



**Joel K. Butler**

Butler is the Chief External Affairs and Community Services Officer at University Health Systems of Eastern Carolina (UHS). In that capacity, he coordinates and supports external activities and community programs in the many venues served by UHS. Butler works collaboratively with UHS regional hospital presidents to foster institutional trust and to convey a positive image. Butler is also responsible for Government relation activities and advocacy for UHS. He communicates to state and federal lawmakers the impact of new legislation to hospitals and requests appropriation support for un-funded needs in the region. Butler's role requires active community and regional engagement and productive relationships with elected officials of all levels. In addition, Butler is the President of UHS and Pitt Memorial Hospital (PMH) Foundations. In his role as President, Butler provides commitment and vision, identification and articulation of objectives, and leads Foundation operations in a manner most efficient and effective in fulfillment of its mission to support the unique needs of UHS hospitals and patients.

Prior to his role as Chief External Affairs Officer and President, UHS/PMH Foundations, Butler spent 10 years as a Vice President at Pitt County Memorial Hospital (UHS).

Before moving to Pitt County Memorial Hospital in 1989, he was Financial Controller at National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, DC.

Butler's community activities include the East Carolina University Board of Trustees, his appointment to the Board of Directors of the Global Transpark Authority, and North Carolina Chamber. He also serves on the North Carolina Economic Development Board of Directors, President Access East (a tax exempt organization whose mission is improving the health status of the underserved and indigent in eastern North Carolina), First Citizens Bank Community Board, and Eastern Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Board of Directors.

Butler is a member of the Academy of Health Care Executives, a professional organization in the healthcare industry.

Butler graduated from Oakwood College (Huntsville, AL) in 1975 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration. He received his Master's Degree in Public Administration from East Carolina University in 1998. Butler has worked in the healthcare field for 27 years.

Butler was born in Topeka, Kansas and is married to Thyria Chaney Butler. Butler has three children; daughters Candice and Tracey, and son Jordan. Grand-daughter Ryan Victoria joined the family in April 2008.