

Final Project

Anjali Daya



Kennedy Krieger Institute

Internship Overview

- Lead Job Club
 - Create DPDs in order to present to and teach community members about employment
- Direct support of community member's individual sessions
- Attend small groups- employment virtual sessions
 - Support staff
- Attend Meaningful Community Services weekly group lunch
 - Lead/support staff
- Business surveying
 - Explore and create a growing sheet of potential jobs that may be of interest to community members

Interviews

Melissa Wells

- Kennedy Krieger Institute Employee
- Human Resources
- Loves to read and spend time at the beach

Leah Beiswinger

- Meaningful Community Services (MCS)
Team Member
- DSP- CORE
- Likes to travel locally, attend live concerts

Shawn Fallin

- Inventory Coordinator
- Facilities Department
- Loves the outdoors

Bri

- Community Member
- Meaningful Community Services-
Employment
- Favorite show is the Ellen show, loves ice cream

Beth Benevides

- Parent
- Meaningful Community Services-CDS
- Chaired for MD Developmental
Disabilities Council

Overarching Themes

1. Career advancement
1. Relationship building
1. Positive work environment



Interview Takeaways

- Kennedy Krieger Institute holds many opportunities and allows for growth and success.
- It is very important to be able to build and maintain bonds with community members and staff.
- Trust the process, it is a learning experience.
- The Institute is a place for positive community engagement.

Personal Reflection

- Learned how to become a leader
 - Lead sessions and take charge
 - Role model for community members
 - Become an expert when presenting
- Teamwork plays a big role at Kennedy Krieger Institute
 - Create positive relationships
 - Accountability

Personal Reflection

- Working alongside individuals with disabilities has made me more aware of their capabilities.
 - Our job to do everything we can in order to ensure their unique needs are met.
- Although their disabilities may make them seem “different”, they are individuals just like us.
 - Have goals, motives, and a driving force
 - Wake up and go to work
 - Go outside and hang with their friends and family
- Take away the negative connotation from “**dis**” and start seeing their true **abilities**.

Letter to Future Interns



Hello New Interns!

I would like to start by congratulating you! This internship at Kennedy Krieger Institute was one of the greatest experiences and opportunities I have had in my undergraduate career. When I first started, I was both nervous and excited to see what this opportunity had in store for me. In the beginning it will seem like a lot of new information to take in, and can feel quite overwhelming, but trust me when I say this, the leadership team and staff are all willing to help and will always be there for you. One of the things that made me feel comfortable and confident as an intern was the fact that the leadership team and staff were very welcoming and always helpful. It truly does feel great to be a part of such a caring team where members support and encourage one another. From that I advise to never hesitate to ask any questions because the team is always willing to help. Being a full-time student and an intern can be difficult to balance, but what helped me the most was planning out my entire week. I found that writing out all the meetings/sessions, tasks that need to be completed, classes and schoolwork for that entire week helped me stay organized and allowed me to manage my time efficiently. One of the most important things I am taking away from this internship is building relationships with not only the leadership team and staff, but also with the community members. Being able to understand and communicate well with the community members will only happen if you build that positive relationship from the beginning. Also, building relationships with the staff and leadership team allows for networking which is very important and can potentially help you in the future. Finally, I would like to encourage being open-minded throughout your entire time as an intern. This may not be the career or job you are hoping to pursue, but you will never know for sure unless you try. Taking on new tasks and conquering challenges only lead to new opportunities.

Interning at Kennedy Krieger Institute was truly a great learning experience and I hope the same for you. Best of luck!

Best Regards,
Anjali Daya
Employment Services, CORE Foundations