

Spring 2016 Lunch and Learn: *Understanding and Motivating Teens in the Workplace*



Kanya Derisme
'16 and
Rick Cresta

On April 26, 2016 we hosted our final Lunch and Learn of the academic year. Hosted by The Boston Consulting Group, we were given great information on how to be successful mentors to our student workers.

Kanya Derisme, '16 spoke about her corporate work study experiences during her four years at Cristo Rey Boston and how impactful her relationships with her supervisors were. Finishing her senior year at Commodore Builders, Kanya has been offered summer work at her previous placement, The Boston Consulting Group. The experiences she

had has led her to major in Business Administration at University of Massachusetts - Lowell this coming fall.



We then heard from Rick Cresta, LICSW, who works with youth. Giving information on the development of the adolescent brain and what that means for each student, supervisors were given tips on how to get students to work at their highest capacity and how to form relationships that will go beyond the Corporate Work Study Program.

This program would not have been a success without your participation. Thank you to all who attended. We welcome any additional comments that will help us improve our programming. We look forward to hosting more of these informational events next school year!



Student Testimonials:

Our students are heavily influenced by the great experiences they have at their Corporate Work Study Placements. Read these testimonials to see just how much impact the work you do has on our students

Cindy Bosque, placed at Neighborhood Health Plan under the supervision of Jeremy Castillo:

"My current CWS job offered me a summer job last summer and I got to work here my whole summer break. During that time I took on a lot more responsibilities than I had working here during the school year. I learned so many new things while I was there and was entrusted with very important tasks in the absence of my supervisor, something which I'm grateful to have had because it taught me discipline and diligence as well as the importance of accuracy. Because of my work, I was told I would be their go to person for the times that we had school breaks and they needed someone to work. They also told me that if I needed a job for when I was in college that they would be able to give me one, something which I'm very grateful for and I am thrilled to have earned.



My supervisor, Jeremy Castillo, is very helpful and he has shown me many things that are now part of my responsibilities here at NHP and he has also helped me through any struggles I have had. He and the rest of my team have been like a second family to me and they are always there when you have questions, whether it's work related or not. Maritza Avila, the receptionist, had also shown me many new things about the front desk and what it means to truly be a great receptionist and to her I owe many thanks because without her, I wouldn't know how to handle different people whether they're visitors or callers looking to speak with someone. Imani Wague, another person on my team, has helped me a bit through the college process by talking to me about more or less what I should be looking for and has also stressed to me the importance of also looking for something that will help me go forward after college as well. Thanks to her, I made some adjustments in my college choice and major, something I know will suit me far better than what I had planned before.

I can't stress enough the importance of the relationships and bonds I've made with many of the people working here at Neighborhood Health Plan, but what I can stress is how good it feels to be able to say that my job has become like a second home to me because all the people here are so welcoming and are willing to help you when you need it. I'm happy to have had the chance to work here my final two years before I leave CRB and I know that I will be leaving the other students here in very welcoming arms and in a place that will make them feel as important as they made me feel.

Nysia Romain speaks about her experience at TJX Companies, under the supervision of Mary Ann Okeefee:

"My experience at TJX was very eye opening for me in understanding how merchandise gets into stores. I started working there in my Freshman year, starting off with jewelry and transitioned into working with clothes which is where most of my excitement was. I checked the clothes for any flaws, including checking the zippers, the stitching, the quality of the fabric and even weighed the garments. Working with clothes at TJX made me think and wonder if I was able to create my own designs to later have them distributed into stores.



Most people have a dream of becoming famous and I want to achieve that through designing my own clothes. I would love to go back to TJX as an intern to continue to help everyone and gain more knowledge about this process and being a vendor myself. Working at TJX as a college student would also help me manage myself and get accustomed to having a job and balancing so many responsibilities. As I enter into Framingham State University for my first year of college, I plan on majoring in fashion in order to make my dream a reality. My experience as a student worker will give me an upper hand on many of my peers when I apply for future internships because I am already well trained.

My relationship with Mary Ann is very fulfilling. She always tells me about her experiences and what I can do to better myself in the positions I'm in. She helps me out with my school life with advice on what I should do in order to keep myself on track. I have kept all these words to heart and I am very thankful of the time she took to foster a relationship with me."