



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 23, 2022

Contact: Eric Hoppstock
Superintendent
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****MEDIA ADVISORY****

Berrien RESA invites you to attend the 2022 Project SEARCH Intern Recognition Celebration

What: Berrien Regional Education Service Agency (Berrien RESA) invites area media to celebrate the achievements of this year's student interns participating in the Spectrum Health Lakeland Project SEARCH program.

Project SEARCH provides students with disabilities a one-year skill building experience which combines classroom instruction, career exploration and hands-on training at Spectrum Health Lakeland in St. Joseph. Through this unique partnership between Berrien RESA and Spectrum Health Lakeland, along with a number of community agencies, Project SEARCH empowers program participants to be successful in work and in life!

Who: **MEDIA**

Where: Berrien RESA Administrative Center
711 St. Joseph Avenue
Berrien Springs, Michigan

When: **Tuesday, June 7, 2022**
at 1:30 p.m.

Brief: On Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 1:30 p.m., the community will celebrate the achievements of 7 Project SEARCH interns during an Internship Recognition Celebration coordinated by Berrien RESA. Like a traditional graduation ceremony, interns will receive certificates of internship completion.

Project SEARCH is a school-to-work transition opportunity for students with disabilities in Berrien County. While the program itself has existed since 1996, Spectrum Health Lakeland is the area's first location to host the internship experience. Project SEARCH is coordinated by Berrien RESA, is hosted at Spectrum Health Lakeland, and is supported by the Bureau of Services for Blind Persons, Disability Network, Riverwood Center and Michigan Rehabilitation Services. Together, these agencies have created a one-year immersion experience that combines classroom instruction, career exploration and hands-on training through worksite rotations.

Media is encouraged to confirm their attendance by contacting Karen Heath, Supervisor of Communications at Berrien RESA at karen.heath@berrienresa.org.

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