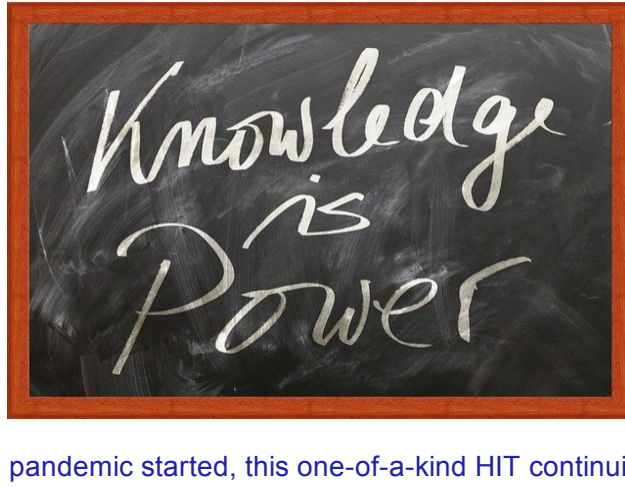


# HIMSS TENNESSEE CHAPTER

## Introducing the 12th Cohort Graduating Class of TN HIMSS HIT Workforce Accelerator



Join us in congratulating the 12th cohort graduates of our 14-week Workforce Accelerator program! Since the COVID-19 pandemic started, this one-of-a-kind HIT continuing education program has been conducted virtually.

Led by HIT professionals and designed for healthcare professionals of all levels, backgrounds, and career paths, the program teaches students the future of healthcare and business processes while providing exposure to the healthcare provider, payer, and vendor settings.

Read more about the graduates and course details on the [TN HIMSS blog](#), and find out how you can enroll for the Winter 2021 Session [here](#).

## Upcoming Events



### TN HIMSS Workforce Accelerator: Winter 2021 Session

Registration is open for the upcoming HIT Workforce Accelerator, a 14-week program designed to expand your healthcare industry and business expertise. Because this session will take place virtually, registration is open to individuals outside the state, and no previous education is required.

January 25 - May 3, 2021 | Mondays, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. CT | [Enroll here](#).



### Executive Discussion: FHIR and Interoperability

Join TN HIMSS for an exciting conversation on how FHIR is improving healthcare interoperability and patient care. This event will include speakers from Virsys12, Vanderbilt University Medical Center, and Green Room Technologies – all organizations on the forefront of the information standard.

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 | 12:00-1:00 p.m. CT | [Buy tickets](#).

## Chapter News

### The HIMSS Changemaker in Health Awards

Do you know a transformative leader? An innovative technology driver? An accomplished disruptor? The HIMSS Changemaker in Health Awards recognize inspiring senior healthcare executives who rigorously challenge the status quo in their journey to build a brighter health future.

Nominations are open until February 16. [Learn more](#).



### Submit a Speaking Proposal for HIMSS21 Optional Events

From now until Wednesday, February 24, you can submit your proposal to present on exciting topics like cybersecurity, machine learning, nursing, health equity, and more at HIMSS21, August 9-10. [Learn more](#).

### Let's Recognize the Healthcare Superstars

There's still time to recognize someone you know who is making a real difference in healthcare. Celebrate their accomplishments by nominating them for a HIMSS Health Information and Technology Award. [Learn more](#).



### Be Part of TN HIMSS!

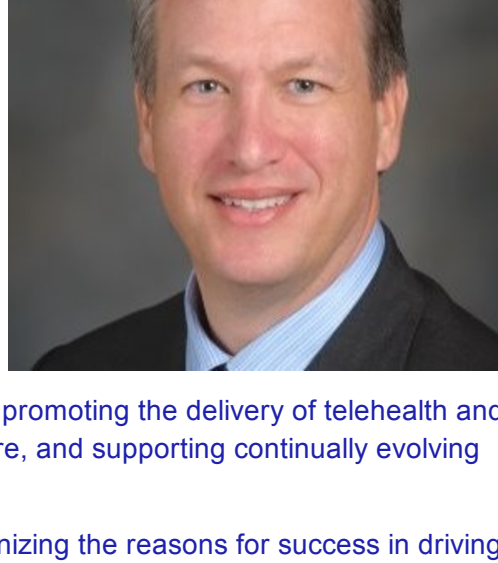
[Join here](#) to get access to our events, education, and networking opportunities. And, be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#). You can also connect with other members by joining our exclusive [LinkedIn group](#).

**Remember:** By joining TN HIMSS or renewing your membership, your savings from discounted events throughout the year will exceed membership costs.

## Member Spotlight

### Keith Perry

SVP and CIO, [St. Jude Children's Research Hospital](#)



### What do you see as the biggest challenges and opportunities in HIT following the COVID-19 crisis?

This is a great and relevant question.

The biggest challenges during the COVID-19 crisis are keeping remote workers motivated and engaged, promoting the delivery of telehealth and its benefits, strengthening the information security posture, and supporting continually evolving organizational priorities, all while racing against time.

Opportunities in a post-pandemic world include recognizing the reasons for success in driving technological change over the past year and continuing to build on that success. It's important not to become complacent, but to instead foster and celebrate the innovation that is within each of us to imagine a new tomorrow.

### What do you see as the biggest value of being a TN HIMSS member?

It is so easy to be absorbed in projects, challenges, and demands associated with our individual role. This doesn't change as our careers evolve and we are reminded of these expectations daily as we work. I believe our value at our individual organizations is not only dependent on our competencies and expertise, but also on how we are continuing to learn and change.

The TN HIMSS organization allows us to partner with and learn from others across the state that have a shared desire to work at the intersection of technology and healthcare. The community strengthens all of us.

### What has been your favorite TN HIMSS activity or event during your time as a member?

This is hard, but I vividly remember a TN HIMSS reception several years ago at the annual HIMSS conference. It was a fantastic time to catch up with old friends in addition to making new ones from other cities across the state. Given the east / west distance of the state, these events are so very important to helping the TN healthcare IT community stay connected.

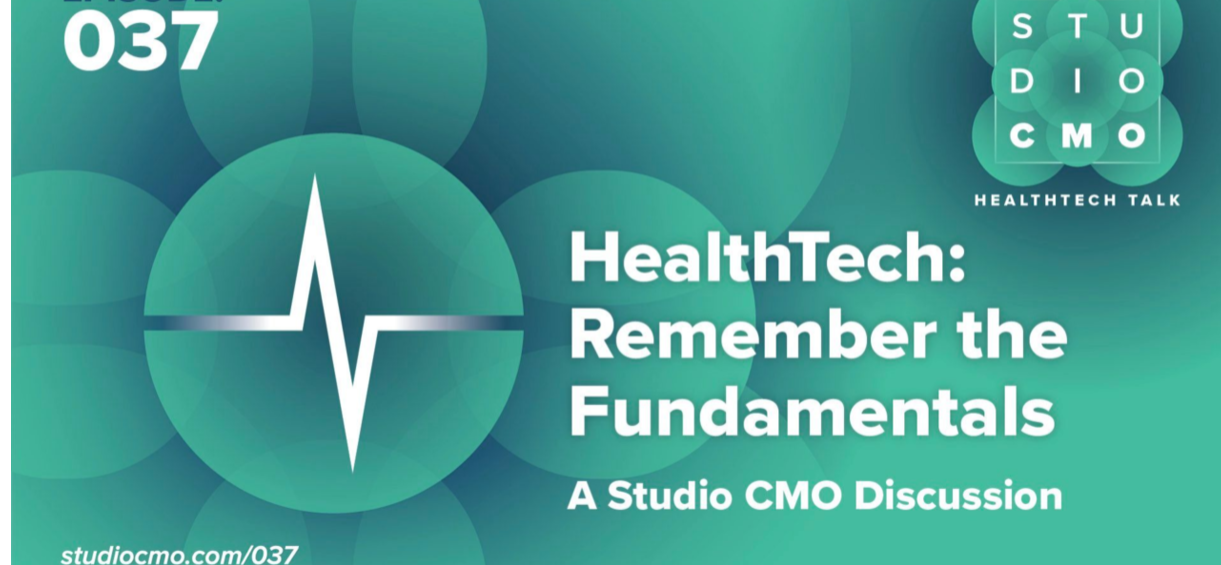
### What is the last book you read?

Over the holidays I read "The Motive" by Patrick Lencioni. I enjoy all of Patrick's books, as they are quick to read and have several practical suggestions. The Motive is a fable about a CEO who struggles with turning around his company and his relationship with a rival CEO.

### What is your favorite place to vacation?

The short answer would be anywhere with my family. We love our time at the beach, but my absolute favorite vacation would have to be traveling to Italy. I have been there a few times and thoroughly enjoy the rich history, food, wine, and espresso (not necessarily in that order)!

## Newsletter Sponsor



## Sponsor Spotlight

### C Spire

#### What services or solutions does your company offer in the health IT space?

We help with Disaster Recovery Solutions, Managed and Cloud Services, and Voice and Internet Services. We also do everything from Professional Services to IT Consulting, as well as Value Added Resell. We partner with companies of all sizes to provide scalable solutions to meet their ever-changing IT needs.



#### What do you see as the biggest value of being a TN HIMSS sponsor?

TN HIMSS does a great job of providing valuable content to their members. We love being able to support that endeavor for our Tennessee healthcare community.

#### How has your company responded to COVID-19?

Since the onset of COVID-19, C Spire has been continuing to support customer and community needs, including:

- Ramping up network resources to manage growing voice and data communication needs
- Modifying the C Spire Health smartphone app in partnership with the University of Mississippi Medical Center to exclusively serve as a COVID-19 triage
- Adding extra data and free access to educational websites for students and wireless customers in our Mississippi market

#### How long have you been a TN HIMSS sponsor?

We have been sponsors of TN HIMSS since 2018.

#### What events have you previously sponsored, and which was your favorite?

We have sponsored the Summit of the Southeast for several years and it is easily our favorite!

## Industry News

[2020's Top 20 Digital Health M&A Deals Totaled \\$50B](#)

[OptumInsight and Change Healthcare Combine to Advance a More Modern, Information and Technology-Enabled Health Care Platform](#)

[HealthStream Acquires myClinicalExchange](#)

[Envision Healthcare Announces Additions and Changes to Leadership Team](#)

[Ncontracts Acquires QuestSoft](#)

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