During the summer of 2023, I had the opportunity to engage in activities dear to me. Firstly, I aimed to serve underserved populations, driven by my upbringing in Nigeria and observations of health care disparities in the U.S. This led me to collaborate with the ECU Health Pediatric Specialty Clinic to enhance influenza vaccination rates among cystic fibrosis patients. This project fascinated me as it focused on Quality Improvement and Health System Science, aiming to address areas for better care delivery.
By interviewing parents, I identified barriers such as accessibility and communication gaps, prompting a longitudinal project to increase vaccination rates by at least 10%, thereby improving CF patient outcomes at the clinic. Through this endeavor, I gained valuable insights into health care systems and the importance of tailored interventions to meet patient needs. Additionally, I combined my interests in science and soccer to mentor and coach youth soccer. These experiences enabled me to contribute meaningfully to the community while imparting essential skills such as teamwork, leadership, and effective communication. I found great satisfaction in witnessing the growth and development of the young individuals I worked with, both on and off the field.
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