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**AHA AWARD OF HONOR TO BE PRESENTED TO
GEORGE HALVORSON**

WASHINGTON (April 11, 2013) – The American Hospital Association (AHA) will present its 2013 Award of Honor to George C. Halvorson, chairman and CEO, Kaiser Permanente, based in Oakland, Calif. The award, presented on April 27 as part of the AHA’s Annual Meeting events, is given to individuals or organizations in recognition of exemplary contributions to the health and well-being of our nation through leadership on major health policy or social initiatives.

As chairman and CEO of Kaiser Permanente since 2002, Halvorson has led the nation’s largest nonprofit health plan and hospital system, which serves more than nine million members across the country. Halvorson has led achievements at Kaiser Permanente that have set standards in care management, quality improvement and health information technology. With more than 30 years of health care management experience, Halvorson has served on the boards and committees of a wide-range of preeminent national, international and local organizations that are dedicated to improving health care, including the Institute of Medicine, the Commonwealth Fund and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement. Currently he serves on the boards of the National Committee for Quality Assurance, the Partnership for Quality Care, America’s Health Insurance Plans and the Alliance of Community Health Plans.

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“With a commitment to and a legacy of creating a high-performing health care system, George has championed quality, process improvement and transparency, focused on improved health status of individuals within the Kaiser Permanente community and, ultimately, lived the health care delivery system reform he has so compellingly espoused for the nation,” said AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock. “The AHA is pleased to honor George in recognition of his long-standing commitment and valuable contributions to improving health and health care.”

Halvorson also has brought change internationally, as his health care leadership has spread beyond the United States’ borders with global business and health care policy initiatives. In 2009, Halvorson chaired the World Economic Forum’s Health Governors meetings in Davos.

Prior to joining Kaiser Permanente, Halvorson was president and CEO of HealthPartners, headquartered in Minneapolis, for nearly 18 years. Additionally, he has held several senior management positions with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota and Health Accord International. He has received the Modern Healthcare/Health Information and Management Systems Society CEO IT Achievement Award. The Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange also awarded him the 2009 Louis Sullivan Award for leadership and achievements in advancing health care quality.

Reach Out and Read, Boston, also will receive the 2013 AHA Award of Honor.

Previous Award of Honor winners include organizations such as Ronald McDonald House Charities[®], the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare, the Center to Advance Palliative Care, the Institute for Safe Medication Practices and Habitat for Humanity. Individuals such as

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Steven A. Schroeder, M.D., former president and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Donald M. Berwick, M.D., former administrator of the Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and former president and CEO of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement have also been honored.

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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.