

Message from Your Incoming President

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This being my first newsletter as your incoming Chapter President, I want to share why I feel hopeful about where we are going in healthcare. I also want to challenge us to rise to the opportunity to revolutionize care in our community.

While the news focuses on the terrible losses from the opioid crisis and other fatal overdoses, we do have signs of hope. People and organizations are making a difference. The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services has already had great success with the Tennessee Recovery Navigators, a new program that connects individuals in long-term recovery with individuals who have recently overdosed in the Emergency Department. Tristar Skyline and St. Thomas Midtown are currently making referrals. Similar programs in Florida are seeing 70% of patients remain engaged in their recovery. While difficult, (because it entails meeting people where they are and helping them choose a better life) nothing is more rewarding.

Another area we see hope in, is the positive change in communities through effective population health tools. Health starts long before illness, and it starts in our homes, schools and jobs. All Tennesseans should have the opportunity to make the choices that allow them to live a long, healthy life, regardless of their income, education or ethnic background. Organizations like HCA, LifePoint and Ascension Care Management are providing examples of data-driven care management combined with personalized holistic approaches. Our recent Population Health Mini-Cluster had a wait list and all attendees learned a great deal about the leading-edge consumer trends moving across the country. At the annual meeting Mike Schiller from Patient Bond shared how behavioral science is differentiating patients into 5 distinct segments so that multi-channel communication can be tailored to drive behavior change. Some early evidence is showing an 85% reduction in CHF readmissions, and the American Heart Association is now leveraging this. This is a key to population health and we simply need to continue leveraging what we discover to change behavior!

It is a challenge to remain committed to value-based care models of reimbursement while the financial incentives still favor the traditional fee for service models. However, we must not get caught in only the present as some of these smart individuals did -

"I think there is a world market for maybe 5 computers." IBM Chairman Thomas Watson 1943

"640K ought to be enough (memory) for anybody." Bill Gates, 1981

"The horse is here to stay but the automobile is only a novelty – a fad" President of the Michigan Savings Bank

Sometimes we fail to see the path, yet we must walk by faith. Ray Kurzweil is a futurist and inventor, and frankly a bit "out there" but I still find his thinking fascinating. He describes this faith walk in a way that makes sense to me.

Our intuition about the future is linear, But the reality of information technology is exponential, and that makes a profound difference. If I take 30 steps linearly, I get to 30. If I take 30 steps exponentially, I get to a billion.

You may be thinking: how did I take healthcare and compare it to information technology? Well, consider this. We are largely healthcare companies that leverage technology. Meanwhile, our new competitors are technology companies that have made the decision to disrupt and transform healthcare. We are all healthcare technology companies and the sooner we embrace that, the more effective we can become. Vanderbilt Medical Center's recent use of 3D printing to help plan care for a baby with internal complications, is a great example of healthcare organizations thinking more like a technology innovation company!

<http://news.vumc.org/2018/04/12/3-d-model-gives-clearer-picture-of-complex-cases/>

So, we begin 2019 with immense potential and duty to make a difference. We are glad you are part of ACHE of Middle Tennessee and we want to be your go-to network. **Our 2019 theme is Engaging Partnerships.** Join us for top quality educational programs, fun networking events, serve and form community in a committee, or become a mentor or mentee. Tell us how we can partner better with you and other organizations you are engaged with. I believe we have the resources and leaders in our community that can guide us in this faith walk to a destination we cannot imagine fully yet.



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2018 Annual Meeting

Check out our introductory video filmed at the 2018 Annual Meeting! At this event, the chapter thanked our current Board and Committee members and welcomed our 2019 ones. We also handed out awards & scholarships and had a great panel of speakers. <https://youtu.be/FzPAVlrYruQ>

With the new year around the corner, it is never too late or early to get involved. Our 2019 calendar of events will be released soon on our website. We are also accepting committee volunteers throughout the year and always encourage networking with ACHEMT members.