



KHA's Current Report
Sept. 1, 2023

President's Perspective – Looking Forward to the KHA Annual Convention

It is hard to believe we have just entered September and the [2023 KHA Annual Convention](#) and [Trade Show](#) is next week. We look forward to seeing all of you! This year's theme, *Igniting Joy*, promises to educate, enlighten and entertain you with award-winning speakers, networking opportunities and nearly 200 professional exhibitors displaying state-of-the-art products and services.

We will start the convention experience by bringing together friends and health care colleagues at the *Registration and Welcome Reception*, from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 6. This pre-event gathering, sponsored by our friends at KAMMCO, offers a casual evening of conversation and cocktails. While there, I encourage you to take a moment to stop by the registration desk to pick up your convention materials and beat the Thursday rush. As a reminder, there will not be exhibitor registration during the Welcome Reception.

If you need a new corporate photo taken, I encourage you to stop by the photo booth, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, and have your professional corporate photo taken, complimentary of KHA, as a thank you for attending the convention. In addition, plan to join us for the Wild, Wild West Party on Thursday night, which combines our hospitality rooms with our traditional KHA party. Feel free to wear your western attire as we are giving out a prize for the best outfit.

Lastly, be sure to download the 2023 KHA Convention and Trade Show App. The app provides information about sessions, speakers, exhibitors, a customizable calendar, a list of attendees, a venue map and an interactive trade show floor plan. The app is available for Android, iPhone and iPad and can be downloaded in the App Store and Google Play. Search for "2023 KHA Annual Convention."

If you have any questions leading up to next week's event, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at the KHA office. Enjoy your Labor Day Weekend, and we look forward to seeing you next week!

--Chad Austin

Noon Briefing: Ten Videos Every Health Care Organization Should Make

Join Kansas Hospital Association Staff at noon on Sept. 28, for a lunch and learn with Cyrano. Cyrano will share the essentials of 10 key videos, offer distinct storyboard templates for each, and highlight how Cyrano simplifies the process of video production. This session is a must-attend for every communication, public relations and marketing team.

Cyrano Video is an all-in-one solution offering an affordable and efficient video creation process for all levels of expertise. With just a smartphone, creators can efficiently develop, record and distribute content across all devices to engage their audiences. Cyrano stands out by working in conjunction with existing video teams, or video novices, to help generate video at scale for all audiences. Regardless of your team's size or budget, you will discover strategies to share your story with your community.

This webinar is free for KHA members, and Cyrano will be providing a voucher to UberEats for all attendees who register.



Cyrano Video will have a booth at the [KHA Trade Show](#) on Sept. 7-8. Come see them at booth 600 to learn more.

--Hayley Finch-Genschorck

Charge Nurse Is a Natural and Compassionate Leader

The Kansas Hospital Association's [Health Care Worker of the Year Award](#) highlights hospital employees who have made a significant contribution to the betterment of their hospital. These individuals are nominated for this award because they routinely go above and beyond the call of duty.

At her core, Adrienne White knew she loved helping people with their basic needs. She first realized it when she was a leasing agent, but then wanted to do more. So, she became a nurse. White began her career at Ascension Via Christi St. Teresa, Wichita, as a medical-surgical nurse on the night shift. Next, she extended her help to the hospital's intensive care unit and emergency department. Eventually, she was named unit charge nurse before becoming the house charge nurse. When St. Teresa implemented a house supervisor role 18 months ago, she was asked to lead this new role. In total, White has served in a leadership position for seven years.

White has been at St. Teresa for 13 years, starting from the day the hospital opened. She is very kind and compassionate to her patients, always going the extra mile to accommodate and make them smile. In her current role, White oversees multiple units and staff members. She is a natural leader, fair and personable. She values her position because it allows her to assist teammates across different units, helps to lead teams through high-pressure situations and teaches nurses by empowering their curiosity instead of giving them the answer. When time allows, she still takes time to sit and talk with patients. White has an impressive talent for listening to patients and enjoys finding solutions so they feel heard. She has the nurses' touch and brings reassurance and comfort to all of her patients.

White will be recognized, along with other Health Care Worker of the Year nominees, during the KHA Awards Luncheon at the [2023 KHA Annual Convention](#), on Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Hyatt Regency Wichita/Century II Convention Center in Wichita.

--Shelby Stacy

KAHPAM 2023 Fall Workshop – Oct. 6

[Register now!](#) [The Kansas Association of Healthcare Patient Access and Account Managers](#) is pleased to announce the 2023 KAHPAM Fall Workshop on Oct. 6. This workshop will be in-person and include presentations from David Pico, Richelle Marting, Audrey Dunkel and Andrew Purcell.

Topics of discussion are as follows:

- *AI Is Out There – How Are You Using It?*
- *Managed Care Contracting and Unique Rules for MA Plans Providers Need to Be Aware Of*
- *MA Issues Currently Being Seen – How Are You Handling These*
- *Healthshare Ministry Plans – What Are Requirements on Billing and Handling Patients Who Presents This as an "Insurance"*
- *Regulatory Updates*
- *501(r) Best Practices*
- *Collection Law Updates*



See you Oct. 6!

--Audrey Dunkel

Nurse Advocates for Health Equity and New Parents

The Kansas Hospital Association's [Health Care Worker of the Year Award](#) highlights hospital employees who have made a significant contribution to the betterment of their hospital. These individuals are nominated for this award because they routinely go above and beyond the call of duty.

Whitney Winder is dedicated to providing outstanding and equitable patient care. As a registered nurse with Smith County Memorial Hospital in Smith Center, Winder epitomizes compassionate care and teamwork.

Smith County Memorial Hospital is located in a maternity desert, so Winder seeks educational opportunities to improve her skills to maintain obstetrics labor and delivery services. Her passion for serving lower socio-economic families fuels her tenacious pursuit of national and regional grants. She recently coordinated a team of three nurses, including herself, to complete a three-day training with Drive Safe Kansas to become certified as child passenger safety technicians.

Winder works to achieve health equity using evidence-based infant nutrition practices. Her commitment to helping underserved babies thrive in their homes led her to implement the EMPOWER Best Practices at SCMH as part of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative. Thanks to her work to receive a national grant, the EMPOWER educational resource is now available to the nursing staff. Winder also shares her knowledge by teaching the EMPOWER Best Practices to every nurse in Smith County, as well as leading regional educational training on infant nutrition.

Winder is empathetic and understanding of the needs of new parents and families. She became a certified lactation educator to offer breastfeeding support to new parents. Educating parents is her passion because she believes it helps parents succeed while alleviating stress. She also teaches childbirth and baby basics classes in the community four times a year and includes time in the courses for parents to ask questions and get to know other families in the area.

Winder will be recognized, along with other Health Care Worker of the Year nominees, during the KHA Awards Luncheon at the [2023 KHA Annual Convention](#), on Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Hyatt Regency Wichita/Century II Convention Center in Wichita.

--Shelby Stacy

RSV, COVID-19 and Flu Virtual Lunch and Learn – Sept. 20

Mark your calendar and plan to join Kansas Hospital Association staff for a virtual lunch and learn from noon to 1 p.m. on Sept. 20. Get the latest information about the new vaccine and monoclonal antibody for RSV, COVID-19 boosters, prevention and treatment of RSV, COVID-19, and the flu.

Dr. Dana Hawkinson, internist and infectious disease specialist at the University of Kansas Health System, will present at this clinical update and prepare providers and clinicians across the state for this fall's viral season. The clinical update will be conducted via Zoom. More detailed information will be coming soon.

REGISTER NOW

--Jennifer Findley

Critical Insight Data Breach Report and Upcoming Cybersecurity Awareness Training

Available to download from the [APS website](#) is a superb analysis of recent Healthcare Breaches from Critical Insight. The [H1 2023 Healthcare Data Breach Report](#) analyzes breach data reported to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by health care organizations nationally. With the health care industry continuing to be a top attack vector for cybercriminals and ransomware threat groups, H1 2023 saw an interesting change in targets affected by breaches.

[Upcoming Cybersecurity Awareness Training Schedule for September 2023](#). For more information, contact [Dennis George](#) at (913) 327-8730.

--Dennis George

Kansas Health Equity Summit and Call for Poster Presentations

KFMC Health Improvement Partners, in partnership with multiple state organizations, including the Kansas Hospital Association, is hosting the second annual Kansas Health Equity Summit on Oct. 27 in Topeka. The summit is a one-day, in-person virtual event bringing together equity leaders and champions from across Kansas to connect, strengthen and accelerate collective efforts to reduce disparities in care.

In addition, KFMC is accepting [poster presentations for the summit](#), including specific examples of best or promising practices that have been proven successful in ensuring fairness, inclusivity and optimal health outcomes for every individual, regardless of their background or circumstance. Posters from community organizations, academic institutions, provider organizations and other interested partners are welcome.



**CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER**

--Karen Braman

CEO Staffing Changes

The Kansas Hospital Association would like to inform you of the latest member hospital administrator changes since our last hospital list printout in July:

- Melissa Hall, RN, MSN, chief executive officer (had been interim), Susan B. Allen Memorial Hospital, El Dorado
- Lisa Swenson, chief executive officer, Morton County Health System, Elkhart
- Cathy Pimple, chief executive officer, Newman Regional Health, Emporia
- James "Jay" Tusten, chief executive officer, Clara Barton Medical Center, Hoisington
- Nicholas "Nick" Baldetti, DBA, MBA, MS, acting chief executive officer/chief operating officer, Hutchinson Regional Medical Center, Hutchinson
- Camille Davidson, interim administrator, Stanton County Hospital, Johnson
- Alex Haines, Chief Executive Officer, St. Luke Hospital and Living Center, Marion
- Tara Overmiller, chief executive officer, Phillips County Health System, Phillipsburg
- Jeremy W. Rabe, MBA, chief executive officer, Trego County-Lemke Memorial Hospital, WaKeeney
- Claudio J. Ferraro, hospital president, Ascension Via Christi Hospitals Wichita, Inc. (St. Joseph), Wichita

Our [Kansas Hospitals and Health-Related Facilities list](#) is available on the KHA website in PDF (Adobe Acrobat Reader format) at www.kha-net.org. A username and password are required. Click on Kansas Hospitals, CEO Directories, Kansas Hospital List and Kansas Hospitals and Health-Related Facilities List. Please contact [Cheryl Carson](#) at (785) 233-7436 if you have updates and provide the start date of the new administrator/chief executive officer, picture, birthday and press release/bio.

--Cheryl Carson

Position Available

Controller

Mitchell County Hospital Health Systems

400 W. Eighth, P.O. Box 399

Beloit, KS 67420-0399

Contact: [Luigi Gavino](#) – Controller

Phone: (785) 738-9501

Email: lgavino@mchks.com

Website: <https://www.mchks.com>

Apply Online Today!
CLICK HERE

MCHHS is a full-service, 25-bed, Critical Access Hospital located in North Central Kansas. The hospital provides a 24-hour ER (designed Level IV trauma center), surgical services, an inpatient acute/intensive care unit, a swing-bed program, a 36-bed resident care center and outpatient services. The controller performs all accounting activities of the hospital, working closely with the chief financial officer and department managers. Financial responsibilities include overseeing accounts receivable, balance sheets and monthly/yearly financial closings, audits, bank deposits, reconciliation of bank accounts and assisting with the hospital chargemaster. A bachelor's degree in accounting with experience in health care is preferred. Excellent skills in math computation, financial analysis and Excel are required. Experience in Cerner and Multiview software is a plus. MCHHS offers a competitive pay scale, a unique and innovative retirement program and other excellent benefits.

If you have a management position available in your organization you would like posted in Current Report, email the information to Jan Fenwick. Also, don't forget to check out www.kshealthjobs.net for other health care openings in Kansas.

--Jan Fenwick

Current Report Will Not Be Published Next Week

Current Report will not be published next week as our staff will be attending the [Kansas Hospital Association Annual Convention](#) and [Trade Show](#), Sept. 7-8, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Wichita/Century II Convention Center in Wichita. Our next issue will be distributed on Sept. 15. We look forward to seeing you next week in Wichita.

--Jan Fenwick

Federal and National News

HHS Releases List of Selected Medicare Part D Discounted Drugs

Congress enacted the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which [provides](#) Medicare the ability to negotiate prices for certain high-expenditure, single-source drugs that do not have generic or biosimilar competition. Because of the Act, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [released](#) a list of 10 drugs covered under [Medicare Part D](#) for 2026.

TJC Releases Specifications Manual Version 2024A

The Specifications Manual for Joint Commission National Quality Measures, Versions 2024A, effective for discharges Jan. 1 to June 30, 2024, has been posted to [The Joint Commission website](#). Changes are outlined in the associated release notes.

CMS Review and Correction Period Open for FY 2024 HAC Reduction Program HSRs

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services released the fiscal year 2024 Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program Hospital-Specific Reports via the [Hospital Quality Reporting system](#). The review and correction period now is open and ends Thursday, Sept. 28. [Additional information](#) is available.

CDC Issues Health Update on Locally Acquired Malaria Cases

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a Health Alert Network Health Update to share new information about locally acquired malaria cases. These are the first confirmed malaria cases acquired locally in the U.S. since 2003. Clinicians may consider a malaria diagnosis in any person with an unexplained cause of fever. Cases now have been [identified](#) in three states. For additional information on malaria diagnosis and treatment, a [CDC COCA call recording](#) is available.

HRSA Requires 340B Recertification

The Health Resources & Services Administration Office of Pharmacy Affairs requires registration and approval for covered entities to participate in the 340B Drug Pricing Program. The annual recertification period for 2023 is open until Monday, Sept. 11. To recertify, authorizing officials and primary contacts must set up a user account in the [340B OPAIS](#). Educational resources and frequently asked questions are available on the [HRSA OPA website](#).

CMS Identifies Calculation Errors of OQR Program Measures Displayed on Care Compare

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services identified errors in the calculation of third-quarter 2022 data displayed on Care Compare for two measures in the Hospital Outpatient Quality Reporting Program.

- OP-18b: Median time from emergency department arrival to emergency department departure for discharged patients – excludes psychiatric/mental health patients
- OP-18c: Median time from emergency department arrival to emergency department departure for discharged patients – only psychiatric/mental health patients

The corrected third-quarter 2022 OP-18b and OP-18c data are available within the July 2023 Preview Report in the [Hospital Quality Reporting system](#). Providers are encouraged to review the corrected data during the 30-day preview period, which ends Thursday, Sept. 21. The corrected data will be published to Care Compare immediately following the 30-day preview period.

TJC Announces Pioneers in Quality Webinars

The Joint Commission's expert-to-expert webinar series provides a deep dive into measure intent, logic and other clinical and technical aspects of electronic clinical quality measures to assist hospitals in their efforts to improve data use for quality improvement. Two webinars are available in this series to assist hospitals with implementing the perinatal care eCQMs for the 2024 eCQM reporting period. Registration is available at the respective links.

- [On-demand webinar](#) – PC-01, PC-05 and PC-06 eCQMs
- [11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26](#) – PC-02 and PC-07 eCQMs

MLN Connects Provider eNews Available

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued the following [updates](#) to *MLN Connects Provider eNews*:

- [The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Selects the First Drugs for Medicare Drug Price Negotiation](#)
- [Medicare Shared Savings Program Saves Medicare More Than \\$1.8 Billion in 2022 and Continues to Deliver High-quality Care](#)
- [CMS Issues Draft Guidance on New Program to Allow People with Medicare to Pay Out-of-Pocket Prescription Drug Costs in Monthly Payments](#)
- [CMS Roundup \(Aug. 25, 2023\)](#)
- [CMS.gov Website Refresh – Provide Feedback on Test Website by Sept. 5](#)

Before You Go ...

- Through the National Health Service Corps Students to Service Loan Repayment Program, medical, nursing or dental school students may qualify for as much as \$120,000 in tax-free loan repayment in exchange for a three-year service commitment in a high-need rural, tribal or urban community. [Applications](#) are due by Thursday, Dec. 7.
- A webinar for hospitals participating in the Hospital-Acquired Condition Reduction Program is scheduled at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7. [Registration is required](#) for the webinar, *Overview of the Fiscal Year 2024 HAC Reduction Program*.
- A recent [study](#) published by the American College of Physicians compared drug overdose death rates between health care and non-health care workers throughout a 10-year period and found that registered nurses, social or behavioral health workers, and health care support workers are at an increased risk for drug overdose death.