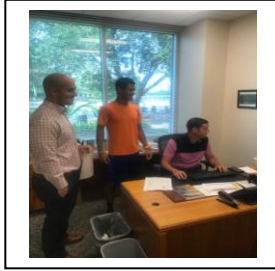


John Akhlaghi
Aspiring Financial Advisor



I expressed a desire to become a Financial Advisor and had the pleasure of completing my internship experience at Merrill Lynch. I learned several, life enhancing, skills and critical success principals. My mentor, Bill Merriam, required me to read two books on success principals (“The Law of Success”, by Napoleon Hill) and how to handle money/savings (“The Richest Man in Babylon” by George S. Clason). I worked in the office with staff on several projects. My primary responsibility was researching critical statistics to evaluate potential client companies. I was introduced to “VALUELINE” and how to research various financial metrics. I was taught the importance of being “professional” (e.g., showing up on time is not an option, it’s a responsibility; responding to requests, in a timely fashion, is not an option, it’s a responsibility; and being too busy to accomplish a requested task is never an appropriate response).

Although I am uncertain as to whether I will continue to pursue becoming a Financial Advisor, I feel this experience will have a lasting impact on me. I am glad that I participated in the AnnieRuth Foundation’s Summer Internship Program.