



**American Hospital  
Association**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**AHA RECOGNIZES *GRASSROOTS CHAMPIONS***

**WASHINGTON** (April 12, 2012) - The American Hospital Association (AHA), in partnership with the state hospital associations, today awarded 52 individuals with the American Hospital Association *Grassroots Champion Award*. As a 2012 *Grassroots Champion* these individuals are being recognized for exceptional leadership in generating grassroots and community activity in support of a hospital's mission.

The American Hospital Association *Grassroots Champion Award* was created to recognize those hospital leaders who most effectively educate elected officials on how major issues affect the hospital's vital role in the community, who have done an exemplary job in broadening the base of community support for the hospital and who are tireless advocates for hospitals and their patients.

"We depend upon strong local voices to help tell the story of hospitals as cornerstones of the communities they serve," said Rich Umbdenstock, AHA president and CEO. "This award is a small token of our appreciation for the hard work and dedication of these individuals to improving health and health care in America."

The 2012 *Grassroots Champions* are:

**Alabama - Glenn C. Sisk**

President and Chief Executive Officer. Coosa Valley Medical Center

**- more-**

## **Grassroots Champion/ Page 2**

### **Alaska - Patrick J. Branco**

CEO, PeaceHealth, Ketchikan General Hospital

### **Arizona - Bruce Pearson**

Executive VP and CEO, John C. Lincoln Hospitals

### **Arkansas - Kristy Estrem, FACHE**

President, Mercy Hospital Berryville

### **California - Larry Mitchel**

Director, Government Relations, Adventist Health

### **Colorado - Kenneth Leisher, FACHE**

President & CEO, Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center

### **Connecticut - Frank A. Corvino**

President & CEO, Greenwich Hospital

### **Delaware - Terence M. Murphy, FACHE**

President & CEO, Bayhealth Medical Center

### **District of Columbia - Clarence Brewton, Jr., F.A.C.H.E.**

Vice President, Regulatory Compliance, MedStar Washington Hospital/MedStar Health

### **Florida - Stephen A. Purves**

President & CEO, Munroe Regional Medical Center

### **Georgia - Lance B. Duke, FACHE**

President & CEO, The Medical Center

### **Hawaii - Paula Yoshioka**

Sr. VP, Corporate Development, The Queen's Health Systems

### **Idaho - Gary Fletcher**

VP, COO, St. Luke's Health System

### **Illinois - Timothy J. Eckels**

VP, Community Benefit, Public Policy and Advocacy, Hospital Sisters Health System

### **Indiana - Dr. Timothy L. Putnam, FACHE**

President/CEO, Margaret Mary Community Hospital

### **Iowa - Lon Butikofer, RN, PhD.**

Chief Executive Officer, Regional Medical Center

**- more-**

### **Grassroots Champion/ Page 3**

**Kansas - Katherine Howell, RN, BSN, MBA**  
President & CEO, Saint Luke's South Hospital

**Kentucky - E. Berton Whitaker**  
President & CEO, Trover Health System

**Louisiana - Larry M. Graham, FACHE**  
President/CEO, Lake Charles Memorial Hospital

**Maine - Eileen F. Skinner, MHA, FACHE**  
President & CEO, Mercy Health System of Maine

**Maryland - Kevin J. Sexton**  
President & CEO, Holy Cross Hospital

**Massachusetts - Jeanette Clough**  
President & CEO, Mount Auburn Hospital

**Michigan - John MacLeod**  
President & CEO, Mercy Hospital Cadillac

**Minnesota - Susan Klabo Klassen**  
CEO, Mahnommen Health Center

**Mississippi - Charles L. (Chip) Denton**  
CEO, Grenada Lake Medical Center

**Missouri - William Mahoney**  
President & CEO, Skaggs Regional Medical Center

**Montana - Kristianne Wilson**  
Executive Director, Billings Clinic

**Nebraska - Bradley D. Neet**  
President & CEO, Mary Lanning Memorial HealthCare

**Nevada - Christine Bosse**  
VP, Government Relations, Renown Health

**New Hampshire - Arthur W. Nichols**  
President/CEO, Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene

**- more-**

## **Grassroots Champion/ Page 4**

### **New Jersey - Adam Beder**

VP, Government Affairs, JFK Health System

### **New Mexico - David Shaw**

CEO/Administrator, Nor-Lea District Hospital

### **New York - William F. Streck, M.D.**

President & CEO, Bassett Healthcare Network

### **North Carolina - Robert Morrison**

CEO, Randolph Hospital

### **North Dakota - Keith Heuser**

CEO, Mercy Hospital

### **Ohio - Patrick J. Martin**

President & CEO, Fisher-Titus Medical Center

### **Oklahoma - Richard Boone, CFRE**

President, St. John Medical Center Foundation

### **Oregon - Thomas Russell**

President & CEO, Adventist Medical Center

### **Pennsylvania - Kathleen E. Kuck**

President and CEO, Pocono Medical Center

### **Puerto Rico - Alfredo Volckers**

Executive Vice President, Hospital Pavia Hato Rey

### **Rhode Island - John Hynes**

President & CEO, Care New England Health System

### **South Carolina - Julian Gibbons**

VP, Community & Governmental Relations, Palmetto Health

### **South Dakota - Bryan Slaba**

Administrator/CEO, Wagner Community Memorial Hospital Avera

### **Tennessee - Scott Raynes**

President/CEO, NorthCrest Medical Center

**-more-**

## **Grassroots Champion/ Page 5**

### **Texas - Ron J. Anderson, M.D., MACP**

Senior Advisor to CEO, Parkland Health and Hospital System

### **Utah - John L. Oaks**

Vice President, Government and Payor Relations, IASIS HealthCare, Utah Market Office

### **Vermont - James L. Daily**

President, Porter Medical Center

### **Virginia - David B. Darden**

CEO, Clinch Valley Medical Center

### **Washington - Thomas Martin**

CEO/Administrator, Lincoln Hospital

### **West Virginia - Douglas Bentz**

CEO, Roane General Hospital

### **Wisconsin - Robert Van Meeteren**

President/CEO, Reedsburg Area Medical Center

### **Wyoming - Eric Boley**

CEO, South Lincoln Medical Center

Winners will be recognized at a special Breakfast of *Grassroots Champions* at the AHA Annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday, May 8, 2012.

### **About the AHA**

The AHA is a not-for-profit association of health care provider organizations and individuals that are committed to the health improvement of their communities. The AHA is the national advocate for its members, which includes more than 5,000 hospitals, health care systems, networks, other providers of care and 42,000 individual members. Founded in 1898, the AHA provides education for health care leaders and is a source of information on health care issues and trends. For more information, visit the AHA Web site at [www.aha.org](http://www.aha.org).

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