

LETTER FROM AAHE PRESIDENT

As we fast-approach our 55th Annual Meeting and Trade Show April 20-22 in Hot Springs, I hope you share my enthusiasm for a 100% in-person event! Like many of you with whom I've interfaced over the past couple of years, I've felt a palpable disconnect from the relationships to which I've grown accustomed. I feel a renewed sense of excitement for a return to 'how things used to be' as we honor the official AAHE motto of "Education Through Association" in a very real way.

Preparations for our annual meeting and trade show have been underway for many months now, and I would be remiss if I didn't thank those who have been working very hard on development. From accommodations/venue to obtaining experts for timely and relevant program content, an event of this magnitude and quality just does not happen by itself. While thanking specific individuals can be risky, I wish to highlight the work by Anna Rogers, Lindsey Brackett, Diane Hughes, and Jordan Plyler. Your tireless dedication to AAHE is notable and worthy of recognition. Thank you for all you've done to make our upcoming meeting a success!

Most members may recall it is during the annual meeting when changes occur to AAHE Officer positions. As outgoing President, I'm supremely confident in the new slate of AAHE Officers approved by the membership. I would encourage the membership to give consideration for serving as well. The AAHE Board is always looking for willingly and eager colleagues to serve in a variety of capacities. Should you wish to become more engaged in AAHE, I have no doubt there is a place for your service.

See you in Hot Springs!

Eric Kindsfater
AAHE President 2021-2022

Annual Trap Shoot Follow Up

The annual Arkansas Hospital Engineers Scholarship Trust Trap Shooting tournament was held on Nov. 5th, 2021. This year, the tournament raised over \$22,000 for the scholarship trust!



A big thank you to our sponsors for making this year's event a success:

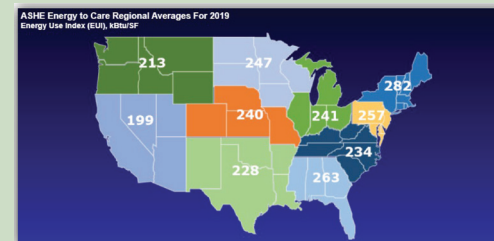
AHA Services, Inc.

Gold Sponsors: Bernhard, Chr-Eyton Electric Company, Inc., Clark Contractors, KINCO Constructors, and Powers of Arkansas

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ASHE SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE



ASHES Energy to Care Dashboard Tool offers an at-a-glance view of health care facilities' energy use. Designed to reduce user burden, the Energy to Care dashboard is easy to use. There's a misconception that sustainability programs and energy management are time-consuming, but they don't have to be. Sometimes the biggest impact on energy savings is made with simple changes. With the Energy to Care Dashboard's benchmarks and monitoring, it only takes 15 minutes a day to impact around half of your facility's budget.

The most recent updates and additions to the dashboard include an Environmental Widget that displays the equivalent carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions reduction-based energy consumption across all fuel types. This widget compares (CO2) emissions for the current year-to-date vs. the previous year-to-date by converting the building's total energy consumption to the equivalent tons of CO2 abated, the number of trees required for carbon sequestration, and the number of equivalent vehicles removed from the road. It's a great feature that helps healthcare facilities manage their decarbonization goals.

The data is weather-normalized or source-adjusted data and uses standard CO2 conversion factors. This widget is not controlled by the date selector tool, so it always provides a comparison of the current year-to-date emissions and the previous year's equivalent months.

A second new widget features the ASHE Energy to Care Regional Averages for the calendar year 2019. Energy is reported using each facility's Energy Use Index (EUI), measured in kBtu per square foot. This map shows the ASHE Regions and the average EUI for the ASHE facilities in each Region. The Average EUIs were calculated using data from the 2019 calendar year. Only sites with EUIs between 100 and 1000 kBtu per square foot were included in the average calculations. The map offers peer-to-peer benchmarking comparison so that healthcare facilities can measure their EUI performance against local (regional) facilities with similar climate conditions.

FACILITY, SAFETY, CLINICAL EDUCATION

ADVOCACY UPDATE

Water Management Programs

As of January 1, 2022, The Joint Commission is enforcing their new Environment of Care Standard, EC.02.05.02, that mandates healthcare facilities to implement and maintain a Water Management Program to control Legionella bacteria and other waterborne pathogens. Within this standard, Element of Performance (EP) 2 requires the individual or team responsible for the Water Management Program to develop a basic diagram that maps all water supply sources, treatment systems, processing steps, control measures, and all end-use points. The diagram can be consolidated into a single page and consist of a simple, 1-line diagram format with the basic required information notated on it. The Joint Commission recommends referencing the CDC Toolkit: Developing a Water Management Program to Reduce Legionella Growth and Spread in Buildings, page 10, when developing this diagram.

Workplace Violence Prevention Programs

The Joint Commission has also communicated that they will verify workplace violence mitigation plans and measures during current and future accreditation surveys. The Joint Commission Standard HR.01.05.03 requires healthcare facilities to establish a workplace violence prevention program through documented training, education, and resources that define workplace violence incidents and roles and responsibilities of the internal and external response team. This standard also requires hospital staff to participate in training that covers de-escalation procedures, nonphysical intervention skills, physical intervention techniques, and the incident reporting process. Standard LD.03.01.01 requires healthcare facilities to establish policies and procedures specific to their workplace violence prevention program.

The Joint Commission has authored and published several resources related to workplace violence prevention programs:

Prepublication Report:

<https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/prepublication-standards/new-and-revised-workplace-violence-prevention-requirements/>

R3:

<https://www.jointcommission.org/standards/r3-report/r3-report-issue-30-workplace-violence-prevention-standards/>

Compendium of Resources:

<https://www.jointcommission.org/resources/patient-safety-topics/workplace-violence-prevention/compendium-of-resources/>

ASHE-Save the Dates

ASHE Academy | May 2-6

Advance your career in an intensive learning environment led by experienced leaders in health care facilities management and health care construction. ASHE Academy is a one-stop shop for earning continued education credits through a personalized learning experience. Join other health care professionals in Nashville for in-depth sessions and workshops. The program agenda includes the Health Care Construction Workshop (May 2-3), Certified Health Care Constructor (CHC) Exam Review and Exam (May 5-6), Certified Health Care Facility Manager Exam Review and Exam (May 5-6), Managing Infection Prevention in Health Care Facilities (May 4), Physical Environment Survey Readiness Program (May 2-4), and Working in Health Care: Certified Health Care Physical Environment Worker Education and Exam Review (May 6).

ASHE Annual Conference | July 17-20

Health care facility and engineering professionals will gather at the 2022 ASHE Annual Conference to network, find new solutions, and learn alongside one another. The ASHE Annual Conference creates the ideal environment to connect with fellow colleagues while preparing yourself for future trends and challenges in health care. Attendees can earn contact hours and gain valuable tools and resources to better navigate the ever-changing health care landscape. Save the date for July 17 – 20, 2022 in Boston, as we prepare for the future of health care, and take the time to review and develop your career game plan.



AAHE

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Upcoming Chapter Events

- Annual Meeting & Trade Show – April 20-22, Embassy Suites in Hot Springs
- Long Range Planning Meeting – June 2-3, Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, Morrilton/Petit Jean
- Fall Meeting – September 23, location TBD
- Trap Tournament – November 4, AGFC Foundation Shooting Complex

Contact Anna Rogers at arogers@arkhospitals.org for questions or registration



Arkansas Association for Healthcare Engineering, Inc.

55th Annual Meeting & Trade Show April 20-22, 2022

Hot Springs Convention Center
134 Convention Blvd, Hot Springs

Embassy Suites by Hilton Hot Springs Hotel & Spa
400 Convention Blvd, Hot Springs

