

NEWS RELEASE
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LeadingAge Southeast Announces 2026 Board of Trustees Election Results

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – July 21, 2026 – LeadingAge Southeast, the premier association serving high-quality senior living providers across the Southeast, elected two new trustees and re-elected a third trustee at its 63rd Annual Convention and Exposition in Orlando.

Together, these leaders bring decades of experience and a shared commitment to advancing the Association's mission to inspire, serve, and advocate for aging services providers and the older adults they serve.

The newly elected trustees are:

Jennifer Stevens – John Knox Village of Florida, Pompano Beach, Fla: Re-elected as an At-Large Trustee for a three-year term (2026–2028), Stevens serves as Vice President of Healthcare and brings more than 25 years of senior living leadership experience. She has served on the board since 2023 and will continue to help guide the Association's strategic priorities.

Jeré Hales – Lambeth House, New Orleans, La.: Appointed to complete a vacant Board term (2025–2028), Hales was then elected to an at-large board seat by the membership. As Chief Executive Officer of Lambeth House, she brings more than 20 years of experience in healthcare administration, strategic operations, and clinical leadership.

Christie Vance – Methodist Senior Services, Tupelo, Miss.: Elected as an At-Large Trustee for a three-year term (2026–2028), Vance serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of Methodist Senior Services, one of Mississippi's largest providers of senior housing and services. Her extensive leadership experience and commitment to innovation will further strengthen the association's board.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jeré, and Christie to the LeadingAge Southeast Board of Trustees, and to welcome Jennifer back for another term," said Steve Bahmer, President and CEO of LeadingAge Southeast. "Each brings valuable leadership experience and a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing aging services. Their expertise will help guide the association as we continue to grow, serve our members, and advocate for older adults across the Southeast."

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About LeadingAge Southeast

Established in 1963, LeadingAge Southeast is the premier association serving high-quality senior living providers across the continuum of care in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi. The Association provides up-to-date regulatory information, a wide variety of educational opportunities, representation before the Legislature and government agencies, group purchasing services, and opportunities for networking with peers to help member communities best serve the needs of older adults.