

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Diane Peterson, FACHE, Receives ACHE's Gold Medal Award**



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**CHICAGO, January 12, 2007**—Diane Peterson, FACHE, president of D. Peterson and Associates, Houston, has been named the recipient of one of two American College of Healthcare Executives 2007 Gold Medal Awards. Peterson will receive the award on Monday, March 19, 2007, at the Arthur C. Bachmeyer Memorial Address and Luncheon during ACHE's 50th Congress on Healthcare Leadership in New Orleans.

The Gold Medal Award is ACHE's highest honor bestowed on outstanding leaders who, through a career of service, have made significant contributions to the healthcare field. The purpose of this award is to identify Fellows of the American College of Healthcare Executives who best exemplify leadership at the organizational, local, state/provincial and national levels. The Gold Medal Award recognizes individuals who go beyond the confines of their own organization to continually contribute to the improvement of healthcare services and community health.

Peterson has been president of D. Peterson and Associates since 1987. Prior to that, she was executive vice president of Corporate Development at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Houston, from 1986 to 1987; vice president of Marketing and Public Affairs at Memorial Hospital System, Houston, from 1984 to 1986; and director of Marketing at Memorial from 1982 to 1984. From 1974 to 1982, Peterson held positions of progressive responsibility at Sewickley (Pa.) Valley Hospital, culminating in her appointment as vice president of Operations in 1980.

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Peterson is widely recognized for her dedication to mentoring fellow healthcare professionals.

An ACHE affiliate since 1977, Peterson served ACHE as Regent-at-Large from 1989 to 1993, as Governor from 1993 to 1998 and as Chairman from 2001 to 2002, just the second woman to serve as its Chairman, and the first in more than 50 years. She has served on the board of the Institute for Diversity in Health Management, on the advisory board of the Center for Women Healthcare and Physician Executives and on the advisory committee for the Center for Health Studies at Houston Baptist University. In addition, Peterson was a board member of Owen Healthcare Corporation in Houston, where she was chairman of the Compensation Committee and a member of the Audit Committee, and she was chairman of the Advisory Committee for the Department of Health Policy Management at the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. She was chairman of SEARCH, a leading organization serving the homeless in Houston, and she continues to serve on the boards of Chatham College and P&J Brands.

Peterson has earned a number of awards recognizing her leadership in healthcare. She was named a Legend in Health Care in 1992 by the organization that is now the ACHE–Greater Houston Chapter for her local and national contributions to leadership. She also received the ACHE Regent’s Award in 1996.

Board certified in healthcare management and an ACHE Fellow, Peterson received her master’s degree in healthcare administration from the University of Pittsburgh and her bachelor’s degree from Chatham College, Pittsburgh.

The second 2007 Gold Medal Award recipient is Jack O. Bovender Jr., FACHE, chairman and CEO of Hospital Corporation of America in Nashville, Tenn.

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## **American College of Healthcare Executives**

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 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 also is 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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