

NETWORKING OVER NASHVILLE

SPEAKER BIOS

SHAN FOSTER

Shan Foster is the Director of Community Engagement at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. In this role he is responsible for building and nurturing relationships with community partners, enhancing outreach efforts, and developing initiatives that align with the institution's mission to improve health and well-being. As Co-Founder of Fostering Healthy Solutions, Foster has extensive experience across various sectors and is a passionate advocate for inclusion, making significant contributions to education and non-profit organizations. He authored *What Hurt Didn't Hinder*, an inspiring story of perseverance. Foster's leadership expanded AMEND Together of YWCA Nashville to multiple states. A charismatic speaker, he addresses the intersections of race, gender, and identity, engaging audiences from corporations to sports programs. He is a frequent speaker before national and international corporations, regional and national conferences, local and state government entities, and collegiate and national sports programs, including the National Football League.

Foster graduated from Vanderbilt University with a Bachelor of Science in Human and Organizational Development in 2008. During his time at Vanderbilt, Foster was named SEC Men's Basketball Player of the Year, All-SEC all four years, NCAA Division I All-America, and played for the USA Team in the 2007. He was the Lowes Senior CLASS award winner, an award given to the nations senior leader in community, classroom, character, and competition. Foster finished his collegiate basketball career as the all-time leading scorer in school history where his jersey is retired and was drafted into the NBA by the Dallas Mavericks in 2008. He was inducted to the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame in 2009, Vanderbilt Athletics Hall of Fame in 2010, Greater New Orleans Sports Hall of Fame in 2025, and was honored as an SEC Legend during the 2016 SEC Basketball Tournament. His jersey is also retired at Bonabel High School in Kenner, LA where he grew up.

Foster is a graduate of the 2018 Leadership Nashville class and serves on the board for the Tennessee Sports Hall of Fame, Nashville Sports Council, KIPP Nashville and Metro Nashville Parks

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and Recreation. Foster is an advisor to 100 Black Men of Middle Tennessee and TN Donor Services. He most recently was selected Nashville's Most Powerful Leaders, 2019 40 Under 40 award winner, Nashville Emerging Leader Award Finalist, Leadership Nashville Class of 2018, Leadership Middle Tennessee Class of 2022, Leadership Music Class of 2023, and Leadership Tennessee Class of 2024.