

NEWS

Her Mother's Nursing Stories Led Dr. Takeyla Williams to a Medical Career

By Camm Ashford

Dr. Takeyla N. Williams said her mother Lisa played a big role in her becoming the surgical oncology specialist she is today.

"At that time, none of my family members worked in the medical field," Dr. Williams recalled of her childhood. "My family would be described by many as non-traditional and lower-middle class. But my mother eventually went to college and became a nurse when I was in middle school. Her first position was in a nursing home. She would always talk about her patients, and that definitely inspired me to be a doctor."

However, it took some time for Dr. Williams to decide on a medical specialty.

"Early on, I thought my medical specialty would be pediatrics," she explained. "But I realized quickly that not all kids are healthy, and it was hard for me to see sick children. While I was in college, I enjoyed women's health and thought I wanted to do OB/GYN. Though, when I went to medical school and in my third-year clerkships, I learned that I enjoyed instant gratification. My decision to become a surgeon was based on the fact that surgeons see a problem, fix the problem and then move on to the next problem. I did a fellowship in breast surgical oncology, because I could be a surgeon and still focus on women's health."

A board-certified and fellowship-trained breast surgical oncologist, Dr. Williams currently works with CHI Memorial Breast Care Associates and the MaryEllen Locher Breast Center at CHI Memorial.

Dr. Williams began her undergrad-

uate education at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina, where she completed a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2004. She then returned to her hometown of Augusta, to work at the Medical College of Georgia as a research assistant until her acceptance in 2006 into Atlanta's Morehouse School of Medicine--where she graduated with honors in 2010.

Dr. Williams completed her residency in general surgery at East Tennessee State University. During her five-year residency, she was awarded the Eric R. Manahan Outstanding Surgical Resident Award, which is an honorary recognition given yearly to a senior resident for outstanding performance as a surgical house officer. Dr. Williams was also appointed the 2015-2016 administrative chief resident. She received her fellowship in breast oncology from Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City.

Dr. Williams previously served as a breast surgeon in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. Having more than 12 years' experience, she specializes in breast cancer and procedures. As a fellow-

DR. TAKEYLA WILLIAMS, MD

Board-Certified/Fellowship-Trained Breast Surgical Oncologist

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Dr. Williams is currently welcoming new patients. Call today to schedule an appointment with Dr. Williams.

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ship-trained surgeon, she participates in a multidisciplinary clinic where she communicates with her patients and other medical professionals to create an individualized treatment plan that includes preoperative preparations, surgical protocols and postoperative care.

Dr. Williams is currently welcoming new patients. To schedule an appointment, call 423-698-0304.

IN THE HUDDLE

with Coach Jennings

Through Deep Waters

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

(Isaiah 43:2, NLT)

When you go through deep waters, I will be with you.

TODAY'S WORD

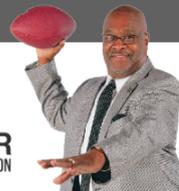
You may be in deep waters today. The business suffered a setback, the medical report wasn't good, or the addiction seems permanent. But GOD is saying, "You're not staying there. You're going through it." When you're in deep waters, you need to remind yourself that it's temporary. Now quit wasting time by worrying about that situation that you can't control. The trouble is not permanent. The sickness, the loneliness, or the difficulty is just a stop along the way. But if you give in to it and let it overwhelm you with discouragement, you'll settle there and let what should have been temporary become permanent. The good news is that your HEAVENLY FATHER, the MOST HIGH GOD, is with you in the deep waters. There may be obstacles that look insurmountable, but HE has the final say. If you have faith in the middle, HE'll open up doors that no man can shut. HE'll turn situations around that look impossible. HE'll take you further than you've ever imagined.

PRAYER FOR TODAY

FATHER, thank YOU for YOUR promise to be with me through the deepest of waters. Even when life seems to be out of control, I choose to trust in YOU and believe that YOU have the final say. I declare that YOU are with me, and YOU overrule. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Lurone "Coach" Jennings

Mary Walker Foundation Executive Director



National Gun Violence Awareness Day and Wear Orange Weekend June 3rd-5th

Wear orange, find an event, demand action on Gun Violence Awareness Day, June 3

In the wake of multiple tragedies, the fight to end gun violence has never been more urgent. We must address this crisis in all forms—including mass shootings, domestic violence, firearm suicide, and daily gun violence. Enough is enough.

We're just days away from National Gun Violence Awareness Day and the start of Wear Orange Weekend. Orange is the color of the gun violence prevention movement—we wear this bright color because we demand to be seen and heard.

This year, we need to join together and demand a future free from gun violence once and for all.

With gun violence devastating our communities, it's never been more important for us to show we won't stop fighting.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day is an annual event that takes place on the first Friday in June, and is the be-

ginning of Wear Orange Weekend. We #WearOrange to honor the lives of people in the United States affected by gun violence, and elevate the voices of those demanding an end to this crisis.

#WearOrange and demand action. Find an event near you.



Credit: Submitted by Everytown for Gun Safety



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