



## Spartan Project SEARCH 2023-24

[Spartan Project SEARCH](#) is a one-year, school-to-work, transition program that provides training and education through internships within departments throughout Michigan State University. Collaboratively, the program prepares young adults with disabilities to enter the workforce with marketable and transferable skills. Spartan Project SEARCH is sponsored by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

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### Spartan Project SEARCH 2023-24 Cohort

The month of January has been filled with uncooperative weather but hard working interns. As we kicked off the New Year, we began focusing in class on making personal resolutions for the upcoming year. Interns were challenged to think about what independence and employability goals they have for themselves after graduation. They were also challenged to think about all the steps it might take to accomplish these goals and do self-evaluations to see if they are making progress to accomplishing these goals.

Due to snow days, employment planning meetings this month were held less formally. Supervisors had conversations with interns at jobsites. In the classroom, interns worked on listening to constructive criticism by looking through filled out evaluations and seeing where they can improve; not only at the current jobsite but how can they make sure they are working toward their long term goals.

We are very impressed with interns this month and all of their growth. Not only are interns completing every day tasks, but they are now finishing these and adding in more complex tasks such as running the cash register, using the pressing machine, making to-go orders, and helping with animals. During the upcoming month, interns will be focusing on learning about healthy habits and continuing to work on professionalism and independence at jobsites.



## Save the Date!

Spartan Project SEARCH applications are being accepted until February 16, 2024.

## Rotation 2 Job Sites & Supervisors

Vivarium - Kim Williamson  
Case Dining Hall - Susie Burke  
Biomedical Facilities - Judy Ramirez  
MSU Linen Services - Donna Svendsen  
1855 Place Facilities - Kyle Ghastin  
Sparty's at Hubbard Hall- Jesse Mendez  
The Workshop- Lisa Miller



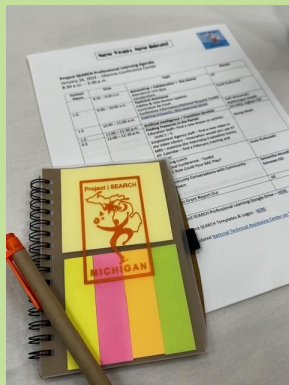




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## Project SEARCH Collaboration Statewide Meeting



Spartan Project SEARCH staff collaborated with other Project SEARCH sites during our statewide meeting this month. We learned about the newly updated curriculum released, heard from our partners in the U.P. about inspiring inclusivity training modules, learned about community conversations, and enjoyed time to collaborate.



# Graduate Spotlight



## Brittany Shourds



Mason Public Schools

Brittany has been employed since February 2019



[Visit our Website](#)

### Upcoming Dates of Interest

- February 16-19: No School
- February 21-23: MTSA Conference
- February 26: Employment Planning Meetings
- February 29: Skills Assessment Day at Ingham ISD for 2024-25 applicants
- March 1: Last day of Rotation 2
- March 4: Workshop week



[Check Out Our New Intern Impact Video](#)



[Check out our New Spartan](#)



## Apply for Project SEARCH

If you are interested in applying for Spartan Project SEARCH, you can find more information on our website at [Spartan Project SEARCH](#).

### On the banks of the Red Cedar

Interns had the opportunity to explore some of the things campus has to offer. One such place is the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. Here interns were able to explore different art exhibits, work on appropriate behaviors in different settings, independent travel skills, and how to interact with others in the community.





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If you are interested in Spartan Project SEARCH and/or would like to host an intern, please contact [Brooke Locher](#), Instructor.

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