



## Arkansas Health Executives Forum August 2023

### AHEF News

#### Update on AHEF Committee Assignments

The AHEF Executive Board of Directors met August 20, 2023, via virtual call to discuss the formation of the AHEF Advisory Council. This new group is to be comprised of several committees such as: Career Development, Bylaws, Awards, and Culture Diversity, led by Fellows and representing ACHE members from geographic regions around the state. Adam Head, AHEF President, and other AHEF Executive Board members will be reaching out to those who showed interest and have been assigned to a committee with the hope of having the new Advisory Council convene for the first time at the fall AHEF meeting.

More to come soon!

#### UAMS Announces New Faculty Liaison



Melissa Yandell, MHA, is an Assistant Professor at the UAMS MHA program and is the newly appointed liaison between AHEF, AHA, and the MHA program. She is an alumna of UAMS having completed her Master of Health Administration in 2015. She is finishing her PhD at William Carey University in Hattiesburg, MS, where her dissertation focus is burnout in resident physicians.

Before joining as faculty, Melissa worked for Baptist Health, starting as an Administrative Fellow then serving as an Assistant Vice President, Night Administrator. She ended her career at Baptist Health by serving as the Associate Designated Institutional Official where she helped create four accredited physician residency programs on the Baptist Health North Little Rock campus that now are training over 100 residents. When not at work, you will find Melissa spending time with her husband and little boy. Together they enjoy camping and spending time in their backyard playing with the dogs or in the garden.

#### AHEF Members and Fellows

Welcome to the AHEF new members, and congratulations to the recertified Fellows and one new ACHE Fellow from April through July 2023!

**Congratulations** to Joshua T. Conlee, MBA, MHSA, President of  
Lawrence Health in Walnut Ridge.

**Josh passed the Board of Governors Exam and is now a Fellow!!!**

## New Members

Diane Adkins  
Direct of Compliance  
Mercy, Fort Smith

Gina Bokker, RN  
Nurse Manager  
U.S. Dept of Veterans Affairs, Fayetteville

Brittany Brown, MSN, RN  
Director of Operations  
USA Health, Mobile, Alabama

Christina Clark, MBA  
Vice Chancellor/Institutional Support  
Services  
UAMS, Little Rock

Joey Crawford  
Dir of Cardiovascular & Emergency Services  
NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital, Jonesboro

Lauren Fields, MBA, BSN, RN  
CNO  
ARcare, Augusta

Grant Garrett, MSN  
Assoc Chief Nurse/Acute Care  
VHA, Fayetteville

Misti Harvey  
Chief Clinical Officer  
CARTI, Little Rock

Alex Hooper, DHA  
Branch Manager  
Arkansas Dept of Health, Conway

Terrance D. James  
Regional Director  
Independent Case Management, Benton

Shane Jennings, MD  
Fort Smith

Kobe Johnson, RN, BSN  
RN Specialty (CVICU)  
Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock

Patrick Kerrwood  
Centerton

Preston La  
Little Rock

Jeremy Land  
SVP/Regional Operations  
CARTI, Little Rock

Meghan Messimore  
Credentialing & Privileging Manager  
Veteran's Healthcare System of the Ozarks,  
Washburn, MO

Bradley Persons  
Administrative Fellow  
Jefferson Regional Medical Center, Pine  
Bluff

Josh Reaper  
Manager  
FORVIS, LLP, Little Rock

Jennifer Sandage, MSN, RN  
EVP, Chief Nursing Officer  
White River Health, Batesville

Michael L. Shackelford, MHA  
Chief of Patient Relations  
Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Sherwood

Benjamin M. Stevens  
Director of IT  
Howard Memorial Hospital, Nashville

Bunma Tan, MBA, MHA  
Cost and Decision Support Analyst  
UAMS, Little Rock

Wendy D. Washington  
Health System Credentialing Specialist  
Dept of Veterans Affairs, Fayetteville

Michael Westerfield  
FORVIS, LLP, Alexander

Michelle Winfield-Hanrahan, BSN, MHA, MSN  
Chief Clinical Access Officer, Assoc VC for  
Access, UAMS, Little Rock

## Recertified Fellows

Stephen F. Foti, Jr., LFACHE  
Little Rock

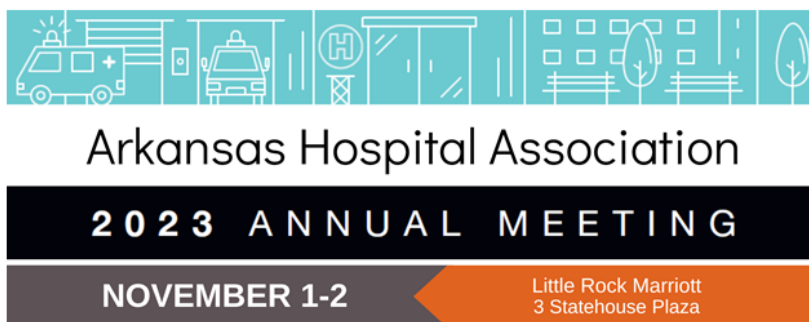
David R. Fox, FACHE  
Benton

William Henson, FACHE  
Practice Executive  
CHI St. Vincent Little Rock Diagnostic Clinic

Jamie L. Wiggins, PhD, MBA, FACHE  
Executive VP & COO  
Arkansas Children's Hospital, Little Rock

## Education

### 2023 Arkansas Hospital Association Annual Meeting



The 2023 AHA Annual Meeting kicks off just three months from today, on November 1<sup>st</sup>! You can now [register online](#) or [download the brochure](#) and mail in your registration. We are returning this year to the Little Rock Marriott, and we are keeping the two-day event format. We hope this streamlines your experience and helps you make the most of your learning and networking time.

A **3-Hour ACHE Face-to-Face workshop** titled “Managing and Optimizing the Human Margin from Fostering Flourishing Teams” is set for November 2<sup>nd</sup>. A total of **8.5 hours of pre-approved ACHE Qualified Education credits** are provided throughout the two-day event.

The Annual Meeting is open to AHA member hospitals. For a full list of the member hospitals, [click here](#). Hospitals eligible for membership but choose to not be members, are not able to attend this event.

### Face-to-Face Hours vs. Qualified Education

There is always some confusion on what education can be considered qualified education hours and what can be considered face-to-face hours when renewing your “Fellow” status with ACHE.

**ACHE Face-to-Face Education** programming is defined as any face-to-face continuing education program offered by the national organization or an ACHE-approved chapter panel discussion. If events are not panel discussions, the faculty is contracted through ACHE and the event and the cost to attend will be slightly higher.

Following the event, AHA/AHEF provides the attendee list to ACHE so that face-to-face hours are **applied directly** to an individual's record. Attendees need to allow up to 6-weeks for hours to be applied to their record.

#### Examples of Face-to-Face Education in Arkansas:

- AHEF Virtual Panels held during COVID-19
- AHA's 2022 Annual Meeting 3-Hour Workshop: Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue
- AHEF Panel: Crisis Management: Strategies to Effectively Manage a Healthcare Organization (Set for April 11<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the 2023 Emergency Preparedness Forum – Registration is \$25 per person, per day – [Program Information Here](#))

**Qualified Education Credit** is defined as credit that is earned through ACHE, state chapters or other educational organizations whether the program is administered in-person or via distance offerings (webinars, online seminars, etc.). This education must be directly applicable to the practice of healthcare management. Content that focuses on inspirational, clinical or technical aspects does not qualify. Further, any promotion and/or endorsement of a specific organization's programs, products or services must not be included.

With Qualified Education Credit, all **attendees must self-report their attendance** in order for this credit to be applied toward their advancement or recertification as Fellows of ACHE.

The Arkansas Hospital Association is an approved provider for ACHE Qualified Education Hours and notes which events are approved for Qualified Education on the program.

#### Examples of Qualified Education Credit in Arkansas:

- 2023 No Surprises Act Webinar
- Nurse Leaders Active Shooter – This is Not a Drill! Virtual Event

*Why aren't these considered face-to-face hour events?*

1. They are not panel discussions that have been developed with an ACHE Template.
2. The faculty was not contracted through ACHE.

## ACHE News

### **FACHE® Recertification**

The mandatory [recertification](#) deadline for the 2023 class is Dec. 31, 2023.

Fellows can check on their progress by logging into My ACHE and viewing the FACHE Recertification Progress Tool. There is no need to wait until Dec. 31 to recertify. Fellows should recertify early, pending all requirements have been met, so that they may start earning continuing education and volunteer activities toward their next recertification cycle.

Fellows over the age of 60 that plan to retire within the next five years may be eligible for a one-time only five-year recertification waiver. Fellows in good standing who are retired from healthcare management may transfer to Retired or Life Fellow Status.