The Project SEARCH students have been busy submitting job applications. With only couple of weeks away from graduation, the students have been working hard searching for a job they would like.

In April, two interns, Arthur and Joseph, have landed jobs. Arthur is a full-time employee with Walmart. Some of his duties include stocking and organizing shelves and keeping his assigned areas clean. Joseph is a part-time employee with Hillcrest cafeteria at Southern Miss. Some of his duties include cooking and preparing food, stocking the buffet table, greeting customers and cleaning the eating area.

The other interns have been working diligently making a list of place where they would like to work. Each week the interns and their job coaches have been visiting potential job sites talking with the managers and submitting job applications. Our goal is 100% job placement!
The student interns participated in the Horses for Handicapped at the MS State Fairgrounds. The event was established in 1981, providing horseback riding, wagon rides and activities to youth and adults with disabilities. Horses have been used as a part of an individual’s therapeutic treatment process. Research shows that when the individuals who ride the horses experiences a sense of control and exploration, the “horseback riding gently and rhythmically moves the rider’s body in a manner similar to a human gait. Riders with physical disabilities often show improvement in flexibility, balance and muscle strength”.

At first, the student interns were a little skeptical of horseback riding, some even a little afraid of touching or getting close to the horse. After a while, all the students participated in the horseback riding, taking multiple turns riding the horses.

For additional information: http://www.equine-therapy-programs.com
Forrest General Hospital’s 11th Spirit of Women spring event was held at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg. The event recognizes “outstanding citizens in the Pine Belt who have taken action to make the community a healthier, safer and more inspirational place to live” (Burns, March 2016). Our very own Project SEARCH teacher Allison Hinze was one of four recipients of the Spirit in Action Award.

Ms. Allison has been an inspiration to our interns both inside and outside of the classroom. She has worked with the parents and their children by providing community resources and one-on-one assistance for the past four years. She also recently served as the regional director of the Special Olympics Mississippi’s Hub City Region.

The student interns have all expressed their love and gratitude for how much she done for them over the years. Ms. Allison is well deserving of her award. Congratulations!
Your are cordially invited to our first Project Search graduation!

2016 Graduating Class
Ms. Kendall Moore
Ms. Santrice Forbes
Ms. Brenda Alfaro
Mr. Jeremy Watson
Mr. Arthur Smith
Mr. Joseph Sauicer
Mr. Christopher Johnson

When
May 9, 2016

Time
2 P.M.

Where
The University of Southern Mississippi
Thad Cochran Center Room 218 A/B
R.S.V.P. to jerry.alliston@usm.edu

If you have information or news you would like included in the next newsletter, email information to jin.mcclendon@usm.edu by May 10.

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