

Good Afternoon!

- Megan Halczuk
- UMBC Intern working in Project SEARCH with Steph, Heather, and Ryan
- Fun Fact: I play lacrosse at UMBC as well as currently completing two degrees and interning here!



Meaningful Community Services:

What I Do.



1. Create and lead daily professional development powerpoints
 - a. Once or twice a week
2. Join virtual supports - Zoom
 - a. Take service notes
 - b. Provide any other necessary help (sometimes lead)
 - c. Once or twice a week
3. In-person supports
 - a. Take service notes
 - b. Provide check-ins on the interns at their internships
 - i. Three times per week

Interviewees:

- Joan Warren
 - Parent of a community member - PhD Nurse - Director of Nursing
 - Involved with Meaningful Community Services - Community Development Services
 - Fun Fact: enjoys traveling and spending time at their family cottage in New York.
- Chuck Durgin
 - Adult and Community Services Coordinator
 - Works in Special Education
 - Fun fact: enjoys spending time with his three grandchildren, reading, and continued growth in work.



- Julia O'Connor
 - Licensed Clinical Psychologist
 - Behavioral Psychology
 - Fun fact: enjoys spending time with her kids by going to sporting events, reading, listening to audiobooks, and scrapbooking memories.

- Tyler Shallue
 - Community Member
 - Meaningful Community Services Employment - Current Health Screener in 801 building
 - Fun fact: favorite food is french fries and he loves spending time going out to eat with friends and family, going on walks, playing with his dogs, and attending Church services.



Overarching Themes:



1. Dedication
2. Family Oriented
3. Community of Support

Dedication:

- Julia O'Connor
- Chuck Durgin

Family Oriented:



- Showing patience within the progress of a patient.
 - A valuable quality to have - shows dedication.
- Being eager to learn - there's always something new to learn everyday.
 - Reads a lot of literature to stay current - dedication.
- Important to provide support to the patients **and** the families - everyone needs support.
- Works closely with families who have been impacted by the effects of a brain injury.
 - Neurorehabilitation

Community of Support:

- Julia O'Connor
- Joan Warren
- Tyler Shallue



COMMUNITY
SUPPORT

- Kennedy Krieger has committed groups with a strong support system and network.
- Meaningful Community Services - works with transitioning youth into the community
 - Volunteer work
 - Worthwhile opportunities to grow
 - **The definition for community**
- No other agencies compare to Kennedy Krieger regarding their involvement with community.
- Kennedy Krieger provides a culture of supporting each other.
- Meaningful Community Services specifically, makes it safe and comfortable for where anyone is at in their life
- Adores staff support and all of the community members.

Takeaways:



- Takeaways:
 - About being a successful team
 - Need at least all three themes
 - Kennedy Krieger portrays that
 - About caring for one another by:
 - Listening
 - Accommodating
 - Communication
 - Encouraging
 - Positive mindset

- I plan to use these takeaways in my future careers. With any team I am lucky enough to be a part of, the use of these characteristics will lead to success.

A Letter to Future Interns:

Dear future intern,

In the beginning, it was a tough transition for me. I am used to the routine habits of playing lacrosse, lifting, and going to school. This is a whole different ball game.

For me personally, I have never worked with individuals who have disabilities, so this experience has taught me a lot of things. I have learned how to be patient, understanding, and more interactive with different people who have been through different things.

Some of the things that helped me achieve these qualities was to be more open-minded and understanding. Being observant of the supervisors around you and watching how they accommodate different people for different things is vital to improving your contributions. In addition, finding a purpose or a motivation will help encourage your performance and desire to want to be here and help the people who need it the most.

Sincerely,

Megan Halczuk, a prior intern from UMBC

Thank you!