Tips & Takeaways from TC Virtual Support Group
Employment Supports in a Virtual/Online Environment
April 3, 2020

Make sure you're **going on to the career services site of your university or college and seeing what they're doing**, because they may be posting videos for students. They may offer virtual services that your students could take advantage of; always make sure you know what your university at large is offering to all students and make sure that your students are aware of those things and that you're supporting them to participate in them.

Have students set up weekly work-based learning projects. The first was an activity around **setting up a LinkedIn account**. Those who are already working can invite supervisors to write reviews or provide endorsements.

Complete a **Photo career interest survey**: students did the survey, then had to research a job that they matched with.

Review with students **what kinds of jobs are considered "essential"** during the pandemic and what that means
Example: essential jobs link for job seekers (NJ):
https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov/?Facets.filterbox.filter0=%5B%5D&Facets.filterbox.filter1=%5B%5D

Good time to **practice interview skills**. Job coaches working one on one, virtually. Cover the do's and don't's of interviewing, e.g., students should not be in bed, must dress for success.

This COVID situation has really forced some learning that might not have happened so critically otherwise. We are doing things in a week that we might have taken a semester to do, and the students are responding well. **Working on resumes. Career development. Focused on technology skills.** We didn't want it to happen this way but it's not optional now. The students got an instant course in online communications and platforms!

Alumni are working in essential jobs… drivers, nurse aids, grocery workers, shipping & receiving. Our graduates are out on the front lines working.

Have students make video resumes. This is important for the future with interviewing, because some of our students are unaware of where they are in their home (background noise or visuals, etc.), so when they do go in to a virtual interview, that they'll be better prepared for that situation.

We're also having students **apply for jobs on campus and upload their applications to Canvas**. Our team will review the applications and then the core team will then be contacting those few students that they are assigned to set up the interview. So, we're working on developing those skills, too: answering the phone even if you don't recognize the number, speaking professionally & politely, etc. Then they'll get practice doing virtual interviews on Zoom, and we can review and provide feedback to them.

A good tool: **Interview Stream**. Can choose from 1000 interview questions. It can record, and then students can get practice. They're given a code and you can go back later and review the interview. Our career coordinator is putting in comments, so all of that feedback is documented and they can go back and review later. We're working with the career center so we can lift the limit so they can have repeated practice during this break but it's a good way to document how they're doing. It's a pretty common resource at university, so other people might have that available as well.

Live Virtual Industry Chats and Video Library to everyone to help students stay engaged: https://www.nepris.com/home/v4

www.ableeyes.org is a website that does virtual tours of select (registered) businesses from around the country. Could be helpful for job seekers.

Typesy https://www.typesy.com/ is a good keyboarding resource that you may be able to purchase and utilize as a career skills/internship project.

This **website is for job exploration: https://www.virtualjobshadow.com/career-exploration/**

US Department of Labor on for career exploration, training and jobs:
https://www.careeronestop.org/Videos/CareerVideos/career-videos.aspx

Both of these websites have been great for students to **research occupations that align with their career interest areas.**
1) Occupational Outlook Handbook - https://www.bls.gov/ooh/
2) CollegeGrad.com - https://collegegrad.com/careers

This site includes the **O*NET Interest Profiler** which assists interns in navigating the job search by finding jobs that pertain to their interests. After filling out the O*NET Interest Profiler, interns can explore different job site videos to gage further interest and preference on internships that suit their interests, needs, and goals http://www.vocfit.com/video-library.html

Resources re: COVID19 for people with disabilities

This is online safety training for people with disabilities.
https://disabilitywebtraining.com/virus-safety-pwd/

Tons of useful resources for people with disabilities: https://nccdd.org/news-media/blog/51-health/931-covid-19-resources-for-people-with-disabilities.html