



Naas General Hospital

**KARE**



Project | SEARCH



**kwetb**

Kildare and Wicklow  
Education and Training Board

# Project SEARCH at Naas General Hospital

Presented by  
Peter Furlong KARE

( 1 )



# NGH/KARE- First Healthcare Partnership in Ireland to participate in Project SEARCH

- **Project SEARCH was originally developed at the Cincinnati Children's Medical Centre Ohio, USA in 1996.**
- **In early 2013 NGH in conjunction with KARE agreed to a business led collaboration plan to introduce the first ever Project SEARCH Programme to Ireland.**
- **The success of the project has had a very positive impact for interns, staff, families, patients and visitors.**



# NGH-Overview

- **Naas General Hospital provides in patient general medical, surgical and acute psychiatric services and a 24-hour Emergency service to its immediate catchment population of Kildare/West Wicklow (approx 220,000)**

# Services provided

Medicine	Theatre
Surgery	Occupational Therapy
Oncology	Pathology Laboratory
Day Hospital for the elderly	Speech and Language Therapy
Pharmacy	Outpatients
Radiology	Dietetics
Physiotherapy	Cardiology
Social Work	Medical Physics

# Why Naas General Hospital agreed to be involved with Project Search

- **No valid reason for not getting involved.**
- **KARE and Project Search met with Hospital Management.**
- **Project Search worked with departments to identify tasks.**
- **Co-Ordinators trained in all departments.**

# Benefits to Hospital and Staff

- **Approved Programme Model, implemented by professional On site Co-ordinators.**
- **Training and support provided by Co-Ordinators.**
- **Morale boost despite Moratorium on recruitment.**
- **Interns:- positive, reliable, dedicated, hard working, good time keepers, obliging, always smile on face.**
- **Visits by external organisations to promote programme and hospital.**
- **Integration of interns and staff.**
- **Reduction in workload for staff with interns completing valuable tasks.**

# Examples of Tasks completed by Interns

- **Collect Referral Forms from wards**
- **Pull files from storage.**
- **Computer work; excel, printing ,scanning documents.**
- **Compile core data packs for clinics.**
- **On wards wipe down patient's bed, wardrobe and chair.**
- **Check and replenish empty sanitizer gels in all public areas of the hospital.**
- **Punch medical reports and put in patients chart**
- **Count and record returned medication.**
- **Assist patients with activities in classes, eg. use of equipment, time patients during circuit exercises.**



# Benefits for Interns

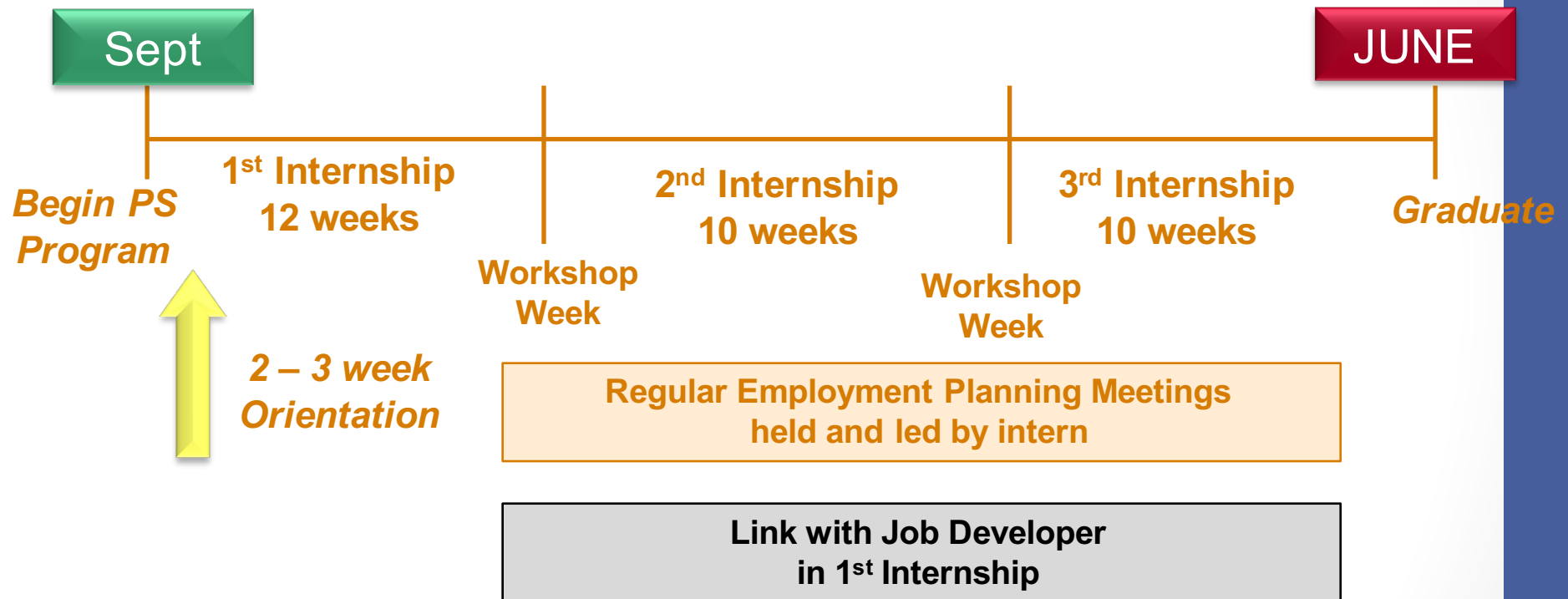
- **Broad range of skills.**
- **Professional CV's.**
- **Departmental References.**
- **Confidence gained.**
- **Support for Interns.**



# Recommendations

- **Encourage organisations to become involved in programme**
- **Sharing of enriching learning experience.**
- **Collaboration between all partners in project can only enhance services for people with Intellectual Disabilities.**
- **Focus on ability of Interns.**

# Annual Project SEARCH Calendar



# Internships

- Cornerstone of the program
- 10-12 weeks/3 rotations
- 4 hours per day
- Competitive, marketable, transferable skills



Project | SEARCH

**KARE**



Naas General Hospital



# Supports for Intern

- On the job training with phased out support
- Adaptations if required
- Classroom Training and Support
- Smooth transition into department
- Open communication

# Life After Project SEARCH

- Each Participant is supported to gain and maintain the job of their choice in the open labour market.
- Each participant learns transferable skills that can be used in a variety of job opportunities.
- Each candidate receives support from KARE to develop further areas of their lives as identified in their plan.
- Focus is on a career rather than just a job.
- Links developed with the local education and Training Board to promote further education and training.

# Community Interaction

- **Project SEARCH Naas Hospital has put people with Intellectual Disabilities in a position to showcase their talents in the heart of the community of County Kildare**
- **Business Advisory Council has brought local business leaders to the world of employment for people with an Intellectual Disability.**
- **The National Health Service Executive are planning to role this model out across the republic of Ireland**



Project | SEARCH

**KARE**

