

PRESTON WILLIAMS



Preston Williams participated in the Agenda 21 Internship Program in the summer of 2017 while pursuing his Master of Healthcare Administration at the University of Memphis. He interned at Baptist Memorial Healthcare Corporation in Memphis, working closely with Chief Improvement Officer Skip Stewart. "This experience introduced me to the intricacies of healthcare management and fostered my critical thinking skills, which have been pivotal in my professional journey," Williams said.

Currently, Williams leads operations for Virtus Health, an Applied Behavioral Analysis therapy company providing behavioral health services for children with autism. His previous roles in hospital administration with organizations like HCA Healthcare and Mount Sinai Medical Center were shaped by his internship experience. "The Agenda 21 Internship Program taught me to think like an executive, focusing on creating environments that empower teams to excel," he shared. Exposure to strategic discussions during the internship had a lasting impact on his leadership style.

The program also deepened his appreciation for healthcare policy and advocacy. "I learned the value of addressing inefficiencies and improving patient care through thoughtful leadership and collaboration," Williams explained. Observing executive discussions helped him understand the complexities of healthcare operations and the role of policy in shaping patient outcomes.



The skills and networks you build through this program can shape your professional path in profound and unexpected ways."

Williams advises future Agenda 21 participants to embrace the opportunity fully. "Ask questions, learn from seasoned executives, and adopt a mindset of curiosity and growth," he encouraged.



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