

**Gary L. Bebow, FACHE receives A. Allen Weintraub Memorial Award  
from Arkansas Hospital Association**

**October 12, 2007** - Little Rock, Ark – The Arkansas Hospital Association presented its highest individual honor, the A. Allen Weintraub Memorial Award, to Gary L. Bebow, FACHE Administrator/CEO of White River Health System at the association’s annual awards dinner on Thursday.

The Weintraub Award, named for the late Allen Weintraub, former Administrator of St. Vincent Infirmiry Medical Center, is awarded to an Arkansas hospital chief executive officer who is recognized as a leader in healthcare and civic affairs. Weintraub served St. Vincent Infirmiry and the community of Little Rock for more than 20 years and was admired and respected for his dedication to quality service and patient care.



Bebow joined White River Medical Center (WRMC) in 1991 as Administrator/CEO. During his tenure, WRMC has become White River Health System (WRHS), a multi-facility organization serving North Central Arkansas.

Under his leadership WRHS has experienced significant growth in physician recruitment, admissions, acquisition of other services/facilities and expansion of the physical plant as well as development of new service lines to meet the needs of the eight county service area.

In addition to the expansion of facilities and services, WRHS has grown to be a major regional employer with more than 1500 employees system wide. Bebow is a strong advocate for employee education, encouraging employees to further their training and supporting them through tuition reimbursement and scholarship programs.

He supports nursing and professional allied health education by creating partnerships with educational institutions to provide the workforce needed to care for an aging population and providing a solid foundation of stable competitive jobs for area citizens. WRHS is a clinical partner with educational institutions throughout the region providing clinical training sites, financial support and leadership for program development. Bebow played an instrumental role in the development of WRMC and the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville successful proposal to establish an Area Health Education Center for North Central Arkansas.

As a leader in community health, Bebow supports initiatives to develop programs related to the health of area residents along with community partners such as Partners in Community Health, Health Teacher online curriculum, CommHealth worksite wellness events, MASH, CHAMPS, Ladies Night Out and Annual Prostate Cancer Screenings.

He is a founding member of the Independence County Economic Development Foundation and a member of the Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and active in the CEO Leadership Council. He served on the Arkansas Hospital Association Board of Directors from 1993 until 1997. He served as the President of the AHA Board of Directors from 1998-1999. He continues to be active with the association in legislative affairs.

The Arkansas Hospital Association (AHA) is an organization, which for 70 years has assisted its members through collective initiatives, which facilitate the integration and improvement of the delivery of healthcare services throughout Arkansas.