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Kennedy Krieger Institute

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# Interview Presentation

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# Overarching Themes (leadership, communication, engagement)

- ▶ After going through each of these interviews, what I've learned so far is that there are different perspectives of what MCS is to each person I had interviewed, based on the assumed title they had.



# Overview of interviewee 1

- ▶ Mr. and Mrs. Chang

Relationship to MCS: They are parents to their son, who is a community member.

Fun Fact: Mr. Chang is an investment banker retiree. He worked as one for 25 years.

# Leadership

- ▶ In the case of leadership, what I learned from Mr. and Mrs. Chang was that it is important to advocate and take charge so that other individuals for example, can be provided with the necessary tools needed to succeed. It all comes down to leadership, and by incorporating it into their lives, Mr. and Mrs. Chang set a good example for other parents to take charge and place their own children in these good programs so that they will be able to succeed.

# Communication

- ▶ In the case of communication, what I learned from Mr. and Mrs. Chang was that it's important to state your intentions for what you want your child to be placed into, and what I mean by this is by communicating with various programs to see which one is the right fit for individuals with special needs.



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# Engagement

- ▶ In the case of engagement, what I learned from Mr. and Mrs. Chang was that it is important to have your individual engage in the desired program that he/she may be in, and for that, it may be as simple as having them learn and interact with others throughout the community they are in.

# Overview of interviewee 2

- ▶ Katherine Mezene

Relationship to MCS: She is a Kennedy Krieger Institute employee and a staff member of CORE foundations

Fun Fact: She and I went to the same university together! She is also one of my friends from school as well.

# Leadership

- ▶ In terms of leadership, what I learned from Katherine was that it's important to step up to the plate as a leader and essentially lead, be it during the employment group sessions or the Meaningful Community Services lunch sessions for example. One way to show leadership within these sessions is by leading the way in reading the PowerPoint slides and leading the activities.



# Communication

- ▶ In terms of communication, what I learned from Katherine was that it's important to communicate well as a Kennedy Krieger Institute staff member to your clients. Communication as a staff member is key to success for me because as staff members it essentially builds better thriving relationships between you and your community member clients that you are working with.

# Engagement

- ▶ In the case of engagement, what I learned from Katherine is that it's important as a Kennedy Krieger Institute staff member to engage with your clients. Doing so will drastically increase and strengthen the relationship you have with them. Being engaged with your community member client will also help to be more active in the community indirectly through your client as well.

# Overview of interviewee 3

▶ John Good

Relationship to Meaningful Community Services: He is a community member of Kennedy Krieger Institute

Fun facts: He loves to eat candy!

# Leadership

- ▶ In the case of leadership, what I learned from John is that it is essentially important to not just be a leader to others, but also to yourself as well. As a self leader, John took it upon himself to create something that he would one day look back and be proud of, and that was creating his own network called the JJN TV in which he does various broadcasts daily.

# Communication

- ▶ In terms of communication, what I learned from John was that it's important to communicate your needs and wants to the community as well as your program so that it may be easier to receive the help that one may want much quicker.



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# Engagement

- ▶ In terms of engagement, what I learned from John was that as a community member, it's important to try and get engaged with fellow staff members and other community members in regards to doing activities because it shows that you want to learn and improve yourself and your education.

# Conclusions

- ▶ Overall, what I am taking away from this experience is that Kennedy Krieger is a fantastic institution built on serving those with disabilities and helping them to improve their daily lives, through support both in person and virtually, and I got to experience that firsthand at this internship.

