

Dr. Sonnice Estill

Dr. Sonnice Estill is a native Houstonian, with many years of experience in the healthcare industry and academy. Sonnice has a doctorate in health administration; a master's in business administration and a bachelor's in business accounting and she has held various leadership positions within the healthcare industry.

As an industry expert, Sonnice's major strength is her ability to deliver solutions utilizing a triumvirate of knowledge; clinical, financial, and academic. Her primary focus has been working with healthcare CEOs, CFOs and their teams to reengineer and better understand their business by streamlining responsibility and accountability through healthcare informatics and analytics. To date, she has trained hundreds of healthcare professionals during her career.

Dr. Estill has worked as a senior healthcare consultant for multiple firms and managed budgeting and finances in over 300 hospitals across the United States. In addition, she has served as the Director/Professor for the Master of Science in Health Administration (MHA) program at Texas Southern University (TSU) in the Pharmacy Health & Sciences Department. At the University of Oklahoma, Dr. Estill teaches courses in finance, leadership ethics, and health and human services administration. She is also a content expert for curriculum design, spearheading the development of several courses.

For years, she was a national mentor for the Louis Stokes Scholars Programs sponsored by the United Health Foundation in Washington, DC. The foundation links collegiate students across the nation with leading healthcare professionals to enhance the student/mentee's leadership skills and access resources that facilitate their personal and professional development. As a mentor and academic advisor, *Sonnice's passionate pledge is to encourage each student to excel academically, think creatively, and live with integrity.*

Dr. Estill's personal and academic highlights were being featured in an editorial entitled "Crossroads" in which exemplary students are recognized along with the person the student believes made *a difference* in their life. As well as an article published titled "All Black Women Healthcare Administration Graduating Cohort" in the Forward Times newspaper.

Having an early understanding that effective delivery of care involves the provider, patient, and payer, Dr. Estill extended her knowledge by working with health insurance companies and healthcare delivery systems, including leading healthcare systems in Texas and South Carolina. Texas Health Resources, in Dallas, serves as one of the largest faith-based, healthcare systems in the United States and is the largest in North Texas with 13 hospitals employing more than 13,000 people.

Later, Dr. Estill joined the corporate finance team of Greenville Hospital System (GHS) in South Carolina. GHS is one of the largest health systems in the Southeastern region. Upon returning to Houston, Sonnice accepted a senior finance position with the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, Texas. The university not only provides care to a largely indigent population, but also serves as a medical school and teaching hospital with hundreds of residents trained each year.

Her work, generosity, and passion for humanity extend beyond the U.S. borders. She has traveled and supported the building of a school in Kumasi, Ghana. The school opened its doors in June of 2010. During her visit to Africa, Sonnice purchased cribs for a children's home in Accra. In 2012, she traveled to Cuba, to learn and experience its rich culture and get a better understanding of its healthcare system. She was able to meet with healthcare professionals and college professors in Havana during her trip organized by the Greater Houston Partnership.

In October of 2015, Dr. Estill visited several primary schools around the world. While in Indonesia, she visited the school President Obama attended as a young boy. In Madagascar, Sonnice was deeply inspired by the children's passion for learning; she promised to supply their empty shelves with books. Since the children are learning French and English, Sonnice has shipped over 100 books in English and French. Traveling to France to personally hand-pick children's books. At the beginning of 2016, the students returned to a school with a little taste of America, as Sonnice welcomed them back with popcorn, more books, and individual bookmarks. Believing as John Rockefeller stated, "Charity is injurious unless it helps the recipient become independent of it;" Sonnice worked with several charitable organizations to establish sustainable programs.

Health and wellness are very important to Dr. Estill. She believes in the advantages of not only mental stimulus, but also physical strength, mental clarity, and natural energy as well. As such, Sonnice is an avid runner, enjoys and plays tennis regularly (a sponsor of the Friends of Homer Ford Tennis Center) and she engages in a round of golf occasionally as a member at Redstone Golf Club.

Sonnice is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. While living in London, England, she has been a member of the international chapter with members from Germany, England, and the Netherlands. Sonnice served as a collegiate advisor for many years. She is an active member of the Healthcare Financial Management Association, College of Healthcare Executives. As a life learner, Dr. Estill attended continuing education courses at Oxford University while living in the UK and is certified in Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) training. Currently, Dr. Estill lives in Houston where she diligently serves others; believing everyone should *live to leave a legacy...*