

INTERN PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

LAJMI ISLAM

Intern at Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville



AGENDA 21
INTERNSHIP
PROGRAM

Since 1995, Tennessee Hospital Association's [Agenda 21 Internship Program](#) has connected graduate students from minority and underrepresented groups in healthcare administration with hospital executives for transformative summer internships. This year, Lajmi Islam, a student from Tulane University, pursuing a Master of Health Administration, interned at Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville.

Her project focused on addressing and reducing blood culture contamination rates which ultimately improves patient care, aids in reducing costs, and shortens hospital stays. The contamination rates before Lajmi's project were high at 9%, and with her efforts, they lowered to 2%.

Lajmi developed an educational flyer on best practices for blood culture collection, which was reviewed and approved by senior leaders including the CEO and Chief Nursing Officer. The flyer was incorporated into the nursing orientation program to ensure new staff receive consistent training, helping to standardize procedures and reinforce best practices throughout the hospital.



Effective leadership is crucial in championing change and ensuring clear communication. The support from senior leaders was instrumental in the project's success."

Her efforts not only achieved a significant reduction in contamination rates but also promoted a culture of continuous improvement at Tennova Healthcare-Clarksville.



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