"The purpose of our organization is to work together with providers, employers and the state and federal government to transform health care with trusted and caring solutions," began keynote Mark Morgan, President & CEO of Anthem Blue Cross, at the 65th Annual Meeting. "We have enough money to do this right, but we have a lot of inefficiency in the system," said keynote Mark Morgan, President & CEO of Anthem Blue Cross, about the Affordable Care Act. "Our costs are two times more per capita than some European countries." Despite much discussion about the complications surrounding implementation of the ACA ("Glitches' may be a little bit of an understatement," joked Morgan) and rising healthcare costs, Morgan’s outlook was mostly positive. "It has really been transformative for our healthcare ecosystem, and has the potential for positive change and innovation," he said. Morgan emphasized the great need for healthcare affordability - which he said is thus far an unmet need - as well as reducing the number of uninsured and enabling people with preexisting conditions to buy insurance. He went on to predict the political horizon for healthcare, designating 2015 as a year of "clean up" and the following three years as the introduction of "Health Reform 2.0," in which there will be changes to benefit structure, Medicare and Medicaid, and exchanges will become more active in other states. Morgan praised the state for taking the lead on the new healthcare law. "California is the gold standard for implementation of the ACA," he said.
Congratulations again to our award winners!

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