

Brenda Bacon said she has leadership in her blood. The Washington, D.C., native began her journey in a junior leadership program, where she received an award from then-President John F. Kennedy.

That memorable accomplishment sparked her to go to Hampton University for her undergraduate degree and then to the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania for her MBA in healthcare management.

From there, her healthcare career sprouted. She was assistant vice president at Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia for two years and then developed and operated HealthTeam, a healthcare consulting business based in New Jersey.