES MONTH

“A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES”

- Oregon was the first state to close its institutions for individuals with I/DD and support people's right and choice to live in their own homes and community.
- In 2008, Oregon adopted an Employment First Policy to promote community-based employment for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.





- In Marion County, more than 3,300 people receive I/DD services and live in home and community-based settings.
- Marion County has over 900 Personal Support Workers and dozens of in-home agencies supporting individuals with I/DD in their home and community.
- Throughout Marion County, there are more than 350 24-hour residential and foster homes that support people with I/DD.



**PROJECT
SEARCH**

**ALBERTINA
KERR**

Project SEARCH Program

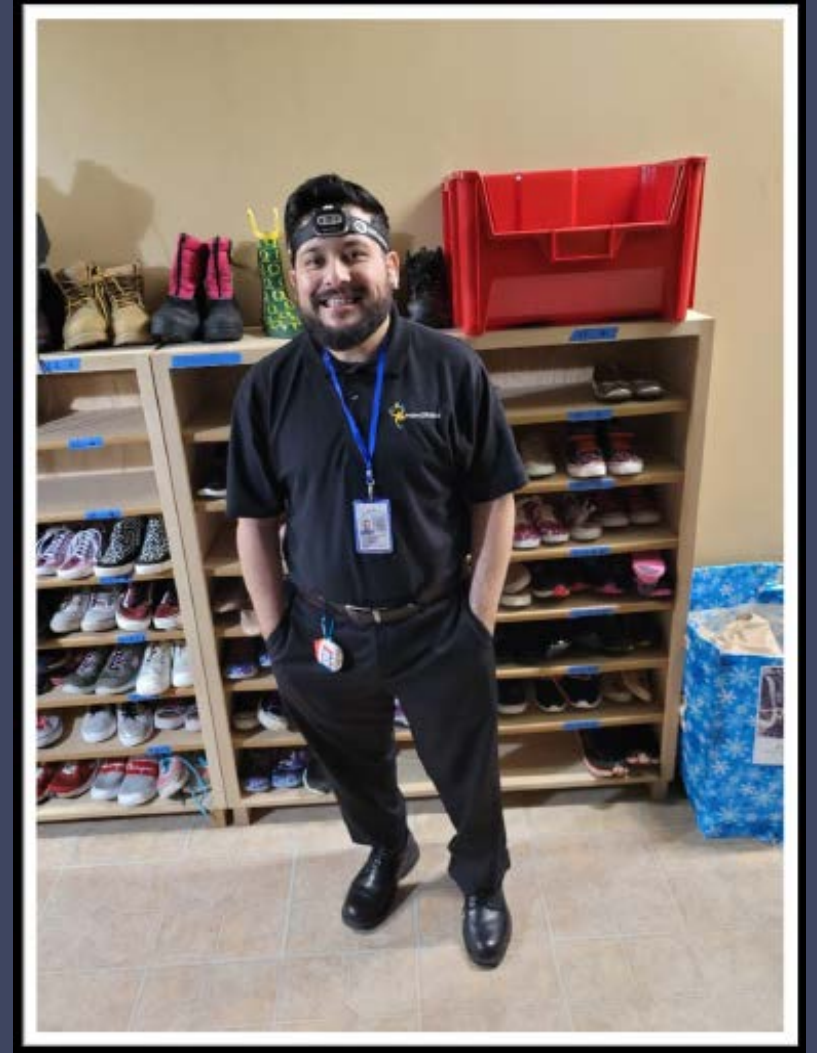
Albertina KERR



- Project SEARCH is a nine-month unpaid internship for adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.
- Interns spend three months working in three different job rotations building transferrable skills and gaining valuable work experience. These skills and experience help them find and maintain; paid, competitive, integrated and meaningful employment in their community.

Project SEARCH History

- Project SEARCH began in Cincinnati Children's Hospital in 1997. Project SEARCH is the brainchild of Nurse Manager Erin Riehle and Special Education Director Susie Rutkowski. The two partnered to help young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain the skills they need to be successful in the workplace. The two wanted the people of Cincinnati to see people with disabilities working in the hospital when they came in for care.
- There are currently 715 active Project SEARCH programs worldwide in 48 states and 9 other countries.
- Host business can be hospitals, hotels, manufacturing facilities, local government entities, colleges, and many other creative locations to create unique and meaningful opportunities.



Opportunities and Outcomes

- Project SEARCH was created to address critical unemployment rates – over 78% of individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities are not working in their communities.
- Successful graduates of the Project SEARCH model have a 68% chance to find competitive, integrated employment in their communities.
- Graduates from Kerr's multiple programs through Oregon have gone on to obtain and maintain meaningful employment in their communities. Several interns have been working for their employer for years obtaining promotions, raises, and accolades along the way.
- Project SEARCH supports interns by providing a safe space to make mistakes and learn from them, while teaching complex and systematic tasks. The hard skills gained in rotations combined with the soft skills gained during the informational and educational portion of program provide the opportunity for interns to be successful in their workplace.

Typical Day



- First Hour – Whole group employability skills building:
 - Appropriate workplace communication
 - Time management
 - Financial literacy
 - Health and Wellness
 - Technology
 - The unwritten rules of the workplace
 - Self advocacy
- Interns spend 5 hours every day working in their respective departments. This includes working directly with their mentor, eating lunch and socializing with their coworkers, and engaging in social celebrations in and out of the workplace.

Potential Internships

- A Project SEARCH host business can provide several opportunities to participating interns. Project SEARCH partners with a variety of departments:
 - Payroll Departments
 - Human Resources
 - Information Technology
 - Facilities
 - Warehouse Management
 - Patient Care
 - Childcare
 - Hospitality/Food Service
- There is a world of opportunity through Project SEARCH that can give interns exposure and opportunities they did not know existed.



Community Opportunities

- Project SEARCH does not only teach skills and provide opportunities for the participating interns.
- Project SEARCH is a great opportunity for the host business to provide their current employees exposure to working with individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. Project SEARCH programs have led to companies creating DEI committees, reevaluating work accommodations, reexamining how they recognize and utilize an individual's strengths, and becoming more open to a diverse workforce.
- A major part of our role with Kerr and Project SEARCH is educating host businesses and community members with the intention of breaking down barriers and stigmas associated with the intellectually and/or developmentally disabled community.

Questions?

- Paul Hines, Program Manager
- Paul.Hines@albertinakerr.org
- (503)344-8685

Or

- Hannah Burgess – Assistant Director
- Hannah.Burgess@albertinakerr.org
- (503) 477-0696



More information can be found on our website: AlbertinaKerr.org projectsearch@albertinakerr.org

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT I/DD AWARENESS?

- Contribute to or volunteer with organizations dedicated to supporting individuals with I/DD.
- Listen & Learn: Engage with individuals with I/DD, listening to their perspectives and learn from them.
- Hire individuals who experience I/DD.
- Take steps to ensure that your business or organization provides inclusive and accessible services.
- Participate in local events supporting our I/DD community and share information promoting them on social media.

JOIN US AT THE MARION COUNTY SUPPORTS & SERVICES RESOURCE FAIR

- Wednesday, March 13, 2024
2:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Oregon State Fairgrounds
Columbia Hall
2330 17th Street NE, Salem
FREE Admission
- Providers and agencies throughout Marion County will be there to discuss the services available to individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities

**MARCH 13
2PM - 7PM**

Come discover services for individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities



PRESENTED BY

