



Opening Keynote

9:00am – 9:45 am



Paul Keckley, Ph.D
Managing Editor, *The Keckley Report*

Dr. Paul Keckley is an independent health industry analyst with over 45 years of experience spanning public and private sectors in the U.S. and abroad. He focuses on identifying trends shaping the future of the U.S. healthcare system and advises organizations on sustainable growth strategies.

He publishes *The Keckley Report*, a widely read independent weekly, and contributes to major outlets including *Healthcare Executive*, *Modern Healthcare*, *STAT*, *CNN*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. A prolific author, he's published three books and over 250 articles on topics such as consumer engagement and insurer approval processes.

Dr. Keckley played a key role in ACA negotiations in 2010 and previously held leadership roles at Navigant, Deloitte, Vanderbilt, and PhyCor. He serves on several healthcare boards and has taught at Vanderbilt and Georgetown.

He holds degrees from Lipscomb University and The Ohio State University, with a graduate fellowship completed at Oxford University.

Navigating Healthcare Transformation Amidst Regulatory Shifts

Session One - 9:50am – 10:30 am



Brett Meeks
Executive Director, *Health Innovation Alliance*

Brett Meeks is Vice President at Horizon Government Affairs and represents clients and coalitions working to improve the delivery of health care through technology and innovation.

Brett has worked for the Center for Medical Interoperability, a non-profit research lab in Nashville seeking to connect medical devices and other technologies through a common platform to improve care. Prior to moving to Nashville, Brett served as Deputy Health Policy Director on the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for Chairman Lamar Alexander of Tennessee where he wrote, negotiated, and oversaw passage of several federal health care laws, including the 21st Century Cures Act.

He has over eight years of experience in the U.S. Senate and has also spent time working in a wide range of health care law and policy positions, including a small physician practice, a large research hospital, a small litigation firm, and a health policy consultancy. Brett is a graduate of the

University of Virginia, the National Defense University, and the University of Mississippi School of Law.



Samantha Burch

Vice President, Technology Public Policy. AHIP

Samantha (Sam) Burch is Vice President of Technology Public Policy for AHIP where she is responsible for leading policy development, strategy, and advocacy related to health care technology, data interoperability, privacy, and security. In this role, Sam presents AHIP member views to external audiences, Administration officials, and congressional staff and represents AHIP as a thought leader at internal and external meetings and conferences.

Prior to joining AHIP, Sam served as Director of Government Relations for OCHIN. She has also held senior health IT policy and advocacy roles at the American Hospital Association, HIMSS, and the Federation of American Hospitals. Early in her career, Sam spent time on Capitol Hill as a healthcare aide and press secretary for a Member of Congress.

Sam received a Master of Arts degree in government from the Johns Hopkins University in Washington, DC and a Bachelor of Arts degree in international relations from The Ohio State University.
Services.



William Cromer

Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Tennessee Hospital Association

Will Cromer serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Tennessee Hospital Association. Prior to joining THA, Will worked at a venture capital firm in Nashville focused on launching tech-enabled healthcare service companies.

Previously, he served as deputy director and chief of staff at the Division of TennCare, where he helped manage and drive the priorities of the \$12 billion state Medicaid agency. Prior to TennCare, Will served as Governor Bill Haslam's special assistant for strategy and policy director. In this role, he led the development and implementation of Haslam's policy agenda and served as a key advisor and member of the governor's senior team. Will developed legislation, oversaw strategic initiatives, assisted with budget development and served as a liaison to various state agencies and stakeholders, including TennCare and other healthcare-related agencies and organizations. Before state government, Will was a senior member of Haslam's successful gubernatorial campaign and spent time in public policy roles in Nashville and Washington, D.C.

Will received a Master of Business Administration degree from Vanderbilt University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Belmont University.



Landon Gibbs

Managing Partner, Altitude Ventures

Mr. Gibbs is a Managing Partner at Altitude Ventures. Prior to this role, he identified and managed early-stage equity investments at Clayton Associates. Mr. Gibbs serves on numerous for-profit and not-for-profit boards. Before joining Clayton Associates, he served as an aide to President George W. Bush at The White House. Mr. Gibbs recently received the Governor Winfield Dunn

Award for philanthropic leadership. He received his undergraduate degree in Economics from Vanderbilt University.

**Unlocking the Value of AI in Healthcare
Session Two – 10:50 – 11:30 am**



George Gooch

Sr. Executive Healthcare Advisor, AWS

George Gooch is a Senior Executive Healthcare Advisor at Amazon Web Services (AWS), where he focuses on AI, machine learning, and health data strategy.

Before joining AWS, George served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Texas Health Services Authority, which operates the state-level health information exchange in Texas, as well as the state's privacy and security certification program known as SECURETexas.

In his spare time, George serves on the board of directors of the Central Texas Chapter of the Health Information Management Systems Society (HIMSS), and explores Austin with his wife and six-year-old daughter.



Madelline Duplessis

Cloud Specialist, Google

Madeline DuPlessis serves as a Google Cloud Specialist on the Google Cloud Healthcare and Life Sciences Industry Team. She has been with Google for 4 years, spearheading Google's strategic partnerships with enterprise healthcare payers and providers. Based in Nashville, Madeline is currently supporting several large health systems in Tennessee and Texas as they undergo digital

transformation initiatives in the Cloud.

Madeline is also the Program Lead for Google's Rural Healthcare Cybersecurity Initiative. This program brings together experts from across Google and Alphabet including Cloud, Engineering, Mandiant, and Office of the CISO - forming a coalition of industry experts who are committed to enhancing the cybersecurity resilience of vulnerable rural health systems. The initiative's primary focus is the delivery of secure-by-design technology, services, and comprehensive support to at-risk rural organizations, mitigating their exposure to cyber threats.

Prior to working at Google, Madeline was a member of the Oracle Cloud team located in Chicago - where she supported national Healthcare clients in their ERP, HCM, and Oracle Cloud implementations.



Tim Gray

Global Health Innovation Officer, Microsoft

Tim holds position of Global Health Innovation Officer and Senior Industry Advisor at Microsoft. His role encompasses advising various organizations on the implementation of cutting-edge technologies to enhance clinical, operational, and financial performance. By maximizing capacity and improving the human experience, he aids in transforming care models. Tim is highly regarded for his expertise in deploying specific technologies, including AI, to tackle digital transformation challenges such as human engagement, burnout, home care, and future healthcare solutions. His approach involves keenly listening to customers and comprehending their difficulties, thereby driving outcomes that are perfectly aligned with their strategy and needs.

Tim's career has been unwaveringly devoted to healthcare and healthcare IT, having served as a CIO and CISO in the industry. His vast expertise spans EHR implementation, clinical informatics, project management, and sales/marketing, culminating in his role as a professor of Healthcare Interoperability for Microsoft's Bachelors & Masters of Health program.

His involvement with the College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) is extensive. He co-leads the Microsoft affiliation, sits on the CHIME Advisory Council, and has led numerous focus groups and panel discussions at CHIME events. Currently, Tim has obtained multiple healthcare certifications (CDH-E and CPHIMS) and is known for his keynote speeches on innovation and AI. Additionally, he actively participates in the Health Information and Management Systems Society and serves as the North Carolina HIMSS President.

Tim's dedication extends beyond his professional endeavors; he is a passionate volunteer in his community. He collaborates with local schools, the Dream on 3 Foundation, the American Red Cross, and has recently become involved with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.



Dara Mize

Chief Medical Information Officer, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Dr. Dara Mize serves as the Chief Medical Information Officer for Vanderbilt University Medical Center. With her background in clinical medicine and extensive experience in health informatics, Dr. Mize leads initiatives to integrate cutting-edge technology solutions into clinical workflows to improve health and healthcare delivery. She collaborates with clinicians and technology leaders, fostering a dynamic synergy between medical expertise and technology advancements to drive positive change.

Dr. Mize received her Medical Degree from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. She completed her Internal Medicine Residency and served as Chief Medical Resident at Mayo Clinic. She completed her fellowship in Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism and earned a Master of Science in Biomedical Informatics from Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Her clinical focus has been on care for patients with diabetes, particularly in the hospital setting where she served as the Medical Director.

Through her combination of clinical and informatics expertise, Dr. Mize envisions a future where seamless integration of information enhances clinical decision-making, improves patient outcomes, and fosters a collaborative, efficient healthcare ecosystem.

Enhancing Cyber Resilience in Healthcare Systems

Session Three - 11:35 am – 12:15 pm



Andy Heins

Vice President, Chief Security & Privacy Officer, Lifepoint Health

Andy Heins is Vice President and Chief Security & Privacy Officer for Lifepoint Health. In his role, he manages teams responsible for Cybersecurity, Information Protection & Privacy, Identity Management, Cloud Security, IT Risk Management, Enterprise Customer Support, Acute Clinical & Revenue Cycle Applications, and IT Mergers and Acquisitions integrations. Lifepoint Health owns and operates 60 Community Hospitals, 41 Rehabilitation hospitals and 23 behavior health hospitals, and 300+ additional sites of care, including acute rehabilitation units, outpatient centers and post-acute care facilities.

Prior to joining LifePoint Health, Andy served in roles in Information Security Compliance at Community Health Systems and Information Security and Internal Audit roles at Hospital Corporation of America.

Andy holds a Bachelor of Science in Business and Computer Information Systems from Murray State University. Andy is a Certified Information Systems Security Professional “CISSP” and holds an Executive CISO Certificate from Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College of Information Systems and Public Policy. Andy serves on numerous technology and academic advisory boards.



Michael Johnson

Chief Information Security Officer, Trend Health Partners

Michael Johnson is the Chief Information Security Officer at TREND Health Partners, a FinTech leader in healthcare reimbursement. Since April 2024, he has driven enterprise-wide security and IT strategy, enabling business growth and compliance in a highly regulated environment.

At TREND, Michael led major initiatives including HITRUST certification, multiple SOC 2 Type II audits, zero-trust architecture adoption, and M&A integration. His leadership supports scalable IT transformation, strong cybersecurity governance, and innovation aligned with business goals.

Known for building high-performing teams and fostering a culture of accountability, Michael blends deep technical expertise with strategic insight. He also serves on the cybersecurity subcommittee of CargoSprint’s Board of Directors.

His prior roles include executive positions at MEDHOST, Community Health Systems, and HCA. Michael holds a Master’s in Information Security & Assurance from Western Governors University and a Bachelor’s from Middle Tennessee State University.

He is a frequent speaker on cybersecurity, risk governance, and digital transformation.



Amy Leopard
Partner, Bradley

Amy Leopard is a partner in Bradley’s Nashville office and co-chairs the Cybersecurity and Privacy Practice Group. With over 25 years of experience in health law, she advises healthcare providers and technology companies on AI, EHRs, information exchange, genomics, privacy, cybersecurity, and breach response.

Amy previously served as a hospital vice president in both academic medical centers and community settings and interned with the U.S. Justice Department, giving her a unique operational and enforcement perspective. She is a former AHLA Board member, chaired the AHLA HIT Practice Group, and led the HIMSS Legal Task Force.

She completed AI certificate programs at the MIT Sloan School of Management (2023) and Harvard Medical School (2022), is a HIMSS Fellow, and holds CIPP-US certification. Nationally recognized by *Chambers USA* and *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Health Care and Data Security Law, she was named Nashville’s “Healthcare Law Lawyer of the Year” in 2017.



Matthew Webb
AVP-Cyber Risk, HCA Healthcare

Matthew Webb serves as HCA’s AVP – Cyber Risk Management. In this role, he is tasked with developing a third-party and cyber risk management program to support HCA and its suppliers to protect systems and patient data.

He is an accomplished IT professional with over 20 years of experience in leadership, infrastructure, information security, compliance, project management, and process improvement. Possessing strong technical and business acumen, Webb has demonstrated the ability to apply innovative ideas to solve complex problems while satisfying technical and business needs. He brings capabilities in all ten security domains with a significant focus on identity and access management, breach notification and incident response leadership, and international healthcare regulatory compliance.

Born and raised in Nashville, Webb joined HCA Healthcare in 2001 as part of the technical integration team. In 2005, he joined the HCA Information Protection & Security as part of the Information Security Consulting Team. 2008, Webb helped establish a Healthcare-focused, technology consulting firm. He services several roles, including Vice President of the Information Security Practice. In 2015 he returned to HCA and relocated his family to London to serve as HCA Healthcare International’s Chief Information Security Officer. In that role, he was focused on controls and processes to support the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Webb holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Management Information Systems and a Master in Business Administration. He has earned several professional certifications throughout his career, including the SANS GSEC GIAC Security Essentials and, most recently, the Sherwood (SABSA) Security Architecture Foundation Certification

Driving the T.R.A.I.N. (Trustworthy and Responsible AI Network)

Session Four - 1:00 pm – 1:25 pm



Peter Embi, M.D., M.S.

Chair of Biomedical Informatics, Vanderbilt University Medical Center

Devin Carty is a scientist, entrepreneur, and venture capitalist with a diverse background spanning NASA, healthcare systems, and global mission work. He is currently the CEO of Martin Ventures, a healthcare-focused venture capital firm, where he leads investments and incubates new companies. He oversees a portfolio of more than 30 companies and serves on multiple boards, including

Wellvana, Reimagine Care, Trilliant, and Livara.

Previously, Devin held executive roles at Cancer Treatment Centers of America and Vanguard Health Systems, where he helped grow the organization to 29 hospitals and \$6.5 billion in revenue before its sale to Tenet. Earlier in his career, he was a partner at Gallup Consulting, advising major health systems on strategy and growth.

He began his career as a biologist and biochemist with NASA and has served as a medical missionary in Congo, building clinics in remote villages.

The Power of Investment: Venture Capital in Healthcare

Session Five - 1:25 pm – 2:05 pm



Devin Carty

Chief Executive Officer, Martin Ventures

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Matt Schappell

Principal, Frist Cressey Ventures

Matt Schappell joined Frist Cressey Ventures in 2019 and serves as Principal. He is involved with investment origination and execution as well as post-close value creation for the Firm's partnerships. Prior to FCV, Mr. Schappell worked in Investment Banking for the Healthcare Technology Group at Ziegler in Chicago.

Before Ziegler, he held a Business Development position at a subsidiary hospital of Universal Health Services (UHS). Mr. Schappell graduated from Wheaton College (IL) with a B.A. in Business and Economics and a concentration in Applied Health Sciences.



Tania Grant
Partner, Claritas Capital

Tania is a Partner at Claritas Capital and is deeply committed to driving the transformation of healthcare. Tania helps lead Claritas' investing efforts within healthcare technology and services companies. Tania is always on the lookout for interesting companies and ways to broaden our strong Claritas network.

Tania currently serves on the board of directors for Naborforce, Aptihealth, Cogitativo, Esperta Health, At Home Harmony, and as a board observer for PeopleOne Health and Work & Mother. Additionally, Tania leads the investments in Swift and Joshin for Claritas.

Tania started her career on Wall Street in investment banking where she focused on various industries on behalf of Merrill Lynch. After Merrill Lynch, Tania worked at long-short hedge funds investing in public equities. She left Wall Street to invest in, and lead, two businesses in which she later sold. Tania has over 20 years of investment experience in public and private equity across numerous industries and she loves finding interesting areas to generate alpha. Tania graduated with honors from University of Virginia where she earned a Bachelor of Science (BS) in finance from UVA's McIntire School of Commerce. As a former UVA Varsity soccer player, she roots for all UVA sports. Tania is a native of Silver Spring, Maryland.



Eric Thrailkill
Executive Director, Echalliance-US

Eric Thrailkill is a recognized healthcare technology leader specializing in strategy, data analytics, business model innovation, revenue cycle optimization, value creation and partnerships. He previously served as CIO at three publicly traded healthcare companies – and currently leads his own company, Allee Advisory Services, LLC. In this role, he advises provider and

health technology organizations to accelerate growth through partnerships, bringing an ecosystem approach to strategy.

An active participant in local and national professional organizations, Eric is enthusiastic about connecting technology leaders for meaningful collaborations. He is chairman of Project Healthcare at the Nashville Entrepreneur Center, a program designed to assist entrepreneurs and innovators as they grow and scale healthcare solutions. From 2018 to 2020, he served as the president of the Tennessee Chapter of HIMSS, where he remains on the Board. He is actively involved in the Nashville Health Care Council and has served on the Board of the Greater Nashville Technology Council.

Eric is a venture partner with Caduceus Capital Partners and SpringTide Ventures, early-stage digital health venture capital firms. Eric practiced as a certified public accountant (Deloitte) and earned his bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Florida.

Strategic Leadership: The CIO's Roadmap for 2025 and Beyond
Session Six - 2:05 pm – 2:50 pm



Jeanne de Vries Sands

Chief Information Officer, Summit BHC

Jeanne Sands is the Chief Information Officer for Summit BHC. Jeanne has led high performing technology teams for more than twenty years across the country for payor and provider-based healthcare companies.

Most recently, Jeanne was with SSM Health in St. Louis, MO, where she served as enterprise leader delivering key digital, EHR, imaging, and system strategies while improving the patient and clinician experience. Her prior experience includes Regional CIO of Oklahoma for SSM and CIO of Presbyterian Healthcare Services.

Jeanne holds a bachelor's degree and MBA from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and is currently pursuing her doctorate at Central Michigan University.



Alan Smith

Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Lifepoint Health

As senior vice president (SVP) and chief information officer (CIO) for Lifepoint Health, Al Smith leads the organization's Information Technology Services (ITS), Innovation and cyber security functions across a \$9B+ organization that spans from coast to coast. In his role, he is responsible for implementing information technologies that support Lifepoint's mission and drive the

company's innovation, operational performance, and financial excellence.

Al has over three decades of industry experience, including roles in healthcare systems, health insurance, and technology consulting. Before joining Lifepoint, he served as SVP and CIO for RCCH HealthCare Partners and Capella Healthcare, both now part of Lifepoint Health. Before that, he served in several other leadership positions, including vice president of applications and interim CIO for Vanguard Health System, client results executive for Cerner Corporation, and vice president of clinical applications for Carolinas Healthcare System (now Atrium/Advocate Health) in Charlotte, North Carolina. His career started as a consultant with Andersen Consulting and progressed to management roles at First Consulting Group.

He holds a B.A. in financial administration from Michigan State University and a master's degree in public health from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Al is a past chairman and current member of the HIT Task Force for the Federation of American Hospitals (FAH), as well as a past board member of TN HIMSS. He is a Tennessee CIO Board Member, NTT Customer Advisory Board member, a co-chair of the Athena CIO Exchange and Lifepoint's technology rep for the Heritage Group Investment fund. He is also a CHIME member and a current venture partner and startup board member with Caduceus Capital Partners, LLC. He has been named to Becker's Hospital Review's "100 Hospital and Health System CIOs to Know" multiple times.



Patrice Bordron

Senior VP, Chief Digital and Information Officer, Community Health Systems

Patrice Bordron is the Chief Digital Information Officer (CDIO) at Community Health Systems (CHS), one of the nation’s leading healthcare providers operating 72 hospitals and over 1,000 care sites across 14 states. In this role, he oversees all aspects of technology, cybersecurity, risk assurance, and

clinical informatics.

With over 25 years of global experience across healthcare, financial services, and other highly regulated industries, Patrice has held executive roles in Fortune 100 companies. His leadership spans digital and cybersecurity transformation, crisis management, and governance across Africa, Europe, and North America.

Patrice is recognized for pioneering innovations—such as launching Africa’s first home banking system—while also guiding major organizations through complex disruptions, including data breaches and the COVID-19 pandemic. Fluent in English, French, and Afrikaans, he thrives in diverse, multicultural environments.

A thought leader and advisor, Patrice serves on multiple boards and has been invited to the White House for cybersecurity discussions. He is committed to ethical leadership, ESG principles, and shaping the future through technology, innovation, and mentorship.



Rusty Strange

Chief Information Officer, Regent Surgical Health

Rusty Strange serves as CIO of Regent Surgical Health, the nation's largest independent health system joint venture-focused ASC operator. In his role, he leverages his successful track record and years of experience creating and managing IT solutions for healthcare while building a collaborative team

dedicated to serving Regent’s growing portfolio of centers.

Prior to joining Regent, Rusty spent 17 years at AMSURG, where he served as Vice President of IT Infrastructure and Operations and then Vice President of AMSURG IT.

Rusty was appointed as an Advisory Board Member at Tennessee CIO Leadership Association in 2020 and continues to serve as an executive peer leader. In addition to his involvement in Tennessee HIMSS, Rusty is a member of the Greater Nashville Technology Council, and the Nashville Health Care Council.

He earned his degree in Business Management Information Systems from Tennessee Tech University’s College of Business.

Closing Keynote
2:55 pm – 3:30 pm



Blake Madden

Founder and Creator, Hospitalogy

Blake Madden is the Founder and Creator of Hospitalogy, a newsletter affiliated with Workweek Media that provides the latest insights on healthcare strategy, finance, M&A, and innovation. Blake brings relevant thought leadership and in-depth analysis to more than 40,000 healthcare decision makers since launching Hospitalogy in April 2022. Prior to joining Workweek, Blake worked at healthcare consulting firm VMG Health, where he provided valuation and advisory services for clients across all healthcare services verticals including nonprofit health systems, ambulatory surgery centers, urgent care, imaging centers, physician practices, and more.



Anika Gardenhire, RN, CHICO

Chief Digital Information Officer, Ardent Health

Anika Gardenhire, RN, CHICO, is the Chief Digital and Transformation at Ardent Health. In this role, she oversees the development and implementation of Ardent's digital strategy across the organization. She is responsible for ensuring digital initiatives into Ardent's strategic plan with a focus on leveraging data to support digital transformation. Ms. Gardenhire also oversees Ardent's IT infrastructure and systems, as well as data strategy and governance.

Prior to join Ardent, Ms. Gardenhire served as Chief Digital Officer and Regional Vice President of Digital and Clinical Systems at Centene Corporation. She holds a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of South Carolina's Mary Black School of Nursing and master's degree in clinical informatics and management from Duke University.



Liz Canis

Chief Operating Officer, Wellvana

Liz Canis leads Wellvana as its Chief Operating Officer and chief dot connector among payors, providers, specialists to deliver patient-centered solutions. A former Elevance and UnitedHealthcare executive, Liz is a disruptive investor and active board director with experience at Thyme Care, Sera Prognostics, Blue Venture Fund, VIM, CareEvolution, Alzheimer's Association and UnitedHealthcare Children's Foundation. As a rule, Liz brings both excellence and a sense of humor to every table.



Vinay Bhupathy

Chief Legal Officer, OneOncology

Vinay Bhupathy is the Chief Legal Officer of OneOncology and United Urology. Vinay is a dynamic and results focused attorney and biomedical engineer with a passion for innovation in healthcare and life sciences. He has over a decade of experience in working with companies across their life cycle.

Prior to joining OneOncology, Vinay was the general counsel of a novel bioanalytical company where he helped lead not only the legal function but also guided the organization's technology development and integration. Vinay was also a healthcare and life sciences partner at Sheppard Mullin where he supported clients across corporate, regulatory, and other legal matters and helped form and launch OneOncology as its outside counsel. Vinay received his undergraduate degree in Biomedical Engineering from the University of California at Los Angeles and his Juris Doctorate from Columbia University – Columbia School of Law where he was a Stone scholar.