



COMMHIT26 SPEAKER

Karen Blanchette

MBA

Executive Director
PAHCOM

ON STAGE AT COMMHIT26

THU, DEC 10
9-9:25am

Welcome to CommHIT26: Out of Hospital Care

With Kendra Siler, Lauren Young-Work

ABOUT KAREN

Karen Blanchette, MBA, is Executive Director of the Professional Association of Health Care Office Management (PAHCOM), bringing 30+ years of leadership experience spanning healthcare operations, information technology, cybersecurity, and process improvement.

A former Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Medical Service Corps, she made history as the first female healthcare administrator assigned to an aircraft carrier, serving as senior administrator of a 65-bed hospital aboard the USS John C. Stennis and directing critical medical and occupational health programs. Throughout her career, Karen has led technology, operations, and innovation initiatives across both public and private sectors. Her experience includes serving as Chief Information Officer for Naval Dental Command Headquarters, leading software development teams within the banking industry, overseeing medical logistics for major healthcare organizations, and managing technology and business development initiatives throughout the healthcare and software sectors. She has also

been a longstanding collaborator with CommHIT, contributing her expertise to national efforts focused on healthcare cybersecurity, workforce development, digital transformation, and strengthening care delivery in rural and underserved communities. Karen served on multiple U.S. Department of Health and Human Services task groups, helping advance cybersecurity awareness and resilience across the healthcare sector. Known for her ability to bridge people, processes, and technology, she is a highly respected voice on healthcare leadership, operational excellence, and innovation. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Management and an MBA from the University of West Florida.

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CommHIT Headquarters at the Astronauts Memorial Foundation, Kennedy Space Center, Florida



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