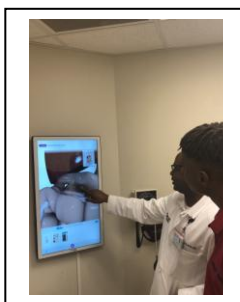


Joshua Smith

Aspiring Cardiologist



Because I aspire to become a Medical Professional, I had the opportunity to shadow three prominent physicians on the First Coast; all associated with the North East Florida Medical Society.

During my first two-week rotation, I was placed with one of the best Cardiologists in Florida, Dr. Trevor Greene. I was extremely excited over this placement because of my desire to eventually become a Cardiologist. While shadowing Dr. Greene, I was able to witness two ablations (removal of material from the surface of an object by vaporization, chipping or other erosive processes). Under Dr. Greene's guidance, I was able fully understand the components of the heart; the ventricles, left/right atrium and the pulmonary valve. I will never forget the knowledge that I attained under Dr. Greene's mentorship.

During my second rotation, I was placed with a Gastroenterologist, Dr. Renard Rawls. I learned so much from Dr. Rawls; every day was something interesting and new. As a result of my experience with Dr. Rawls, I am literally able to have intelligent conversations with people about things that I didn't even know existed prior to this experience.

My last two-week rotation was with Family Practitioner, Dr. Rogers Cain. While shadowing Dr. Cain, I learned the importance of exhibiting good bed-side manners; regardless of one's chosen specialty it is important to treat each and every patient with care, dignity and respect. Dr. Cain taught me that anyone can become a doctor but only a few will become a 'good doctor.'

It was truly a blessing to live out my dream of working in a medical environment. On top of that, I received a paycheck for the hours that I shadowed the physicians. I am very thankful that Ms. Dee gave me such an amazing opportunity to meet such amazing people who work in the career field that I would like to one day become a part of.

When I first joined the AnnieRuth's Summer Internship program, I knew it would be a long ride but in the end it was well worth it. Participating in the AnnieRuth Foundation was one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life!