



IAEM HEALTHCARE CAUCUS 2023-2024 NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS



POSITIONS AND CANDIDATES

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Teri Axman, BA, CEM	3
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LEADERSHIP OF THE HEALTHCARE CAUCUS

The Healthcare Caucus will maintain a minimum of 2 Vice-Chairs. When the caucus membership reaches 200 and at 100 member intervals thereafter, an additional vice-chair will be elected. The calculation of vice-chairs uses the membership number as of August 30th of each year.

Chair and Vice-Chair appointments will be for a period of one year. Each year, the process will start again for the incoming President to develop a slate of nominations.

Current IAEM Healthcare Caucus Membership: 188



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CHAIRPERSON (SELECT 1 PERSON)

JASON C. CHENAULT, PHD, CEM, CHEP, OHCC, FACEM

Sr Director for Emergency and Critical Care Services, UPMC Regional Health Services

Jason C. Chenault has 27 years of experience in Emergency Services. Before moving to Northwest Pennsylvania, Jason served as the Manager of Emergency Medicine Operations for Penn Medicine, overseeing day-to-day operations for the University of Pennsylvania Health System in Philadelphia. In early 2010, Jason joined the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's (UPMC) Regional Health Services, where he currently serves as the Senior Director of Emergency and Critical Care Services. Jason's responsibilities include administrative oversight of clinical operations for multiple hospitals and over 200 professional staff members within the Northwest Pennsylvania and New York regions. Jason's oversight includes UPMC's Northern Tier Pre-Hospital Care and Emergency Preparedness programs.

Jason has been a member of the IAEM-USA Healthcare Caucus since its inception in 2009 and currently serves as Chair of the IAEM-USA Healthcare Caucus. During his tenure, Jason has built many solid relationships with a variety of both public and private sector partners. Jason has been credentialed since 2009 as a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®), a Certified Healthcare Emergency Professional (CHEP) since 2015 and most recently completed the Advanced Executive Business Resiliency and Crisis Management program with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in June 2022. Jason is a Pro Board Certified HazMat Technician who enjoys teaching Hazardous Material Response.

Jason is very active in the community and currently serves on the Board of Directors for a multitude of organizations including the American Red Cross of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Emergency Medical Management Cooperative (EMMCO West) and the Northwest PA Regional Medical Advisory Committee (RMAC). In addition, Jason is appointed to the Erie County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), actively serves on the Northern Tier (PA) Healthcare Coalition and is involved as an Executive Committee Member of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Regional Area Maritime Security Subcommittee.

It would be my pleasure and honor in continuing to serve you in the capacity as Chair of the IAEM-USA Healthcare Caucus.



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VICE CHAIRPERSON (SELECT UP TO 2 PERSONS)

TERI AXMAN, BA, CEM

Emergency Preparedness and Safety Manager for LMH Health

Teri Axman is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) with more than 25 years of experience in the emergency management profession. Ms. Axman is an experienced and articulate leader in disaster and crisis management and has a strong commitment to community preparedness, inter-agency collaboration, planning, problem-solving, and administration.

She began her career in emergency management with Douglas County, Kansas. In this capacity, she was responsible for the multi-department planning and emergency management training, exercising and contingency/disaster preparedness, response and recovery for the entire County.

Currently, Ms. Axman is the Emergency Preparedness and Safety Manager for LMH Health in Lawrence, KS. In this position she develops a comprehensive emergency management program to prepare for all hazards or other emergencies to minimize risk to patients, families, employees, and property. She is responsible for the overall planning and response to emergencies that can affect the healthcare organization and community that relies on it. Ms. Axman also maintains relationships with external organizations and officials to facilitate plan development, response effort coordination, and exchanges of personnel and equipment.

She has made national and international presentations/lectures to professional and citizen/civic groups on such topics as Disaster Preparedness, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Incident Command, Multi-Agency Exercise Planning, and Emergency Operations Center Management. Ms. Axman is a Past President of IAEM – USA, IAEM Global Board Communications Director and Co-Chair of the IAEM - USA Healthcare Caucus. She is a graduate of Kansas Wesleyan University and holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Emergency Management.

[linkedin.com/in/teri-axman-cem-cpm-9162a2a](https://www.linkedin.com/in/teri-axman-cem-cpm-9162a2a)

MARY E. CERVANTES, DEM, MBA, CEM, CHSP, HACP, CLSS-HC

Emergency Manager & Safety Officer at Dignity Health

Dr. Mary Cervantes is an experienced Healthcare Emergency Management and Safety professional. Over the past 15 years, she has demonstrated expertise in the operational and academic arena of Healthcare Emergency Management.

Dr. Cervantes received her Doctorate in Emergency Management and is actively managing Emergency Management and Environment of Care & Life Safety programs with CommonSpirit Health. In addition, she has an MBA, which provides her a foundation in understanding and navigating the challenging operational elements of healthcare operations. In addition, she serves as an instructor for several courses at FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness, which demonstrates her dedication to sharing her experiences as well as learning from other practitioners throughout the nation. Dr. Cervantes holds several prestigious certifications, such as Certified Emergency Manager from IAEM, Certified Life Safety Specialist- Healthcare from



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NFPA, Healthcare Accreditation Certified Professional, Certified Healthcare Safety Professional as well as being a Pro Board Certified Hazardous Material Technician.

I am dedicated to continuing education and collaboration to maintain current awareness and relevance in the ever-changing environment of Healthcare Emergency Management. I look forward to the potential opportunity to partner with each of you as we continue to expand our knowledge base and tackle the complexities of our industry together.

[linkedin.com/in/mary-elizabeth-cervantes-dem-mba-cem-chsp-hacp-clss-hc-46433554](https://www.linkedin.com/in/mary-elizabeth-cervantes-dem-mba-cem-chsp-hacp-clss-hc-46433554)

JAY JOHNSON, ED.D., CEM, MEP, CRMP, CHPCP

Manager, Emergency Management at Mayo Clinic

My name is Jay Johnson, and I am happy to be considered for the role of Vice Chair of the IAEM Healthcare Caucus. I am fortunate to lead the Emergency Management Team for Mayo Clinic in Rochester MN. Over the years I have collected a few letters to follow my name including CEM, but I have learned more from my colleagues, mentors, friends, and peers than I have from any of my adventures in formal education and certification. That does not diminish the value of those letters, but it does remind me that they are a symbol of the support that has gotten me to where I am more than my own efforts. I have worked in public safety for all my adult life, as an EMT, a career Firefighter, Hazmat Specialist, and for the last 15 years I have been as an Emergency Manager in Healthcare. Always as part of a team, in many roles within those teams...but first and foremost...a team member.

Why am I seeking your support? Because I want to continue learning and improving as an individual and do what I can to support the members, goals, and objectives of the IAEM Healthcare Caucus. The members of the Caucus have been a tremendous source of guidance and support to me and to each of us who are part of this relatively small (but mighty) group of highly specialized professionals.

I greatly appreciate your consideration, and if offered the opportunity to serve I will do so with gratitude and dedication.

[linkedin.com/in/jay-johnson-ed-d-cem-mep-crmp-chpcp-17a07250](https://www.linkedin.com/in/jay-johnson-ed-d-cem-mep-crmp-chpcp-17a07250)

KRISTEN KOLLEDA, MPH, SC CEM

Director of Emergency Management for University of Kansas Medical Center

Kristen Kolleda is the Director of Emergency Management for University of Kansas Medical Center. She has recently joined Purdue Global as an adjunct professor for their program in emergency management. Kristen has worked in healthcare emergency management for over a decade, with experience in both academic health systems, and pediatric hospitals, working in both urban and rural settings. She began her role in emergency management after finishing her master's in public health in Epidemiology from San Diego State University and completing a fellowship at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.



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She went on to build emergency management programs at Rideout Health (CA), Prisma Health (SC), and most recently, Children's Mercy (MO). During her time in emergency management, she has responded to dozens of major emergencies, most notably the Oroville Dam Collapse health system evacuations and COVID-19 management for 10-hospitals in SC and Children's Mercy, Kansas City.

She is a Certified Emergency Manager for the state of South Carolina. Kristen has advanced to candidacy for her PhD in Fire and Emergency Management at Oklahoma State University, and this semester she is working to finalize her dissertation research on female Ukrainian medical workers lived experiences during the Ukraine war. Kristen currently serves as a Vice Chair for the IAEM Healthcare Caucus and has been nominated to continue her role as Vice Chair. Kristen loves to serve in this role to be able to support healthcare emergency managers nationwide, encouraging best practices, innovation, and creativity in the field of healthcare emergency management.

[linkedin.com/in/kristen-kolleda-mph-sc-cem-58b8b42a](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kristen-kolleda-mph-sc-cem-58b8b42a)

DJ PHALEN MA, BSPH, CHPP, EMT, NHDP-BC

Emergency, Disaster, Security, Counterterrorism, and Healthcare Professional

Commitment to the IAEM-USA Healthcare Caucus and Experience:

I am a strong proponent of the purpose and goals that the IAEM-USA Healthcare Caucus brings to its membership and the value it brings in terms of networking, collaboration, resources, and legislative activities. I am eager and willing to commit both time and resources to help to continue driving the Caucus forward as a thought leader in Healthcare Emergency Management nationally and internationally.

Over the past two decades I have served in a myriad of committee, advisory, chair, and board roles in county disaster coalitions, national honor societies, InfraGard, and others. I pride myself on commitment to the role as well as collaboration in effort (I do not simply look for appointments to check a box or add to the resume). I would love the opportunity to serve our Caucus as a Vice-Chair if given the opportunity.

Bio:

DJ Phalen, MA, BSPH, CHPP, EMT, NHDP-BC, CHSO, TLO

Assistant Vice President for HCP Enterprise Operations, Emergency Management, & Security
Health Center Partners of Southern California (HCP)

DJ currently serves to represent the HCP family of companies as well as HCP's 16-member community health centers (200+ sites) in San Diego, Riverside, and Imperial Counties at the local, county, and state level, and supports preparation for public health emergencies through the Emergency Preparedness and Response Program. He also currently serves the outgoing co-chair of the San Diego Healthcare Disaster Coalition after his two-term limit, the Sector Chief of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector for San Diego InfraGard, as an SME for U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) ASPR TRACIE, and as a Homeland Defense and Security and Medical SME for the Homeland Defense and Security Information Analysis Center (HDIAC).



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Previously, DJ worked for 10 years as the Program Director and lead professor of the homeland security program at Waldorf University and at Columbia Southern University as an adjunct professor and course writer/reviewer in the College of Safety and Emergency Services teaching in the homeland security, emergency management, criminal justice, and emergency medical services programs. He also served as the National Healthcare Sector Chief for InfraGard National Members Alliance (INMA), as a Medic/Technical Rescue Specialist with the Sheriff's department, as a medic with a federal disaster medical DMAT team and has worked in healthcare/healthcare leadership since 1994. DJ also served as a Secondary Review Group Member for the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) 2014 Revision, as an author/trainer for the pediatric surge training and train-the-trainer courses for general acute care hospitals in San Diego County (RCHSD/SD County 2011 & 2012), as the Medical Terrorism Liaison Officer (TLO) Coordinator at the San Diego Law Enforcement Coordination Center (SD-LECC), and as a consultant/SME doing course reviews of new and existing FEMA/DHS training courses.

DJ holds a Master of Arts in Homeland Security (with high honors) and a Bachelor of Science in Public Health (with high honors). He also currently working on his CEM.

[linkedin.com/in/djphalen](https://www.linkedin.com/in/djphalen)

LOUIS A. SASSO, MBA, NJ CEM

Corporate Director for Emergency Management at RWJBarnabas Health System

I am currently the Corporate Director for Emergency Management at RWJBarnabas Health System where I have worked for over 40 years. I am a New Jersey Certified Emergency Manager and a Paramedic (inactive). I serve as both a Task Force Leader and Advisory Board member for the New Jersey EMS Task Force, serve as the Middlesex County EMS Coordinator and Duty Officer in the Middlesex County Office of Emergency Management (OEM), am Vice Chair of the NJ County EMS Coordinator's Committee and serve as Co-Chair of the NJ UASI Hospital Committee. I am also responsible for the Emergency Management program at RWJUH New Brunswick which is one of three Level One Trauma Centers in the State.

I have been an active member of IAEM and the IAEM Healthcare Caucus where I participate in the pre-conference planning committee, leadership committee and manage our Google Group and LinkedIn page.

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/louis-a-sasso-1b500ab/>