

Taria Newkirk, Aspiring Entrepreneur The Center for Confidence



My career aspiration is to become a successful entrepreneur. As a result, I was placed at the Center for Confidence, a business management consulting company in Jacksonville, Florida. The Center for Confidence exists to create high achievers and business performers, motivate individuals to be successful, teach business management, provide executive coaching, and leadership development.

While there, I had the pleasure of working under Dr. Valencia Dunbar (Dr. V), founder and lead trainer-coach of The Center for Confidence. Dr. V. is a phenomenal businesswoman and mentor. Through her teachings, she installed in me knowledge on how to manage a successful business. During my summer internship, I learned how professionally greet customers, organize and label inventory, assist in operating Chip's Gifts, snacks, & sundries, and attend to customer needs. My favorite part of the experience was developing new skills, such as graphic design and realizing my potential. My summer internship experience allowed me to make connections and explore a wide range of occupations that interest me. This experience has enabled me to come closer to attaining my goal to become an entrepreneur. My plans are to begin my journey as a businesswoman during my senior year.

I am beyond grateful to have been selected as an AnnieRuth Foundation 2020 Summer Internship Program Award Recipient. This experience allowed me to get a glimpse of what being an entrepreneur is like which has placed me that much closer to realizing my life-long dream.