History and Handbook

of the American College of Health Care Administrators

Volume IV, 2013-2023

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Ink Machine Editing

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“I have been a part of ACHCA for a majority of those years. No question about it, the College helped me in my quest with professional development through education programs and building relationships with some of the best and brightest in our field.”

Rev. Dr. Daniel W. Farley

“Our success is made possible over the years by thousands of volunteer members who have staff committees, planned events, and done important work to keep our organization growing.”

Bill McGinley, Retired Emeritus Certified, Fellow Emeritus, HSE

“Wishing my colleagues much continued success and congratulations for sticking together through thick and thin, to serve our residents, staff, families, and our communities.”

Keith Knapp, PhD, CNHA, FACHCA

“Mentoring, education, and local and national networking continue to be some of our strongest tools for leadership development.”

Marianna Grachek, FACHCA, Retired Emeritus Certified, HSE

“ACHCA stands for leadership in the profession of healthcare administration, by providing outstanding education, peer interaction, mentor/protégé development, and opportunities to improve the profession and those individuals in it.”

Rudy Michalek, FACHCA
Forward

ACHCA 60th Anniversary

In each age encompassing multiple generations, there appears to be a pivotal moment, an occurrence broadly characterized as one where you can precisely recall your whereabouts when it transpired.

For adults in the early part of the 20th Century it was October 28, 1929, known as Black Monday—the day the stock market crashed and ushered in the Great Depression.

For their children it was the “date,” as proclaimed President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, “that shall live in infamy.” The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor—December 7, 1941—bringing America into World War II.

For those generations that lived through the Great Depression, their grandchildren’s touchstone event was the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963.

For the current generations it is 9/11—September 11, 2001—when Islamic terrorists crashed hijacked jetliners into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and, due to heroic action by passengers, not into the Capitol Building or other iconic symbols of our country, but into a farm field in Western Pennsylvania.

Although, since 2012, we don’t have a specific date to rally around, we certainly have a year and an event.

The year was 2020; the event was the worldwide pandemic, when COVID-19 ravaged the world and
disproportionality killed nursing home residents and staff.

From 2020, to 2021, through 2022, right up to the College’s 60th Anniversary, the landscape had drastically changed. In fact, the last third of the sixth decade of the American College of Health Care Administrators is destined to be define by the pandemic.

**Overview**

There have been significant changes to our business in the past decade. Prior to 2020 it was business as usual with regulatory changes mandated by CMS and the states, coupled with the financial and staffing issues that have been part and parcel to long-term care for many years prior to 2012.

PDPM was initiated to replace the long-time RUGS system. Telemedicine has grown and will continue to evolve. CMS’s Five Star ratings and residents returning to the hospital less than thirty days after discharge became elements to consider, even though hospitals discharged residents back to nursing homes many times due to financial and not health considerations.

Had the pandemic not occurred, the Requirements of Participation and PDPM would likely have been our most significant skirmishes of the decade. RoP’s Phase 1 in 2016 and Phase 2 the next year dealt more definitively with elements that had been with long-term care for years—infection control, resident rights, visitation, abuse, etc.

Antibiotic stewardship was introduced along with the requirement for trained and certified Infection
Preventionists. The planned rollout of Phase 3 was postponed by the pandemic, but when it did happen, after three years of dealing with COVID-19, it did not seem nearly as difficult as it might have been without the pandemic.

Although private equity ownership has been a measure of the industry for decades, it took on a negative connotation in the past ten years, fueled by several very public failures when financially over-extended companies failed to pay vendors and at times even failed to pay staff. Some organizations spiraled downward into receivership. Some owners were indicted on various state and federal charges.

**Hall of Fame**

The ACHCA Hall of Fame was created in 2020 to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the organization for an extended period. Due to the pandemic, ACHCA couldn’t recognize the 2020 inaugural Hall of Fame inductees until the 2022 Convocation. The initial class honored Rev. Daniel W. Farley, Mark J. Finkelstein, Larry I. Slatky, and James L. Farley, along with founding members Theodore E. Hawkins, Alton E. Barlow, Rev. Carl A. Becker, and Kenneth R. Nelson, Jr., who were inducted posthumously.

**The Pandemic**

Commencing around February 2020, the pandemic was the bellwether of things to come. Members and ACHCA—our association itself—had to adapt to the pandemic. Indeed, the 2021 Annual Convocation and Expo was conducted virtually through a commendable effort by the Convocation
Committee and ACHCA’s excellent staff. Members “attended” Convocation on laptops from their offices or kitchen tables.

Just three years ago, the first major outbreak of COVID-19 was reported at a nursing home—a Five Star facility in the state of Washington. As the saying goes, “We’ve come a long way, baby.” Although there have been tragic pitfalls along the way.

Of the 1.1 million American deaths attributed to COVID-19, just under 164,000 were in long-term care facilities. Only 1% of the American population lives in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and other long-term care venues, yet approximately 16% of all fatalities were in our facilities.

Fingers were pointed at the “failures” of nursing homes’ infection control and their isolation and visitation procedures, in some instances rightly so. Yet, the fact that residents in nursing homes are, by definition, in poorer health than the general public, was not taken into consideration by many, including the news media, state health departments, and CMS.

During the first three years of the pandemic there were 1.5 million cases of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities, of which the afore-mentioned 164,000 residents died. Another 1.5 million cases of COVID-19 occurred among staff members. Staff, being younger and healthier than residents, accounted for fewer than 3,000 deaths.

At the height of the pandemic, we lost about 230,000 healthcare workers. Nursing homes were slower to recover than other sectors of the healthcare industry.
By the end of 2022 we were still short over 200,000 workers.

As staff departed, facilities were required to “throw money at the problem” to survive. Staffing agency use escalated, and many agencies increased their prices (price gouging, some have termed it). Even today, approximately 10% of the country’s nursing staffs are provided by staffing agencies.

The costs for permanent staff rose as well. Nine out of ten providers have increased wages and/or offered bonuses for recruitment and retention purposes. Nurses’ wages, for example, increased 28% to 34% between 2020 and 2023. Despite those incentives, over 96% of our facilities report they are still struggling to find enough staff.

In both his 2022 and 2023 State of the Union addresses, President Joe Biden put the long-term care industry on notice that staffing requirements and scrutiny of other issues such as inappropriate use of psychotropic drugs is on the government’s agenda. By the end of the first quarter of 2023, what those changes will be had not been revealed.

Providers are most concerned that, at a time when we cannot find enough staff already, an unfunded mandate may come from the Administration to increase required staff per patient day (PPD), forcing more facilities out of business.

Nursing homes spent billions on pandemic-related costs such as personal protective equipment (PPE), testing, and staffing. The cost of goods and services rose 8.5%, induced by supply and demand and inflation. Federal funding that nursing homes received
during the pandemic was discontinued or is sunsetting in 2023.

Today, more than half of nursing homes report they are on the verge of financial collapse and may not be able to operate for more than a year.

Many have already closed their doors. From 2015 through 2019—the year prior to the pandemic—775 nursing homes closed. Another 463 closed during the COVID years (2020 through 2022). More than 18,000 seniors were displaced. That’s 1238 facilities gone, and 1238 fewer administrator positions available.

Some states have attempted to help by increasing reimbursement. Yet, 62% of all nursing home residents rely on Medicaid to pay for their care, while reimbursement rates cover only 86% of the total cost.

Today, residents in nursing homes and assisted living communities are the safest they’ve ever been against COVID-19 thanks to newly developed vaccines, innovative treatments, and infection control procedures. More than 50% of nursing home residents are up to date with their vaccinations—three times higher than the general population.

**The Future**

The COVID-19 pandemic provided powerful evidence of the deleterious impact of inaction and inattention to long-standing nursing home quality concerns. But the pandemic can also serve as a progressive catalyst to drive urgently needed innovations to improve the quality of long-term care.
The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) conducted a study on the premise that “the way in which the United States finances, delivers and regulates care in nursing home settings is ineffective, insufficient, fragmented and unsustainable.”

The subsequent report, published in 2022, identified seven key goals encompassing financing, quality of life, staffing, transparency of ownership, technology, quality improvement, and quality assurance.

The Moving Forward Coalition was established, and seven committees were formed to investigate and make recommendations related to each of the goals. Some ACHCA members serve on those committees, and ACHCA is an organizational stakeholder.

We are moving forward with greater resolve than ever before to provide the highest quality care for our residents. Nevertheless, as the curtain came down on the sixth decade of the American College of Health Care Administrators, our industry remains in crisis. The challenges we must confront, of which we have perpetually sounded the alarm, have worsened in the wake of the pandemic.

ACHCA believes the future of long-term care in the United States is looking increasingly promising as innovative solutions and evolving policies take center stage. With a growing emphasis on person-centered care, we can expect to see advancements in technology, such as telehealth and remote monitoring systems, that will greatly enhance the quality of life for seniors and disabled individuals.

As the government and private sector continue to invest in workforce development and training
programs, the long-term care industry will be better equipped to provide compassionate, high-quality care, tailored to the unique needs of each resident.

These positive changes, piloted in no small part by the members of ACHCA, will ensure that the U.S. long-term care system is poised to meet the needs of an aging population with dignity, respect, and efficiency.

Andrew Vogel, CNHA, FACHCA
March 2023
PART I

The Years of the Elected College Chairs

2013-2023
Roxanne Galloway, CNHA, CALA, CAS, FACHCA

Term: 2012-2014

Information regarding Ms. Galloway’s 2012-2014 term was unavailable at the time of printing.
Transition Three CEOs

AIT/Preceptor

I was Board Chair from 2014-2016. It was a time of major transition and accomplishment for The College. I had the challenge of working with three CEOs for The College. Marianna Grachek announced her retirement, ending an era of unprecedented gravitas for ACHCA, ensuring a seat at the table of LTC power. Sharon Colling was gracious enough to put her role in her own consulting firm on hold to become the interim CEO while we searched for a new CEO. Sharon was a great partner in pursuing the Board’s vision for the College and furthered the realization of some of our goals.

The CEO Search Committee, under Theresa Sanderson, chose Cecilia Sepp in 2016. With the transition, we focused on our support for state chapters. This accomplished the major role of assembling all the chapter documents required to function as not-for-profit entities and showed where other documentation and processes were still needed.

We explored merging with other leading long-term care and administrator associations, ultimately choosing to continue to “go it alone” to maintain our identity and programs, leaving open the possibility to re-explore alliances in the future.

We continued toward the completion of the AIT Preceptor workgroup joint venture of the ACHCA and the NAB, which began as a seminar I gave at St.
Joseph’s College at John Pratt’s request a few years earlier.

We held Winter Market Place in Phoenix instead of Las Vegas, for only our second time trying a new location but remaining in the western part of the country.

Financially, we built upon Roxanne’s making us debt free during her time as Chair by taking the members’ equity to new heights. We worked with Debra Hollander to finally realize her goal of a scholarship to honor her parents. This generous scholarship has consistently underwritten the expenses of many young administrators to experience Convocation. It was a tumultuous time of transition but achieved more goals, as we remained a healthy ongoing organization with a bright future thanks to the hard work of the whole Board and especially the Executive Board members.
Navigating Seas of Change

My term as Chair began in the midst of a season of change for the college. We had a new CEO, questions of whether we could remain an independent organization or whether we needed to merge with another organization, needing to redefine our value and relevancy, declining membership, and continued financial concerns.

The Board held a strategic planning meeting in Indianapolis in June that resulted in a four-prong focus of membership growth, strategic partnership development, defining/creating value, and conferences and education.

Amid growing financial concerns during the summer of 2017, the Board installed Rudy Michalek as the interim CEO. Together, Rudy and I scrutinized every dollar being spent, and by cutting all excess spending, we were able to get our finances stabilized and begin to see positive gains in making up ground on our bottom line.

Bill McGinley was introduced as the incoming CEO at the end of 2017 at Winter Marketplace in Atlanta, and assumed the role as of January 2018. Working together, we put together a highly successful 2018 Convocation that brought our financial situation back to a point of stability as we looked to move into the coming year.
Amidst the change and transition during my term, we began to see strengthening partnerships with AHCA, AMDA, Leading Age, NAB, and NELS. Membership decline was slowing and beginning to plateau. The #IamACHCA campaign was launched and began helping members express and define the value proposition of ACHCA.

The Board decided to do away with Winter Marketplace and focus on making Convocation stronger, and we had moved out of the “red” financially, to being back in the “black.”

I want to thank the Boards I worked with, as well as the staff, for their tireless efforts to make ACHCA better and stronger. Though we had many “rough waters” to navigate through, I am proud to be able to quote former Chair, Steve Esdale, in saying: “We are still here!”
A New Beginning

My term began in concert with the introduction of Bill McGinley as our new President & CEO. Bill, being a long-time College member and licensed administrator, represented a return to a consensus of the Board that our association’s leader should not only be familiar with ACHCA but be from our profession. Bill was introduced at the Atlanta Fall Forum, the one and only time the former Winter Marketplace was held anywhere other than Las Vegas or the west coast. Shortly after taking the helm, the decision was made to discontinue this second national meeting due to cost and low attendance.

In March, ahead of the 2018 Convocation, I pushed for the issuance of a short member survey, the first one done in several years to “get the pulse” of the membership. It was my intention to use this data to better frame our efforts as a Board and staff. We incorporated some of the responses we received into social media posts during the Orlando Convocation and continued to use the information as we made decisions about priorities going forward.

The members indicated they wanted an association that was more responsive, more representative, and more local to members’ needs. This served as the basis for much of the work of the Member Experience committee, which set out to begin developing tools and resources for chapters to use to enhance their work at the local level and improve chapter leader on-boarding.
Other efforts over the course of the next year involved focusing on our collaboration with NAB on the updates to the AIT Study Guide, which fit nicely into the area of effective preparation, both academically and experientially for those aspiring to enter our profession. We also gave focus to ample support and resources as one enters the profession through our mentoring program, while giving focus to ongoing relevant professional development opportunities and advocacy through a broader range of online education.

It was during the year of 2019 that the difficult decision was made to sunset the ACHCA Certification program, long a keystone program that in recent years had become stale, resulting in low interest and unnecessary expense in maintaining it.

Through a lot of hard work on Bill’s and the staff’s part, as well as the National Convocation Planning Committee, the Orlando (2018) and Louisville (2019) Convocations were well attended and produced strong financial returns for ACHCA. Through Bill’s steady leadership and in collaboration with the Board, our association began to return to a position of financial stability. And then, the pandemic hit.

The pandemic that found its way to the US in March of 2020 forced all businesses, especially healthcare and particularly long-term care, to pivot to continue to survive. As our members struggled mightily in the face of unprecedented staffing, regulatory, and infection control challenges, ACHCA had to evaluate how best to support them. Bill made the decision to offer our educational webinars for free to ALL long-term care professionals, regardless of whether they were members or not, as well as to post multiple mental health resources. Both were met with positive
responses from the profession. The Board also made the decision to forgo the 2020 Convocation, and to hold the executive committee over an extra year. This allowed us to focus on continuity, which had the effect of maintaining membership while most other professional associations lost large proportions of membership. This also allowed us to begin planning for what the 2021 Convocation would look like.

Because of the pandemic, we made the wise decision to hold a virtual convocation, opening it up for a period of two weeks and charging a modest fee to register and view the education. Our vendor partners, who, of course, were also impacted, eagerly jumped on board and helped defray the cost of producing the event through their virtual booths. Afterward, the virtual model proved to be a successful experiment, one that would set the stage for future years.

Overall, I was privileged to work alongside Bill, our tremendous staff, and a Board that was willing to be innovative. In the face of everything that we encountered, I was pleased with the progress we made toward stability and a new beginning.
Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA

Term: 2021-2023

In March of 2020, I was preparing to step into the role of Chair when the COVID-19 pandemic struck. As an administrator of a nursing home, I was unable to take that role on and serve my residents at the same time. Fortunately, Bob Lane, as Immediate Past Chair, was willing to stay in that role for an extra year. I was sworn into office as Chair in April of 2021. Navigating the changing world and changing industry to a remote platform was both a challenge and a blessing. Through that process, the ACHCA staff was able to continue to serve our members with a remote Convocation and additional remote education.

When I joined the board in 2012, certification, as well as fellowship, was required for Board officers. As soon as I achieved certification, I applied for a Board position. During the next ten years, the certification exam became outdated. The time and money required to refresh the certification exam, due to the continually changing regulations and the reduced time NHAs could devote to voluntary item writing, put the Board in a position where it had to sunset the certification program until such time it could be updated and re-released. Fortunately, such devoted members as Dr. David G. Wolf and Dr. Kevin Hansen developed a task force, and the updated certification exam was re-released in 2023. Dr. Kevin Hansen passed away in 2022, but his legacy continues with the release of the updated certification exam.
ACHCA has a long history of struggling financially and dwindling membership. My time as a Board member was no different. The tenacity of members combined with the superpowers of the bare-bones staff, resulted in many memorable achievements. I enjoyed the camaraderie of each Convocation as well as the remarkable educational sessions. I am proud to be a small part of that history.
PART II

The College Presidents/CEOs

2013 – 2023
As President and CEO in 2012, I witnessed the Board of Directors celebrate and promote ACHCA’s 50th anniversary held in Nashville, TN. At that celebration, the 2011 Annual Report was released, as was the third edition of ACHCA’s History and Handbook.

From many perspectives, the 50th was a successful celebration of the association’s relevance, resilience, and endurance while recovering from financial and political challenges that threatened its very existence. The tenacious Board propelled the following successes that ensured its very survival and future:

- Fastidious financial oversight that included personal and chapter loans and promissory notes that ultimately avoided an imminent threat of bankruptcy
- The launch of the Academy of Long-Term Care Research and Development was positioned to be a source of donation and grant revenue
  - Laid the foundation for the ACHCA mentoring program
  - Partnered with national groups to sponsor the National Emerging Leadership Summit (NELS)
  - Received a generous grant for the mentoring initiative from an anonymous donor
- Membership enhancement activities
  - Frank discussions about potentially aligning with another long-term care association partner
  - Weekly electronic ACHCA chapter and national updates
• Quarterly electronic newsletter
• Making the difficult decision to become a virtual association to divest expensive overhead responsibilities; invest in virtual, integrated technologies and cost-effective document storage options
• Position the association’s relevance as a national membership association by becoming a founding member of the Advancing Excellence in Long-Term Care initiative
• Introducing a student poster session in 2010
• Forged an education partnership with RediLearning so that ACHCA could provide state-of-the-art webinar and distance education
• Maintained provider of continuing education for administrators through the NAB and for nurses through the Florida Board of Nursing

The challenges for association relevance continued during the remainder of my leadership tenure which ended in 2015.
• Membership challenges continued as the new generation of long-term care administrators had their membership dues paid for by their owners for the trade associations (AHCA and Leading Age) rather than the professional association (ACHCA).
• Participation in the ACHCA certification programs (CNHA, CALA) was being challenged by the NAB Health Services Executive (HSE) licensing credential, which promoted cross-provider and cross-state licensure acceptance. Maintaining the certification program continued to be a financial and relevance reality.
• Although discussions with potential partnering associations came to a halt, ACHCA continued to work tirelessly to promote the benefit of
professional association membership. Enduring College benefits included top-notch continuing education, conferences, professional mentoring, and local and national networking.

2022 was ACHCA’s 60th anniversary. The College continues to be relevant as a professional association that focuses on the professional development of the individual administrator, unlike the industry-focused trade associations.
With the retirement of Marianna Grachek, I was hired as ACHCA’s Interim CEO. During my six months of service, I worked on and/or accomplished several key needs of ACHCA including:

1) Continued review and evaluation of possible Partnership opportunities with ACHE and AHCA

2) Finalized details for the 2015 Winter Marketplace in Las Vegas

3) Worked with NAB and RediLearning on the AIT and Preceptor Training Programs

4) Continued the preparations for our 2016 Convocation

5) Increased the volume of item written questions for our certification program

6) Pursued the development of our Executive Leadership Task force

7) Approved the Chapter Leadership guide manuals

In December 2015, final interviews for the President/CEO were held, and the hire was made with a start date of January 2016. After an orientation period in January, my service time was completed.
Ms. Sepp was the ACHCA President & CEO from 2016-2017.
In August 2017, the ACHCA CEO left the organization and the ACHCA Board of Directors appointed me as the Interim President/CEO while the search committee found a permanent President/CEO.

As a current Board member and a member of the Finance Committee, I was able to quickly work with our staff and Board to correct overspending by restructuring staff, contracts, and expenses.

We established a revised budget for October 2017 to September 2018, tightened insurance costs, focused on membership, formulated the Fall Forum, and set 2018 Convocation on a strong path. We were able to negotiate an arrangement with AHCA to utilize our certification program and maintain contact with other organizations in the healthcare industry.

By late November, the Board had found and made an offer for our new President/CEO, Bill McGinley, who started in December. After completing an orientation process, Bill took over the role and I returned to the Board of Directors.
I began my tenure as President and CEO of ACHCA in November 2017 at the Fall Forum event in Atlanta, Georgia. At that point, ACHCA had moved away from the longstanding tradition of the Winter Marketplace in Las Vegas and went with a fall event.

I had been hired by ACHCA Chair Stefan Fromm and was due to officially start the job on December 4th, but I had asked to be introduced at the Fall Forum so that I could address the attendees.

I assumed the position after Rudy Michalek had been ably running the organization as interim CEO following the departure in the spring of the previous CEO. I inherited the wonderful staff of Elizabeth Lollis, Jana Pauldin, and Katie Lynes. Thanks to Rudy and the staff, ACHCA was in a position of stability but was clearly in need of additional membership and financial support.

When I started we had 1670 active members, of which 1554 were paid members (some membership categories such as Emeritus are unpaid). While we continued to attract about twenty-five new members per month, our renewal and retention rates were not enough to sustain growth. We were holding our own. I decided early on that I would focus on “relevance” and “relationships.”

I reached out to our industry partners such as AHCA, Leading Age, Advancing Excellence, and others to
establish relationships with the leaders of those organizations. My goal was to re-establish a “seat at the table” for ACHCA.

I renewed our participation in the Center for Excellence in Assisted Living (CEAL), The National Emerging Leadership Summit (NELS), Vision 2025, AMDA, AAPACN, NAHCA, and Argentum. We were also asked by Susan Frampton of Planetree International and Penny Cook of the Pioneer Network to participate in a “pop-up coalition on patient-centered care.”

I renewed our relationship with AHCA, and along with Board Chair, Bob Lane, presented at their annual conference on our certification programs. I attended the NY and CT chapter events as well as the District 1/New England Alliance conferences. I maintained my seat on the board of the MA chapter and continued to serve as treasurer.

As a strong believer in the power of social media, I began a campaign to increase our social media presence. We were active on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter at the time, and I began to work on increasing the number of followers on those sites. Social media has the advantage of being free, which was a good thing for ACHCA.

In the spring of 2018, we had a very successful Convocation in Orlando, FL. We immediately began planning for Louisville, KY in 2019. In 2018, we attracted 438 new members—28% more than the previous year. Building on the momentum from Orlando and our new social media following, the 2019 Louisville Convocation enjoyed the highest attendance in ten years and netted approximately $100,000.
A major development in 2019 was that we made the decision to discontinue our certification exams and the certification program. This was a big step for the Board, as these were signature programs of ACHCA. It had been determined that the exams were out of date and did not reflect current practice.

Exam questions had not been updated since 2015. The practice analysis upon which the questions were based was conducted in 2010. ACHCA, at the time, simply did not have the capacity to conduct a new practice analysis and update the questions for our exams. It was hoped that in the future we might find a way to resurrect the program.

In the spring of 2020, our world changed in a major way. The COVID-19 pandemic struck the United States and affected every aspect of life, most especially those who lived and worked in long-term care and post-acute centers. It had a major effect on the mental and physical health of administrators, many of whom were our members. On our website we published a list of mental health resources for our members to access. We worked with AHCA and AMDA to petition Congress for more funding and resources so that administrators could protect the health of residents and staff. I wrote an article for McKnight’s Long-Term Care magazine, “Nursing Homes Raw Deal,” that became the most widely read and shared article in that magazine’s history. I wrote a follow up article, “Don’t Let This Opportunity Go to Waste,” that was also well received. The pandemic was perhaps the most trying of times in the history of the long-term care profession.

The pandemic forced us to postpone Convocation 2020 and 2021. The pandemic did provide an opportunity for ACHCA to apply for and receive a Payroll Protection
Program (PPP) loan that was eventually forgiven by the federal government, which provided some financial help that was needed due to the cancellation of Convocation.

Despite the problems of the pandemic, we were able secure our largest ever group membership when Signature Healthcare joined with 125 administrators. During this time, our mentoring program flourished under the leadership of committee chair Michael Hotz. We had forty-two mentor/protégée pairs, an all-time high.

In 2021 Jana Pauldin, our vice president of membership and chapter relations, was honored as one of the Women of Distinction by *McKnight’s Long-Term Care News*.

By the spring of 2021, we had increased our LinkedIn followers to 10,883—a 92% increase since the beginning of my tenure. Facebook followers rose to 3,118—a 78% increase.

Despite attracting close to 2000 new members during my tenure, our overall active membership was relatively flat due to our poor retention rate. At the end of my tenure, we had 1719 active members.

I was happy that I was able to leave the organization in better financial shape than I found it. Cash on hand when I left was $553,239 compared with $193,304 when I started.

Due to the pandemic and the cancellation of Convocation, we delayed the election of new officers in 2020 so that I had the pleasure of serving with Board
Chair Bob Lane for almost the entirety of my time as President/CEO of ACHCA.

I made the difficult decision to retire and spend more time with my wife, who had retired before me. I left the job in May 2021. It was an honor and a pleasure to finish my forty-two-year career as a nursing home administrator as the head of the only organization devoted to our profession.
Rudy Michalek, FACHCA
Interim President & CEO
May 2021 – September 2021

In May 2021, with the retirement of Bill McGinley and the Board undecided on a replacement and organization direction, I was hired by the Board of Directors as the Interim President/CEO for the second time.

During this tenure, it was important to keep the organization moving forward. I renegotiated our events management contract to cover our 2022 Convocation and set actions in motion for a successful event.

Our 2021-2022 budget was prepared and approved by the Board, the insurance application completed, bids were obtained for a financial audit for the year, we applied for additional ERC reimbursement, added additional CE programs for members, and added three new Ruby/Emerald partners.

The Board made the decision to finalize the search for a new President/CEO, and Bob Lane, former Board member and Chair was hired. After an orientation period, Bob took the reins of the organization.
Robert Lane, CNHA, FACHCA  
President & CEO  
2021-Present

As I was about to end my tenure as Board Chair, Bill McGinley, our President/CEO since late 2017, informed me of his intent to retire in May of 2021, right after Convocation. This came as a surprise to all, especially me. Bill was the only CEO I worked with as Board Chair, and I was the only Board Chair Bill had worked with, so our relationship was special. Bill had done many things to stabilize ACHCA, and I was proud to have been alongside him during that time.

With this change, the Board had decisions to make, as some efforts were being made to move the College into a relationship with the American Health Care Association (AHCA), which had expressed interest in merging our interests. A task force was formed by the Board to explore possible entities that would make good partners or suitors for ACHCA. Concurrently, the board opted to hire an interim CEO while the RTF conducted its business. Ultimately, the decision was made to move forward with a national search for a new President/CEO, and after a lengthy interview process, I was offered the opportunity to step into the role. Having been the most recent Board Chair and having been on the Board in some capacity since 2013, I was seen as having the institutional knowledge and background to continue the progress made under Bill.

I entered this role with a focus on four pillars: communicate, innovate, educate, and advocate. The focus on continuing to grow membership starts with the ability of the chapter to provide the important aspects of professional development in the form of
networking and collegiality, so we’ve placed significant efforts into supporting chapters with tools and resources. Our efforts to communicate more included the launching of Convocation Central sessions, implemented ahead of the New Orleans Convocation, held live for the first time in three years, as well as listening sessions, which we have held quarterly.

In addition, we have begun quarterly Chapter leader connect calls, designed to increase dialogue between chapters and the national office while increasing engagement. We have also begun a chapter mentoring program to enable stable chapters to work with developing states to help them adopt successful strategies that helped the stable chapters grow. We have also engaged our business partners more in order to increase engagement and improve the ROI for them.

We have embarked on an effort to revitalize the certification program, modernizing it and ensuring the content included in the exams is reflective of an advance practice level. This is an important piece to help our members understand their professional development needs and will have great value for many companies with multiple sites.

Additionally, we celebrated our 60th anniversary in 2022 and marked the occasion at Convocation and during the entire month of November, which is when we were founded.

We are finally starting to see the pandemic retreat, and I’m optimistic that we will continue to grow and find even more ways to serve. Of course, our greatest asset is our staff, and I’m privileged to work with a tremendous team of professionals that work hard to
ensure our members’ experience with ACHCA is extraordinary! Here’s to the next decade! #iamachca
PART III

Appendices
Appendix A: College Executive Committees and Boards of Directors, 2013-2023

2013-2014

Executive Committee

Roxanne L. Galloway, CNHA, CALA, CAS, FACHCA - Chair
Michael A. Hotz, CNHA, FACHCA - Chair Elect
Daniel E. Shields, CNHA, FACHCA - Treasurer
Timothy C. Dressman, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA - Immediate Past Chair
Marianna Kern Grachek, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA - President & CEO

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Sharon Colling, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA
Stefan (Steve) Fromm, CNHA, FACHCA
Terri Golec, FACHCA
Rudolph (Rudy) L. Michalek, FACHCA
Ken Reynolds, CNHA, FACHCA
Philip Jean, CNHA, FACHCA
Anthony J. Restaino, CNHA, FACHCA
Cydney Bare, CNHA, FACHCA
Eric Hadley, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA
Robert Lane, FACHCA
Ron Present, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA

2014-2015

Executive Committee

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Daniel E. Shields, CNHA, FACHCA - Vice Chair

Molly Savard, CNHA, FACHCA - Secretary/Treasurer
Roxanne L. Galloway, CNHA, CALA, CAS, FACHCA - Immediate Past Chair
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Board of Directors

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Ken Reynolds, CNHA, FACHCA
Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA
Kathryn Richardson, CNHA, FACHCA
Cydney Bare, CNHA, FACHCA
Eric Hadley, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA
Robert Lane, FACHCA
Doyle Love, CNHA, FACHCA

2015-2016

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2015-2016 cont.

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Philip Jean, CNHA, FACHCA
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Ken Reynolds, CNHA, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA
Kathryn Richardson, FACHCA
Cydney Bare, CNHA, FACHCA
Eric Hadley, CNHA, CALA, FACHCA
Robert Lane, CNHA, FACHCA
Doyle Love, CNHA, FACHCA

2016-2017

Executive Committee

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Robert Lane, CNHA, FACHCA - Vice Chair
Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA - Secretary/Treasurer
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Mark Prifogle, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Matt Lessard, CNHA, FACHCA
Kathryn Richardson, FACHCA
2016-2017 cont.

Cydney Bare, CNHA, FACHCA
Michael Barry, CNHA, FACHCA
Bonnie Wood, CNHA
Doyle Love, CNHA, FACHCA

2017-2018

Executive Committee

Stefan (Steve) Fromm, CNHA, FACHCA - Chair
Robert Lane, CNHA, FACHCA - Chair Elect
Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA - Secretary/Treasurer
Michael A. Hotz, CNHA, FACHCA - Immediate Past Chair
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Philip Jean, CNHA, FACHCA
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Mark Prifogle, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Matt Lessard, CNHA, FACHCA
Kathryn Richardson, FACHCA
Cydney Bare, CNHA, FACHCA
Michael Barry, CNHA, FACHCA
Bonnie Wood, CNHA, FACHCA
Doyle Love, CNHA, FACHCA
2018-2019

Executive Committee

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Mark Prifogle, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Blair Quasnitschka, FACHCA
Matt Lessard, CNHA, FACHCA
Kathryn Richardson, FACHCA
Israel Ray, CNHA, FACHCA
Michael Barry, CNHA, FACHCA
Bonnie Wood, CNHA, FACHCA
Doyle Love, CNHA, FACHCA

2019-2020

Executive Committee

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2019-2020 cont.

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Sharon Eyster, CNHA, FACHCA
Elizabeth Schmeizl, FACHCA
Rudolph (Rudy) L. Michalek, FACHCA
Mark Prifogle, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Blair Quasnitschka, FACHCA
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Anthony Restaino, CNHA, FACHCA
Israel Ray, CNHA, FACHCA
Jose Rojas Fernandez, CNHA, FACHCA
Kirstin Pedretti, FACHCA
Kendall Brune, PhD, FACHCA

2020-2021

Executive Committee

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2020-2021 cont.

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Mark Prifogle, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Blair Quasnitschka, FACHCA
Matt Lessard, CNHA, FACHCA
Anthony Restaino, CNHA, FACHCA
Israel Ray, CNHA, FACHCA
Jose Rojas Fernandez, CNHA, FACHCA
Kirstin Pedretti, FACHCA
Kendall Brune, PhD, FACHCA

2021-2022

Executive Committee

Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA - Chair
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Sharon Eyster, CNHA, FACHCA
Elizabeth Schmeizl, FACHCA
Mark Prifogle, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Blair Quasnitschka, FACHCA
2021-2022 cont.

Cydney Bare, FACHCA
Jeffrey Lacroix, FACHCA
Anthony Restaino, CNHA, FACHCA
Israel Ray, CNHA, FACHCA
Helaine Ledany, CNHA, FACHCA
Kirstin Pedretti, FACHCA
Kendall Brune, PhD, FACHCA

2022-2023

Executive Committee

Theresa Sanderson, CNHA, FACHCA - Chair
Matt Lessard, CNHA, FACHCA - Chair Elect
Mark Prifogle, FACHCA - Secretary/Treasurer
Stefan (Steve) Fromm, CNHA, FACHCA - Immediate Past Chair
Robert Lane, CNHA, FACHCA - President & CEO

Board of Directors

David G. Wolf, PhD, CNHA, CALA, CAS, FACHCA
Sharon Eyster, CNHA, FACHCA
Elizabeth Schmeizl, FACHCA
Larry Slatky, CNHA, FACHCA
Mitchell Teller, FACHCA
Blair Quasnitschka, FACHCA
Cydney Bare, FACHCA
Angela Perry, PhD, FACHCA
Anthony Restaino, CNHA, FACHCA
Israel Ray, CNHA, FACHCA
Helaine Ledany, CNHA, FACHCA
Bonnie Wood, CNHA, FACHCA
Kendall Brune, PhD, FACHCA
Appendix B: Award Recipients, 2013-2023

Year

2013 Individual Awards:
Business Partner - Partners Pharmacy
Chairs Award of Excellence - Rudolph Michalek
Chairs Award of Excellence - Stefan Fromm
Champion Award - Maine Healthcare
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Larry Slatky
Education - Philip DuBois
Journalism - Vivian Tellis-Nayak
New Administrator - Jose Luis Rojas Fernandez
New Administrator - Sheena Janse
Outstanding Member - Daniel Suer
Public Service - Martin Bayne

Chapter/District Achievement Awards:
District 1
District 3
Connecticut Chapter
Kentucky Chapter
Maine Chapter
New Jersey Chapter
Oklahoma Chapter
Texas Chapter

2014 Individual Awards:
Business Partner - RediLearning Corporation
Chairs Award of Excellence - Douglas Olson
Champion Award - Saint Joseph's College of Maine
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Michael Duffy
Distinguished Service - Stephen Esdale
New Administrator - Sara Sherwood
Outstanding Member - Allan Swartz
Outstanding Member - Molly Savard
Public Service - Govind Bharwani
2014 Awards cont.

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**
Connecticut Chapter (x2)
Georgia Chapter
Indiana Chapter (x2)
Kentucky Chapter (x2)
Maine Chapter
New Hampshire Chapter

2015 **Individual Awards:**
Business Partner - Functional Pathways
Chairs Award of Excellence - Robert Siebel
Chairs Award of Excellence - Sharon Colling
Chairs Award of Excellence - Marianna Grachek
Champion Award - Georgia Healthcare Association
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Robert Reyes
Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator - Linda Olore
Distinguished Service - Timothy Dressman
Education - Robert Burke
Journalism - John O'Connor
New Assisted Living Administrator - Kelsey Swartzel
New Nursing Home Administrator - Stephanie Antoun
Outstanding Member - Norda Bellantoni
Public Service - Susan Collins

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**
District 5
Indiana Chapter
Kentucky Chapter
New Jersey Chapter
Oklahoma Chapter (x2)
2016 **Individual Awards:**

AIT Preceptor - Kathy Pajor
Business Partner - Harmony Healthcare
Chairs Award of Excellence - Barbara Acello
Chairs Award of Excellence - Theresa Sanderson
Champion Award - Health and Retirement Communities
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Marnie Talamona
Distinguished Service - Susan Farris
Journalism - Kathleen Mears
New Nursing Home Administrator - Katie Lasewicz
Outstanding Member - Israel Ray
Public Service - Dan Cohen

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**

District 1
Connecticut Chapter (x2)
Georgia Chapter
Indiana Chapter (x3)
New Jersey Chapter
Texas Chapter

2017 **Individual Awards:**

AIT Preceptor - Michael Mileski
Business Partner - Healthcare Services Group
Chairs Award of Excellence - Debra Hollander
Champion Award - NAB
Champion Award - CAHCF
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Helaine Ledany
Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator - Bill McGinley
Distinguished Service - Anthony Restaino
Education - Charles Whitlock
Journalism - Mary Helen McSweeney-Feld
New Nursing Home Administrator - Jeffrey Lacroix
Outstanding Member - Vivian Wright-Defrees
Public Service - Steven Chies
2017 Awards cont.

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**
Indiana Chapter

2018 **Individual Awards:**
- AIT Preceptor - Daniel Suer
- Business Partner - Grandview Pharmacy
- Chairs Award of Excellence - Rudolph Michalek
- Champion Award - Georgia Health Care Association
- Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Brenda Lewis
- Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator - Robert Armstrong
- Distinguished Service - Molly Savard
- Education - Maureen McCarthy
- Journalism - Ruth Tappen
- New Nursing Home Administrator - Ashley Douglas
- Outstanding Member - Phil DuBois
- Public Service - Michelle Schneider

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**
Florida Chapter
Georgia Chapter

2019 **Individual Awards:**
- AIT Preceptor - David Sones
- Business Partner - Hickory Creek Healthcare Foundation
- Chairs Award of Excellence - Michael Hotz
- Champion Award - Ethica Health and Retirement Communities
- Distinguished Service - Terri Golec
- Education - Kathryn Hyer
- Journalism - Andrew Vogel
- New Nursing Home Administrator - Dennis Davis
- Outstanding Member - Dr. Kendall Brune
- Public Service - Mark Parkinson
2019 Awards cont.

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**
Connecticut Chapter
Indiana Chapter
New York Chapter
Ohio Chapter

2020 **Individual Awards:**
AIT Preceptor - Michael Barry
Business Partner - McKesson Corporation
Champion Award - NYS Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA)
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Elizabeth Schmeizl
Distinguished Service - Charles (Charlie) Shelton Jr.
Education - Nelia Adaci
Journalism - W. Bruce Glass
Mentor - Michael Hotz
New Nursing Home Administrator - Tina Richardson
Outstanding Member - Debra Hollander
Public Service - Tzvi Barax

**Chapter/District Achievement Awards:**
District 1
Connecticut Chapter
Massachusetts Chapter

2021 **Awards:**

*Convocation was not held in 2021; therefore, no award recipients were selected.

2022 **Individual Awards:**
AIT Preceptor - Janet Merly-Liranzo
Business Partner - ProCare LTC Pharmacy Services
Chairs Award of Excellence - Elizabeth Lollis
Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Lina Dureza
Distinguished Service - Richard (Rick) Brown
Education - Douglas Olson

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2022 Awards cont.
   Journalism - Sheldon Ornstein
   Mentor - Philip Jean
   New Nursing Home Administrator - Ashley Soyka
   Outstanding Member - Daniel (Dan) Suer
   Public Service - John Hoffman

   Chapter/District Achievement Awards:
   Florida Chapter
   New York Chapter
   Ohio Chapter

2023 Individual Awards:
   Business Partner - Atlantic Tomorrow's Office
   Chairs Award of Excellence – Dr. David Wolf
   Champion Award - BHI Senior Living, Inc.
   Distinguished Nursing Home Administrator - Jose Rojas Fernandez
   Distinguished Assisted Living Administrator - Eric Kalt
   Distinguished Service - Michael Hotz
   Education - Amy Lee
   Journalism - Douglas Olson
   Journalism - Keith Knapp
   Mentor - Rudolph (Rudy) Michalek
   New Assisted Living Administrator - Leah Jeffries
   New Nursing Home Administrator - Prachi Elmore
   New Nursing Home Administrator - Heather Parrott
   Outstanding Member - Melissa Jackson
   Public Service - John Sheridan

   Chapter/District Achievement Awards:
   Maine Chapter
Eli Pick Facility Leadership Awards (EPFLA)  
2013-2023

EPFLA data was not available at time of printing.
Appendix C: College Presidents/Chairs 1963-2023

1961 – 1963 Theodore Hawkins - Founder
1961 – 1963 Alton Barlow - Founder

1963 – 1966 Theodore Hawkins
1966 – 1967 Carl Becker
1967 – 1968 Alton Barlow
1968 – 1970 Sr. Ambrosette Pflueger
1970 – 1971 Donovan Perkins
1971 – 1972 Eleanor Baird
1972 – 1973 Derril Meyer
1974 – 1976 Gerald Bishop
1976 - 1977 Hoyt Crider
1978 – 1979 Stuart Goldberg
1979 – 1980 Nicholas Demisay
1980 – 1981 Dell Hagan
1981 – 1982 Andrew Fennelly
1982 – 1983 Robert Schlicht
1983 – 1984 Dennis Sullivan
1984 – 1985 Robert Siebel
1985 – 1986 Mardell Brandt
1986 – 1987 Mark Finkelstein
1987 – 1988 Richard Thorpe
1988 – 1989 James Farley
1989 – 1990 Kenneth Ogren
1990 – 1991 Richard Fratianne
1993 – 1994 Sonja Johnson
1994 – 1995 Daniel Farley
1995 – 1996 Gary Riffe
1996 – 1997 Keith Knapp
1997 – 1998 Ronald Klipping
1999 – 2000 Clay Crosson
2000 – 2001 Judith Passerini
2001 – 2002 Mary Paspalas-Lazare
2002 – 2003 Orlando Bisbano
2003 – 2004 Lisa Poskanzer
2004 – 2005 Walter Collins
2005 – 2006 Sara Sinclair
2006 -2008 Larry Slatky
2008 – 2010 Stephen Esdale
2010 – 2012 Timothy Dressman
2012 – 2014 Roxanne Galloway
2014 – 2016 Michael Hotz
2016 – 2018 Stefan Fromm
2018 – 2021 Robert Lane
2021 – 2023 Theresa Sanderson
Appendix D: Foundation Presidents/Chairs

1981-2002

1981-1983  Mardell Brandt
1983-1984  Stuart Kanowitz
1984-1986  Fr. Barnabas Hunt
1986-1987  Larry Slatky
1987-1988  Karen Struve
1988-1990  Sally Craven
1990-1991  Floyd Rhoades
1991-1993  James Knepler
1993-1995  Raymond Rustige
1995-1997  Eileen Jenkins
1997-1998  Raymond Rustige
1998-1999  Robert Heatley
1999-2001  Michael Reilly
2001-2002  Lisa Poskanzer

The Academy for Long-Term Care Leadership and Development

In 2008, the Academy for Long-Term Care Leadership and Development was created to replace the former research body of ACHCA known as the ACHCA Foundation, which had been a separate 501c3 entity. With the transition to the Academy, this brought the entity fully under the FEIN of ACHCA and became a separately functioning committee with a central role in development, while maintaining an emphasis on activities to further the success of new and emerging leaders. In 2011, the Academy received a grant to initiate ACHCA’s National Mentoring Program. This
program was designed to help new leaders in the field of long-term care learn from other veteran administrators who are ACHCA Fellows. The ACHCA Mentor program was officially launched in 2012.

The Academy has also supported the National Emerging Leadership Summit (NELS), which began in 2010. As quoted from The Summit White Paper: “The National Emerging Leadership Summit’s purpose is to provide Generation X and Generation Y leaders in the field of health and aging services administration to:

• Engage in discussions of current best practices with other leaders;
• Meet with representatives of key professional organizations;
• Gain an inside perspective on the legislative process;
• Explore solutions for attracting and retaining other Generation X and Generation Y leaders.”

In 2023, NELS will transition from its original sponsor organization to be overseen by ACHCA.

In addition to the mentoring and NELS activities, the Academy is engaged in generating funding to support the Vision Centre, which is focused on increasing the number of health administration programs with a long-term care emphasis and the number of field experiences for these aspiring leaders, the Dr. Kevin Hansen Memorial Student and Health Care Professional Poster Exposition, and other means to increase the awareness and participation of students, Administrators-in-Training (AITs), and the emerging professionals entering this profession. This includes grants, planned giving programs, and donations from individuals and organizations.