



# Tennessee Tracker

**HFMA TN Chapter  
Newsletter**

Fall 2024

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# Greetings from the President

## HFMA TN Chapter – Rising Star Program

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Hello everyone!

The Rising Star program was developed to recognize and support emerging leaders within the HFMA TN Chapter. By offering full coverage of membership dues and conference fees, the program provides invaluable opportunities for professional growth and engagement. Rising stars are selected based on their potential for leadership and commitment to the profession, and they are given unique access to HFMA TN Chapter's vast network of experienced professionals. These rising talents gain insights into the latest trends in healthcare financial management and are encouraged to participate in chapter events, which further broadens their knowledge and skills.

In addition to these benefits, rising stars are invited to attend HFMA TN Chapter board meetings, allowing them to gain firsthand experience in the governance and operations of the chapter. This exposure helps them understand the chapter's broader strategic goals while enhancing their leadership capabilities.

We will hear from some of our rising star recipients about how this program has influenced their professional journeys and shaped their perspectives on leadership and service within the HFMA TN Chapter. Please turn to the next page to hear directly from two of our rising star recipients.

Sincerely,  
Misty Brackett  
TN HFMA President 2024

# HFMA TN Chapter – Rising Star Program

## Tim Mines Revenue Cycle SBO Director Erlanger Health



"As a Revenue Cycle leader employed at a Hospital System, I've always had HFMA on my radar. It wasn't until recently that I was given a great opportunity to join the organization through the Rising Star Program. The Rising Star Program is a new initiative created by the Chapter to provide an opportunity to engage with professionals that are new to health care. With this new program, I was given the chance to attend the 2024 Fall Institute. Overall, it met all my great expectations of what HFMA stands for. I left with an experience that I will take with me throughout my career. This was a wonderful time to network with other leaders and members. I really appreciated all the discussions given by other leaders in the industry who provided much insight into the daily struggles hospital systems face in the everchanging health care environment. One of the most important things that I was looking for at this conference, was relevancy. I wanted to hear from others about the things that I deal with day to day, and I found it there. I left with a great sense of belonging to HFMA and looking forward to continuing my membership."

## Christina Culbreath Revenue Cycle Applications Manager Erlanger Health

"I'm a newly accepted member of HFMA, and thrilled to have been selected for the Rising Star's program! Rising Star's provided the opportunity for me to attend the fall conference event and it was truly a great experience. The insightful presentations from several great speakers provided practical tools and suggestions that I can directly apply to my work managing Revenue Cycle applications teams, particularly during the "Building a Winning Culture" session. The leadership panels were equally valuable and provided a platform to learn about innovative practices from other organizations. I was intrigued by the use of bots, which seem to be popular and are working well for organizations in enhancing workflows and enabling teams to focus more on difficult and complex scenarios. Additionally, the conference allowed me to forge new connections and network with providers and sponsors from all over. It was a great opportunity and I really enjoyed engaging with others who share my passion for revenue cycle management."

## Officers:

Chairperson: Chase Wunder

President: Misty Brackett

President-Elect: Clint Jones

Secretary: Misty McMichael

Treasurer: Mikey Cox

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Member At-Large: Katie Johnson

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- Member Engagement: Matt Wolf
- DEI & University Outreach: Courtney Hawkins

## Vice President: Kathryn Topper

- Sponsorship: Sandra Hogan
- Certification: Buffy Loveday
- Communications: Nick McCook

## Vice President: Chad Preston

- Leadership Development: Rodney Adams
- Programs & Education: Hudson Shelton
- CPE Coordinator: Katie Reid

# Chapter Sponsors



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## Unlock Your Earning Potential: The Value of HFMA Certifications

Are you looking to boost your earning power in the healthcare finance sector? HFMA (Healthcare Financial Management Association) certifications offer a gateway to enhanced credentials that showcase your expertise across a variety of healthcare specialties.

### Why Get Certified?

Earning an HFMA certification isn't just a professional milestone; it's a validation of your skills and knowledge in healthcare finance. The benefits are substantial:

- **Higher Salary:** Certified professionals often command higher salaries compared to their non-certified counterparts.
- **Increased Job Fulfillment:** Achieving certification can lead to greater job satisfaction as you gain confidence in your skills and knowledge.
- **Improved Organizational Performance:** Certified teams can drive better outcomes, enhancing overall performance within your organization.

### Invest in Your Future

Whether you're considering earning a certification for yourself or looking to certify your team, you're making a proactive choice to invest in professional development. Individual certifications not only elevate your standing among peers but also equip you with the tools to excel in a competitive job market. If you choose to certify your team, you're reinforcing a culture of continuous improvement and goal setting, which can significantly enhance your organization's capabilities.

### Show Off Your Accomplishments

HFMA partners with Credly to provide digital badges for all certified individuals. These badges make it easy to showcase your achievement across various platforms, including your email signature and LinkedIn profile. With digital badging, you can share your accomplishment effortlessly, allowing potential employers and colleagues to recognize your dedication to professional growth.

### Explore Your Certification Options

Ready to take the next step? Explore the range of HFMA certifications available to find the right path for you, your team, or your entire organization. Each certification is designed to meet the specific needs of healthcare finance professionals, ensuring that you can enhance your skills in the areas that matter most.

*For Assistance or More Information about HFMA certifications, feel free to reach out to [careerservices@hmfma.org](mailto:careerservices@hmfma.org) or your local chapter connections here [tennessee@hfma.org](mailto:tennessee@hfma.org).*

**Let's work together to unlock your potential!**



# HFMA TN Fall Institute: Beyond the Lines

The 2024 HFMA TN Fall Institute brought together healthcare finance professionals from across the state and beyond for three days of insight, networking, and innovation. Held from October 16 to October 18, this year’s event encouraged attendees to think “Beyond the Lines,” challenging them to look beyond conventional strategies in healthcare finance. With thought-provoking sessions, dynamic discussions, and interactive events, participants explored fresh perspectives and practical tools to navigate the evolving healthcare landscape.

One of the most engaging segments was the “Thinks & Drinks” session, where attendees gathered to discuss key challenges and share solutions in a relaxed, collaborative setting. This event, designed to spark conversation and idea exchange, highlighted the value of connecting with colleagues from diverse areas of the healthcare finance field. Thursday evening’s networking event at Friends in Low Places rooftop bar provided an additional opportunity to foster these relationships, all while enjoying a scenic view and a vibrant atmosphere.

Another highlight of the institute was the focus on community impact. This year, the HFMA TN Chapter partnered with Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP), a charity dedicated to building beds for children in need. Attendees were encouraged to contribute to this initiative, underscoring HFMA’s commitment to supporting the communities where we work and live. The HFMA TN Chapter raised over \$3,000 for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace organization.

The Fall Institute not only offered valuable professional development but also strengthened our HFMA community, fostering new connections and reinforcing established ones. Thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of this year’s event. We look forward to seeing you again next year for more insightful discussions and opportunities to grow together!





# Celebrating Chapter History

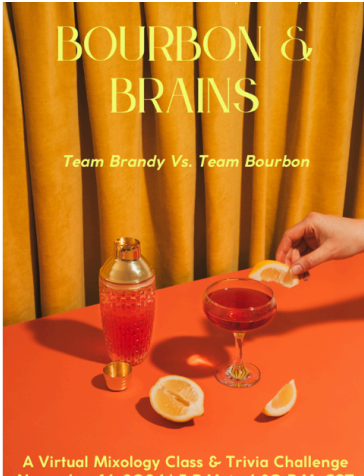
## Gloria Adams – HFMA Tribute

Gloria Adams lived a full life of service and joy, and her impact is still felt today within the Middle Tennessee HFMA Chapter. Gloria served as Secretary twice, President in 1996-97 and was also a long time member of the Board of Directors. According to a friend and fellow Board Member, Gloria was instrumental in a shift the Chapter made to delegate Board responsibilities, launch road shows, provide annual meetings, and set big goals for membership and sponsorship growth. This led to record breaking membership numbers, increased sponsorship revenue and the Chapter being awarded the coveted “Shelton Award”. This was a seminal turning point for the Chapter and paved the way for the current success and state-wide collaboration and culture of success we all enjoy.

Beyond her accolades and Chapter accomplishments, Gloria is fondly remembered by friends and colleagues as a friendly and energetic individual who always wore a big smile. According to a fellow member, Gloria “knew everyone” and always went out of her way to make sure new members felt welcome. She was a proud mother of two boys and loved spending time with her family and grandchildren. She loved to collect things, which included her wardrobe as she was always well-dressed. She also loved to travel and always looked forward to the infamous Annual Leadership Cruise, where HFMA current and past Presidents squeezed a little work in between the good food and fun.

Tragically, Gloria’s life was cut short by an automobile accident in 1999. This was devastating news for the Tennessee HFMA Chapter, the national Office of HFMA, her colleagues at Blue Cross, and her many friends and family. The Chapter is proud to offer the Gloria Adams Memorial Scholarship to commemorate her faithful service and legacy, and to provide eligible candidates with the opportunity to fully participate in all HFMA offers, which is just the way she would want it.

# Upcoming Events



The HFMA Tennessee & Wisconsin HFMA Chapters Proudly Present

## Bourbon & Brains

Date - November 14, 2024

[Click here to learn more about sponsorship opportunities and registration.](#)

### Region 5 Thrive & Revive in 2025 Women's Conference

- Dates - January 12 - 14, 2025
- Location - Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort and Spa

[Click here to learn more about sponsorship opportunities and registration.](#)



### HFMA Region 5 South Eastern Summit 2025

- Dates - February 9 - 12, 2025
- Location - Von Braun Center, Huntsville, AL

[Click here to learn more about sponsorship opportunities and registration.](#)

<h4><u>Gloria Adams Golf Tournament</u></h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• April 9, 2025</li><li>• Hermitage Golf Course</li></ul>	<h4><u>Kelly Miller Road Show</u></h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be on the lookout for more details</li><li>• Events being planned for February, March, and May</li><li>• Potential sites include Chattanooga, Knoxville, and Nashville</li></ul>
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# Chapter Resources

Welcome to our newsletter resources page! Here, you'll find a curated collection of helpful articles, guides, and tools. Whether you're looking to dive deeper into featured topics or seek additional resources, you'll find valuable content to explore.

Please click the links below.

[Regulatory & Accounting Resources](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Physician Practice Resources](#)

[HFMA Blog](#)

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