

CHRISTOPHER EMEAGWAI



Christopher Emeagwai participated in the Agenda 21 Internship Program in 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program provided his first exposure to executive leadership in a hospital setting, bridging his academic background in healthcare with his professional experience in operations.



The Agenda 21 Internship Program experience was more than an internship; it was a three-month interview that set me on a trajectory I couldn't have achieved otherwise.

Currently, he serves as an Operations Project Manager for HCA Healthcare's CareNow Urgent Care Clinics, overseeing operational needs for approximately 332 clinics. The internship gave him an invaluable look at high-stakes decision-making during the pandemic, as he sat in meetings where executives formulated contingency plans in real time. The experience sharpened skills in executive presence and project execution, teaching him to present ideas succinctly and back them with research.

One of the most impactful aspects of the program was working under his preceptor, Scott Cihak, President and CEO of HCA TriStar Centennial Medical Center. Cihak's leadership style, built on thorough preparation and perseverance, left a lasting impression. "His mentorship not only challenged me but also instilled the confidence to tackle ambitious projects and advocate for ideas I believed in," Emeagwai reflected. Learning from Cihak reinforced the importance of delivering excellence at every stage, even in draft work.

Emeagwai advises future interns to give 100 percent effort and remain open to feedback. He credits the Agenda 21 Internship Program with providing the tools, connections, and confidence to succeed in his career. Looking back, he describes the experience as transformative and remains deeply grateful to THA for the opportunity.



For more information about the program, contact Program Manager Karizma Whitfield at kwhitfield@tha.com.