

Celebrating Mentoring

January 27, 2020

Newton Medical Center recently celebrated National Mentoring Month with its Project SEARCH interns.

In September 2019, NMC began a partnership with Sussex County Education Services Commission to create Project SEARCH, where young adults ages 18-22 are mentored in a full immersion internship program. Project SEARCH is a one-year, business-led, unpaid internship program for students with disabilities in their last year of high school that takes place entirely at a host business site.

Building a relationship while developing ownership and accountability of a real job, these interns set out to be mentored by the well-rounded supportive staff members of Newton Medical Center.

NMC is the second AHS site to host Project SEARCH interns after Overlook Medical Center.

Started by the National Mentoring Partnership and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, National Mentoring Month focuses national attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us — individuals, businesses, government agencies, schools, faith communities and nonprofits — can work together to increase the number of mentors to help ensure positive outcomes for our young people. This campaign celebrates mentoring and the positive effect it can have on young lives.

Its goals are to:

- Raise awareness of mentoring in its various forms
- Recruit individuals to mentor, especially in programs that have waiting lists of young people
- Promote the rapid growth of mentoring by recruiting organizations to engage their constituents in mentoring

National partners work with local leaders to organize special events in their communities supported by local media outlets and public officials. These events help interested adults learn how to turn their concern for young people into direct action by becoming mentors.

From Atlantic Health Online:

<http://compass.ahsys.org/news/2020/1/1-27-20Mentoring.html>