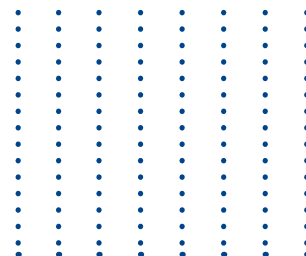




CRITICAL ISSUES SUMMIT

March 5-6, 2026

**Hyatt Regency Wichita
Wichita, KS**

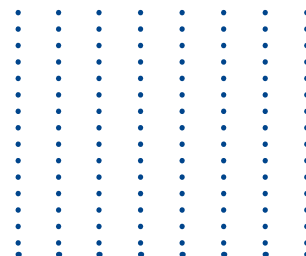


Thursday, March 5

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:30 a.m. Welcome**
- 9:45 a.m. Governing Through Disruption: What Strong Boards Do Differently**
Karma Bass, Via Healthcare Consulting
- 10:45 a.m. Credentialing Deep Dive for Boards**
Catherine Walberg, JD, Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer, LLP
Kansas Association Medical Staff Services
- 12:15 p.m. Networking Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. Rural Health Transformation Program**
Secretary Janet Stanek, Kansas Department of Health and Environment
- 1:45 p.m. Interactive Governance Case Studies: When the Wheels Come Off**
Moderated by Karma Bass, Via Healthcare Consulting
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:15 p.m. Networking Roundtable Discussions**
- 3:15 – 3:45 p.m. Round One
3:45 – 3:50 p.m. Switching Tables
3:50 – 4:20 p.m. Round Two
4:20 – 4:25 p.m. Switching Tables
4:25 – 4:55 p.m. Round Three
- 5:00 p.m. Networking Reception**
- 6:00 p.m. Adjourn

Friday, March 6

- 8:00 a.m. Eggs and Issues Breakfast**
Tara Mays and Jaron Caffrey, Kansas Hospital Association
- 9:00 a.m. From Oversight to Outcomes: Board Roles in Quality**
Susan Runyan, Runyan Health Care Quality Consulting
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m. The Leadership Multiplier:
How Boards and Executives Influence Culture at Every Level**
Amy Eliza Wong
- Noon Adjourn



Governing Through Disruption: What Strong Boards Do Differently **Karma Bass, Via Healthcare Consulting**

As hospitals navigate financial pressures, workforce challenges, regulatory changes and evolving care models, the board's role continues to grow more complex. In this session, Karma Bass will explore what it means to be an effective board member in today's environment. Participants will examine the core responsibilities of high-performing boards, how strong governance supports sound strategy and financial stewardship, and where boards most often struggle during periods of disruption. Building on last year's governance best practices session without repeating it, this session reinforces practical expectations for board engagement, accountability and strong decision-making.

Credentialing Deep Dive for Boards

This session offers hospital board members and senior leaders a practical, real-world look at credentialing. Through three short, focused mini-sessions, participants will review credentialing basics, the board's oversight role and explore best practices, as well as common warning signs and breakdowns that pose risk for hospitals. Presenters will also discuss how workforce pressures, telehealth and other emerging trends are shaping the future of credentialing. Participants will leave with greater confidence, stronger questions to ask and practical takeaways to bring back to their board meetings.

Session #1: Credentialing 101

Catherine Walberg, JD Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer, LLP

Session #2: Supporting Your Credentialing Team:

Asking the Right Questions and Recognizing Important Issues

Kansas Association of Medical Staff Services

Session #3: Future-Focused Credentialing and Board Readiness

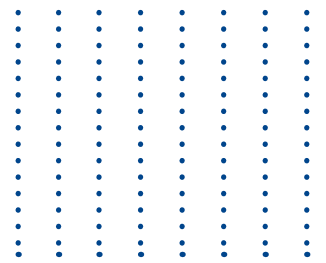
Rural Health Transformation Program

Secretary Janet Stanek, Kansas Department of Health and Environment

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has awarded Kansas \$221,898,008 as part of the Rural Health Transformation Program, with year one running from Jan. 1 through Sept. 30, 2026. The Kansas plan was developed by KDHE and the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, in partnership with the Kansas Rural Health Innovation Alliance and the University of Kansas Health System Care Collaborative. During this session, Secretary Janet Stanek will outline the key components of the Kansas plan and share how the program will be implemented across the state.

Interactive Governance Case Studies: When the Wheels Come Off **Moderated by Karma Bass, Via Healthcare Consulting**

In this interactive session, attendees will step into realistic governance scenarios where things begin to unravel and tough decisions must be made. Building on the morning's foundation of strong board practices, participants will work through facilitated case studies that explore how boards respond when strategy, operations, culture and accountability collide. Through guided discussion and real-time decision points, attendees will examine how board behaviors and questions can either stabilize or escalate complex situations. This session helps clarify board versus management roles and builds confidence in navigating difficult conversations, uncertainty and organizational pressure.



Eggs and Issues Breakfast

Tara Mays and Jaron Caffrey, Kansas Hospital Association

This session will focus on key issues affecting the health care sector, including ongoing advocacy efforts, proposed legislation and the challenges and opportunities presented by the Kansas Legislature. Tara Mays will provide an update on the latest policy developments, share insights on legislative strategy and discuss how hospital leaders and board members can engage in advocacy to drive change. Attendees will gain a clearer understanding of the current legislative environment and the policy decisions shaping health care in Kansas.

From Oversight to Outcomes: Board Roles in Quality

Susan Runyan, Runyan Health Care Quality Consulting

Hospital boards have a vital role in ensuring safe, high-quality care. This session explores how boards can effectively oversee quality and patient safety while remaining in a governance role and without taking on day-to-day management responsibilities. Topics include clarifying the board's accountability for setting expectations, monitoring performance and fostering a safe culture. Drawing on national experience with hospitals, regulators and governing boards, the session outlines practical approaches for structuring oversight, using data strategically and aligning quality with organizational strategy and financial priorities. Participants will gain actionable insights to strengthen board engagement in quality and patient safety while preserving appropriate governance boundaries.

The Leadership Multiplier:

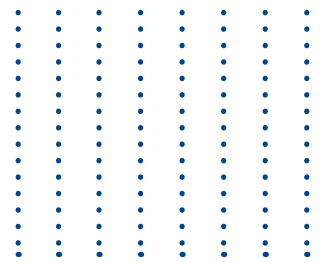
How Boards and Executives Influence Culture at Every Level

Amy Eliza Wong

Culture is shaped from the top, whether leaders intend it or not. This session focuses on how boards and executive teams can serve as positive culture multipliers by modeling the behaviors they expect to see throughout the organization. Amy Eliza Wong explores how leadership presence, communication patterns and decision-making processes send powerful cultural signals. Participants will leave with practical approaches to strengthen engagement, reinforce accountability and align strategy and culture.



INFORMATION



Who Should Attend

This summit is designed for senior-level administrators, hospital trustees and others interested in hospital governance.

Location and Hotel Accommodations

This summit will be at the Hyatt Regency Wichita, 400 W. Waterman St., Wichita, KS 67202. A block of rooms has been reserved for the nights of March 4 and 5 at the rate of \$137, plus tax. The room block is available until Wednesday, Feb. 11. After that, reservations will be taken on a space available basis. To make your reservation and receive the special rate, call (316) 293-1234 and ask for the Kansas Hospital Association room block.

KHA Group Reservation Link: <https://www.hyatt.com/events/en-US/group-booking/WICRW/G-KHA6>

Attire

Business-casual attire is suggested for this summit. Temperatures in meeting rooms are somewhat difficult to control; therefore, we recommend you dress in layers to allow for these variances.

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Registration Form

2026 Critical Issues Summit for Hospital Boards



Registration Fee

Fees include continental breakfast, lunch, refreshments and program materials.



Two Easy Ways to Register

Online: <https://registration.kha-net.org>

Fax: (785) 233-6955



Registration Fees:

\$195 KHA Members

\$390 Non-members



Click Here to Register

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

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Refund Policy

A full refund will be given for cancellations received in writing by email, fax or mail to KHA prior to 5:00 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27. Refunds will not be issued for cancellations received after 5:00 p.m., Friday, Feb. 27.

Questions: Contact KHA Education Department at
(785) 233-7436 or mwilley@kha-net.org.