



Illinois Health
and Hospital
Association

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

January 21, 2026

CONTACT: Paris Ervin

(217) 541-1153

pervin@team-aha.org

Memorial Health President and CEO Dr. Mandy Eaton Elected to Illinois Health and Hospital Association Board

NAPERVILLE – Mandy Eaton, PhD, President and Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Health, has been elected to the Board of Trustees for the Illinois Health and Hospital Association (IHA). The IHA Board is the policymaking body for the Association, which represents more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems across Illinois. Dr. Eaton's three-year term began on Jan. 1, 2026. The first IHA board meeting of the year is scheduled for Jan. 23.

"We are pleased to welcome Mandy to the IHA Board," said A.J. Wilhelmi, IHA President and CEO. "Mandy's extensive knowledge and leadership experience will be a great asset as we continue our efforts to shape healthcare policy and strengthen care delivery across Illinois."

Dr. Eaton became President and Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Health on April 1, 2025. In this role, she provides leadership for the strategic direction of the Springfield-based health system, which delivers comprehensive health services to the central Illinois region. Dr. Eaton is committed to focusing on delivering high-quality patient care, driving innovation to improve the patient and caregiver experience, and advancing optimal health for all.

Dr. Eaton previously served as executive vice president and chief operating officer of Cone Health, a non-profit healthcare organization that includes five hospitals and numerous outpatient locations serving a five-county area in North Carolina. Before assuming that role, she was the organization's executive vice president for people and culture, and she also held other human resources roles.

She completed her undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in public health and a Master of Science degree in healthcare administration, before earning a doctorate degree in leadership studies from North Carolina A&T State University.

Dr. Eaton is a member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the American Society for Healthcare Human Resources Administration. She holds Senior Professional Human Resources (SPHR) certification, is a Society for Human Resource Management Senior Certified Professional and is a Certified Leadership Coach – Coaching Academy International.

A resident of Springfield, Dr. Eaton's past civic involvement includes serving on the boards of United Way and Girls on the Run. She was the keynote speaker for the Bereaved Parents USA national conference in 2024.

About Memorial Health

One of the leading healthcare organizations in Illinois, Memorial Health is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that provides a full range of inpatient, outpatient, home health, hospice, behavioral health and primary care physician services. With numerous sites of care throughout central Illinois, Memorial Health delivers high-quality, patient-centered care in support of our mission to improve lives and build stronger communities through better health.

About IHA

The Illinois Health and Hospital Association, with offices in Chicago, Naperville, Springfield, and Washington, D.C., advocates for Illinois' more than 200 hospitals and nearly 40 health systems as they serve their patients and communities. IHA members provide a broad range of services—not just within their walls, but across the continuum of healthcare and in their communities. Reflecting the diversity of the state, IHA members consist of nonprofit, investor-owned and public hospitals in the following categories: community, safety net, rural, critical access, specialty, and teaching hospitals, including academic medical centers. For more information, see www.team-aha.org. Like IHA on [Facebook](#). Follow IHA on [X](#) (formally known as Twitter).

###