

## Message from Your ACHE Regent

Charlotte Burns, FACHE



Greetings Everyone,

With the end of the year quickly approaching, I want to express my thanks to the three ACHE chapters in Tennessee for the wonderful educational, networking and community events that have been offered to our members throughout the year. I really appreciate the hard work and dedication of the chapter leaders and their volunteers.

Fall has been an exciting time of the year with the Chapter Leaders Conference and our annual ACHE Regent Breakfast and Awards Program.

**Chapter Leaders Conference 2018:** The ACHE Chapter Leaders Conference was held in September in Chicago and was a great success. This year's meeting of chapter leaders provided a great opportunity to share best practices, learn creative ways of approaching challenges, and identify ways to better recruit, engage, and retain members.

**ACHE Regent Breakfast and Awards Program:** The ACHE Regent Breakfast was held in October in collaboration with the Tennessee Hospital Association's annual meeting. We were pleased to have ACHE Board of Governor and Immediate Past Chairman, Charles D. "Chuck" Stokes, FACHE, as the guest speaker. This year, I was privileged to recognize five very deserving ACHE members with Regent awards.

**Early Careerist Award:** This award recognizes young executives who, although they may have been in the healthcare business for a relatively short time, have made a significant contribution to the field of healthcare administration. **Lee Ann Benson, FACHE**, VP of Pediatric Network Development and Growth at Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt, received the award for her involvement with ACHE at a local, state, and national level. She was also recognized for her leadership of multi-disciplinary efforts focused on the growth and development of the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital as a local, regional and national provider of pediatric care.

**Excellence in Diversity Award:** This award recognizes an individual who advocates for diversity among patients, employees, and organizational leadership. **Chara Stewart Abrams**, Administrative Director of the Department of Psychology at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, was recognized for her service as president of the Memphis Chapter of NAHSE. In that role, she has increased NAHSE Memphis' institutional membership from three to seven members, realizing the importance of diversity in healthcare management and leadership.

**Rural Hospital Healthcare Executive Award:** This award recognizes a senior-level rural healthcare executive who has contributed to the advancement of healthcare services in rural communities. **Dustin Greene, FACHE**, CEO of TriStar Horizon Medical Center in Dickson received this award, and he was recognized for his commitment to improving access and quality of healthcare services in Dickson and surrounding rural communities. He has elevated the hospital's clinical capabilities through physician recruitment and added programs that serve community needs, such as a Level III trauma center, neonatal intensive care unit and cardiovascular services, preventing patients from having to travel to larger cities to receive specialized care.

**Senior Healthcare Executive Award:** This award recognizes a senior healthcare leader who has made a significant impact on his organization. **Britt Tabor, CPA, FACHE, EVP** and CFO of Erlanger Health Systems in Chattanooga, was honored for his 30 years of service at Erlanger and being instrumental in guiding the organization to become one of the top 10 public hospitals in the United States. He was also recognized for his involvement in ACHE and his willingness to mentor staff in their personal and professional development.

**Exceptional Service Award:** This award recognized **Craig Becker, FACHE**, President and CEO of the Tennessee Hospital Association, for his strong commitment to the healthcare profession and to ACHE and its values, as well as for the significant influence he has had on me personally as Regent and throughout my healthcare career. Craig was recognized for his advocacy of ACHE and for his leadership in developing a true partnership between the Tennessee Hospital Association and the state's local ACHE chapters. On a personal note, Craig was instrumental in my professional development and has been a mentor to me for the past 25 years.

**Fund for Healthcare Leadership:** Lastly, I would like to remind you about the Fund for Healthcare Leadership sponsored by the Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives. This Fund provides scholarship opportunities for developing leaders in our field. Please consider a donation to the Fund as we enter the final months of 2018.

I am honored to serve as your Regent. Please feel free to contact me at any time by email at [charlotte.burns@hcahealthcare.com](mailto:charlotte.burns@hcahealthcare.com) or by phone at 615.512.9082. I hope all of you have a blessed holiday season and create wonderful memories with your families.

-Charlotte C. Burns, RN, FACHE (Regent for Tennessee)