



National Healthcare
Career Network

For Immediate Release

**Major Initiative to Ease Health Care Workforce Crisis Receives
Overwhelming Support**

*Top associations join the ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership and the AHA to
addresses health care worker shortages*

WASHINGTON, DC - May 7, 2008 - The American Society of Association Executives & The Center for Association Leadership (ASAE), and the American Hospital Association (AHA), today announced that leading health care associations have joined in support of the National Healthcare Career Network (NHCN). ASAE and AHA are founding partners of the NHCN, an initiative prompting health care associations to expand their role in the health care recruitment process.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, health care job vacancies are reaching crisis levels – now indicating critical shortages of specialized health care workers including physicians, nurses, operating room and allied health personnel.

“The American Hospital Association is committed to raising the awareness of health care’s worker shortage and deriving solutions to this pervasive problem,” said Rich Umbdenstock, AHA president and CEO. “Finding specialized staff to fill critical vacancies through their professional societies is key. We welcome and encourage all health care associations to join this initiative.”

Professionals gravitate to associations to take advantage of a vast array of training and certification programs, networking opportunities and career development. According to The William E. Smith Institute Report, “Associations Attract Winners,” success in one’s profession increases the likelihood of joining an association. Further research indicates health care professionals who are involved with their associations hold more certifications, are current on issues and involved in career self-management.

“The number of unfilled health care positions is staggering,” said ASAE President and CEO John H. Graham IV, CAE. “We became involved as a founding partner because associations are natural breeding grounds for talented professionals. The NHCN provides a way for health care organizations of every kind to come together to find qualified workers, which addresses this national crisis. Because top associations have already joined as network partners, the National Healthcare Career Network is off to a great start.”

The technology platform that supports the NHCN is private-labeled and powered by the NHCN’s managing partner, Boxwood. It’s robust job board and sophisticated filtering capabilities enable employers to find association candidates faster and more economically.

Professional member organizations that have joined AHA in this initiative include:

Academy of Correctional Health Professionals
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association for Clinical Chemistry
American Association of Dental Office Managers
American Association of Diabetes Educators
American Association of Integrated Healthcare Delivery Systems
American Association of Managed Care Nurses
American Dental Hygienist's Association
American Health Quality Association
American Mental Health Counselors Association
American Public Health Association
American Society for Healthcare Environmental Services
American Society for Healthcare Human Resources Administration
American Society for Healthcare Risk Management
American Society of Consultant Pharmacists
Association for Community Health Improvement
Association of American Medical Colleges
Association of PeriOperative Registered Nurses
Florida Association Directors of Nursing Administration
Florida Health Care Social Workers Association
Florida Medical Directors Association
Florida Orthopaedic Society
Infusion Nurses Society
International Society PharmacologyEpidemiology
Medical Device Manufacturers Association
Michigan Association of Ambulance Services
Michigan Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
National Association of Health Services Executives
National Association of Healthcare Transport Management
National Association of Managed Care Physicians
National Association of Rehabilitation Providers and Agencies
National Kidney Foundation
National Medical Association
Outpatient Ophthalmic Surgery Society
Pennsylvania Medical Society
Society for Mucosal Immunology
Society for Radiation Oncology Administrators
Society of Correctional Physicians
Urgent Care Association of America

About ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership

ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership are two organizations linked together by a common belief and passion. We believe that associations have the power to transform society for

the better. Our passion is to help associations and association professionals achieve previously unimaginable levels of performance and reach even higher goals. We accomplish this by fostering a learning community of association professionals, industry partners, outside thought leaders, and other stakeholders who embrace this vision.

The American Society of Association Executives is an individual membership organization of more than 22,000 association executives and industry partners representing more than 11,000 organizations. Its members manage leading trade associations, individual membership societies, and voluntary organizations across the United States and in 50 countries around the globe. Our members' organizations represent such essential industries and professions as health care, manufacturing, banking, law, energy, insurance, and the list goes on. We are also a leading voice for the nonprofit sector, advocating for voluntary organizations so that they may continue to improve the quality of life in the United States.

The Center for Association Leadership is the premier provider of learning, knowledge and future-oriented research for the association profession. The Center delivers innovative learning experiences, performance-enhancing resources, new thinking and models for the profession, opportunities for peer-to-peer collaboration, and strategic tools and data designed to advance the association profession. Offerings include nearly 100 professional development programs through Center University, environmental scanning and other future focused research, a peer-reviewed journal and more than 5,000 online articles, models and case studies. Together, ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership provide resources, education, ideas and advocacy to enhance the power and performance of the association community.

About AHA

The American Hospital Association (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 4,800 hospitals, health care systems, networks, and other providers of care, and 37,000 individuals. 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.

About the NHCN

The National Healthcare Career Network (NHCN) brings together healthcare audiences across the healthcare spectrum and connects them through a single network. The NHCN aligns healthcare associations – asking each one to become involved – owning and participating together to create a network of linked professional healthcare membership organizations to provide job placement, career development and advancement opportunities to healthcare professionals. The NHCN was formed as an initiative to promote healthcare associations as the preferred resource for finding healthcare talent.

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