



***KHA's Current Report***  
**August 9, 2024**

**President's Perspective – Richard Muma to Receive Visionary Award**

I am pleased to announce that Richard Muma, PhD, MPH, PA-C, president of Wichita State University, Wichita, is this year's winner of the [Donald A. Wilson Visionary Award](#).

The Kansas Hospital Association established this award to recognize individuals who have made an outstanding, innovative contribution to health care delivery, health care financing or other initiatives to improve the health and clinical outcomes of their community. The Donald A. Wilson Visionary Award provides KHA members the opportunity to recognize individuals who have been an agent for change in their community and the hospital industry.

Dr. Muma has significantly impacted the health care landscape in Kansas through his dedication and visionary leadership. He has served in health care for 30 years. His early career as a physician assistant profoundly shaped his approach to leadership and care. Dr. Muma has committed his life and career to educating future health professionals. His tenure at Wichita State University has been marked by strategic partnerships and initiatives that benefit both the university and the wider health care community.

One example of Dr. Muma's visionary leadership is his collaborative efforts with the University of Kansas to establish the Wichita Biomedical Campus. This ambitious project aims to revolutionize health care education, fostering innovative teaching methods and technologies to significantly enhance clinical outcomes across Kansas and the surrounding region. By integrating cutting-edge technology and interdisciplinary collaboration, the campus equips health care professionals with the skills and knowledge needed to meet the complexities of modern medicine.

Another prime example is the establishment of the Molecular Diagnostics Lab, a pivotal initiative launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This high-throughput lab, which Dr. Muma spearheaded, enabled rapid identification, quarantine and treatment of infected individuals. By processing hundreds of tests daily, the lab played a crucial role in keeping businesses, government agencies and schools operational; thereby, maintaining the community's stability during a global crisis.

Through strategic partnerships, Dr. Muma's commitment to improving health care extends beyond campus boundaries. A notable example is the affiliation between Ascension Via Christi and Wichita State's School of Nursing. This collaboration addresses the critical need for a pipeline of qualified health care professionals, ensuring the region has access to top-tier medical care and is well-equipped to meet future health care needs.

Recognizing the physician shortage affecting much of Kansas, particularly rural communities, Dr. Muma spearheaded an admissions partnership with Kansas Health Center-Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine. This initiative aims to increase the number of trained physicians, directly improving health care accessibility and outcomes across the state.

Through his visionary leadership and unwavering dedication, Dr. Muma has consistently demonstrated an ability to anticipate and address emerging health care challenges. His efforts are not only advancing health care education and delivery but also fostering healthier communities.

Congratulations to Dr. Rick Muma. We look forward to officially presenting this honor during the [KHA Awards Luncheon](#) on Thursday, Sept. 5, at the [KHA Annual Convention](#) in Overland Park. I invite you all to join us in honoring Dr. Muma and other health care leaders who will be recognized.

*--Chad Austin*

### **KHA Annual Convention – We are the Champions!**

Join Kansas Hospital Association staff and the hospitality champions as we celebrate back-to-back Super Bowl Champions, the Kansas City Chiefs, at the [KHA convention party](#) at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 5. Wear your red and join the Chiefs Kingdom as we kick off the football season. In addition to live streaming of the Chiefs' season opener, there will be games, friendship bracelets, food, drinks and prizes. Our generous champions, including APS, have allowed us to offer the convention party free of charge. We look forward to seeing you there!

The 2024 [KHA Annual Convention, Champions of Change](#), is Sept. 5-6 at the Sheraton Overland Park/Overland Park Convention Center in Overland Park. Registration materials may be downloaded from the [KHA website](#). Because of ongoing supply chain shortages, tickets purchased by Friday, Aug. 16 will ensure you are included in the meal counts.

[Click to Register](#)

If you have questions about the KHA Annual Convention and Trade Show, please contact [Melissa Willey](#), [Hayley Finch-Genschorck](#) or [Jennifer Findley](#) at (785) 233-7436.

*--Jennifer Findley*

### Registration Now Open for the KHA Fall District Meetings

The Kansas Hospital Association Fall District Meeting dates and locations have been set. These meetings are a great informational and networking opportunity for all CEOs, trustees and senior staff. Join us at 9:30 a.m. for networking. Meeting times will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided.

You are free to attend at any location, so pick the location that best fits your schedule! These meetings are provided at no charge.

District	Date	Location	City
South Central	Oct. 2	Hutchinson Regional Medical Center	Hutchinson
Northeast	Oct. 3	Saint Luke's South Hospital	Overland Park
Southeast	Oct. 4	Labette Health	Parsons
North Central	Oct. 8	Ellsworth County Medical Center	Ellsworth
Southwest	Oct. 10	Kearny County Hospital	Lakin
Northwest	Oct. 11	HaysMed	Hays



*--Cindy Samuelson*

### Holton Community Bolstered by Nicole Baum

The Kansas Hospital Association's Heart of [Health Care Worker Award](#) highlights hospital employees who have made a significant contribution to the betterment of their hospital. This week, KHA honors Nicole Baum, Holton Community Hospital, Holton, for her service and contributions to health care.

In just over three years with Holton Community Hospital, Baum has continually led with contagious enthusiasm for anyone around her. As department director for the Senior Life Services program, she reaches out not only to internal departments but regularly into the community to lead positive change surrounding mental health care.

Baum is passionate about taking care of her community, particularly those in their senior years who are struggling with mental health concerns. She has been instrumental in getting employees outside of their comfort zones and speaking in community settings, such as schools, the local library or senior citizen centers, about a wide array of topics, keeping everyone's health, safety and well-being at the core of the discussion.

In addition to this role, Baum actively participates in the internal Recruitment and Retention Committee, giving employees a strong voice. She regularly brings new ideas and encourages others to think outside the box. Baum accepted the role as the Holton Community Hospital foundation director just over a year ago and has led the organization through multiple new initiatives, including new venues and community partners to support the hospital.

Baum led HCH's first-ever "We are Stronger Together" Color Run, achieving City Commissioner support, allowing people in their homes to raise awareness for all types of cancer and showering the more than 100 runners with color paint. Baum promotes community issues such as "Safe Routes to School" and community grants. She led initiatives such as adopting family tree gifts at Christmas time and promoted new ideas such as delivering the paper to all employees and encouraging pen pal letters to local nursing home patients.

Baum, and other Heart of Health Care Worker Award nominees, will be recognized during the KHA Awards Luncheon at the [2024 KHA Annual Convention](#) on Sept. 5, 2024, at Sheraton Overland Park/Overland Park Convention Center, Overland Park.

--*Shelby Stacy*

### **Register Now! Cyrano Video Educational Webinar: You Created a Video... Now What? – Aug. 27**

Join us at noon on Aug. 27 for a lunch and learn with Cyrano Video. Our topic, *You've Created a Video... Now What* is designed to guide you to success after you press the record button. This presentation provides health care professionals with valuable insights into distributing and maximizing the impact of their video content.



--*Hayley Finch-Genschorck*

### **Candidate Meet and Greet in South Central Kansas**

The Kansas Hospital Association, with the LeadingAge Kansas, Kansas Healthcare Association, Kansas Medical Society, Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, Kansas Dental Association, Kansas Optometric Association, Kansas Pharmacist Association, Community Care Network of Kansas and Kansas Association of Community Mental Health Centers, is sponsoring an Area Candidate Meet and Greet. The event is from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 10 at the Kansas Leadership Center, 325 E. Douglas Ave. in Wichita. If you are a hospital employee interested in getting to know candidates for the House of Representatives or State Senate in the South Central Kansas part of the state, we invite you to send your RSVP with your name and hospital to [Lorri Dean](#) or call (785) 276-3109.

--*Tara Mays*

## KHA-PAC Spotlight and Events

We recognize and thank our donors for their contributions in June and July 2024:

- Patrick Alterhofen, interim administrator, Allen County Regional Hospital, Iola, and Anderson County Hospital, Garnett
- Rob Chestnut, senior vice president and chief financial officer, LMH, Lawrence
- Stacie Mason, senior vice president and chief financial officer, Stormont Vail Health, Topeka
- Robert Moser, MD, executive director, Kansas Center for Rural Health, Salina
- Julie Noah, director of inpatient services, Clay County Medical Center, Clay Center
- Beth Simpson, director of senior behavioral health, Girard Medical Center, Girard
- Doug Stacy, president, Labette Health Medical Group, Parsons
- Todd Tangeman, chief operating officer, NMC Health, Newton
- Tanner Wealand, president and CEO, McPherson Hospital, Inc., McPherson
- Larry Van Der Wege, administrator, Lindsborg Community Hospital, Lindsborg

2024 Individual donors and hospitals at goal will be recognized by club level at KHA's Advocacy Day and events throughout 2025.

KHA is excited to announce many ways for you to meet your KHA-PAC goals this year! Below are the ways we hope you will participate and contribute to the KHA-PAC.

### Aug. 23 – KHA-PAC Golf Scramble – Salina Country Club at 8:00 a.m.

[Click to Register](#)

Prepare your team for a golf scramble on Aug. 23 at the Salina Country Club in Salina. The shotgun start is at 8:00 a.m.

- [Sponsor a Hole](#): \$750 Hole Sponsorship (Includes up to four players)
- [Register as an Individual Golfer](#): \$150 to register as an individual player
- [Cheering Section](#): Join us for lunch and drinks and cheer on the golfers when they return \$40
- Unable to attend but wish to donate a raffle item. Email [tmays@kha-net.org](mailto:tmays@kha-net.org)

Thank you to our luncheon and refreshments sponsors:



### Sept. 4-6 – KHA-PAC at KHA's Convention in Overland Park

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

- Wine/Bourbon Pull: the KHA-PAC is hosting a wine and bourbon pull for guests.
  - Buy a Bottle
  - Donate a Bottle
- Silent Auction: the KHA-PAC is holding a silent auction during the convention
  - Donate Auction Items
  - Bid on Auction Items

**Sept. 24 – 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Johnson County Museum.**

Enjoy happy hour and a tour of the Johnson County Museum. Tickets are \$50 per person.

**Buy Your  
Tickets Here**

**Become a Contributor Anytime**

State and federal governments pay for more than half of Kansas hospital care and regulate 100 percent of our activities. Those are the main reasons why the work of the Kansas Hospital Association and its political action committee, KHA-PAC, are so important. Elected individuals who have a passion and understanding of the unique role hospitals play in their communities are critical. Your contributions to the KHA-PAC are used to support those who champion our issues. We appreciate our PAC donors. We couldn't do it without you! Visit the [KHA-PAC website](#) for additional information, including suggested contribution levels. If you have questions about the PAC or how to get involved, please contact [Tara Mays](#) at (785) 969-9270.

--Tara Mays

**Kansas Health Matters User Survey – We Want Your Feedback**

The Kansas Hospital Association and [Kansas Health Matters](#) partners invite you to participate in a short survey about the Kansas Health Matters website. Even if you rarely use Kansas Health Matters, we need your input to better understand who uses the website, what aspects are most helpful and how it can be improved. Your responses to our questions will be kept confidential and only reported in aggregate, so individual respondents will not be identified. Please take five minutes to complete [this survey](#) by Aug. 21.

Thank you for your help in evaluating and improving the [Kansas Health Matters](#) website!

--Karen Braman

**Grants Workshop Sept. 17 and Rural Kansas Health Workforce Conference Sept. 18**

Registration is open for the Rural Kansas Health Workforce Conference, which is from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Sept. 18 at Colby Community College in Colby. The Health Resources and Services Administration Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs Region 7 is organizing this conference with the University of Kansas Health System Care Collaborative and Kansas WorkforceONE.

The forum will discuss federal, state and local resources to support the development of programs and promising practices that address health care workforce training, recruitment and retention challenges in rural Kansas.

Speakers will share federal, state and local resources to support the health care workforce, how to improve retention and recruitment strategies, the benefits of apprenticeship and bridging programs and how to create rural residency programs and mobile integrated health care resources.

[Click to Register](#)

HRSA also will host a grants workshop pre-session on Sept. 17 at Colby Community College. Attendees will learn about the federal grant application process, where to find funding opportunities, strategies for creating a successful application and resources to support your grant writing efforts.

[Click to Register](#)

If you have any questions, please contact [Myesha Kennedy](#).  
--*Jaron Caffrey*

#### **Medicaid PERM Medical Record Audits Coming in August**

Beginning in August/September, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services PERM Audit Review Contractor, Empower AI, Inc., will request medical records from providers whose Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program fee-for-service claims are randomly selected for review.

If one or more of your claims are selected, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment will notify you via an announcement letter. Actual medical records requests will arrive at your office directly from NCI, Inc. KDHE staff will be available to answer questions and assist you in meeting submission deadlines.

[Click for More Information](#)

--*Shannan Flach*

### **Kansas Fights Addiction Grant Funding Opportunity**

The Kansas Fights Addiction grant program, funded with opioid settlement dollars, is now accepting applications for a fourth round of funding. This fourth RFP is similar to the second round of funding KFA offered in 2023, prioritizing strategies related to prevention, providers and health systems, and public safety and first responders that were established by the Kansas Prescription Drug and Opioid Advisory Committee in its 2023-2027 state strategic plan. Eligible entities include nonprofit organizations that provide services in Kansas to prevent, reduce, treat or otherwise abate or remediate substance use disorders. To be eligible, applicants also must release all legal claims arising from covered conduct against each defendant named in the opioid settlement agreements. Organizations may apply for up to \$200,000 in grant funding through this fourth RFP, with each grant having a 12-month budget period. There will be an informational webinar from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Aug. 14. The confirmation of intent deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Aug. 30. The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Sept.13.



*--Karen Braman*

### **Pathways to a Healthy Kansas Grant Funding Opportunity**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas [released](#) its Request for Application for Phase 3 of the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas grant. The two-year coordination grants will award \$100,000 each for up to 20 communities. Pathways to a Healthy Kansas is the largest community grant initiative funded by BCBSKS. It launched in 2016 to provide community coalitions with the tools and resources needed to engage their communities and remove barriers to improve active living, healthy eating, behavioral health and commercial tobacco prevention across the state. The funding period for Phase 3 is from Jan. 1, 2025, to Dec. 31, 2026. BCBSKS accepts letters of intent from communities interested in applying for the grant. [Letters of intent](#) must be submitted no later than Aug. 23, 2024, to receive an application packet. [Applications](#) are due Sept. 27. Awardees will be notified on Dec. 6.

*--Karen Braman*

### **2024 KPQC Virtual Fall Conference Is Open**

Join the Kansas Perinatal Quality Collaborative from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Oct. 22, for a virtual, complimentary conference featuring clinical and health policy leaders and engage in conversations about improving maternal outcomes and health equity. Keynote speakers include Angela Martin, MD, FACOG, medical director of labor and delivery, Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Kansas Health System and Emersen Frazier, MPH, director of health equity and policy, Stormont Vail Health. A Zoom link will be provided in advance of the conference. Attendees will receive slides and conference materials after the live session.



*--Karen Braman*



**Positions Available**

**[Chief Executive Officer](#)**

**[Graham County Hospital](#)**

**304 W. Prout St., P.O. Box 339**

**Hill City, KS 67642-0339**

**Contact: [Caley VanLoenen](#)**

**Phone: (785) 421-2121, Ext. 1217**

**Fax: (785) 421-2034**

**Email: [cvanloenen@gchospital.org](mailto:cvanloenen@gchospital.org)**

**Website: <https://grahamcountyhospital.org>**

**Apply Online Today!**  
CLICK HERE

The Graham County Hospital Board of Directors is hiring a CEO to provide visionary leadership and inspire the highest performance levels in delivering health care, business and clinical operations to achieve GCH's mission, vision and values. In collaboration with the board of trustees and health system personnel, the CEO develops short- and long-range strategic goals and objectives, carries out the policies established by the board of trustees and advises on forming these policies. The CEO oversees the adequacy and soundness of the organization's financial structure, fosters strong community relations and develops collaborative partnerships that advance the organization's interests and contribute to the health and well-being of the communities served.

A bachelor's degree in hospital administration, health care organization leadership or another related field is preferred but not required. Previous management experience in hospital administration, health care knowledge and/or experience working with Critical Access Hospitals and a financial background are preferred.

Applications will be accepted until Aug. 30.

**[Chief Financial Officer](#)**

**[McPherson Hospital, Inc.](#)**

**1000 Hospital Dr.**

**McPherson, KS 67460**

**Contact: [Melissa Richardson](#), Executive Director of Human Resources**

**Phone: (620) 241.2251, Ext. 201**

**Email: [melissar@mcphersonhospital.org](mailto:melissar@mcphersonhospital.org)**

**Website: [www.mcphersoncenterforhealth.org](http://www.mcphersoncenterforhealth.org)**

**Apply Online Today!**  
CLICK HERE

The CFO oversees the financial operation of the organization and has direct supervisory responsibility for the hospital's Finance, Revenue Cycle (Registration, Patient Financial Services, Health Information Management and Billing), Materials Management and Information Technology departments. The CFO leads the development of the hospital's financial strategies and performance policies, processes and controls and serves as a member of the Senior Leadership Team. This position also serves as a resource to the board of trustees to provide a financial perspective on the hospital's performance and the financial implications of alternative business strategies. A bachelor's degree in finance/accounting/business is required. A master's degree and/or CPA is preferred. A minimum of three years of experience in hospital finance and knowledge and experience in health care finance, including third-party reimbursement mechanisms and federal guidelines regarding budget and financing are required. Supervisory experience, a CPA, MBA and/or Healthcare Financial Management Association certification are preferred.

**Director of Nursing and Human Resources Director** (two separate positions)

**[Wilson Medical Center](#)**

**2600 Ottawa Rd., P.O. Box 360**

**Neodesha, KS 66757**

**Website: [www.wilsonmedical.org](http://www.wilsonmedical.org)**

Wilson Medical Center has partnered with Hunter Ambrose Int. to lead the recruitment for these two positions. To apply, please send your resume or inquiries to [admin@hunterambrose.com](mailto:admin@hunterambrose.com). They aim to respond to applicant inquiries within one business day. Please note that unsolicited resumes from third-party vendors will not be considered. For more information, visit [hunterambrose.com](http://hunterambrose.com).

### **Director of Nursing**

The Director of Nursing Operations leads and directs areas of responsibility operationally and strategically. The director is responsible for ensuring that nursing policies, procedures and standards describe and guide the provision of nursing care required by all patients and populations served by the hospital. The director also designs, develops and implements systems and processes that improve the value of services provided and overall organizational performance.

### **Director of Human Resources**

As a key member of the senior leadership team, the HR director will lead the human resource initiatives to provide an employee-oriented, high-performance culture that emphasizes empowerment, quality, productivity and standards, goal attainment and organizational growth.

If you have a management position available in your organization and would like it posted in *Current Report*, email the information to [Jan Fenwick](mailto:Jan.Fenwick). Also, don't forget to check out [www.kshealthjobs.net](http://www.kshealthjobs.net) for other health care openings in Kansas.

--Jan Fenwick

## **Federal and National News**

### **CMS Releases Final FFY 2025 Medicare Payment and Policy Updates**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [released](#) the federal fiscal year 2025 Medicare Inpatient and long-term care hospital prospective payment system final payment and policy [updates](#). Highlights are as follows.

#### IPPS and Critical Access Hospitals

- An increased market basket of 3.4 percent, reduced by a 0.5 percent productivity adjustment, for a net increase of 2.9 percent. CMS estimates payments will increase by \$2.9 billion.
- Revised labor market areas for wage index purposes and continuation of the low-wage index policy
- Finalized separate IPPS payments for establishing and maintaining access to [essential medicines](#)
- Distributed graduate medical education residency slots as prescribed under Section 4122 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act
- Revised the Hospital Inpatient Quality Program
- Updated the mandatory Medicare Pay for Performance Programs
- Renewed and revised the hospital and CAH conditions of participation data reporting requirements for respiratory infections
- Finalized the mandatory [TEAM](#) innovation [program](#)
  - A five-year mandatory [episode-based payment model](#) to begin January 2026

#### LTCH PPS

- An increased market basket of 3 percent. After accounting for high-cost outlier payment reductions, the payment rates are expected to increase by 2 percent or \$45 million.
- Revised the LTCH Quality Reporting Program

### **CMS Releases Final FFY 2025 Medicare Inpatient Psychiatric Facility PPS Payment and Policy Updates**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [released](#) the Medicare Inpatient Psychiatric Facility final payment and policy [updates](#) for the federal fiscal year 2025. CMS finalized a net Medicare payment increase of 2.5 percent, or \$65 million.

### **CMS Releases Final FFY 2025 Medicare Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility PPS Payment and Policy Updates**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [released](#) the Medicare Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility final payment and policy [updates](#) for federal fiscal year 2025. CMS estimates Medicare payments to IRF PPS facilities will increase by \$280 million. CMS finalized updates to the IRF Quality Reporting Program and revised wage index statistical area delineations.

### **CMS Releases Final FFY 2025 Medicare Skilled Nursing Facility PPS Payment and Policy Updates**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services [released](#) the Medicare Skilled Nursing Facility final payment and policy [updates](#) for the federal fiscal year 2025. CMS finalized a net Medicare payment increase of 4.2 percent, or \$1.4 billion, that includes a 3 percent market basket increase, a 1.7 percent forecast error adjustment and a 0.5 percent productivity adjustment. CMS finalized revisions to the Patient-Driven Payment Model ICD-10 code mappings, revisions to the SNF Quality Reporting Program and updates to the SNF Value-Based Purchasing Program.

### ***MLN Connects Provider eNews Available***

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services issued the following [updates](#) to *MLN Connects Provider eNews*:

- [Transitional Coverage for Emerging Technologies – Final Notice](#)
- [Help Improve the Program for Evaluating Payment Patterns Electronic Reports and Comparative Billing Reports – Updated Request for Information](#)
- [Immunization: Protect Your Patients](#)