



MIDDLE TENNESSEE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



FROM THE ACHEMT PRESIDENT

During my travel to Congress in Houston, I found myself reflecting on the rapid pace of activities over the past quarter and looked forward to the invaluable knowledge exchange to come with colleagues at Congress. While the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic fades further into the rearview mirror, new challenges and opportunities continue to emerge. Now, more than ever, is the time to prioritize engagement and collaboration as we navigate change and drive innovation together.

Our Chapter leadership looks forward to sharing key insights gained from Congress during our annual Congress at Home session on April 14th. I encourage you to save the date and join us for this valuable opportunity to learn from national thought leaders and apply those lessons locally.

Over the past quarter, your Chapter leadership has been actively planning leadership and career development programs, networking events, and the launch of our Chapter's strategic planning process. As we strive to create meaningful experiences for you, we need your input.

Be on the lookout for our upcoming LinkedIn ACHEMT Strategic Planning Survey, a quick but impactful way to share your perspective and shape the future of our Chapter. As we move through this strategic planning journey, we will keep you informed about our learnings, including the development of our mission, vision, values, and long-term goals. Your voice is essential in defining the future direction of ACHEMT.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Chapter Newsletter. We welcome your thoughts on how we can enhance your experience and amplify the voices of our members.

I look forward to connecting with you soon!

Gerd Peters

President, ACHE of Middle Tennessee

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ACHE REGENT

Greetings everyone, I want to provide a special thanks to Tim Slocum for serving as our regent, who has transitioned to his new role as SVP and COO, UK Healthcare in Lexington, KY. As the new Interim Regent for Tennessee (and Immediate Past President for the Middle TN Chapter), it is a great honor to be serving in this new capacity and I look forward to supporting the advancement of healthcare leadership in our district! I hope those that attended Congress 2025 enjoyed the event! More to come!

Jon Puncochar, FACHE

Regent (Interim) for Tennessee

Jon.Puncochar@pnt.net



UPCOMING EVENTS

2025 is going to be a terrific year, stay tuned for all that's coming up!

APR 14

CONGRESS AT HOME 2025

Join us for an opportunity to experience Congress at Home!

[View Details ▶](#)

[REGISTER](#)

APR 30

BALDRIDGE VIRTUAL MEETING. SAVE THE DATE!

Using the Baldrige Criteria to Improve Your Organization's Performance and Quality

[View Details ▶](#)

MAY 12

GOLF WITH MERCY COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE!!

Golf with Mercy will be held at Westhaven Golf Club. Registration opens at 7:45am, lunch at 11:45am, Shotgun start at 9am

[View Details ▶](#)

MAY 30

WINE AND WHISKEY

An Opportunity to relax and network!

[View Details ▶](#)

JUN 4

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM STARTING JUNE 2025

Accepting applications now through May 15

[View Details ▶](#)

[REGISTER](#)

SEP 18

ACHEMT ORIENTATION

World Class ACHEMT Volunteer Orientation!

[View Details ▶](#)

SEP 26

WINE AND WHISKEY

An opportunity to relax and network!

[View Details ▶](#)

OCT 3

COOKING FOR A CAUSE

Save the Date!! Networking and Partnership Event

[View Details ▶](#)

OCT 25

VANDERBILT TAILGATE (AUBURN @ VANDERBILT)

Come to enjoy Fellowship and have some fun!

[View Details ▶](#)

NOV 3

COMING SOON! ACHE CLUSTER MEETING IN NASHVILLE

Coming Soon! 24 ACHE In-Person Education Credits

[View Details ▶](#)

NOV 25

ACHEMT ORIENTATION

World Class ACHEMT Volunteer Orientation!

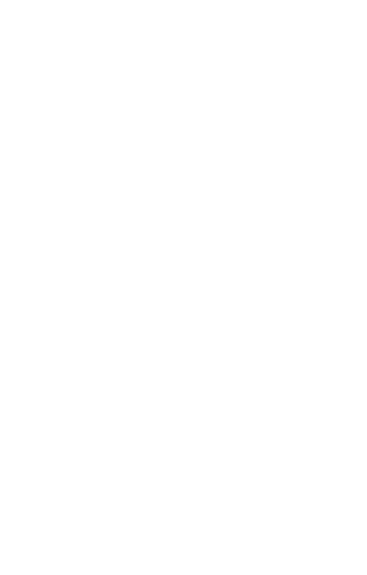
[View Details ▶](#)

DEC 10

ACHEMT HOLIDAY PARTY

Come and enjoy great food, friends, fellowship, and Holiday sparkles!

[View Details ▶](#)



ACHEMT Strategic Plan Development

We Want to Hear from You

ACHEMT is in the process of updating our strategic plan, and we need your input to help shape the future of our chapter.

Our strategic planning committee is currently gathering valuable feedback from members and healthcare leaders across Greater Nashville. Your insights will play a key role in shaping our Mission, Vision, and Values as well as our goals for the 2026–2027 planning cycle.

Beginning April 11, we'll post weekly pulse survey questions on LinkedIn to gather your thoughts during the early research phase. These brief surveys are a quick and impactful way to have your voice heard—and your voice matters. We'll continue posting new questions each week **through April 25**.

Then on May 5, ACHE National will launch its annual membership survey. We encourage you to participate as it will offer additional insights to guide our local planning efforts. **In June**, the ACHEMT strategic planning committee will review all data collected to draft a refreshed Mission, Vision, and Values statement and goals that reflects the needs and aspirations of our members.

We encourage you to engage with the surveys and reach out to our executive team if you have ideas or feedback to share. We'll continue to keep you informed with regular updates right here in the newsletter as we move from vision-setting into strategy development. Thank you for being a vital part of this important process.



NAVIGATING THE INTERGENERATIONAL WORKFORCE: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS IN HEALTHCARE

Join us for an opportunity to experience Congress at Home! Dr. Katherine Meese is bringing one of her Congress sessions back to our local chapter virtually. This session, Navigating the Intergenerational Workforce: Strategies for Success in Healthcare, will provide healthcare executives with practical strategies for effectively managing and leveraging the diverse generational workforce in their organizations. You will also hear from other ACHEMT representatives who are attending Congress in Houston this year. They will be bringing home insights from this yearly meeting to the benefit of the ACHEMT chapter members. After the sessions, there will be a Board of Governors exam review and virtual networking opportunities.

1. Explore and dispel common myths and stereotypes surrounding generational differences, enabling a more objective and inclusive approach to workforce management.
2. Understand the unique characteristics, values and work styles of different generations, including Baby Boomers, Generation X, Millennials and Generation Z.
3. Review Board of Governors exam content

With fifteen years of experience in healthcare management, leadership and research, Dr. Meese is an award-winning scholar and author in the field of organizational behavior, well-being, and leadership. She is the CEO of Humargin Group which takes a data-driven, scientific approach to help organizations solve their complex human challenges. She has published numerous peer-reviewed journal articles and co-authored two textbooks on organizational behavior in healthcare that are used in over 160 schools nationwide. Her most recent book is The Human Margin: Building the Foundations of Trust with Quint Studer.

Dr. Meese also teaches and mentors graduate, doctoral, and executive students at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) Department of Health Services Administration. Her passion is translating data and research into meaningful knowledge to help leaders and organizations support their humans.

[Click HERE TO REGISTER](#)



EDITOR'S CORNER

GARY SHAW, LFACH & MALIE MAYSILLES, ME, MPT

The Professional Journey: The Value of Becoming a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives

In a constantly evolving healthcare landscape, leadership development isn't optional—it's essential. For professionals navigating the complex demands of inpatient and outpatient care, earning the distinction of Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE) marks a valuable milestone in a career built on credibility, competence, and commitment.

The path to becoming a Fellow is rigorous by design. It requires a combination of academic achievement, professional experience, ongoing education, and a dedication to ethical leadership. Applicants must pass the Board of Governors Examination, maintain active ACHE membership, and demonstrate at least five years of healthcare management experience. But the designation is more than a checklist—it's a journey of professional growth that elevates leadership capacity and sharpens strategic thinking.

One of the most important benefits of the FACHE credential is its validation of excellence. Whether leading a hospital system or managing a community clinic, Fellows bring a recognized standard of leadership and operational expertise that organizations and teams can trust. The credential communicates to peers, patients, and employers that the individual is deeply committed to advancing quality, safety, and efficiency in healthcare delivery.

For inpatient settings, where care is coordinated across multiple disciplines and risk is managed on a high-stakes scale, the structured thinking and evidence-based leadership training offered by ACHE is invaluable. Fellows are better equipped to lead change, ensure compliance, and steward resources effectively.

In outpatient settings, where flexibility, patient engagement, and access are top priorities, FACHE training supports innovation, agility, and a keen focus on patient-centered care. Fellows are taught to apply the same rigorous management principles in settings that are often leaner and more directly tied to community needs.

Beyond technical skills, the fellowship journey also fosters an enduring professional network. Through regional and national events, mentorship opportunities, and shared learning platforms, Fellows gain access to a community of healthcare leaders committed to continuous improvement.

In a field where outcomes matter and leadership defines impact, becoming a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives is more than a title—it's a pledge to lead with purpose, grow with humility, and serve with distinction. For any healthcare professional seeking to elevate their career and deepen their impact, this journey is not just valuable—it's transformational.



ACHEMT/NAHSE MIXER TO REMEMBER!

A memorable evening was had by all at "The Standard" in downtown Nashville on February 28th to enjoy fellowship, network, and just have a darn good time! Stay tuned for more events like this to come!

