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*(Photo enclosed)*

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **JOHN JACOBSON, ATCHISON, AWARDED BY KANSAS HOSPITALS**

The Kansas Hospital Association is pleased to announce that the 2018 recipient of the Donald A. Wilson Visionary Award is John Jacobson, chief executive officer of Atchison Hospital in Atchison. KHA established this award to recognize outstanding, innovative contribution to health care delivery, health care financing or other initiatives that improve the health and clinical outcomes in a community. The Donald A. Wilson Visionary Award provides members of KHA the opportunity to recognize individuals who have been a change agent in the hospital industry.

John Jacobson has worked in the health care industry since 1973. In 2004, he took the position of CEO at the Atchison Hospital in Atchison. During that time, he has been a champion of many things, but has been a true visionary of population health initiatives in Atchison. What began many years ago, as an employee wellness program, is now so much more.

“The efforts John and his team have led in Atchison have improved Atchison’s county health ranking from last in the State a few years ago to 75th in health outcomes (2018 County Health Rankings). Additionally, Atchison Hospital’s investment in employee wellness has resulted in improvements in the health of their employees and a reduction in employee medical costs,” said Tom Bell, president and CEO of the Kansas Hospital Association.

Jacobson served on the KHA Board of Directors for 2001-2017. He also has served on numerous KHA committees, including the KHA Policy and Advocacy Committee and the KHA Council on Health Delivery in which he was chair in 2009.

Members of the Kansas Hospital Association awarded Jacobson with the Donald A. Wilson Visionary Award at the KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show in Overland Park on Sept. 6.

The Kansas Hospital Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization existing to be the leading advocate and resource for members. KHA membership includes 223 member facilities, of which 124 are full-service, community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA's vision is: "Optimal Health for Kansans." For more information, visit the KHA website at [www.kha-net.org](http://www.kha-net.org).

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