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AHDI Announces New Board Members, 2024-2025 Executive Committee

MODESTO, CA, August 13, 2024 —The Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity (AHDI) is pleased to announce the addition of three new members and one returning member to the Board of Directors (BOD), who will serve under the leadership of incoming President, Stacy Lehto, CHDS, CRCR, AHDI-F. The Board of Directors also announced officers for 2024-2025.

“Patt King, CHDS, CHDP, AHDI-F, knows how impactful the *Power of Words* is—not only in healthcare but in life. Her belief that healthcare documentation specialists play a critical role in the care of patients (human or animal) is her guiding light.” Sheila Guston, CHDS, CHDP-A, CHDP-S, AHDI-F, Interim CEO of AHDI, goes on to say, “Patt’s commitment to the industry, to AHDI, and to all members is truly second to none. As Immediate Past President, she will team up with veteran leader, Stacy Lehto, and president-elect, Karen Edwards, to create a new Strategic Plan for the association and to further expand educational offerings for AHDI’s growing number of certified veterinary healthcare documentation professionals (CVHDPs). We are so very grateful to Patt for all that she has done and continues to do for HDSs worldwide. It’s going to be a great year!”

The following individuals were elected by the AHDI membership in June and will serve three-year Board terms from September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2027:

Julie Staal, CHDS, AHDI-F

Jeanie Unger, CHDS, AHDI-F

Joan VanVels, CHDS, AHDI-F

Joyce Smith, CRCR, AHDI-F, was re-elected by the AHDI membership and will begin her third term as a Director on the BOD September 1, 2024, through August 31, 2027.

Stacy Lehto, CHDS, CRCR, AHDI-F, stated, “As AHDI gets ready for the upcoming 2024-2025 term, I just can’t hide my excitement! Although this will be my second time as AHDI’s President, I have a feeling this is going to be a big year for us. We have Joyce Smith returning, and she is simply a powerhouse. We also have three new board members who will bring fresh ideas for new CEC

opportunities for our CHVDPs and continue to strengthen our membership and credentialing programs across the board.”

On August 5, 2024, the Board of Directors elected the following individuals to serve as officers for 2024-2025, taking office September 1, 2024:

Theresa Parks, CHDS, AHDI-F, Secretary
Becky Stahr, CHDS, Treasurer
Karen Edwards, RHDS, CHDP-A, AHDI-F, President-elect

AHDI recognizes and expresses gratitude to outgoing President Patt King, CHDS, CHDP, AHDI-F, who will begin her term as Immediate Past President, and the following Board members whose terms end August 31, 2024:

Tina Hincka, RHDS, AHDI-F
Laura Bryan, MS, MT(ASCP), CHDS, AHDI-F
Deb Palmer, CHDS

AHDI would also like to recognize and thank *Mandy Hildenbrand, CHDS, CHDP-A, AHDI-F*, who served as a Director from September 2021 to February 2024.

For more information regarding AHDI’s Board of Directors, [AHDI BOD](#).

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About AHDI

The [Association for Healthcare Documentation Integrity](#) (AHDI) is a not-for-profit association representing the individuals and organizations in healthcare documentation. AHDI leads, educates, and advocates for professional excellence and integrity in all aspects of healthcare documentation practices worldwide. We envision a future where optimal healthcare outcomes are supported by complete and accurate patient health stories. Learn more about AHDI by visiting our website, www.ahdionline.org.