



## **Project SEARCH Overview**

Project SEARCH provides a comprehensive approach to employment training and career advancement for individuals with developmental disabilities. The program in the Monadnock region takes place at Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth Health (CMC/DH). CMC/DH offers a wide variety of opportunities for employment training, everything from stocking to housekeeping to food service to office tasks.

The Monadnock Region Project SEARCH program runs August to June. It begins with a three day a week 8:00AM to 1:00PM summer program to assist interns with becoming familiar with the hospital and the program. In early September, the program transitions to 8:00AM to 2:30 PM five days a week starting in September through June.

The program has a competitive application process where interested candidates must apply and interview in order to be considered for acceptance. During the program, individualized career development and job placement services are provided based on the intern's experiences, strengths and skills. Interns are given support with accommodation, adaptations and on-the-job coaching.

Those interested in Project SEARCH need to meet the following minimal requirements:

- Are between the ages of 18-35
- Eligible for services with Monadnock Developmental Services (MDS) or another Area Agency
- Have NH Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver
- Have current application for, or active services with, Vocational Rehabilitation New Hampshire (VRNH)
- Make a commitment to learn skills to increase employment options
- Commit to applying for competitive employment at the end of the program
- Have an effective method of communication
- Have reliable transportation
- Have the ability to work with some degree of independence (the program does not provide 1:1 support)
- Pass the following background checks; criminal record, Bureau of Adult and Aging Services (BAAS), Division of Child, Youth and Families (DCYF), Office of Inspector General (OIG)

For more information, please review the Frequently Asked Questions sheet available on the MDS website at [Project SEARCH](#)