Robyn Begley, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN

Robyn Begley is chief executive officer of the American Organization for Nursing Leadership (AONL) and senior vice president, chief nursing officer of the American Hospital Association (AHA). In her role at AONL, she leads a membership organization of more than 11,000 nurse leaders whose strategic focus is excellence in nursing leadership. She oversees a number of key initiatives involving workforce, quality and safety, and future care delivery models. In addition, she works collaboratively with the AHA to ensure the perspective and needs of nurse leaders are heard and addressed in public policy issues related to nursing and patient care and leads the AHA Workforce initiative.

Begley previously served as vice president of nursing and chief nursing officer at AtlantiCare in Atlantic City, N.J. During her 35 year tenure, she led AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center to achieve the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Magnet designation four times and was part of the executive team that led the organization to achieve the 2009 Baldrige National Quality Award for innovation and performance excellence. She also worked with NAACP, Hispanic Alliance and Pan Asian leaders to promote diversity in the nursing workforce by establishing nursing fellowship and scholarship programs, as well as a mentoring program for students.

Begley serves on many boards, most recently as a member of the AONL Board of Directors, chair of AONL Foundation Board of Directors, and the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare Board of Directors. Begley earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (now Rutgers), New Brunswick, N.J., master's degree from Widener University, Chester, Pa. and bachelor's degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. She is board certified as an advanced nurse executive with the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Begley was inducted as a Fellow into the American Academy of Nursing class of 2020.