



Resident Spotlight: Dr. Wilson Baumgartner

Dr. Wilson Baumgartner's path to medicine, and more specifically, psychiatry, was driven by a desire to support and guide people through some of the most challenging moments of their lives. Originally from Birmingham, Alabama, he has always been drawn to understanding human behavior and the complexities of mental health.

"Psychiatry allows you to meet people where they are, often in their most vulnerable moments," said Baumgartner. "Many patients have either been given up on or have given up on themselves. The opportunity to step into that space and help them find hope again is incredibly rewarding."

Baumgartner began his academic journey at Berry College, where he earned his undergraduate degree, before attending the American University of the Caribbean for medical school. His decision to join the Georgia South Psychiatry Residency Program was based on the program's strong sense of

mentorship and support.

"The early days of training can be overwhelming, so having experienced professionals who are genuinely invested in your growth is invaluable," he said. "When I completed a rotation here during medical school, I saw firsthand the collaborative culture and the high standard of care, and I knew this was the right place for me."

Since starting his residency last June, Baumgartner has found reassurance in his decision, appreciating the autonomy and professional development opportunities that Georgia South provides.

"The transition to becoming a physician comes with a lot of responsibility, but having the right guidance makes all the difference," he said. "Here, my voice is heard, and I'm gaining the confidence I need to make meaningful decisions for my patients."

His long-term goals include a balance of inpatient and outpatient psychiatry, where he can continue to build relationships with patients while providing the comprehensive care they need. He is especially passionate about patient education and enjoys helping individuals gain a deeper understanding of their mental health and treatment options.

"One of the most rewarding moments so far was seeing a patient go from a place of hopelessness to feeling empowered about their mental health journey," he said. "It's moments like those that reinforce why I chose this field."

Baumgartner was also drawn to Colquitt Regional because of the hospital's emphasis on patient-centered care and strong sense of community.

"The little things—greeting colleagues in the hallway, taking the extra time to listen to a patient's concerns—those details make a huge impact on patient outcomes and overall experience," he said.

Outside of medicine, Baumgartner enjoys playing tennis, exercising, and reading. A fun fact about him? He has a background in childhood acting—though he insists it was nothing too serious.