

For Immediate Release

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'Leading Your Healthcare Organization to Excellence' Named ACHE's Book of the Year

CHICAGO, February 21, 2006—Patrice L. Spath is the winner of the American College of Healthcare Executives 2006 James A. Hamilton book of the year award for *Leading Your Healthcare Organization to Excellence: A Guide to Using the Baldrige Criteria*.

The award will be presented on March 29, 2006, at the Wednesday Hot Topic Session #2 during the American College of Healthcare Executives 49th Congress on Healthcare Leadership at the Hyatt Regency Chicago.

The award is given annually to the author(s) of a management or healthcare book judged outstanding by ACHE's Book of the Year Committee.

The James A. Hamilton Award is underwritten by the Alumni Association of the Graduate Program in Healthcare Administration of the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, in honor of the late James A. Hamilton, FACHE, the program's founder and course director between 1946 and 1966, and ACHE's 1939-1940 Chairman.

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NEWS RELEASE

Spath has presented more than 300 training programs on performance improvement and resource management for healthcare facilities and professional organizations for the last 20 years. In *Leading Your Healthcare Organization to Excellence*, Spath uses the Baldrige National Quality Program's Health Care Criteria for Performance Excellence to guide organizations in their efforts to increase care quality. She presents the Baldrige criteria as an efficient outline for quality improvement that has delivered proven results across many industries as well as the healthcare field. Using several helpful tools, including key points, self-assessments and reflection exercises, *Leading Your Healthcare Organization to Excellence* provides guidance in adapting the Baldrige model to the specific needs of individual organizations.

Spath is president of Brown-Spath & Associates in Forest Grove, Ore., a healthcare quality and resource management education and training firm. *Leading Your Healthcare Organization to Excellence* is published by Health Administration Press.

Other Recommended Reading

The Book of the Year Committee recommends one additional book: *The Baptist Health Care Journey to Excellence: Creating a Culture That WOWs!* by Al Stubblefield, FACHE. The book is published by John Wiley & Sons Inc.

American College of Healthcare Executives

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of 30,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and educational programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journals, the *Journal of Healthcare Management* and *Frontiers of Health Services Management* and its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs. ACHE's publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on all aspects of health services management in addition to textbooks for use in college and university courses. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its goal of being the premier professional society for healthcare leaders by providing exceptional value to its members.

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