

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Danny L. Jones Jr., FACHE, Receives ACHE's Robert S. Hudgens Award**



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**CHICAGO, January 17, 2006**—Danny L. Jones Jr., FACHE, CEO of Independence Regional Health Center and Medical Center of Independence, Mo., has won the American College of Healthcare Executives 2006 Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for young healthcare executive of the year. Jones will receive the award on Monday, March 27, 2006, at the Parker B. Francis Distinguished Lecture during ACHE's 49th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

The Hudgens Award is presented annually to an exceptional healthcare executive who is less than 40 years old and who is the chief executive officer or chief operating officer of a health services organization. The award was established in 1969 by the Alumni/ae Association of the Department of Health Administration at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, in tribute to its former course director and ACHE's first vice president, Robert S. Hudgens, FACHE.

Since 2004, Jones has served as chief executive officer of Independence Regional Health Center, a 363-bed acute-care facility and Level II trauma center, and Medical Center of Independence, a 185-bed acute-care facility. In the short time he has held this position, Jones gained a certificate of need from Missouri to build a new hospital in Independence that will replace and consolidate beds at the two existing facilities. In this process, he worked with community leaders to develop local support for the new hospital.

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Prior to joining Independence Regional/Medical Center, Jones was chief operating officer of CJW Medical Center, Richmond, Va., from 2001 to 2004, and chief operating officer of Memorial Medical Center, New Orleans, from 1999 to 2001. From 1993 to 1996, he served in roles of increasing responsibility at St. Charles General Hospital in New Orleans and at Tenet Physicians Services in Metairie, La.

Jones is a member of the Missouri Hospital Association, where he is involved in promoting healthcare legislative agenda. He also dedicates his time to mentoring future healthcare leaders. Jones has served as a board member of the Regional Drug Free Alliance, Prevent Child Abuse Virginia, Communities in Schools and Independence Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Brandermill Rotary.

Board certified in healthcare management and an ACHE Fellow, Jones received his master's degree in healthcare administration from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond and his bachelor's degree from Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Va.

### **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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