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LARRY S. GAGE TO RECEIVE AHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES AWARD

WASHINGTON (April 12, 2012) – The American Hospital Association (AHA) today announced that Larry S. Gage, retired president, National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (NAPH), will be awarded its 2012 Board of Trustees Award. The award is presented to individuals or groups who have made substantial and noteworthy contributions to the work of the AHA. Gage will receive the award at a ceremony at the AHA Annual Membership Meeting on Monday, May 7 in Washington.

Gage found NAPH in 1981 and served for 30 years as the association's president, retiring in July 2011. NAPH advocates on behalf of its members on issues such as Medicaid, Medicare and access to health care services for vulnerable populations.

"Larry's advocacy of public hospital over the past 30 years has ensured that all patients and communities across the country have access to high-quality hospital care," said AHA President and CEO Rich Umbdenstock. "His tireless efforts have helped strengthen the health care safety net on which so many rely. The AHA is honored to recognize Larry's leadership and dedication with the Board of Trustees Award."

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Working with his members and collaborating with the AHA and other national hospital and health care associations, Gage was an important force in giving safety net hospitals and health systems the political and financial support to provide essential safety net services for vulnerable patients and communities. Upon his retirement, NAPH renamed its awards program the Gage Safety Net Awards, which honor hospitals for programs that improve population health and patient safety.

As NAPH CEO, Gage served on the AHA's Hospitals in Pursuit of Excellence National Leadership Council and the AHA's Task Force on Wage Index. He was also a principal member of the Hospital Quality Alliance, a coalition led by AHA and other national organizations.

Gage, who continues to practice law as a partner in the firm of Ropes and Gray LLP, holds a juris doctor from Columbia University School of Law, New York, and a bachelor's of arts from Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

Larry McAndrews, retired president and CEO, National Association of Children's Hospitals and Related Institutions, also will receive the 2012 Board of Trustees Award.

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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 close to 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.