The SCHA Quality and Patient Safety team was proud to accept the Dick Davidson Quality Milestone Award for Allied Association Leadership at the 2012 American Hospital Association Leadership Summit.

The award is presented annually to a state, regional or metropolitan hospital association which, through its programs and activities, demonstrates exceptional organizational leadership and innovation in quality improvement and has made significant contributions to the measurable improvement of quality within its geographic area.

SCHA’s mission is to create a world-class care delivery system by fostering high quality patient care and by serving as effective advocates for the hospital community.

The association’s strength and success has come from highly successful collaborations that have grown to include nearly every health-related organization in the state today. The team demonstrates a comprehensive quality portfolio focused on consistent quality behaviors and procedures and statewide evidence-based improvements.

**SHCA key quality and patient safety successes include:**

- A partnership with the American Heart Association on Mission: Lifeline that unified all 17 heart hospitals in the state to reduce the average state-wide treatment time for heart attack patients by 35% over a five-year period, below national treatment time averages and exceeding clinical guidelines.

- The Stop Blood Stream Infections (BSI) campaign was inspired by Johns Hopkins and the Michigan Hospital Association Keystone Center and achieved a 67% reduction in central line-associated blood stream infections over a two-year period.

- Safe Surgery 2015, for which South Carolina (led by SCHA) serves as the pilot state, achieved 100% participation from SCHA member hospitals. The goals of the program are to reduce surgical infections, major complications and death through effective population-wide implementation of the World Health Organization Surgical Safety Checklist Program.