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**REENA JOSEPH KELLY, PhD, MHA, NAMED 2026 RECIPIENT OF
THE GLANDON FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FOR ADVANCEMENT
OF
HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION**

WASHINGTON, DC, April 15, 2026 – Reena Joseph Kelly, PhD, MHA, has been named the seventh recipient of the Glandon Family Scholarship for Advancement of Healthcare Management Education. Dr. Kelly will be formally recognized at AUPHA’s Annual Business Meeting scheduled to be held virtually on June 2, 2026, 2:00 – 3:15PM (EST).

Dr. Kelly is Assistant Professor, Department of Health Administration, School of Health Sciences, at the University of New Haven. She has worked in the healthcare industry in the clinical, administrative, and research fields for nearly 20 years. Beginning her career as a clinical dental surgeon and practicing for nearly a decade, she then went on to earn her Master’s in Health Administration (MHA) with a graduate certificate in Public Health from the University of Missouri-Columbia. After a brief period in hospital-based staffing and management, she went on to get her PhD in health services administration from The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Kelly’s work has been published in several academic journals, and her research and teaching interests lie in the area of strategic management and organizational behavior in healthcare organizations.

The Glandon Scholarship was established in the fall of 2019 to create an endowment for a faculty scholarship at an AUPHA member program, with the intent of creating a durable legacy in support of quality healthcare management education. The scholarship is aimed at future educational leaders by giving them recognition and

financial support at an early stage of their academic career. The Scholarship is named after former AUPHA President and CEO, Gerald L. Glandon, PhD.

“Dr. Kelly clearly excels in teaching, contributing to curriculum/departmental work, mentoring and other activities outside the classroom, and has built solid research programs,” said Richard Hirth, PhD, University of Michigan, and Co-chair of the Glandon Family Scholarship Selection Committee. “She is certainly a deserving recipient of this honor.”

“I am deeply grateful to the Glandon Family and AUPHA for their recognition and support for early career educators, like me, in the field of healthcare management education,” said Dr. Kelly. “I am also thankful to the University of New Haven and the Department of Population Health and Leadership for their continuous support of my work. Being named as the 2026 Glandon Family Scholarship recipient is an honor and a testament to the importance of rigorous and data-driven teaching methods and reaffirms my decision to be a part of educating and preparing future healthcare managers and leaders. This scholarship will be immensely helpful in allowing me to expand my teaching tools in the classroom to empower students with confidence and compassion for a bright future in the healthcare industry. I am honored to join a fantastic group of peer educators and am excited to continue to change healthcare delivery for the better.”

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The Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA) is a global network of colleges, universities, faculty, individuals, and organizations dedicated to the improvement of healthcare delivery through excellence in healthcare management and policy education. Its mission is to foster excellence and drive innovation in health management and policy education and promote the value of university-based management education for leadership roles in the health sector. It is the only non-profit entity of its kind that works to improve the delivery of health services – and thus the health of citizens – throughout the world by educating professional managers at the entry level. AUPHA’s membership includes the premier baccalaureate, master’s, and doctoral programs in healthcare management education in the United States, Canada, and around the world. For more information, please visit www.aupha.org.