



OCTOBER 8TH - 11TH

ELEVATING SUPPLY CHAIN PROFESSIONALS THROUGH THE
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, IDEAS AND KNOWLEDGE.



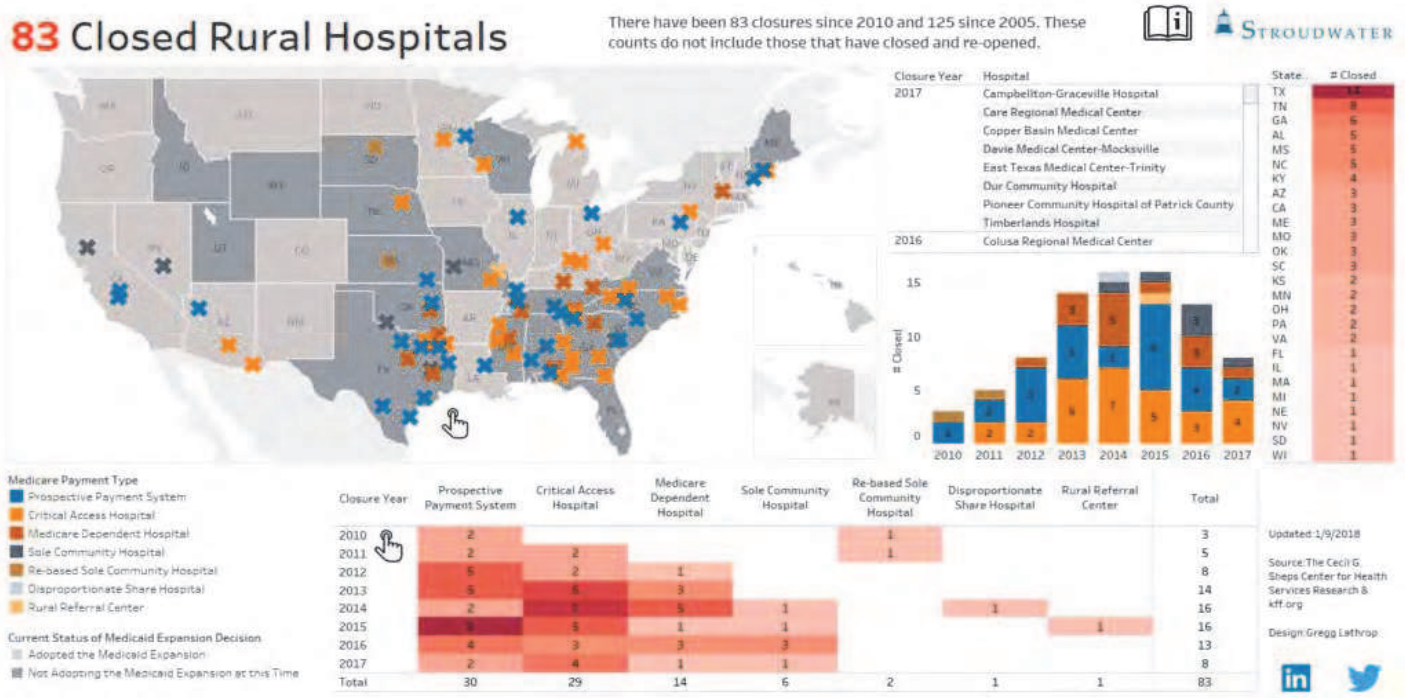
The Lodge Est 1974

AT GULF STATE PARK

A Hilton Hotel



"WHEN GOOD ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH"



"WHERE ARE THESE COMPANIES TODAY?"



Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019

7:00 AM Continental Breakfast: Conference Room Foyer

8:00 AM Legislative Update

9:00 AM AHRMM Affiliation Discussion - Guest Speaker From Neighboring State Chapter

10:15 AM "The Healthcare Flywheel. UAB Medicine Supply Chain and its Pursuit of Excellence through Slow and Methodical Change"

Speaker: Laura Kowalczyk, Vice President of Supply Chain, UABHS

11:30 AM Build Your Own Sandwich Buffet

Noon Fishing, Golf or Beach Time

Friday, Oct. 11 2019

7:00 AM Continental Breakfast: Conference Room Foyer

8:00 AM Business Meeting (ASHMM members only)

2019 ASHMM Conference Speakers



Karen Conway, MSHCD, CMRP, CLSSGB works to advance the role of the supply chain as a critical enabler of a value-based healthcare system. As Vice President, Healthcare Value for Global Healthcare Exchange (GHX), Conway explores how improved data quality and visibility can optimize the identification and delivery of the products and services that provide the most value to patients. She applies her extensive knowledge of supply chain operations and systems thinking to align processes, data and incentives across the healthcare ecosystem. Conway is a recognized expert on unique device identification and the corresponding systems and process changes required to achieve benefits beyond regulatory compliance. Inspired by her graduate work in the Science of Healthcare Delivery, Conway researches and advocates for the role of supply chain to support population health and programs to address the social, economic and environmental determinants of health.

Conway is past chair of the Association for Healthcare Resource and Materials Management (AHRMM), and serves on the boards of the Strategic Marketplace Initiative (SMI) and the Bellwether League, the GS1 Global Healthcare Leadership Team, the expert advisory council for the Supply Chain Advancement Network in Health, and the healthcare advisory board for CAPS Research.

An internationally published author and speaker, Conway co-authored a book on global leadership, *Leading from the Edge*, with the former chief talent officer of Cisco. Conway writes a monthly column on "Standard Practices" in healthcare in *Healthcare Purchasing News* and was a contributing author to *eBusiness in Healthcare*, published by Springer in 2008.

Prior to joining GHX, Conway served as principal of Conway Associates, a strategic communications firm built on the principles of continuous quality improvement and based on her business partner's firsthand experience working with Dr. W. Edwards Deming, Procter & Gamble and Walmart. Conway began her career in healthcare working with St. Francis Hospital in Colorado Springs, during which she helped facilitate the merger between the two competing local Catholic healthcare systems, both of which are now part of Centura Health.

Conway recently completed a master's degree in the Science of Healthcare Delivery from Arizona State University. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from The Colorado College. She is a Certified Materials and Resource Professional and a certified Lean Six Sigma Green Belt.



Michele Tracy, MM, C.P.M. specializes in Materials Management, Value Analysis, GPO contracting, operations, warehouse operations, negotiating and other related supply chain management areas. She has over 20 years of experience exclusively in healthcare and manufacturing. Michele's leadership experience also includes Environmental Services, Housekeeping and Centralized Purchasing for long term care facilities and a durable medical equipment company. Michele has held Director and Vice President positions at medium size health care organizations with multi-site systems for over 15 years and Director of Supply Chain Management in Manufacturing for 12 years

Specific areas of expertise include:

- Supply Chain Management
- Cost Reduction and Operations Improvement Strategies
- Material Management Information Systems (MMIS)
- Strategic Departmental Development
- Inventory Management and Distribution
- Development and Leadership of Value Analysis Teams (VAT)
- Lean Project Leadership (assessment and implementation)
- Resource and Product Standardization / Utilization
- Comprehensive consultation services related to supply and equipment management issues in the areas of surgical services, and warehouse operations.

Michele holds the following experience among her many achievements:

- Interim Supply Chain Management Leadership at Director and Vice President levels
- Over \$10 million in healthcare system savings in collaboration with clinical department leaders
- Increased contract utilization by 50%
- Increased rebates by 147%
- Over 50% inventory reduction (\$700,000) in healthcare system savings
- Project Management in \$22 million building project

Michele received her undergraduate degree and Masters of Management (Organizational Leadership) from Aquinas College, Grand Rapids, Michigan; her LEAN Certification Certificate from The University of Michigan; and has been a Certified Purchasing Manager (C.P.M) since 2000. Michele resides in Cedar Springs, Michigan.



Laura Kowalczyk, JD, MPH is the Vice President of Supply Chain and Support Services for UAB Medicine in Birmingham, Alabama. Laura has been in her current position for three years. In this position, she is responsible for the strategic direction of UAB Medicine's end to end Supply Chain; Environmental Services; Food and Nutrition Services; Guest Services; Patient Advocacy; Patient Transport; Chaplain Services and Clinical Ethics.

Laura holds a Bachelor's of Art from Tulane University; a Masters of Public Health from the University of Alabama Birmingham; a law degree from Cumberland School of Law; and a Masters Certificate in Healthcare Quality and Patient Safety from UAB. She is a licensed attorney in Florida and Nevada and serves on several industry boards and councils including the Association for Healthcare Materials Managers (AHRMM); the Vizient Supply Chain Council and the Healthcare Industry Distributors Association (HIDA) Supply Chain Collaborative. Laura is also very active in supporting UAB and State advocacy serving on the UAB Quality and Patient Safety Board; the Alabama Hospital Association's Federal Legislative/Regulatory Committee; the Birmingham Literacy Council; and is the Executive Chair of UAB Medicine Women's Council.

Prior to undertaking her career in healthcare administration, Laura's legal career encompassed health law and medical civil litigation. Laura navigated her career into healthcare operations where she has had the opportunity to utilize her background and experience to foster the development and implementation of unique business strategies across the healthcare continuum.