



The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

For Immediate Release

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NHA hosts 89th Annual Convention

LINCOLN, NEB. — The 89th NHA 2016 Annual Convention was held Oct. 12-14, 2016, at the Embassy Suites Omaha-La Vista Hotel & Conference Center. The theme for this year's convention was "Health Care Transformation Through Innovation" and focused on ways leading experts in the health care industry are making waves.

Almost 1000 participants attended three days of networking, learning and sharing with peers and the industry's leading experts. Throughout the three days, many national and local speakers took the stage to share their insight. The opening keynote, Lance Secretan, showed how to break away from the pack that has been successfully proven. Also speaking was Laura Adams, President and CEO of the Rhode Island Quality Institute, a center of collaborative innovation that advances health and health care transformation. She presented on how collaboration is one of the most important survival strategies for hospitals and their patients.

Lauren Taylor, co-author of "The American Health Care Paradox" and presidential scholar at Harvard Divinity School, shares her story while she examined the role of social service expenditures in explaining the U.S. health care paradox. Also presenting was Todd Dunn, Director of Innovation for Intermountain Healthcare's I.S. Organization. He summarized how organizations should look beyond the functional when creating jobs and to ensure staffing can fill social and emotional needs of patients as well.

Along with the keynote sessions, the NHA 89th Annual Convention gave attendees access to nearly 50 educational sessions, providing the latest trends, updates, innovations and best practices in health care.



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The Nebraska Hospital Association hosted an awards banquet reflecting on the excellence in personal or organizational accomplishments within Nebraska hospitals. Awards presented include recognition of the outgoing board members and excellence in service awards.

One of the top honors of the Awards Banquet is the Excellence in Service award. There are many hospital executives who benefit their communities through their commitment to health care excellence. This award is presented to a hospital/health system administrator or senior executive who has demonstrated outstanding administrative skills, professional performance, health care organization involvement and significant leadership. This year's recipient was Dan Griess, MHA, FACHE, former President & CEO of Box Butte General Hospital in Alliance, Neb.

Two hospitals were announced for the Quest for Excellence Awards. In the non-critical access hospital category, Children's Hospital & Medical Center in Omaha was the recipient for bridging the knowledge gap across an oncology continuum of care. For the critical access hospital category, Nemaha County Hospital of Auburn was given the award for their outstanding performance improvement through internal audit.

The Meritorious Service award recognizes the long-term contributions of members to the association and their individual hospitals. This award recognizes longevity and breadth of service of an individual, not only to their facility, but to health care in the state. This year's recipient was Dena Klockman, who is the Chief Financial Officer at Banner Health/Ogallala Community Hospital in Ogallala, Neb.

The Trustee of the Year Award was presented to Kerry Teetor, Chairman, Board of Trustees for Lexington Regional Health Center in Lexington, Neb. who has served in this role for the past 28 years.

The NHA recognized 81 hospital employees from across the state which were selected by their hospitals to receive *The Caring Kind* award and recognized 35 graduates from this year's NHA Leadership Institute program. The NHA Leadership Institute is an intensive leadership development program designed specifically for hospital middle managers and health care leaders who want to refresh their leadership skills.



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On October 14, the Convention concludes with the 37th Annual *The Caring Kind* Awards Luncheon, where Nebraska hospitals recognize their finest employees at this celebration of caring and outstanding health care leadership.

The Nebraska Hospital Association is the unified voice for Nebraska's hospitals and health systems. The association offers collaborative leadership, assisting its members to provide comprehensive care to their communities, improving the health status of those communities. For more information, visit the NHA website at www.NebraskaHospitals.org.

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