



The influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals

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**Tri Valley Health System Trustees Earn Education Certification**

A hospital's board of trustees is entrusted with the great responsibility of overseeing one of the community's most important institutions—one that exists for the treatment and protection of the health care needs of the community's citizens.

For this reason, the Nebraska Hospital Association (NHA) Research and Educational Foundation developed a hospital governance community education certification process for its member hospitals, entitled the *Hospital Trustee Community Accountability Education Certification Program*.

Randy Heitmann, Patrick Horwart, Kristy Witte, Clark Andrews, Reginald Warner and Cathy Kubik, trustees from Tri Valley Health System in Cambridge, have dedicated the time and effort to governance practices to earn NHA member hospital trustee education certification by attending quality education programs that demonstrate a commitment to improving performance of their boards, encouraging trustees to pursue ongoing education and educating trustees about their responsibility in serving their communities. The entire board at Tri Valley Health System will be pursuing trustee education certification in 2018 through this program.

The Trustee Education Certification Program was designed to enable hospitals to utilize governance best practices, to promote the coordination of care and the best use of resources, and to demonstrate to their community, lawmakers, regulators, physicians, employees, business and other community stakeholders that Nebraska hospitals are dedicated to the well-being of its citizens.

Hospital boards benefit by having consistent standards and an ability to communicate compliance with those standards to build reputation, confidence and loyalty, and be better prepared to address the health care needs of special populations, such as the uninsured, underinsured, chronic diseases, etc. The education requirements of the program assist hospital trustees to have a better understanding of expectations for individual and overall governing leadership excellence, and have a structure for improving their individual knowledge and leadership potential. This voluntary annual program ensures that trustees are kept current in the ever-changing health care landscape.

The Nebraska Hospital Association is the influential voice of Nebraska's hospitals and health systems, helping hospitals provide comprehensive care to their communities. The Association offers collaborative leadership, assisting its members to improve the health status of their communities. Since 1927, the NHA has provided legislative advocacy, educational programming, data information and communication to Nebraska's hospitals. For more information, visit the NHA website at [nebraskahospitals.org](http://nebraskahospitals.org).

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