

NEWS RELEASE July 18, 2025

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Georgia Hospital Association Announces 2025-2026 Board of Trustees and New Board Chair Scott Steiner, President and CEO of Phoebe Putney Health System

ATLANTA – The Georgia Hospital Association (GHA) installed Scott Steiner, FACHE, President and CEO of Phoebe Putney Health System in Albany, as the Chair of the Board of Trustees at the association's Annual Meeting of the Assembly on July 11. Steiner, who has served on the GHA Board since 2021, will lead the Board in fulfilling its vision of shaping a healthier Georgia by serving as the leading advocate and supporter for all Georgia hospitals and health systems.

Steiner succeeds Wellstar Health System's Executive Vice President (EVP) of Acute Care Operations and Interim System Chief Nurse Executive Mary Chatman, PhD, RN, who will serve as Immediate Past Chair. Chatman was also appointed to serve as a Delegate to the American Hospital Association (AHA) Regional Policy Board.

Coffee Regional Medical Center's President and CEO Vicki Lewis was elected by the GHA membership as Chair-Elect.

The 2025-2026 GHA Board of Trustees includes:

Executive Committee

- Chair: **Scott Steiner**, FACHE President and CEO, Phoebe Putney Health System
- Chair-Elect: Vicki Lewis, FACHE President and CEO, Coffee Regional Medical Center
- Immediate Past Chair and AHA Region 4 Policy Board Delegate: **Mary Chatman**, PhD, RN – EVP, Acute Care Operations and Interim System Chief Nurse Executive, Wellstar Health System
- AHA Region 4 Policy Board Delegate: **Kevin Bierschenk** CEO, Union General Health System
- Governing Board Representative: Lee Lewis Trustee, Appling Healthcare
- GHA President and CEO: Caylee Noggle

At-Large Trustees

• **Brad Talbert**, FACHE – CEO, Memorial Health



- Francine Witt, DNP, MBA, LNHA, RN President and CEO, Effingham Health System
- Delvecchio Finley, MPP, FACHE President, Georgia Market, Atrium Health
- Bill Lee CEO, Evans Memorial Hospital
- ***Heather Dexter**, MSHA, MBA, FACHE President, Emory Healthcare Regional Hospital Division
- *Billy Hayes CEO, Northside Hospital Cherokee
- ***Damien Scott**, PT, MBA, MS, FACHE CEO, Emanuel Medical Center
- ***Stonish Pierce,** FACHE President and CEO, Trinity Health Georgia (THGA)
- *Isaac Sendros President and CEO, AdventHealth Georgia and AdventHealth Redmond

Ex-Officio Council Chair Trustees

- Post-Acute Care Council: Eric Crossan, MHA, OT CEO, Rehabilitation Hospital of Augusta
- Behavioral Health Council: **Sally Perry**, LPC Regional Vice President, Universal Health Services, Inc.
- Rural Health Council: **Angela Stiggins**, MBA, RRT, RCP Administrator, CHI Memorial Hospital of Georgia

Governing Board Representatives

- Maureen Yearta, EdD Trustee, Colquitt Regional Medical Center
- *Steve Rowe Trustee, Union General Health System

*Denotes newly appointed/elected Board member

"The GHA Board serves as the governing body of GHA and advocates on behalf of the entire membership to advance healthcare in our state, including promoting access to high-quality care for all Georgians," said GHA President and CEO Caylee Noggle. "The varied backgrounds, experiences, and leadership skills of these healthcare leaders will help us achieve our goals, and we are honored to have them join our Board."

About GHA

Founded in 1929, GHA serves more than 150 hospitals in Georgia and promotes the health and welfare of the public through the development of better hospital care for all Georgia's citizens. The mission of GHA is to advance the health of individuals and communities by serving as the leading advocate for all Georgia hospitals and healthcare systems. GHA represents its members before the General Assembly and Congress, as well as state and federal regulatory agencies, and is an allied member of the American Hospital Association. For more information, please call 770-249-4500 or visit gha.org.