

**A PARTNERSHIP WHERE EVERYBODY WINS:*****HERITAGE CHRISTIAN SERVICES RECOGNIZES JEWISH SENIOR LIFE AS COLLABORATIVE PARTNER***

*2022 Project SEARCH graduating class pictured at Jewish Senior Life.*

**October 17, 2022, ROCHESTER, NY**—Heritage Christian Services honored Jewish Senior *Life* with its Community Partner Award during a virtual celebration titled Many Hands, Many Hearts held on Oct. 13.

The award is in recognition of Project SEARCH<sup>®</sup>, a pre-employment program at Jewish Senior *Life* in partnership with Heritage Christian Services, a local agency specializing in employment programs for young adults with disabilities. Project SEARCH<sup>®</sup> provides a combination of curriculum-based instruction, career exploration, skill assessment, and hands-on training through a series of 10-week internship rotations over 10 months that provide participants with a non-paid work experience. The B. Thomas Golisano Foundation brought Project SEARCH to the Rochester area and provided the essential funding to develop local partnerships.

Mark Zawacki, Executive Director, Heritage Christian Services Foundation said, “This is a unique program for the community that helps people with disabilities further their careers, and Jewish Senior *Life* has had unwavering support for us throughout our partnership.”

“We love our relationship with Heritage Christian Services,” said Michael S. King, President and CEO, Jewish Senior *Life*. Project SEARCH<sup>®</sup> is a very important part of our organization. This is a wonderful award and I’m really excited about continuing our partnership.”

Nationally, over 65% of people with disabilities are unemployed and Jewish Senior *Life* is one of only 500 Project SEARCH® employers in the country. Since 2018, Jewish Senior *Life* has enrolled 32 individuals in the program and has hired many of the program participants into a variety of positions within the organization.

For more information about Project SEARCH® at Jewish Senior *Life*, call 585-784-6494

### **About Jewish Senior *Life***

Jewish Senior *Life* embraces a culture of belonging that celebrates and respects individuality. Each person is valued for their unique contribution to the vitality of our community.

Serving people of all faiths and ethnic backgrounds, Jewish Senior *Life* is Rochester's only Continuing Care Retirement Community. Guided by the values of honoring family and aging in place, Jewish Senior *Life* offers all levels of care on a single campus, from independent living to skilled nursing care, along with a variety of programs and services for people living outside its campus.

Jewish Senior *Life* has CARF International accreditation for high quality and customer satisfaction, and in July 2022 was certified as a Great Place to Work® for the third time. Its affiliate, the Jewish Home, has been recognized as a Newsweek Best Nursing Homes 2022 and US News & World Report Best Nursing Home for Short-Term Rehabilitation 2021-2022. For more information, please visit:

Website: [jewishseniorlife.org](http://jewishseniorlife.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/jewishseniorlife](https://www.facebook.com/jewishseniorlife)

*View the Heritage Christian Services Award ceremony here:*

<https://www.facebook.com/HeritageChristianServices/videos/8556203007724951>

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