The Project SEARCH students have been learning about budgeting for independent living and how to search for and apply for jobs online. The following are the topic areas or activities they have completed:

- Explore online career service sights
- Explore career interests through online assessments
- Explore job opportunities with local companies
- List items you spend money on into two categories: wants and needs
- Community Bank speakers (on left) Jeff Lacher and Linda Breithaupt: Budgeting for Personal Expenses
- Reality check calculator: online assessment on lifestyle preferences and income needed
Community Service: The Compassion Experience

The Compassion Experience is an exhibit to help participants experience other cultures, the realities of global poverty, and how individuals can help to change the life of a child living in poverty. The exhibit provides audio and video storyline options to the attendees. The storyline options take approximately 20 minutes each, providing personal stories of children from all around the world who lives in poverty.

The Project SEARCH students assisted attendees by sanitizing and distributing headphones and guiding them through the tours. The experience has taught them to be grateful for what they have and how they can help others who are less fortunate.

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

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