Dear Colleague:

The American College of Healthcare Executives is the home for leaders like you, who stand for progress. Stand for innovation. Stand for solutions that matter to patients. You are addressing the challenges of transforming our healthcare system to add value to ACHE, to the communities you serve and to your profession.

With this in mind, your Board of Governors continues to pursue ACHE’s Strategic Plan, resolving to educate, engage and inspire leaders to improve health. Now in its second year, the Strategic Plan is designed to serve you in three important ways:

• As a catalyst for the field of healthcare management to advance safety, we are building partnerships to innovate and transform health.
• As a connector across the continuum of the leadership community, we are strengthening chapters, advancing diversity and inclusion, and increasing access to resources for every member.
• As a trusted partner for our members to foster engagement, we are supporting leaders, and are working to personalize your experience to meet your goals.

Each of you shares a commitment to provide the best and safest care possible. Reflecting the field’s strong commitment to quality and safety, the Strategic Plan defines our path to catalyze leaders to recommit to zero harm. With our partner, the IHI Lucian Leape Institute, we tapped our field’s best expertise and developed *Leading a Culture of Safety: A Blueprint for Success* in 2017. This resource continues to provide an avenue for executives to assess and advance safety. To date, it has been downloaded more than 11,000 times. And building on its safety platform, ACHE has developed new educational and learning resources to help leaders advance their safety efforts.
Improving outcomes for patients is an important bond we share with our clinical partners. Working together we can leverage the best of our individual and collective strengths. As an example, strategic partnerships with anesthesiologists (American Society of Anesthesiologists) and physician assistants (American Academy of Physician Assistants), hold the promise of extending our community to new learning partners as we work together to advance the health of patients.

Because there is no safety without equity, we are working to improve our care delivery systems, and to grow the ranks of a leadership base that is reflective of our communities. We thank our partners—the Asian Healthcare Leaders Forum, the Institute for Diversity and Health Equity, the LGBT Forum, the National Association for Latino Healthcare Executives and the National Association of Health Services Executives—for their commitment to leveraging our individual and collective strengths to close the gaps in disparity and to grow a diverse workforce.

You belong to a community that is more than 48,000 strong, and together, with your dedication and leadership, we can successfully meet today’s challenges. We learn from one another during networking and education events such as the Congress on Healthcare Leadership and the many events that take place through ACHE’s 78 chapters. In one year, ACHE delivered over 400,000 hours of education and networking experiences, serving nearly 80,000 attendees. This work is supplemented by our Premier Corporate Partners, a group that believes in the value of leadership as much as we do. Their support helps us enhance our programming, events and career development resources.
In the last year alone, ACHE welcomed more than 8,000 new members and over 500 new Fellows; launched a record 200 mentoring partnerships; and thanks to nearly 3,000 donors, helped provide scholarships to support rising healthcare leaders with the resources, education and network needed to support their careers.

That network is one of the most powerful benefits of our community. Every ACHE leader is united by the mission of improving health and well-being for those we serve. There is strength in this connection and a shared purpose. Navigating value to optimize outcomes for patients and innovating new approaches to care are consistently what healthcare leaders cite as their top concerns. That’s why these challenges are the very ones we must tackle with renewed vigilance.

Your commitment to ACHE is a testament to leading with vision no matter the circumstance or pressure. You are leaders who embrace and act on innovation through continuous learning. You are leaders who put patients first—every day, and with every encounter.

The impact you are making is real. Thank you for your commitment to your patients, workforce and community. And, thank you for being a part of ACHE.

With gratitude,
ACHE’s Board of Governors

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