

For Immediate Release

## ACHE Announces Recipients of Highest Individual Awards

**CHICAGO, Jan. 25, 2018**—The American College of Healthcare Executives announces the following 2018 award winners: **Richard D. Cordova, FACHE**, and **Diana L. Smalley, RN, FACHE**, are recipients of the Gold Medal Award; and **Ashley R. McClellan, FACHE**, is the recipient of the Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year.

The Gold Medal Award—ACHE's highest honor bestowed on outstanding leaders—identifies Fellows of the American College of Healthcare Executives who best exemplify leadership at the organizational, local, state/provincial and national levels. The Gold Medal Award recognizes individuals who go beyond the confines of their own organization to continually contribute to the improvement of healthcare services and community health.

Cordova, president emeritus, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, served as ACHE Chairman from 2015 to 2016 and on the Board of Governors from 2011 to 2014. Cordova also currently serves on the board of the Government Employees Health Association and Vanir Construction Management.

Smalley, regional president, Mercy/Oklahoma, served as ACHE Chairman from 2013 to 2014, on the Board of Governors from 2009 to 2012 and on the Council of Regents from 2002 to 2006. Smalley also continues to serve on community committees and boards throughout Oklahoma.

Cordova and Smalley will receive their awards Monday, March 26, 2018, at the Opening Session during ACHE's 61st Congress on Healthcare Leadership.

The Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year honors outstanding achievement in the field of healthcare management. The award is given to an exceptional healthcare executive who is younger than 40, is a Fellow of ACHE and holds a CEO or COO position in a healthcare organization.

McClellan is president/CEO, The Woman's Hospital of Texas (HCA Gulf Coast Division), Houston. She also is a board member of Southern Methodist University and the Houston Area March of Dimes. McClellan will receive her award on Tuesday, March 27, 2018, at the Malcolm T. MacEachern Memorial Lecture and Luncheon during ACHE's 61st Congress on Healthcare Leadership in Chicago.

### **About the American College of Healthcare Executives**

The **American College of Healthcare Executives** is an international professional society of 40,000 healthcare executives who lead hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE's mission is to advance its members and healthcare management excellence. ACHE offers its prestigious FACHE® credential, signifying board certification in healthcare management. ACHE's established network of 78 chapters provides access to networking, education and career development at the local level. In addition, ACHE is known for its magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, and its career development and public policy programs. Through such efforts, ACHE works toward its vision of being the preeminent professional society for healthcare executives dedicated to improving health. **The Foundation of the American College of Healthcare Executives** was established to further advance healthcare management excellence through education and research. The Foundation of ACHE is known

for its educational programs—including the annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,000 participants—and groundbreaking research. Its publishing division, Health Administration Press, is one of the largest publishers of books and journals on health services management, including textbooks for college and university courses. For more information, visit [www.ache.org](http://www.ache.org).

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