CHA to Hold 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018

The Connecticut Hospital Association will hold its 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018, at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington. The theme for the centennial celebration, To Participate in Healing is the Noblest Work – CHA: Celebrating 100 Years of Service, reflects the essential nature of CHA’s collective mission, and the legacy of care and healing for all.

The meeting will feature CHA’s annual awards, including the John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data, the Connecticut’s Hospital Community Service Award, and the AHA Grassroots Champion Award.

Pulitzer Prize-winning author and world-renowned presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will deliver the keynote address. Ms. Goodwin is the author of six critically acclaimed and New York Times best-selling books, including her most recent, The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism. Winner of the Carnegie Medal, The Bully Pulpit is a dynamic history of the first decade of the Progressive Era, that tumultuous time when the nation was coming unseamed and reform was in the air. Ms. Goodwin won the Pulitzer Prize in history for No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II. Well known for her appearances and commentary on television, Ms. Goodwin is seen frequently on NBC, MSNBC, CBS, FOX, CNN, and ABC, as well as Meet the Press and late night talk shows. Ms. Goodwin will release a new book this fall on presidential leadership.

CHA gratefully acknowledges the generous Annual Meeting sponsorship of our Platinum Sponsors, Wiggin and Dana and BRG.

CHA to Recognize Bridgeport Hospital with the 2018 John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data

At its 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) will award Bridgeport Hospital the 2018 John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data for its initiative: Reducing Severe Hypoglycemia in Hospitalized Patients With Diabetes Mellitus.

Hypoglycemia in hospitalized patients is associated with increased length of hospital stay, readmission rates, and mortality. Bridgeport Hospital identified that its incidence of hypoglycemia was high and a more effective response was needed.

The hospital assembled a multidisciplinary Hypoglycemia Clinical Redesign Team focused on reducing preventable harm and providing quality care for patients while adding value. The team was charged with designing, implementing, and evaluating a standardized approach for management of severe hypoglycemia. The team developed a hypoglycemia bundle of care, as well as interventions to improve severe hypoglycemia management in patients admitted to the hospital.

Bridgeport Hospital tracked process and outcome measures, and observed significant improvement in both. All process-related outcomes improved significantly after the interventions. The hospital observed a significant, dramatic reduction in both 30-day and 6-month readmission rates.

“Bridgeport Hospital demonstrated its commitment to quality and patient safety with its project to reduce severe hypoglycemia in patients with diabetes mellitus,” said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. “Using a high reliability approach, the hospital’s multidisciplinary team developed a standardized protocol and integrated it into the hospital’s culture. Congratulations to Bridgeport Hospital.”

CHA to Recognize Yale New Haven Hospital with the 2018 Community Service Award

At its 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018, the Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) and the Connecticut Department of Public Health will award the 2018 Connecticut’s Hospital Community Service Award to Yale New Haven Hospital for its medical respite care program for homeless patients.

After learning that more than 30 percent of homeless patients returned to the emergency department within 30 days of their discharge and that more than 50 percent were readmitted for inpatient care, Yale New Haven Hospital was determined to improve outcomes for those
patients. Assisted by a host of community stakeholders, Yale New Haven Hospital collaborated with Columbus House, a homeless shelter, to create a medical respite care program to provide skilled medical care for chronically homeless patients while they recuperate from illness or injury. The 12-bed medical respite program includes 24-hour supervision, referrals to healthcare providers, transportation, and case management.

Compared to a pre-program, 2012 study, medical respite care has reduced 30-day readmissions by two-thirds. Additionally, medical respite patients are half as likely to return to the ED compared to all homeless patients. The hospital also estimates Medicaid savings between $12,000 and $25,000 per patient during the 12 months after their stay in the program. The success is largely due to the fact that patients are recovering in a safe environment and receiving intense case management; ultimately, 76% of those in Respite secure permanent housing.

"Congratulations to Yale New Haven Hospital and Columbus House on this award, which honors their partnership and shared commitment to helping the most vulnerable patients," said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. "Recognizing that housing is essential to recovery, Yale New Haven Hospital and Columbus House developed an innovative solution that is changing lives."

Griffin Hospital's Patrick A. Charmel Named Connecticut's 2018 Grassroots Champion

The American Hospital Association (AHA) and CHA will recognize Patrick A. Charmel, President and Chief Executive Officer of Griffin Hospital and Griffin Health Services Corporation, as Connecticut's 2018 Grassroots Champion at CHA's 100th Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 14, 2018.

The award recognizes Mr. Charmel's exceptional leadership in advocating for hospital priorities. He is an active and engaged advocate, speaking at press conferences at the Capitol, and educating legislators on major issues impacting hospitals today.

"Pat Charmel is a vocal advocate for hospitals," said Jennifer Jackson, CEO, CHA. "He speaks eloquently and passionately with legislators about the importance of policies that improve patient care and adequately fund Medicaid. In partnership with the AHA, we are pleased to honor him with the 2018 Grassroots Champion Award."

Mr. Charmel is a member of the CHA Board of Trustees and Executive Committee, and a former Chairman of the CHA Board. He is the current Chairman of CHA's Diversified Network Services Board, a member of the Financial Oversight Committee, and a member of the Committee on Hospital Finance. Over the years, he has served on many CHA committees, subcommittees, and work groups. Additionally, he was an American Hospital Association Regional Policy Board 1 Member from 2003–2006. He is also President of the Planetree Board, a member of the Board of Governors of the Quinnipiac Alumni Association, and the Board of Directors of the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the Board of Directors for the Valley United Way and is a Board Member for the American Heart Association of Connecticut.

Mr. Charmel, who has led Griffin Hospital since 1998, developed and implemented consumer-driven, person-centered services that result in high patient satisfaction, while maintaining high operational efficiency.

The AHA Grassroots Champion Award, given annually to one person in each state, was created to recognize hospital leaders who effectively educate elected officials about how major issues affect hospitals’ roles in the community, who have expanded the base of community support for hospitals, and who have been advocates for hospitals and patients.

Next Week's Update to be Published on Friday

Because CHA's 2018 Annual Meeting will occur next Thursday, June 14, 2018, next week's edition of CHA Update will be published on Friday, June 15, 2018.