

Ocean County Achievement Center Newsletter

By: Journey Toldt & Victoria Roberts

Edited by: Melissa Jerden



Individual Highlights:

Activities

Career Day

Spotlights

Virtual Workshops



Holiday Party

The participants worked together to build gingerbread houses and to cook a brunch for each other. They used teamwork skills and communication.

They had to make sure they had the right measurements for the food and work together to mix the ingredients.



Escape Room

The participants of the Ocean County Achievement Center used communication and coping skills to solve the clues and puzzles of the room. They used team building to escape quickly.

They completed workshops on: Identifying & Addressing Barriers, Coping Skills & Stress Reduction and Dimensions of Wellness, Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats (SWOT), & Anger Management before the Escape Room adventure.

The participants really enjoyed the Escape Room and we did 3 different rooms: Vampires Lair, Christmas Exchange, and Summerfield Place.





SPOTLIGHTS

Christopher Johnson

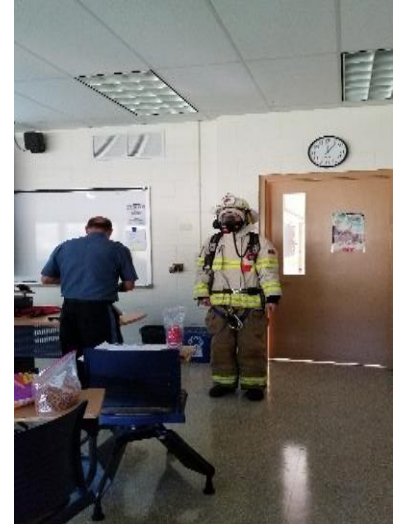
Chris Johnson started the program in January of 2019 to explore different careers since he did not know what career to pursue. After giving the opportunity to do a work experience at Ocean County College Facilities Department. He has decided to pursue a career as an Electrician. Chris will be starting vocational school for electrical in the fall of 2020.



“Joining this program has changed my life completely. It has taught me the proper work etiquette, helped me discover the career I wanted when I was indecisive, and put me on the correct path to achieve it. I’ve made cherished memories and lifelong friends through the Ocean County Achievement Center.”

Robert Chapman

Robert Chapman started the program in September of 2019. He was placed at the Fire Academy for his job shadowing. Where he continued to volunteer and participate. This opportunity has made him want to pursue volunteering at his local Fire Department. Robby has been attending Ocean County College as a full time student. Robby plans to join the Air Force Academy one day.



“My experience at the Fire Academy has been an exceptional experience, learning hands on and fundamental skills.”

Journey Toldt

Journey Toldt started the program in October of 2019. Journey joined the program not knowing what career she wanted to pursue. Since then, she’s attended several career days giving her exposure to different careers. She has narrowed it down to wanting to work in the medical field. She also wants to attend Ocean County College this fall. She had also had the opportunity to do a work experience at Ocean County College with OCAC & CPE. She is learning new skills to prepare her for the medical field.



“This program is one of the best things to have happened to me. I’ve met amazing friends and gained confidence along the way.”

Michael Coelho



Michael Coelho started the program March of 2019. He wanted to pursue a career as a Surgeon. After almost a year of participating in workshops he enrolled in the Certified Medical Assistant Program at Ocean County College, Continuing Professional Education. Michael plans to continue college after he completes the Certified Medical Assistant Class.

Career Days

Career Day is a workshop to help the participants learn about different careers and different fields within a certain career. Career Day is offered several times a year to introduce new careers and opportunities. The speakers present for 30 minutes and the participants have a list of questions to ask each one.

The Center is always looking for speakers to share knowledge and hands-on experience about a career. If you are interested please contact us!



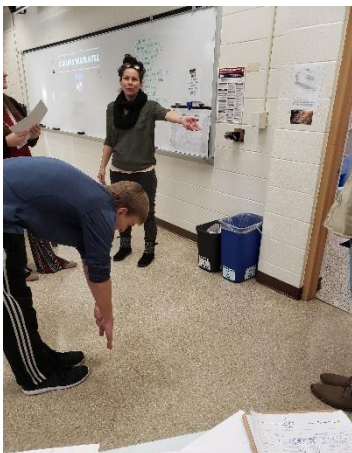
Dr. Angel Camillo, professor at Ocean County College, talking about the Veterinarian Science and his several hobbies.



Katie Hueth talking about Counselling and the services the Counseling Department has to offer.



Adam Bisaccia, professor at Ocean County College, talks about different careers as a lawyer.



Kerry Holzschuh talking about Nutrition and Yoga.



Stuart Martinson, retired probation officer, talked about the career as Probation Officer and

Career Days



When I asked most of the participants if they would recommend Career Day to a friend; on average most of them said they would recommend it to a friend.



The Toms River K-9 Unit doing a demonstration with the police dogs.



The Participants that went to Career Day got to eat lunch with the US Air Force, listen to Ocean County Colleges Social media and Web Developer Nicolaus Burr, and many other. The participants were shocked by how much they learned and were interested in many of the presenters

TOPUCU

TOPUCU (The only person you cheat is U) is a two week workshop (18 hours) that focuses on mentoring, leadership, and self-esteem. TOPUCU is an element in the Work Readiness Assistance Program. After completion of the workshop, the participant will receive a certificate.



The participants in TOPUCU are building their own vision board



6 Week Career Training



The participants learning how to properly perform CPR on an adult and an infant.

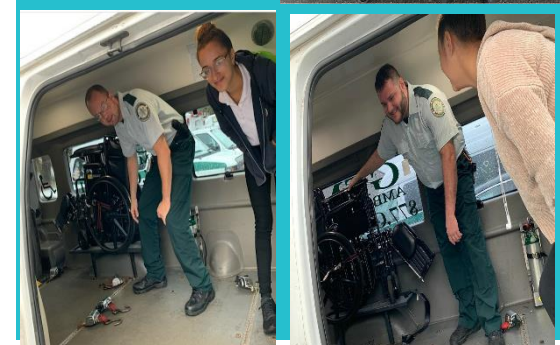


On The Job Shadowing

During the six-week career exploration (formerly known as the 5 week Career Exploration Work Readiness) the participants get a chance to have a personal experience in the field that they want to go into.

Job shadowing is a good way for the participant to find out if they'll enjoy that career and want to do for the rest of their life

"Find a job you enjoy doing, and you will never have to work a day in your life" -Mark Twain.



Ocean County Achievement Center is **Open!**

The Center will continue to provide its quality services and programs through an array of remote platforms (WebEx, skype for business, google classrooms, zoom, emails, and telephone calls). Even though we are remote, we are available at the touch of a button, please do not hesitate to reach out.

We are still accepting referrals and will hold orientations through WebEx (registration required).

Upcoming Events

- *June 11th Virtual Career Day*
- *June 22nd Virtual Career Day*
- *June 24th Virtual Talent Show*

For more information please contact us at:

Gina V. Opauski, OCAC Manager
gopauski@ocean.edu
C: 732-998-3488

Melissa Jerden, Resource Coordinator
mjerden@ocean.edu
C: 848-210-0179

Kim Clayton – Ocean County PIC
Kimberly.Clayton@dol.nj.gov