

INTERN PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

ERIN JEWELL

Intern at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare



AGENDA 21
INTERNSHIP
PROGRAM

Since 1995, Tennessee Hospital Association's [Agenda 21 Internship Program](#) has operated with the mission of matching graduate students from minority and underrepresented groups in healthcare administration with hospital executives for summer internships in hospitals across the state. Erin Jewell, an intern in the 28th class of the program and an MPH student at University of Memphis, interned at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare in Memphis, Tennessee.

One of Erin's projects was the creation of a five-year data report to summarize demographics, concerns, and successes from the Family Resilience Initiative (FRI) clinical program at Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare. The FRI program provides resources to children aged 9 months to 5 years along with their parents after screening for social determinants of health and adverse child experiences. For example, a family experiencing food insecurity is connected to resource programs that provide food boxes, food vouchers, or assistance with applying for WIC or SNAP. Children who screen positive for one or more adverse childhood experiences are offered psychology referrals. Other resources are provided upon request such as parenting classes or healthy home partnerships to decrease housing hazards.

“ Addressing adverse child experiences and social determinants of health together brings about a more holistic approach to the healthcare field, demonstrating that health and wellbeing are not solely determined by genetics or medical services rendered.”

One of Erin's internship takeaways is that public health and healthcare leadership pair very well to create effective change. Her research study used several public health principles such as evidence-based practices, program development, implementation, and evaluation, while incorporating key leadership responsibilities such as metrics reporting, program budgeting, grant applications and renewals, and continuous quality improvement.



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