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## CHA's 100th Annual Meeting: To Participate in Healing is the Noblest Work – CHA: Celebrating 100 Years of Service

On June 14, the Connecticut Hospital Association welcomed to its 100th Annual Meeting nearly 600 hospital executives, administrators, healthcare providers, and other key decision makers from across the region, along with award winners and past CHA Board Chairmen and honorees.

The theme for the centennial celebration, *To Participate in Healing is the Noblest Work – CHA: Celebrating 100 Years of Service*, focuses on the essential nature of CHA's collective mission, and the legacy of care and healing for all.

**Update Archives**

CHA Board Chairman David Whitehead, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer, Hartford HealthCare, discussed how the Association was founded a century ago to enable members to stand together to face critical issues. "CHA's members are remarkable, resilient leaders," he said. "Through the last hundred years, they have led through tremendous change and challenges in healthcare."

Mr. Whitehead described successes in patient safety, patient-centered care, and population health, noting that this critical work must encompass and embrace all stakeholders who are working to improve the health of communities. He discussed the importance of advocating with one voice for a strong, visible, and viable healthcare sector, and how that mission and the unity of its members will carry the Association into the next hundred years.



Jennifer Jackson, CHA CEO, echoed that sentiment, stating that the success of the organization "is a tribute to our past."

"CHA has been shaped and strengthened by its members," she added.

Ms. Jackson reflected on the accomplishments over the past year and the challenges of the future, adding that CHA's new strategic plan has the organization well-prepared for what lies ahead.

"We're energized," she said. "There's power in members working and standing together."

During the meeting, past CHA CEO Dennis May was honored, as were past Board Chairmen, including ten attendees: Bruce Cummings, Susan Davis, EdD, RN, Christopher Dadlez, Marna Borgstrom, Patrick Charmel, John Tobin, D.Man, Edward Sawicki, MD, Gerard Robilotti, Raymond Andrews Jr., and Richard Pugh. Past T. Stewart Hamilton Awardees were also recognized.

The 2018 *John D. Thompson Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Healthcare Through the Use of Data* was awarded to Bridgeport Hospital for its project to reduce severe hypoglycemia in hospitalized patients with diabetes mellitus. The 2018 *Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award* was presented to Yale New Haven Hospital for its medical respite for homeless patients in collaboration with Columbus House, and the 2018 *AHA Grassroots Champion Award* was presented to Patrick Charmel, President and Chief Executive Officer of Griffin Hospital and Griffin Health Services.



During the meeting, Mr. Whitehead passed the Chairman's gavel to John M. Murphy, MD, President and CEO, Western Connecticut Health Network. As the new Board Chairman, Dr. Murphy reaffirmed the Association's commitment to patients. "We must keep our focus – first and foremost – on providing excellent quality patient care," he said. "Connecticut hospitals continue to drive change and improve care, but we have more work to do. Together, I am confident that we can achieve high quality care with zero harm; satisfied, engaged patients; and a staff that is invigorated by the work of healing."



Following the conclusion of the business meeting, guests enjoyed the keynote address delivered by Pulitzer Prize-winning author and world-renowned presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. Ms. Goodwin is the author of six critically acclaimed and *New York Times* best-selling books, and is well known for her appearances and commentary on television. Ms. Goodwin discussed lessons in leadership during tumultuous times. She described how presidents throughout history have risen to the challenges presented to them.

In her well-received speech, Ms. Goodwin pointed to presidents she referred to as "my guys" – Abraham Lincoln, Teddy Roosevelt, Lyndon Baines Johnson, and Franklin Roosevelt – as examples of career politicians who made great presidents often during times of deep polarization across the country. Each of these presidents, she stated, found it difficult to find a balance between work, love, and play.

These presidents often became strong leaders, Ms. Goodwin stated, because they surrounded themselves with people who could assist them. President Lincoln, for example, hired his three opponents to be members of his cabinet. When asked why, she quoted him as saying, "These are the strongest and most able men in the country. The country is in peril. I need them by my side."

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

## CHA Welcomes the Newly Elected Members of its Board of Trustees



At the CHA Annual Meeting on June 14, members elected trustees and officers for the CHA 2018-2019 Board of Trustees.

John M. Murphy, MD, President and Chief Executive Officer, Western Connecticut Health Network, began a two-year term as Chairman of the CHA Board of Trustees. Dr. Murphy succeeds David A. Whitehead, Executive Vice President and Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer, Hartford HealthCare, who will now serve as Immediate Past Chairman.

Christopher M. O'Connor, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Yale New Haven Health, was elected Vice Chairman of the Board and Treasurer. Marna P. Borgstrom, Chief Executive Officer, Yale New Haven Hospital and Yale New Haven Health, was elected Secretary and Chairman of the Committee on Government. Patrick A. Charmel, President and Chief Executive Officer, Griffin Hospital, was elected DNS Board Chairman. John F. Rodis, MD, President, Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center, was elected Chairman of the Committee on Patient Care Quality. David A. Whitehead, Executive Vice President, Chief Strategy and Transformation Officer, Hartford HealthCare, was elected Chairman of the Committee on Population Health. Elliot T. Joseph, Chief Executive Officer, Hartford HealthCare, was elected Chairman of the Committee on Hospital Finance. Vincent G. Capece, President and CEO, Middlesex Hospital, was elected Executive Committee At Large Member and AHA Alternate Delegate. Kurt A. Barwis, President and Chief Executive Officer, Bristol Hospital, was elected CEO Forum Chairman, and William M. Jennings, Executive Vice President, Yale New Haven Health and President and Chief Executive Officer, Bridgeport Hospital, was elected the AHA Delegate.

Newly elected or re-elected trustees include: Vincent G. Capece, President and CEO, Middlesex Hospital; Anne Diamond, JD, President and CEO, Day Kimball Healthcare; Jeffrey A. Flaks, President and Chief Operating Officer, Hartford HealthCare; Stuart E. Rosenberg, President, Johnson Memorial Hospital; and Ena Williams, RN, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer, Yale New Haven Hospital.

Other members of the 2018-2019 CHA Board include: Rohit Bhalla, MD, Vice President, Quality and Chief Quality Officer, Stamford Health; Judith A. Carey, RSM, PhD, Board Member, Trinity Health Of New England; Jennifer Jackson, President and CEO, CHA; James E. Mitchell, PhD, Secretary, Lawrence + Memorial Hospital; Bimal Patel, President, Hartford HealthCare Hartford Region and Senior Vice President, Hartford HealthCare; and James E. Shmerling, DHA, Chief Executive Officer, Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

## CHA Awards Celebrate Outstanding Contributions to Healthcare

Bridgeport Hospital, Yale New Haven Hospital, and Griffin Hospital President and Chief Executive Officer Pat Charmel were honored at the CHA Annual Meeting.



CHA presented 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. Read more [here](#). Watch a video [here](#).



CHA and the Connecticut Department of Public Health presented the 2018 *Connecticut's Hospital Community Service Award* to Yale New Haven Hospital for its medical respite care program for homeless patients. Read more [here](#). Watch a video [here](#).



The American Hospital Association *Grassroots Champion Award*, created to recognize leaders who effectively educate elected officials on how major issues affecting hospitals vital role in the community, was presented to Pat Charmel, President and Chief Executive Officer, Griffin Hospital. Read more [here](#). Watch a video [here](#).

Congratulations to all CHA Annual Meeting award winners.



