

# The **SEARCH** Report

Building Skills, Building Futures



## Celebrating Success

### Project SEARCH Team

Congratulations to all of our 2024-25 Project SEARCH Interns! It has been a year full of accomplishments and new journeys. Project SEARCH had the opportunity to volunteer at nine different areas within our community. Internships were started in Nursing Support, Dietary at Behavioral Health and Strategic Marketing & Communications for the first time furthering the skills an intern can receive through their internship selections.

The Project SEARCH Black Hills Alumni Association began this year. Former interns who have graduated have the opportunity to join in and participate and connect with former Alumni through Project SEARCH creating long lasting connections with their peers.

Through a sponsorship Briley H. passed his drivers exam and received a license to gain independence toward his future career.

Overall, interns learned and gained employment skills that will benefit them in their future careers, they also have worked together in volunteer events throughout the community, learning to give back to the community that they are part of.



## #HIRED

**Cody J.**  
Laundry Technician

**Briley H.**  
Nurse Aide

**Zoe H.**  
Child Care Aide

**Morgan O.**  
Dietary Aide



**Briley with his new Drivers License.**

### Contributors to this Issue

<u>Photographers:</u>	<u>Writers:</u>	<u>Editor:</u>
Zoe H.	Briley H.	Nate D.
Shawn S.	Zander P.	
	Cody J.	
	Morgan O.	



# Our Internship Experiences at Monument Health

## Success Within Laundry

Hey my name is Cody, I had the opportunity to intern in the Laundry department where we sorted the Laundry. Our responsibility was to drive the bin into the machine. The linens were then unloaded onto the conveyor belt for sorting items including; towels, wash cloths, sheets, blue draws, gowns, and scrubs. I interned for ten weeks where I worked as a team with my coworkers. I preferred interning on the soiled side. I also had the opportunity to work on the clean side where I placed the sheets into the folding machine. I gained more confidence in asking for new tasks. During my time with Project SEARCH I interned in two other departments. I'm happy to be back at Laundry. I had my interview and got the job.



Cody is folding laundry with his mentor.



Briley is shown here with his mentor.

## The Journey Within Patient Transport

I interned with Patient Transport for 10 weeks. I interned with two main mentors, who taught me how important it is to work as a team. As a Patient Transporter, I entered patient rooms that were sometimes under contact precaution meaning patients had a contagious illness that could be spread easily, depending on these precautions we had to wear different PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). I transport patients from their room to their appointments such as X-Ray, MRI, Surgical Prep, etc. After patients are discharged, I then transport them to the front of the hospital. We are assigned a work phone known as a pod. A pod indicates where to transport patients to and from within the hospital. There were other duties assigned such as taking empty beds to storage and infant warmers to the NICU. I had a lot of fun with my experience in Patient Transport.



# Our Internship Experiences at Monument Health



**Zoe is in the process of delivering meals to patients with her mentor.**

## Serving Success in Waitstaff

Zoe interned in the Dietary department with Waitstaff in the Monument Health Rapid City Hospital. We put trays on a cart, went to an iPad clicked the ticket where tray. I took the tray to the patient's room and said "Hello, my name is Zoe. Is this what you ordered and can I get your name and date of birth?" I gave them the tray and asked them if they needed any condiments. I went to other rooms and did the same thing. I worked in waitstaff for 10 weeks, I worked with my mentors and coworkers, and I learned how to communicate with patients. I chose this rotation because I thought it would be fun and I wanted to help and make patients happy when I gave them the food. My favorite part was working with my mentor.

## Distribution Dynamics

My name is Shawn; my second rotation was in distribution at Monument Health. I would check out a cart to deliver to all the storage rooms where the supplies in the hospital. I communicated with people when needed to put the supplies in correct places in the storage areas. My favorite part was working at finding the supplies it was just like solving a puzzle. Distribution brings medical supplies to the nurses on the floor and stocks the storage rooms. What I learned in distribution was how many storage rooms there are and that I had to find.



**Shawn is shown here being taught how to deliver supplies by his mentor.**



**Zander is putting a pillowcase on with guidance from his mentor.**

## My Time at PT Rehab

I interned at Physical Therapy Rehab at Monument Health Orthopedic and Specialty Hospital. During my internship, I followed a list of tasks. I sanitized the treatment beds, wiped down the pool, and made sure the treadmill stayed clean for the next person. My favorite job was wrapping knuckles. I worked from 9:00 AM to 1:45 PM alongside mentor and coworkers. I also learned small but useful skills, like how to put a pillow into a pillowcase properly. I chose this internship to help me become more independent and succeed in life. The department I interned in, helps patients get stronger through therapy.



Nate is shown his schedule in Marketing while editing radio announcement.



Morgan is shown here on her first day with her supervisor.

## A Look at Marketing

Greetings! My name is Nate; my favorite internship was in the Marketing department at Monument Health through Project SEARCH Black Hills. My tasks included shooting photos around the hospital (some of these were included in the Monument Health magazine and posted on social media). I had the opportunity to be involved in the marketing team meetings. I got experience in creating a PATH story for Monuments newsletter, I learned to create a radio ad for the upcoming Project SEARCH Graduation. I was invited to learn how to be involved in the making of a podcast with Home Slice Media Staff. I also had the opportunity to perform in a handwashing commercial.

## My Dietary Experience

My name is Morgan. I interned at Monument West for 10 weeks. I cleaned tables, washed dishes, cleaned the microwave, stocked food on shelves, and swept floors. I also cleaned lunch trays. Before working, I put on my mask, gloves, and hairnet. I chose this rotation because I wanted to learn new things. I learned how to prepare food trays for patients and stock shelves. I worked with a team in the Dietary Dept. where Co-workers cooked, cleaned, and stocked food. My favorite part was preparing food trays for the patients.

# Intern Insights

**On Wednesday's we had the opportunity to try different fruits and vegetable's for nutrition!**

My favorite thing that I tried was carrots. We tried different colored carrots but I liked the orange ones the best.

**Cody J.**

My favorite fruit was the Cotton Candy grapes because they're sweet and good for your health, metabolism, and digestion.

**Zander P.**

I really liked the Burro banana and Cotton Candy grapes. They tasted great, and I really enjoyed how sweet the grapes were.

**Morgan O.**

My favorite food that we tried were the Nectarines. I loved how it was very juicy and tasted delicious. I also was amazed by all the nutritional health benefits included in this fruit.

**Nate D.**

The most interesting fruit to me was the Guava because it was like a grape but not a grape at all. It had big seeds in the middle and it had a tart taste.

**Briley H.**

My favorite food I tried was the Burro banana. It tasted different, but I enjoyed it, and I liked how healthy it is for the body. It looked just like a regular banana, but it was a little different.

**Shawn S.**

My favorite foods I tried were dill pickle balls and pineapple. I love pickles, so I really enjoyed the dill pickle-flavored balls. I also liked how sweet the pineapple was.

**Zoe H.**

