The CHI St. Luke’s Health Difference

The Administrative Fellowship Program at CHI St. Luke’s Health provides a unique opportunity to participate in the inner workings of one of Houston’s most prominent healthcare providers. Led by nationally recognized executives, the year-long program exposes early careerists to the governance, strategy, finance, and operations of an integrated delivery system.

Fellows will have the opportunity to lead a broad spectrum of projects within the organization while translating theory into practice by participating in evidence-based management at the executive level.

Mission

The Mission of Catholic Health Initiatives is to nurture the healing ministry of the Church, supported by education and research. Fidelity to the Gospel urges us to emphasize human dignity and social justice as we create healthier communities.

Vision

Our Vision is to live up to our name as one CHI:
  Catholic: Living our Mission and Core Values
  Health: Improving the health of the people and communities we serve
  Initiatives: Pioneering models and systems of care to enhance care delivery

Core Values

Reverence—Profound respect and awe for all of creation, the foundation that shapes spirituality, our relationships with others and our journey to God.

Integrity—Moral wholeness, soundness, fidelity, trust, truthfulness in all we do.

Compassion—Solidarity with one another, capacity to enter into another’s joy and sorrow.

Excellence—Preeminent performance, becoming the benchmark, putting forth our personal and professional best.

Administrative Fellowship Expectations

Papers—The fellow will be asked to write two professional values papers throughout the course of the fellowship. The first paper will be written at the beginning of the fellowship, and will include what values are important to the fellow. The second paper will be written towards the completion of the fellowship, and will focus on how the fellow’s values have changed or remained the same. Specific examples and instances should be used in order to discuss the values presented in each paper. The papers will be turned in to the CEO. The purpose is to initiate dialog, enhance the mentorship relationship and the fellow’s professional growth.

Journal—The fellow is required to keep a journal. Each week he/she is asked to write about something learned that can be tied back to something learned in school or discuss a question they can challenge themselves with. Once a month they will select an entry to share with the Executive Management Team.

Journal Club—As a recent graduate from an accredited degree program, it is expected that the fellow is current with trends and innovations in the health care field. Periodically the fellow will be asked to select an article or book of interest and relevance, and provide a 30-minute presentation to Administrative staff. Occasionally the fellow will assist an executive in preparing similar presentations. Feedback will be provided on presentation skills and content.

Training Opportunities—The fellow has the opportunity to select and attend two professional education/training seminar programs—one regional and one national.
CHI St. Luke’s Health is a part of Catholic Health Initiatives (CHI), one of the nation’s largest nonprofit health systems. Headquartered in Englewood, Colorado, CHI operates in 19 states and comprises 105 hospitals, including four academic medical centers and teaching hospitals; 30 critical-access facilities; 13 clinically integrated networks; community health services organizations; accredited nursing colleges; home health agencies; and other services that span the inpatient and outpatient continuum of care.

This mutually beneficial relationship affords CHI entry into the competitive healthcare landscape of Texas as well as provides CHI St. Luke’s Health the necessary resources to capitalize on persisting market opportunities. Dedicated to a mission of enhancing community health through high-quality, cost-effective care, CHI St. Luke’s Health, in partnership with physicians and community partners, is committed to excellence and compassion in caring for the whole person while creating healthier communities.

The CHI Texas Division is comprised of 17 facilities across three Texas markets – Houston (CHI St. Luke’s Health), Bryan (CHI St. Joseph Health), and Lufkin (CHI St. Luke’s-Memorial). CHI St. Luke’s Health consists of 8 hospitals, 16 emergency centers, a Diagnostic & Treatment Center, Radiation & CyberKnife® Center, and several St. Luke’s Medical Group locations throughout greater Houston.

With hospitals in Lufkin, Livingston, San Augustine, and Memorial Specialty—

the area’s only long-term acute care hospital – CHI St. Luke’s Health-Memorial provides millions of dollars in charity care and community support each year. CHI St. Joseph Health is comprised of five hospital facilities across the Brazos Valley, including St. Joseph Regional Health Center, the region’s highest level trauma center. St. Joseph Physician Associates operates more than a dozen primary and specialty care clinics.

CHI St. Luke’s Health is home to the Texas Heart® Institute (THI), a world-class cardiovascular research and education institution founded in 1962 by Denton A. Cooley, MD. Texas Heart Institute—the site of the world’s first successful heart transplant—is consecutively ranked as one of America’s Best in cardiology and heart surgery by U.S. News and World Report.

Through a continued commitment to academics and research, CHI St. Luke’s Health shapes the future of health services through affiliations with three medical schools, including the Baylor College of Medicine (BCM). CHI St. Luke’s Health has partnered with BCM in a joint venture for a new hospital on BCM’s McNair Campus, estimated to be completed in 2019.

Together, CHI St. Luke’s Health, BCM and THI will work to develop a state-of-the-art cardiovascular program on the campus of the new hospital that will be capable of transforming cardiovascular medicine through leadership in areas such as regenerative medicine and the development of next-generation medical devices.
**Michael Covert, FACHE,** with more than 40 years of experience as a healthcare executive, joined CHI St. Luke’s Health as President and Chief Executive Officer in 2014. Ever since receiving his initial training in the field as an Administrative Resident with Hillcrest Medical Center in Oklahoma, following the completion of his graduate studies in Health Administration, Mr. Covert has assumed a personal responsibility of training the next generation of healthcare professionals. He takes great pride in mentoring and training more than 40 fellows over the last three decades—many who have gone on to assume various leadership roles in the healthcare industry.

Prior to joining CHI St. Luke’s Health, Mr. Covert served as President and CEO of Palomar Health in California; President & CEO of Sarasota Memorial Health Care System; acting Director of the Public Health Department, Wichita, Kansas; Executive Director of the Ohio State University of Hospitals, Columbus, Ohio; Chief Operating Officer at St. Francis Regional Medical Center, Wichita, Kansas; and Senior Vice President of Physicians Corporation of America, Wichita, Kansas. Covert also served as President and CEO of the Washington Hospital Center in Washington, DC—one of the 10 busiest hospitals in the U.S. and the largest in the DC/Maryland area.

Mr. Covert received a bachelor’s degree in business administration and a master’s in health administration from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri, and is a Fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives (ACHE). Mr. Covert has spoken at the ACHE Congress for the past 13 years; has served on a number of ACHE committees and has published several ACHE publications about senior leadership.
Building Our Bench Strength

CHI St. Luke’s Health Administrative Fellowship Program attracts students with exceptional academic performance at the nation’s top-ranked professional schools. More than 140 applications are received each year. The fellowship offers an ideal environment for post-graduate learning. With the rapid growth of CHI St. Luke’s Health since 2008, the fellowship program builds the “bench strength” of the health system and provides an in-house talent pool for management positions.

2016-2017 Fellows

Todd Hardy
Hometown: South Jordan, UT  
BS, Utah Valley University  
MHA, University of North Carolina

Lanie Crow
Hometown: Orange, TX  
BS, University of Texas – Austin  
MHA, University of North Carolina

Fiona B. Lowry
Hometown: Rochester, New York  
BS, SUNY College at Oneonta  
MHA, University of Minnesota  
Current: Manager of Perioperative Services, The Woodlands Hospital

Chase M. Christianson
Hometown: Mobile, AL  
BS, University of South Alabama  
MBA, MSHA, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Fellowship Alumni

Sam Klotman, Class of 2015-2016  
Hometown: New York, NY  
BS, Miami University (OH)  
MPH, The University of Texas Health Science Center—Houston  
Current: Program Manager, Private Diagnostic Clinic at Duke University Hospital

Leidy A. Vicuna, Class of 2015-2016  
Hometown: Fairhope, AL  
BS, Auburn University  
MSHA, MBA, University of Alabama at Birmingham  
Current: Project Manager, Houston Methodist

Eric G. Ransom, Class of 2014-2015  
Hometown: College Station, Texas  
BA, BJ, University of Texas – Austin  
MBA, University of Nebraska – Lincoln  
MHA, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill  
Current: Performance Excellence Consultant, The Woodlands Hospital

Fiona B. Lowry, Class of 2014-2015  
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MHA, University of Minnesota  
Current: Manager of Perioperative Services, The Woodlands Hospital

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MBA, University of Nebraska – Lincoln  
MHA, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill  
Current: Performance Excellence Consultant, The Woodlands Hospital
**Amu M. Patel**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: Brenham, Texas  
BBA, BA, The University of Texas at Austin  
MHA, Trinity University

**Ashley N. Kimmel**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: Reading, Pennsylvania  
BS, Penn State University  
MHA, Penn State University

**Christopher A. Hunerkoch**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: Metropolis, Illinois  
BA, Tulane University  
MHA, University of Washington  
Current: Director of Operations, Sugar Land Hospital

**David L. Lawson**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: Littleton, Colorado  
BS, Brigham Young University–Idaho  
MHA, University of Minnesota

**Amu M. Patel**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: Brenham, Texas  
BBA, BA, The University of Texas at Austin  
MHA, Trinity University

**Krystle R. Riley**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: El Paso, Texas  
BA, University of Notre Dame  
MHA, University of North Carolina  
Current: Director, Business Development & Physician Relations, The Woodlands Hospital

**Ashley N. Alexander**, Class of 2011-2012  
Hometown: Clarksville, Tennessee  
BS, Furman University  
MHSA, University of Michigan

**Ashley N. Kimmel**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: Reading, Pennsylvania  
BS, Penn State University  
MHA, Penn State University

**Asha S. Geire**, Class of 2011-2012  
Hometown: Mogadishu, Somalia  
BA, Augsburg College  
MHA, JD, Tulane University

**Phi T. Huynh**, Class of 2011-2012  
Hometown: Long Xuyen, Vietnam  
BBA, University of Houston  
MBA, MHA, University of Houston–Clear Lake

**Ryan K. Tingey**, Class of 2010-2011  
Hometown: Sandy, Utah  
BS, Brigham Young University  
MBA, MHA, University of Minnesota

**Robert E. Sabina**, Class of 2010-2011  
Hometown: Brookfield, Wisconsin  
BS, Purdue University  
MBA, MHA, University of Minnesota  
Doctoral Student in Management, Policy, and Community Health (MPACH)  
The University of Texas School of Public Health

**John C. Buswold**, Class of 2013-2014  
Hometown: Dallas, TX  
BS, Trinity University  
MHA, University of Minnesota

**Asha S. Geire**, Class of 2011-2012  
Hometown: Mogadishu, Somalia  
BA, Augsburg College  
MHA, JD, Tulane University

**Krystle R. Riley**, Class of 2012-2013  
Hometown: El Paso, Texas  
BA, University of Notre Dame  
MHA, University of North Carolina  
Current: Director, Business Development & Physician Relations, The Woodlands Hospital

**Ashley N. Alexander**, Class of 2011-2012  
Hometown: Clarksville, Tennessee  
BS, Furman University  
MHSA, University of Michigan

**Alpha Sigma Phi**, Class of 2010-2011  
Hometown: Brookfield, Wisconsin  
BS, Purdue University  
MBA, MHA, University of Minnesota  
Doctoral Student in Management, Policy, and Community Health (MPACH)  
The University of Texas School of Public Health

**Ryan K. Tingey**, Class of 2010-2011  
Hometown: Sandy, Utah  
BS, Brigham Young University  
MBA, MHA, University of Minnesota
Application FAQs

Q What type of projects do fellows participate in? How are projects selected?
A Project selection is a collaborative process between the fellow and CHI St. Luke’s Health senior leadership. Projects of current and previous fellows range from the expansion and development of service lines to completing due diligence for a hospital acquisition to working on system-wide strategic development initiatives.

Q Is there an opportunity for fellows to continue employment with CHI St. Luke’s after the fellowship? If so, what are some typical positions held by former fellows?
A Many former fellows have transitioned into full-time employment following their fellowship experience. Currently, five previous CHI St. Luke’s Health fellows occupy positions that include Director of Operations, Sugar Land Hospital; Director of Business Development, The Woodlands Hospital; and Manager of Perioperative Services, The Woodlands Hospital.

Q What is the structure of the CHI St. Luke’s Health Administrative Fellowship Program? How many positions are available?
A CHI St. Luke’s takes pride in a structured fellowship program that also allows flexibility. The year-long program often begins in June/July. Fellows are expected to take on a broad spectrum of responsibilities and projects while being exposed to strategic issues affecting the organization and healthcare sector. CHI St. Luke’s Health accepts one to two fellows each year.

Application Timeline

August 1—Applications open
October 3—Application Deadline
November 14—Selection Announcement
June 16, 2017—Anticipated Start Date

Application Requirements

Applicants must have recently received or be in the process of receiving a graduate degree from a CAHME-, AACSB- or CEPH-accredited college or university. Visit CHIStLukesHealth.org/administrative-fellowship-program for information on eligible degrees. For inquiries, email administrativefellowship@stlukeshealth.org.

Check LIST

CHI St. Luke’s Health is a member of the National Council on Administrative Fellowships (NCAF). Candidates may complete either the NAFCAS online application or the following email application.

• Cover letter and current resumé
• Three letters of recommendation—at least one professional and one academic
• Official transcript of graduate coursework
• One-page statement of purpose regarding how CHI St. Luke’s Health will assist you in accomplishing your career goals and how you can contribute to CHI St. Luke’s Health

To be considered for the fellowship, complete applications must be submitted via NAFCAS or emailed to administrativefellowship@stlukeshealth.org by Monday, October 3, 2016. For email submissions, please include “2016-2017 Administrative Fellowship Application—[Last, First]” with your name in the subject line.

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As the nation’s fourth largest city, Houston is home to the Texas Medical Center (TMC)—the world’s largest medical complex.

Since 1945, TMC has been pioneering patient care, research, education, and prevention. The Texas Medical Center comprises: 21 renowned hospital, 14 support organizations, 8 academic and research institutions, 7 nursing programs, 3 public health organizations, 3 medical schools, 2 universities, 2 pharmacy schools, and a dental school. At the forefront of advancing life sciences, TMC is home to the brightest minds in medicine, while nurturing cross-institutional collaboration, creativity, and innovation.

CHI St. Luke’s Health system’s flagship hospital, Baylor St. Luke’s Medical Center, is located in the heart of the TMC.

**Fast Facts**

- **8 million Visits Per Year**: More than the populations of Los Angeles, Houston, and San Francisco—combined.

- **180,000 Surgeries**: TMC begins 1 surgery every 3 minutes.

- **25,000 births**: TMC delivers 1 baby every 20 minutes.

- **106,000 Employees**: More people than ExxonMobil, Apple, or Google.