

Black History Month Physician Spotlight

February 2022



Dr. William "Bill" Buckley

Area of Practice

Obstetrics & Gynecology

Education & Experience

Meharry Medical College, Fisk University (undergraduate)

What's Your Motivation for Becoming a Physician?

Dr. William "Bill" Buckley grew up in Nashville, Tennessee, the son of parents who were both college-educated teachers. His parents made sure he understood that the sky was the limit for his future. He attended a diverse high school before attending two historically black colleges and universities. He later became the first African American graduate of the Good Samaritan Hospital OBGYN residency program. During his interview to join Group Health in 1995, he remembers being asked "What do you bring to Group Health?" His response, "The main thing I bring to Group Health is diversity because there are no African American physicians here." Group health had a large black patient population, especially in Clifton.

As a physician, he used to feel like he had to "go the extra mile" to build his reputation. He doesn't think much about those experiences now, but they were on his mind when he and his partner, Dr. Reed, established a practice in Anderson and Batavia. Dr. Buckley shares, "Given my experience in the Cincinnati health care community, I have become acutely aware of the need for me to stand up in support of racial and ethnic equity and equality."

Who in Black History Inspires You?

Vivien Thomas, a distant cousin on his grandmother's side, was an instructor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at John's Hopkins University where he did groundbreaking research on "blue baby syndrome."

John Lewis has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to do the right thing since his early involvement in the civil rights movement. He has worked to further the prospects of the African American community and for equality and equity in general.

How Do You Engage with the Community?

Dr. Buckley is an active member of Omega Psi Phi, an international fraternity with various community service projects. He serves on the board of the Star Chapter Foundation, helping raise scholarship funds for kids in underserved communities. He also plays drums at his church.

At TriHealth, he is involved in the Physician Diversity, Equity & Inclusion workgroup. He and his wife, Dr. Rochelle Buckley, serve as the Executive Sponsors of TriHealth's African American Employee Resource Group, TRIBE.

He is a member of the Cincinnati Medical Association - The local NMA chapter. The National Medical Association (NMA) is the collective voice of African American physicians and the leading force for parity and justice in medicine and the elimination of disparities in health.