



SUMMER 2025 NEWSLETTER

President's Message



Summer Connection & Growth Opportunities Across Our Chapter

The summer is upon us, and with it comes a season full of connection, engagement, and opportunity. Across the state, each of our district representatives is hard at work planning a variety of social activities designed to bring members together, strengthen relationships, and foster professional networking in a relaxed setting.

Look for announcements in your area soon — these events are a great chance to unwind and connect with peers. We also encourage you to bring a colleague or friend who may be interested in joining our chapter. It is a perfect introduction to the benefits of membership and the strength of our statewide healthcare network.

In addition to these social gatherings, our chapter is placing a renewed emphasis on **membership recruitment and education**. Growing our membership ensures fresh perspectives, stronger collaboration, and greater access to resources for all.

And do not forget — one of the summer's highlight events will be taking place in **Shreveport on June 27**. If you are looking to make meaningful connections, expand your knowledge and obtain 3.0 In-Person education hours, this is a great event to attend.

We look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

Warmly,

Dionne Viator, CPA, FACHE
ACHE of Louisiana President

Education

June 27 | Shreveport | 3.0 In-Person Education Hours

Location: Willis Knighton Innovation Center

- 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.: Leading a Culture of Safety: A Blueprint for Success
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: Lunch & Networking + Upcoming Event Announcements
- 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.: Ensuring Your Community's Successful Emergency Preparedness
- Register on [Eventbrite](#)

July 21–23 | Orange Beach, AL | 3.0 In-Person Education Hours

Location: Perdido Beach Resort in conjunction with LHA Annual Meeting & Summer Conference

- Topic: *Elevating The E Factor: Accountability and Engagement in a New Era*
- See the ACHE of Louisiana [website](#) for more information on the registration process.

August 20 | Virtual Session*

Topic: *Risk Issues We Face in Our Daily Roles*

Join us from anywhere for this focused session exploring key challenges in healthcare risk management.

October 24 | ACHE of Louisiana Fall Conference | Alexandria, LA*

Topics: *Developing High Performing Teams and Interdependence of Public, Private, and Federal Healthcare Delivery*

November 18 | Virtual Session*

Topic: *The Healthcare Organization's Role in Public Policy*

This timely session explores the vital interface between healthcare organizations and policymaking.

*Registration will be posted and communicated upon approval by ACHE.

Socials Coming to a Region Near You

The ACHE of Louisiana Board has four elected regional representatives who are actively planning more opportunities for our members to meet each other. The events below are a fantastic opportunity to connect with healthcare professionals, share ideas, and grow your network in a relaxed and engaging setting.

Lake Charles: Thursday, June 19 at Bodega Wine Bar, 5:30-7:00 p.m., cash bar

New Orleans: Thursday, July 17 at NOLA Brewing, 5:30-7:00 p.m., cash bar

Lafayette: Thursday, August 14 at TopGolf Lafayette, 5:30-7:00 p.m., cash bar

Commentary on Community Impact

ACHE of Louisiana Launches New Community Impact & Health Equity Committee: Advancing Our Mission Through Collective Action

In response to today's shifting social and political landscape, the ACHE of Louisiana Chapter is proud to announce the launch of a 2025 pilot initiative that unifies the work of the Community Impact Committee and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee into a single, mission-driven Community Impact & Health Equity Committee.

This reimagined structure is designed to reinforce our chapter's unwavering commitment to leadership, service, and equity in healthcare—while strategically adapting to external pressures that threaten DEI progress across the country.

The Why Behind the Change

Across the nation, DEI efforts are under heightened scrutiny. Yet the need for inclusive leadership and equitable health outcomes has never been greater. As healthcare executives, we are called to lead with vision and integrity. Rather than retreat, our chapter is choosing to align, adapt, and act.

By integrating the work of both committees, we will advance inclusive strategies that promote belonging, health equity, and meaningful community impact—all within the broader framework of professional development, outreach, and systems-level collaboration.

Aligning with ACHE National Goals

This new initiative fully supports the ACHE National Strategic Goals, which emphasize:

- Fostering diverse and inclusive healthcare leadership

- Advancing health equity through systemic change;
- Promoting cultural competence and community engagement; and
- Building partnerships that address the social determinants of health.

As noted by ACHE President and CEO Deborah Bowen, “Health equity is a leadership issue.” The ACHE of Louisiana Chapter is answering that call through this bold, thoughtful, and unifying effort.

Structure and First Steps

The Community Impact & Health Equity Committee will be co-chaired by the previous leaders of the Community Impact and DEI Committees. It will report to the Secretary of the Chapter and meet monthly to align efforts across member engagement, outreach, education, and local partnerships.

Our first committee meeting will be held on June 23 at noon, and all members who are passionate about advancing equity and impact are encouraged to attend.

Interested in Getting Involved?

If you are ready to help shape the future of healthcare leadership in Louisiana and believe in the power of community and inclusion, we welcome your voice and ideas.

Email coletta.barrett@gmail.com to learn more or to join the committee.

Together, we can lead with purpose, promote health equity, and strengthen the communities we serve.

Dr. Coletta C. Barrett, FACHE and Peter Dancy, FACHE
Co-chairs Community Impact & Health Equity Committee

Fellow Spotlight – Jenny Bono, FACHE

Jenny Bono is the Administrator of Joint Replacement Center of Louisiana in Lake Charles. She previously served as Education Chair for the ACHE of Louisiana Chapter and is currently the Region 3 Representative in our state. She achieved Fellow status in 2022.



What do you feel is the value of the FACHE designation?

The FACHE designation is more than a credential, it is a commitment to leadership excellence, lifelong learning, and ethical decision making in healthcare.

Earning the FACHE distinction signals to peers, teams, and the broader healthcare community that you are serious about driving meaningful change. For me, it has been a door opener, connecting me with a network of respected leaders across the country and reinforcing my dedication to serving both patients and providers with the highest standards of quality and integrity.

What is one thing that has or continues to surprise you in your career?

What continues to surprise me is how often the “soft skills” make the biggest impact. We spend so much time mastering strategy, finance, and operations and rightfully so, but it is often empathy, communication, and presence that leave the lasting impression. Whether it is guiding a team through a major transition or navigating complex conversations with stakeholders, I have learned that authentic leadership builds trust faster than any strategic plan.

What are your recommendations for early careerists?

Say yes to opportunities, even when they feel slightly out of reach. Some of the greatest growth happens when you are uncomfortable but willing to learn. Seek mentors, not just in your direct field, but across the healthcare spectrum. Stay curious and invest in continuous learning, including earning your FACHE. Lastly, remember that leadership is about influence, not titles. You can lead from any seat in the room; show up with intention, and people will notice.

Tell us a fun fact about yourself – or– What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

Raising my two sons has been my greatest joy, and as they have gotten older, I picked up golf to stay connected and share a common hobby. What started as a way to bond has turned into a full-blown obsession. I am now on the course several times a week, and they have officially met their match with Mom. It has become a fun, competitive outlet that brings us together and keeps me grounded outside of work.

Sponsor Spotlight – Bank of America

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Chapter Website:

<https://louisiana.ache.org/>

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