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Regent’s Message:

Another Outstanding Year for ACHE of Georgia

As we close out another remarkable year, I find myself reflecting on what makes our healthcare organizations truly thrive. It's not just individual talent, but rather the power of great teams working together toward a shared mission.



John Kueven, FACHE

Throughout my career I've learned that exceptional leaders aren't built in isolation. They're developed through meaningful connections, shared learning experiences, and the collective wisdom of peers who understand the unique challenges we face. This is precisely why ACHE and ACHE of Georgia exists, to bring together healthcare executives who are committed to growing not just as leaders, but as collaborative team members.

I'm proud to report that our chapter has embraced this teamwork approach in extraordinary ways, culminating in some remarkable achievements this year. ACHE of Georgia received both the Award of Chapter Merit and the Award of Sustained Performance, recognition that reflects the collective efforts of our members, volunteers, committee leaders, and board members. As exciting as this recognition is, the numbers tell an even more compelling story about our commitment to developing healthcare leaders together.

This year we welcomed 374 new members and 97 transfers to our roster, bringing our total membership to 1,840 as of December 30. This growth represents hundreds of professionals who recognize the value of being part of something larger than themselves. Thirty-one of our members advanced to Fellow status this year, nearly doubling last year's number with another 75 Fellows recertifying.

Our educational programming has been robust and diverse. We delivered eight In-Person Education programs. We also held two summits this year, one in Savannah and one in Atlanta, providing 18 hours of in-person learning. Six virtual interactive programs added nine more hours of credit, while partnerships with other organizations contributed 76 Qualifying Education hours. Our virtual Board of Governors prep class this summer drew 94 registrants, offering 17 Qualifying Education hours.



Welcome to Our 2026 Board of Directors



**Sanford G. Duke, MD,
MBA, FACHE, President**



**Nicole D. Denham,
FACHE, Vice President**



**Lindsey H. Petrini, FACHE,
Immediate Past
President and
ACHE Regent for Georgia**



**Jon-Michael Williams,
FACHE, Secretary**



**Felix Soto Izaguirre,
MBA, FACHE,
Treasurer**

Board Members at Large:



**Philip Atoyebi, MD,
MBA, MPH, FACHE,
Growth and Satisfaction
Committee Chair**



**Sepi Browning, FACHE,
FHIMSS, CHCIO,
eFACHDM,
Communications
Committee Chair**



**Lorraine C. Duke,
FACHE, Sponsorship
Committee Chair**



**Jennifer J. Giusti,
FACHE, Clinician
Executive Committee
Chair**



**Lily J. Henson, MD,
FACHE, Physician
Executive Committee
Chair**



**Anthony J. Saul,
FACHE, Career
Advancement
Committee Chair**



**Trevor A. Strauss,
FACHE, Programs
Committee Chair**

**Diversity and Inclusion
Committee Chair
*To Be Announced***

ACHE of Georgia 2026 Board

Subcommittee Chairs:



Chet S. Bhasin, FACHE,
Scholarship
Subcommittee Chair



**Darra Edwards, PharmD,
MS, BCPS,** Transcendre
Subcommittee Chair



**Bonnie Matthews, MSN,
RN,** Career Development
Subcommittee Chair



Shawn J. McBride, Joint
Programs Subcommittee
Chair

Board Advisors:



Callie Andrews, FACHE,
Board Advisor



Jon-Paul Croom, FACHE,
Board Advisor



**J. Larry Tyler, FHFMA,
CMPE, LFACHE,** Board
Advisor

ACHE of Georgia
An Independent Chapter of



American College of
Healthcare Executives
for leaders who care®

Welcome to ACHE of Georgia's 2026 Board of Directors

ACHE of Georgia would like to thank our 2025 Board of Directors for their service in leading our group to another successful year. And welcome to our 2026 Board!

Pictured at right is a group photo of our 2026 Board taken at our December 12 strategic planning session at Piedmont Healthcare's headquarters office at Atlantic Station. Special thanks to Piedmont for hosting us in their offices.



Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events:

- **January 15, 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM** -- ACHE of Georgia lunch and learn at Maggiano's Buckhead, "Developing High-Performing Teams." 1.5 hours of ACHE In-Person Education credit. [Learn More](#) or [Register Now](#)
- **February 19, 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM**-- ACHE of Georgia Virtual Interactive Program, "Behavior Change and Patient Engagement: The Endgame for Gamification in Healthcare," more details to come. Mark your calendar.
- **March 2-4, 2026** — ACHE Congress on Healthcare Leadership, Houston, TX, "Purpose in Motion." Registration is now open. [Learn More and Register](#).
- **April 18, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM** -- Georgia Healthcare Field Day 2025 is a first-of-its-kind collaboration uniting the GA Chapters of HIMSS, ACHE, NALHE, NAHSE, and HFMA for a dynamic day of movement, mission, and meaningful connection. Sponsorship opportunities available. [Learn More and Register](#)

Register for Events at

www.acheofgeorgia.org/events

ACHE of Georgia's Podcast

ACHE of Georgia's [Healthcare Leadership Podcast](#) features interviews with today's leading healthcare executives. Each episode brings you fresh insight into the world of leadership from a healthcare perspective.

Our latest podcasts are with Dr. Sharon Horesh Bergquist on "The Stress Paradox," and Mark Stevens, FACHE, who discusses "The Sterling Management Framework."

[Click here](#) to listen to these and other available podcasts.

Registration Now Open!
1.5 Hours of ACHE In-Person
Education Credit

ACHE of Georgia In-Person Lunch and Learn
January 15, 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM ET
Maggiano's Buckhead
1.5 Hours of ACHE In-Person Education Credit

Join us on January 15 at Maggiano's in Buckhead as our panel of experts discusses "Developing High-Performing Teams."

And earn 1.5 hours of ACHE In-Person Education credit!

Developing High-Performing Teams

Moderator	Panelist	Panelist	Panelist
 Lamarvia Stinson, MPH, Vice President of Operations, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta	 Sabrina Broadnax, Senior Vice President of Human Resources, Grady Health System	 Jonathan E. Watkins, MPA, FACHE, President, City of Hope Cancer Center Atlanta	 Danyale Ziglar, MBA, PHR, SHRM-SCP, Vice President Human Resources, Wellstar Health System

Register Now at www.acheofgeorgia.org or Scan QR Code

Social Media



An Independent Chapter of
American College of
Healthcare Executives
for leaders who care.

More Info



Repost and + Follow

**PURPOSE
IN MOTION**

**March
2-4
Houston**

Early registration
rates are available.

ACHE 2026 CONGRESS
on Healthcare Leadership

Register at <https://congress.ache.org>

Lindsey Petrini, FACHE, Elected ACHE Regent for Georgia

Congratulations to Lindsey Petrini, FACHE, on her recent election to ACHE's Council of Regents representing the Georgia region. She will succeed John Kueven, FACHE, who served a three-year term as ACHE Regent for Georgia.

The ACHE Council of Regents is made up of healthcare leaders who are elected by their districts to represent their members, influence the greater good of the organization, and advance ACHE's vision, mission, and values. The Council is also responsible for advising and electing the ACHE Board of Governors.

ACHE of Georgia thanks Lindsey for her service as 2025 chapter president and for her continued service to ACHE as Regent for Georgia beginning in 2026.

Regent's Letter (continued from page 1)

We also celebrated our fifth annual ACHE of Georgia Week, hosted two senior executive events, held our joint holiday event with Georgia HIMSS at Lake Lanier Islands, and organized networking nights in Atlanta, Augusta, and Athens. All of these are opportunities to strengthen connections that make us better team members and leaders.

We invested in our future by providing three Congress scholarships and two academic scholarships, ensuring that financial barriers don't prevent talented students from participating fully in ACHE.

Perhaps most exciting is the record participation in our Mentorship Program, with 116 members engaged this year. This participation speaks volumes about our chapter's understanding that great teams are built through intentional relationships where experienced leaders share their wisdom and emerging leaders bring fresh perspectives.

Our Clinician Executive Committee launched an innovative four-part "Clinician to Executive: A Leadership Preparatory Program" series, covering human resources, finance, and process improvement through webinars, culminating in an in-person fireside chat on executive presence with senior leaders. With 94 registrants, this program demonstrated the hunger among clinical professionals to develop the business acumen needed for executive roles.



John Kueven, FACHE, outgoing ACHE Regent for Georgia, presents Lindsey Petrini, FACHE, with a plaque recognizing her service as 2025 ACHE of Georgia President.

As we look ahead, I encourage each of you to lean into the team mentality that makes our chapter strong. Attend an education program. Sign up for mentorship. Volunteer for a committee. Reach out to a colleague you met at a networking event. Every interaction is an opportunity to sharpen your leadership skills and contribute to someone else's growth.

Great teams don't happen by accident; they're built by individuals who commit to showing up, learning together, and supporting one another's success. To all our ACHE of Georgia volunteers, THANK YOU for making an impact to our profession. Your work makes a difference! To all our members, THANK YOU for being part of the ACHE of Georgia team and for your dedication to advancing healthcare leadership across our state.

I'd also like to give special thanks to **Lindsey Petrini, FACHE**, for her leadership as 2025 President of ACHE of Georgia and congratulate her on her election as our next ACHE Regent for Georgia. And welcome to our 2026 chapter President, Sanford Duke, MD, FACHE.

Warmest Regards,

John Kueven, FACHE
Regent for Georgia

Congratulations to ACHE of Georgia's 2025 Academic Scholarship Winners

This fall, ACHE of Georgia awarded three \$2,500 academic scholarships. The scholarships were awarded to ACHE Student Associate members or regular ACHE members assigned to the ACHE of Georgia chapter enrolled in an accredited college or university pursuing a healthcare-career-focused graduate degree such as MHA, MPH, MBA, or another related graduate degree.

This year's scholarship winners were recognized during our chapter awards ceremony at our joint Holiday Event with Georgia HIMSS at Lake Lanier Islands Peachtree Point on December 4. Congratulations to our scholarship winners:

- **Katlyn George**, Director, Healthcare Business Transformation at FTI Consulting. She is an MBA candidate at Emory University.
- **Kehinde Olaosebikan**, is a Research Analyst Intern with Alliant Health Group. He is pursuing an MHA and MBA from Georgia State University.

ACHE Recognizes Seven Georgia Chapter Members with Service Recognition Awards

Seven ACHE of Georgia members were selected to receive ACHE Service Recognition Awards this year. The awards were presented at our December 12 holiday and awards event at Lake Lanier Islands.

ACHE's Service Recognition Awards acknowledge members' contributions to healthcare management excellence through volunteer service to the chapter, ACHE and to the profession. Here are the members recognized this year:

- Tamara Bourda, PhD, FACHE, Administrator, MUSC Health
- Charisse A. Braxton, RN, FACHE, Senior Director/Clinical Operations, Kaiser Permanente Georgia
- Nicole D. Denham, FACHE, Chief Clinical Innovation Officer, DEPTH Health
- Lorraine C. Duke, BSMT, MBA, FACHE, CEO, Regency Hospital Macon, Select Medical
- Sanford G. Duke, MD, MBA, FACHE, Executive Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer, Atrium Health Navicent
- Graham M. Fox, FACHE, CEO, GI Specialists of Georgia
- Angela Henry, FACHE, Senior Client Partner, Korn Ferry



Lindsey Petrini, FACHE, presents our \$2,500 academic scholarship award to Kehinde Olaosebikan (left) and Katlyn George (right).



2025 ACHE of Georgia President Lindsey Petrini, FACHE, presents ACHE Service Awards to 2026 President Sanford Duke, MD, MBA, FACHE, and Lorraine Duke, FACHE.

2025 Regents Awards

Callie Andrews Receives ACHE of Georgia 2025 Senior Executive of the Year Award

Our 2025 Senior Executive of the Year Award winner is Callie C. Andrews, FACHE, Senior Vice President and Market President, Wellstar North Fulton. Callie was chapter President in 2019 and served a three-year term as ACHE Regent. She has served on our board for numerous years and is currently a board advisor.

Our Senior Executive of the Year Award recognizes ACHE Fellows in Georgia who are in senior healthcare leadership roles and who actively participate in ACHE leadership activities.

Our Regent's awards recognize some of our amazing members who demonstrate commitment and excellence to our profession. ACHE Regent for Georgia John Kueven, FACHE, presented the Regents awards at our December 4 holiday and awards event at Lake Lanier Islands.



John Kueven, FACHE, presents the 2025 Senior Executive of the Year Award to Callie Andrews, FACHE.

Kevin Gordon Receives ACHE of Georgia 2025 Early Careerist Award

Our 2025 Early Careerist Award winner is Kevin D. Gordon, MBA, LSSGB. As the Vice President of Supply Chain Operations at Grady Health System, Kevin exemplifies innovative and creative management. Kevin's leadership in Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity (DEI) initiatives is extensive, contributing significantly to Grady's numerous accolades.

His active participation in the ACHE of Georgia Diversity and Inclusion Committee, the ACHE of Georgia Mentor/Mentee program for three years, and his continuous professional development through ACHE DEI Quarterly Meetings, the Executive Program, and Congress attendance, further highlight his dedication to excellence and professional growth.

The Early Careerist Award recognizes young leaders in the healthcare field who actively participate in association activities and leadership and demonstrate innovative and creative management.



John Kueven, FACHE, presents the 2025 Early Careerist Award to Kevin Gordon.

ACHE of Georgia Event Highlights



Our October 16 panel at Maggiano's focused on "Fostering Inclusion of Patients and Employees with Disabilities."



Students at our October 23 Mentorship Program Launch party.



Our Toastmasters group had a fun in-person meeting following the October 16 luncheon at Maggiano's.



Dawn Zell Wright led an "Employee Engagement Bootcamp" at our November 13 Mini Summit in Midtown Atlanta.



We had an excellent turnout for our 2025-26 Mentorship Program launch party on October 23.



Group photo at our rooftop networking event following our November 13 Mini Summit in Midtown Atlanta.

ACHE of Georgia Event Highlights



We had an outstanding panel of healthcare leaders for our November 19 Clinician/Physician Executives event at Piedmont Atlanta.



Group at our November 19 Clinician/Physician Executives event.



November 19 clinician/physician panel discussion at Piedmont Atlanta.



We had a great turn out and lots of fun at our December 4 joint holiday and awards event with Georgia HIMSS at Lake Lanier Islands.



Trevor Straus, FACHE (right) moderates our December 4 fireside chat at Lake Lanier Islands with Carol Burrell (middle) and Ninfa Saunders, DHA, MBA, MSN, FACHE.



Networking at our December 4 joint holiday event at Lake Lanier Islands.

Congratulations to ACHE of Georgia's 2025 Fellows

- Philicia Andrews, MD, MBA, FACHE
- Daniel A. Abad, MBA, FACHE
- William T. Blackburn, MBA, FACHE
- Jennifer M. Boyette, PhD, FACHE
- Robert J. Brown, FACHE
- Marzena Buzanowska, MD, FACHE
- Katherine Chan, FACHE
- Ainsley Coley, RN, MSN, FACHE
- Aiyana N. Cottman, FACHE
- Brian Evans, FACHE
- Murry Ford, FACHE
- Rebeccah George, FACHE
- Diana R. Gillogly, FACHE
- Trent Goode, II, FACHE
- Rev. Christopher S. Jennings, FACHE
- COL John A. Johnson, MD, MBA, FACHE
- Hyeseung Kang, PharmD, FACHE
- Ijeoma Kene-Ewulu, MD, FACHE
- Nakia S. Mattis, DHA, MBA, MPH, PMP, FACHE
- Robert M. Maxwell, FACHE
- Corrin McCloskey, MPH, FACHE
- Hiroko Miles, FACHE
- Robert Norris, FACHE
- Nichole Rydahl, FACHE
- Elysha S. Roberts, PharmD, FACHE
- Mark G. Stevens, MBA, PT, BS, FACHE
- LeShea Turner, FACHE
- Joseph F. West, ScD, FACHE
- Donovan Williams, PhD, MHA, FACHE
- MAJ Matthew Woods, FACHE
- Kathryn Wolfe, FACHE

If you are interested in learning how to become an ACHE Fellow, [click here](#) to view information on ACHE's website.

FACHE

Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives
The Distinction of Board Certification

Fellows Recognition *(Since October 2025)*



New ACHE Fellows:

Congratulations to these ACHE of Georgia members who achieved their [Fellow of ACHE \(FACHE\)](#) credential since our last newsletter. Please take a moment to congratulate your colleagues for their commitment to advancing their healthcare careers:

- Jennifer M. Boyette, PhD, FACHE
- Katherine Chan, FACHE
- Corrin McCloskey, MPH, FACHE
- Joseph F. West, ScD, FACHE
- Donovan Williams, PhD, MHA, FACHE

We recognize the following members who recently recertified their Fellow status:

- Jonathan M. Baker, RN, FACHE
- Kimberly G. Bell, FACHE
- Lorraine C. Duke, MBA, FACHE
- David T. Early, MBA, MHA, FACHE
- Jennifer J. Giusti, FACHE
- Alex L. Hayman, FACHE
- Matt Jernigan, FACHE
- Linda L. Jubinsky, FACHE
- William E. Lindsey, Jr., FACHE
- Pooja Mishra, FACHE
- Paul S. Penn, III, FACHE
- Monica G. Richey, FACHE
- Marcy Rushford, FACHE
- Anthony J. Saul, FACHE
- Roger Su, MD, FACHE
- Bradley S. Talbert, FACHE

ACHE of Georgia President Lindsey Petrini, FACHE, recognized recent Fellow Rebecca George, FACHE, at our November Mini Summit.



Former ACHE of Georgia President Angela Henry, FACHE, presented Mark Stevens, MBA, PT, BS, FACHE, with his Fellow pin at our October lunch and learn.



Angela Henry, FACHE, presented Marzena Buzanowska, MD, FACHE, with her Fellow pin at our October lunch and learn.



- Thomas S. Wagner, MHA, FACHE(R)
- Michelle L. Wallace, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FACHE
- David M. Walker, FACHE
- Aisha N. Williams, RN, FACHE
- Carmen R. Williams, FACHE
- James S. Zacharias, MBA, FACHE(R)

Membership Report (Since October 2025)

New Chapter Members

ACHE of Georgia welcomes the following new ACHE members and members who have transferred to the chapter since October. We hope to meet you soon.

- Eman A. Anani
- Maria A. Andrews
- Brian K. Bays, MHA, BSN, RN
- David Battle
- Dani Blalock
- Christa D. Butler, NEA-BC
- Mary L. Campbell
- Nieka M. Chen, MBA, MHA
- Candace Cochran
- Ryan Crossman
- Darcy Crayton
- Lea Dauphin
- Schlondra C. Johns, DHSc
- Renee G. Doren
- Labrisha Doran, DHA(c), MBA
- Courtney Emerson
- Anelsa Fiol, MBA
- Antonio Gonzalez-Camuy, MD, MHA
- Brandon Gilbert, MPA
- Yolande Haugabook, MA, BS
- Marcia C. Hector, PhD, MBA
- Michael Howell
- Brad E. Johnson
- Kelly F. Johnson
- SSG Amari C. Johnson
- Laura S. Johnson, MD
- Joseph W. Vira
- Joyce A. Akwe, MD, MPH
- Shahnaz Lakhani
- Dadou Loum, MBA, MS
- Jennie McClain
- Christopher B. McElroy, MBA
- Julian Mejia
- Michelle Mitchell, MHA
- Reginald Nesbitt, MD, MBA
- Katie Nolen
- Obiageli Okeke, MS
- Oyebode Oyewole
- Breana Payne
- Katherine Pollock, BS
- Sanjida A. Rabbani
- ReAnna Tran
- Derek Rozier, MBA
- LaTonya Sallad-Hill, EdD, MS
- Hollie Seyfi
- Wendy Siegel
- Jake Summerford, PA-C
- Tania Klubenspies
- Shelby Tilley
- Alex Timothee
- Michelle Van Vleet
- Dave Ward
- Joanna Williams
- Uriah Windley
- Lauren Wright



Prepare for the Board of Governors' Exam with ACHE of Georgia's Prep Class Archive

ACHE of Georgia's 2025 Board of Governors Exam Tutorial and Review course was presented over 5 weeks in June and July. The class covered all 10 BOG exam topic areas. To help ACHE members prepare for the BOG Exam, we're offering an archive of all the study materials presented in these sessions for \$50.

Archived materials include links to videos of speakers' topic presentations and slide decks, class videos, quizzes, and quiz answer keys.

Scan the QR Code Below for More Information

Social Media



Repost and + Follow

More Info



Join Our Toastmasters Club

ACHE of Georgia has a virtual Toastmasters club and members and non-members are invited to be a part of our club. [Learn More](#)

Thank You to ACHE of Georgia's 2025 Sponsors

Dear ACHE of Georgia Annual Sponsors,

On behalf of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE) Georgia Chapter, we want to express our sincere thanks for your generous support. Your contributions are essential in helping us advance healthcare leadership in Georgia through professional development programs, networking, and educational initiatives.

Thanks to your sponsorship, we've made significant progress, and we're excited to continue collaborating in 2026 and beyond. Your commitment plays a key role in shaping the future of healthcare leadership, and we are grateful for your partnership. Thank you once again for your support.

Warm regards,
ACHE of Georgia Board of Directors

Find Out More About ACHE of Georgia Sponsorship

If your organization is interested in becoming an ACHE of Georgia sponsor, [click here](#) to visit our sponsorship page.

Platinum Sponsors

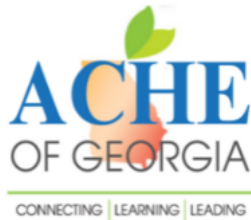


Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors





ACHE of Georgia Social Media: Connect with the Georgia Healthcare Community!

ACHE of Georgia offers several ways to connect with your healthcare colleagues through social media. Options include LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram and X/Twitter. To join any of our social media groups, scan the QR code or visit www.acheofgeorgia.org/social.



CALL FOR CONTENT

Content submissions to the ACHE of Georgia newsletter are for reviewed for appropriateness by the Communications Committee. Please send your contributions, including articles, news, member accomplishments and photos to bruce.lloyd@gmail.com, no later than close of business by the 20th day of the last month of each quarter (March, June, September, December). Approved submissions made after this date will be placed into the next newsletter.

Please note that ACHE of Georgia reserves the right to reject submissions that are not consistent with the goals and purposes of the organization. Articles that endorse or appear to endorse specific products, businesses, services, and are self-promotional or advertorial will not be accepted. Subjects that are appropriate deal with healthcare industry news (national and local), career management, leadership, mentoring, diversity and other professional topics. If you are not sure, please ask.

Articles submitted for the newsletter must be relevant to professional development or healthcare administration. Please format content in a Microsoft Word document, left justified, and be 1-2 pages in length. The content of the article must include: title; name of the author; the source the article was obtained from; full URL that links to the article (if applicable). Please submit photographs as email attachments in JPG file format. Please do not embed photographs in your article text. Provide name and affiliation of any person shown in photographs along with a brief caption. When using a reprint article, please provide credit to the author and/or obtain permission to use the article before submission.

ACHE of Georgia reserves the right to edit, change or omit certain content (including photographs) because of length, style, relevance, or simply due to lack of space as deemed appropriate.