

NEWS



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Bridgeport Hospital CEO William Jennings appointed to American College of Healthcare Executives' Council of Regents

William M. Jennings, FACHE, President and Chief Executive Officer of Bridgeport Hospital and Executive Vice President of Yale New Haven Health System (YNHHS), has been appointed to the Council of Regents, the legislative body of the American College of Healthcare Executives. The Council of Regents serves as the vital link between ACHE and members by approving governance and membership regulations as well as promoting ACHE programs, services and activities within their respective areas.

Jennings will take office at the Council of Regents meeting March 9, 2013, during ACHE's 56th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago. As a Regent, Jennings will represent ACHE's membership in Connecticut.

Jennings has served as President and CEO of Bridgeport Hospital and Executive Vice President of Yale New Haven Health System since 2010. Under his leadership, Bridgeport Hospital has made significant strides in patient safety and quality improvement. The hospital was recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2012 as best in Fairfield County in Geriatrics, Nephrology, Pulmonology and Urology.

In addition, a number of transformational facility enhancements have taken place under Jennings' leadership, including a complete remodeling of the hospital's main lobby, the extensive modernization of The Connecticut Burn Center, the only dedicated burn care facility in the state, and the opening of the Trumbull Radiation Oncology Center, the first component of a planned comprehensive outpatient cancer center.

"As a key member of the Yale New Haven Health System senior leadership team, Bill has done an exceptional job of advancing our strategic focus on patient care quality and safety," said Marna P. Borgstrom, President and CEO of YNHHS. "Bill is committed to developing and mentoring the next generation of healthcare executives and his leadership at ACHE will help to advance that."

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Before joining Bridgeport Hospital, Jennings served from 2007 to 2010 as President and CEO of SSM St. Mary's Health Center, a 582-bed hospital in St. Louis, MO, and from 2008 to 2010 as President of the SSM St. Louis Heart Institute. He was previously Administrator and Chief Operating Officer and Corporate Vice President of Morton Plant North Bay Hospital in New Port Richey, FL, from 1999 to 2006.

Jennings was also Chief Operating Officer and Administrator and Interim Chief Executive Officer at Cookeville Regional Medical Center in Cookeville, TN, and Executive Manager at Norton Health System in Louisville, KY.

Jennings and his wife, Kristin, have two children, Sarah and Mason. Jennings received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Miami University in Ohio and a master of health administration degree from Ohio State University.

American College of Healthcare Executives

The **American College of Healthcare Executives** is an international professional society of more than 35,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE offers its prestigious FACHE[®] credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. ACHE's established network of more than 80 chapters provides access to networking, education and career development at the local level. In addition, ACHE is known for its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, and its career development and public policy programs. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare executives dedicated to improving healthcare delivery. The **Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives** was established to further advance healthcare management excellence through education and research. The Foundation of ACHE is known for its educational programs—including the annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants—and groundbreaking research. Its publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on health services management including textbooks for college and university courses.

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Bridgeport Hospital is a member of Yale New Haven Health System (YNHHS), the largest and most comprehensive integrated health care delivery system in Connecticut. Yale New Haven Health System is recognized for advanced clinical care, quality, service, cost effectiveness and commitment to improving the health status of the populations it serves. Yale New Haven Health System's service area covers portions of eastern New York, the state of Connecticut and southwestern Rhode Island. Yale New Haven Health System is committed to making the best health care easier to use.