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Sky Ridge Medical Center Executive Earns Top Healthcare Management Credential

LONE TREE, January 30 -- Susan H. Hicks, RN, FACHE, Chief Operating Officer (COO), of Sky Ridge Medical Center in Lone Tree recently became a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), the nation's leading professional society for healthcare leaders.

“Because healthcare management ultimately affects the people in our communities, it is critically important to have a standard of excellence promoted by a professional organization,” says Thomas C. Dolan, PhD, FACHE, CAE, president and chief executive officer of ACHE. “By becoming an ACHE Fellow and simultaneously earning board certification from ACHE, healthcare leaders can show that they are committed to providing high-quality service to their patients and community.”

Fellow status represents achievement of the highest standard of professional development. In fact, only 7,500 healthcare executives hold this distinction. To obtain Fellow status, candidates must fulfill multiple requirements, including passing a comprehensive examination, meeting academic and experiential criteria, earning continuing education credits and demonstrating professional/community involvement. Fellows are also committed to ongoing professional development and undergo recertification every three years.

“We are proud of Susan and her accomplishments,” notes Maureen Tarrant, CEO of Sky Ridge Medical Center. “Her experience, depth of knowledge and commitment to our patients is extraordinary.”

The American College of Healthcare Executives is an international professional society of more than 30,000 healthcare executives who lead our nation's hospitals, healthcare systems and other healthcare organizations. ACHE is known for its prestigious credentialing and education programs and its annual Congress on Healthcare Leadership, which draws more than 4,500 participants each year. ACHE is also known for its journal, the *Journal of Healthcare Management*, and magazine, *Healthcare Executive*, as well as ground-breaking research and career development and public policy programs.

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