Dr. Larry Leaming is the Chief Executive Officer for Estes Park Health in Estes Park, Colorado. He is an experienced healthcare executive with more than 30 years as the Chief Executive Officer of rural hospitals in Nebraska, New Mexico, and Colorado. He is a Registered Respiratory Therapist who has risen from the ranks as a staff therapist to supervisor, department director, vice president, and CEO. Dr. Leaming holds a master's degree in Health Administration from Central Michigan University and a Doctoral Degree in Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina. He is a Board-Certified Healthcare Executive and Fellow with the American College of Healthcare Executives. Dr. Leaming lives in Estes Park, Colorado with his wife Linda. Their three children and two grandchildren also live in Colorado nearby. Dr. Leaming is also an instructor in health administration with faculty appointments at the Medical University of South Carolina and the University of Northern Colorado, Monfort School of Business.

What advice would you give an incoming DHA student?
I have had the honor of teaching the first Leadership course to incoming DHA students for the past five years. During this course I get to know the incoming students and talk to them about their concerns and questions about the program. My best advice is: 1. Talk to your family about the challenges of this journey. They are in this with you and are key to your success. They can help you to find the balance you will need between work, school, and your home life. 2. Make a conscious effort to find the discipline you will need in your life to complete the program. Use whatever means you are comfortable with, but schedule your work time, school time, and family time carefully. Your success will be dependent upon your ability to stay on task and on time. 3. Work closely with your cohort. You are not on this journey alone. I learned as much, or more, from the other members of my cohort and when I need help or an encouraging word, we were all there for each other. Members of my cohort are very close friends 11 years later.