## **Benevis** | Dentist Spotlight





# Dr. Amber Goode

### **District Dental Director at Benevis**

#### **Fascinated from the Start**

r. Amber Goode's passion for dentistry began at an early age. "I was always fascinated by teeth," she recalls. "As a child, I refused to give my teeth to the tooth fairy. Instead, I kept them in a jar, later adding my spacers and braces. My parents probably thought I was a bit strange, but from that early age, I knew I wanted to become a dentist."

Dr. Goode has since realized her childhood dream, although her journey to becoming a dentist was unconventional. She held various roles within the field of oral health before assuming her current position as District Dental Director for Benevis in Georgia. While pursuing her undergraduate studies at Florida State University, Dr. Goode gained hands-on experience by shadowing a dentist. "He believed that the best way

to learn dentistry was through direct involvement—assisting during various procedures on patients to truly understand the practice."

#### Finding the Right Time

After completing her undergraduate degree, Dr. Goode initially applied to dental school. However, timing wasn't right, so she moved to Washington,

D.C., where she worked as a dental assistant and ultimately decided to pursue a dental hygiene certification at Howard University's renowned Dental Hygiene Program.

"I was able to leverage my experience as a dental assistant during hygiene school," Dr. Goode explains. "While there, several of my mentors, who had gone on to dental school themselves, encouraged me to reapply. They believed in my

potential, saying, 'You're at the top of your dental hygiene class. This is your passion, and we think you should pursue it."

Dr. Goode applied to dental school again, this time to Howard University's College of Dentistry, and was accepted into the program. After dental school, she completed her residency in Advanced Education in General Dentistry also at Howard University, further honing her clinical skills.

I've worked in nearly every role within a dental practice. As a dental assistant and hygienist, I gained invaluable insights into the challenges faced by each team member. This experience has been instrumental in my work as a dentist, allowing me to understand and address the needs of every part of the team

#### Taking a Unique Path

Her path to dentistry is unique. "I've worked in nearly every role within a dental practice. As a dental assistant and hygienist, I gained invaluable insights into the challenges faced by each team member. This experience has been

To read more about Benevis, go to Benevis.com or scan the QR code



(Continued)

# Dr. Amber Goode

## **District Dental Director at Benevis**

instrumental in my work as a dentist, allowing me to understand and address the needs of every part of the team," she says.

Dr. Goode spent more than eight years practicing as a general dentist in a private practice in Ashburn, VA, and Washington, D.C., but when the pandemic hit, she felt it was time for a change. "I wanted to make a more significant impact. My dental schools mission was to serve underserved populations," she explains. She transitioned to Walmart Health, where she provided care to patients from all walks of life. "It was incredibly rewarding to offer high-quality healthcare at an affordable cost and to challenge traditional healthcare delivery models."

Earlier this year, Walmart Health announced the closure of its clinics, including those providing dental services. Dr. Goode, committed to continuing her mission to serve underserved communities, sought out a similar organization and found Benevis. "Benevis's mission—serving underserved populations and providing quality, affordable care—was exactly in line with my values, and that's what drew me to the company."

### Dr. Goode Today

Today, Dr. Goode serves as the District Dental Director for Benevis in Georgia, overseeing 12 practices across the state. In addition to treating patients, she mentors newer dentists, a role she finds deeply fulfilling. "At Walmart Health, I loved not only providing patient care but also mentoring younger doctors. Helping them grow and succeed is one of the most rewarding aspects of our profession, and I look forward to continuing that at Benevis."



For Dr. Goode, the most fulfilling moments in dentistry come from transforming patients' smiles and alleviating pain. "The ability to remove decay and have a patient leave with a smile or relieve someone's pain—knowing they are no longer suffering—is incredibly rewarding. These moments remind me why I chose this profession."



#### **About Benevis**

Since 2002, Benevis has provided dental practice management services to over 150+ supported offices across 15 states. With a network of 45 different brands, we provide care to more than 620,000 patients each year. Eighty-five percent of those patients are enrolled in state Medicaid programs. Benevis is dedicated to improving lives and communities by providing high-quality dental care in a fun, compassionate environment.

To read more about Benevis, go to Benevis.com or scan the QR code

