



REUTERS EVENTS™

TRAILBLAZING WOMEN 2024 HEALTHCARE



INTRO

Welcome to Reuters Events' Trailblazing Women in Healthcare 2024, a collection of inspiring, influential and impactful women we have collated to celebrate International Women's Day.

This list of 20 trailblazing women has been curated from a much broader pool of nominations we sought from across the industry, speaking to stakeholders and representatives to discover women with a demonstrable track record of influence, impact and leadership of their organization and industry alike.

We'd like to thank all of those who contributed and helped us put together our list of Trailblazing Women this year.

The theme for this year's International Women's Day is to #InspireInclusion, the goal being to inspire people

to collaborate more effectively in making the world more inclusive more women. It is our hope that this report plays just a small part in that by showcasing the significant achievements of our list of trailblazing women, which you can read in the forthcoming pages.

The stories and career accomplishments you'll read in this report are not only a testament to the expertise and determination our trailblazers have demonstrated, but should also serve as inspiration for the next generation of talented, trailblazing women.

We hope in publishing this report, we make these stories more visible and shine a light on the power of diverse and representative environments.

Paddy Le Count

Head of Healthcare
Reuters Events

HOW WE ASSEMBLED OUR LIST OF TRAILBLAZING WOMEN

In naming our list of Trailblazing Women in Healthcare, we sought nominations of individuals who have had a lasting impact on their industries, with a demonstrable track record of influence, impact and leadership.

A broader pool of nominations was assessed individually by an internal team, with nominations considered against the recency of their achievements and the impact they have had on their organization and industry.

Additional weighting was given to nominations from underrepresented communities and/or industry sectors.

Nominations were received from a broad set of industry stakeholders, including but not limited to, trusted contacts from across Reuters Professional and the communities served by Reuters Events.

Efforts were made to ensure that we received nominations from as broad and representative a pool of stakeholders as possible, and our final list of Trailblazers has been assembled to reflect fair representation ethnically, geographically, per industry and from across the political spectrum where necessary.

All individuals nominated in our list of Trailblazers have given their consent to be named in this list.



Dr. Asima Ahmad
*Co-Founder & Chief
 Medical Officer*
Carrot Fertility

Asima Ahmad, MD, MPH, FACOG, is Co-founder and Chief Medical Officer (CMO) of Carrot Fertility, the leading global fertility care platform. As Carrot's CMO, Dr. Ahmad leads clinical strategy, overseeing the company's expansive network and telehealth program, which offers access to more than 10,000 reproductive endocrinologists, urologists, adoption experts, mental health experts, OB/GYNs, doulas, and midwives.

In addition to her role at Carrot, Dr. Ahmad is a practicing reproductive endocrinologist and infertility specialist. Dr. Ahmad is double board-certified in reproductive endocrinology and infertility and obstetrics and gynecology. She earned a combined medical and public health degree from the University of Chicago's Pritzker School of Medicine and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She completed her residency in OB/GYN at Yale-New Haven Hospital and her fellowship training in reproductive endocrinology and infertility at the University of California, San Francisco. She has worked alongside and received mentorship from former ASRM presidents, Dr. Hugh Taylor and Dr. Marcelle Cedars. Dr. Ahmad's work has been published extensively in academic literature and internationally on a wide range of topics related to infertility, reproductive and hormonal health, gynecologic malignancies, and patient safety.



I'm honored to receive this award alongside other esteemed healthcare leaders. I look forward to continuing our work at Carrot to improve access to high-quality fertility care, family-building support and lifelong hormonal health, from fertility preservation and IVF to pregnancy and menopause, for millions worldwide."



Nwando Anyaoku,
M.D., MPH, MBA
*Chief Health Equity and
 Clinical Innovation Officer*
Providence

Dr. Nwando Anyaoku is a physician executive, speaker, coach and consultant based in Seattle, Washington. A pediatrician by training, she works with clinical, community and innovation leaders to advance equity in health, and culturally competent innovative solutions to care delivery. She is dedicated to advancing health equity through technology and digital innovation. Dr. Anyaoku is committed to leadership development and supporting physicians and executives on their leadership journey. She has several years of experience as a mentor and coach to executives, especially women leaders of all backgrounds, and is a much sought-after speaker and executive coach.



I am honored to accept this Reuters Trailblazing Women award. I believe that health equity is a human right, and it is our responsibility to address the root causes of health disparities. Women, especially women of color, face unique challenges when it comes to accessing health care and achieving optimal health outcomes. We must continue to advance policies and innovative solutions that prioritize health equity, and ensure that all individuals, regardless of their background, have access to high-quality health care. Thank you for recognizing the important work that women are doing to advance health equity, and I am proud to be part of this movement."



Karen Ashley
*Vice President, Chief
 Diversity, Equity &
 Inclusion Officer*
Providence

As Chief Diversity Officer for Providence, Karen is responsible for developing and leading Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion strategic initiatives that advance Providence's vision of Health for a Better World.

Prior to joining Providence, Karen was the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer for American Electric Power (AEP) based in Columbus, Ohio. She served as advisor to the CEO, senior leadership team, and business leaders across AEP's eleven state territory. She led the enterprise Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) vision and strategy as well as overseeing compliance with Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity regulations.

She has more than 20 years of Diversity and Human Resources experience in the health, energy, construction, and retail industries. Karen has held positions of influence in the following companies: Georgia Power, Ashland Paving and Construction, San Antonio Water System, University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, Texas Med Clinic, and QVC.

Karen is a native of San Antonio, Texas. She received a Master of Arts degree from Webster University and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of North Texas.

Karen received the National Black MBA Association - Columbus Chapter Diversity & Inclusion Person of the Year Race for Excellence Award. The National Diversity Council named Karen one of the Top 50 CDOs for leadership and personal accomplishments.

She is a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and enjoys spending time with her family, mentoring, cycling, traveling, golfing, and shopping at local boutiques. She has been the guest on podcasts to include: CMO Podcast DEI mini-series; MDRG Healthcare Podcast: What Consumers Want; and StoryCorps Podcast with Mike Drummond. Karen is currently authoring a book that will chronicle her life's journey.



I am both honored and humbled to be named as one of Reuters Events' Trailblazing Women. I believe that every woman has the potential to break barriers and shatter glass ceilings, and it is our duty to pave the way for the next generation. It is important that we continue to strive for gender equality and provide opportunities for all women to succeed. Thank you for recognizing the hard work and dedication of women in our industry, and I look forward to continuing to lead by example and hope to inspire others to do the same."



Jennifer Bollinger
*Senior Vice President
 and Chief Consumer &
 Brand Officer*
Sutter Health

Jennifer Bollinger is Sutter Health's Senior Vice President, Chief Consumer and Brand Officer. In this role, Bollinger leads the Marketing, Communications, Patient Experience, Consumer Strategy and Enterprise Access teams to further elevate Sutter's brand and increase consumer engagement with the system by delivering a more connected patient experience. Bollinger is a national leader in developing and implementing consumer engagement strategies that increase use of digital tools and seamlessly connect patients to information and care in the right way and at the right time.

Prior to Sutter, Bollinger spent nearly 12 years at Louisiana-based Ochsner Health where she held leadership roles in public relations, corporate communications and consumer strategy. In these roles, Bollinger oversaw external and crisis communications and led teams that launched multi-channel, industry award-winning communications and engagement initiatives. Most recently, Bollinger served as Ochsner's Senior Vice President, Chief Consumer Officer and drove advancements in the organizations digital front door and connected experience.

Prior to Ochsner, Bollinger spent nearly 25 years leading strategy for several marketing and communications agencies, including serving as principal and Chief Strategist at The Netcom Group – a digital agency focused on national and international clients in the hospitality, consumer product and healthcare industries.

She earned her BA in Marketing and Mass Communication from Tulane University, completed Human-Centered Design certifications from both IDEO-U and Harvard Business School's Executive Education Program and is an Agile Certified Practitioner.



I'm honored to be recognized as a Trailblazing Woman in Healthcare. Throughout my career, I've strived to be a catalyst for change through influence and collaboration. Over the last decade, my mission has been to develop and implement strategies that more seamlessly connect the in-person and digital experience in ways that give both patients and caregivers value. At Sutter Health, I'm energized by the work we're doing to transform the way we are meeting the modern consumer expectations of our patients and grow to serve more people."



Karina Davidson
*Director and Professor,
 Institute of Health System
 Science, Feinstein
 Institutes for Medical
 Research & Senior Vice
 President Research &
 Dean of Academic Affairs*
Northwell Health

For over 25 years, Dr. Karina Davidson, a distinguished leader in scientific, educational, and patient care missions, has led teams through the strategic generation and implementation of evidence-based practices. With a remarkable portfolio, she has led over 30 federally funded grants and contributed to the scientific community with a prolific output of 375 peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Davidson is also past chair of the United States Preventive Services Task Force. Dr. Davidson's current research focuses on innovations in personalized trials, revolutionizing the management of chronic diseases and patient symptoms by integrating individual preferences and values. Beyond that, she actively works to leverage innovative technology and data science to enhance research healthcare delivery and elevate quality of life for all patients.



To set new trends in medical research and health care, we need to focus on proactive, preventive care. Through the emerging role of artificial intelligence and other revolutionary methods and technologies, personalized clinical trials and the use of data, we can bridge health disparities and improve the health for everyone. I am grateful to be among a list of so many notable women and look forward to a better future for all."



Betty Diamond
*Director, Institute of
 Molecular Medicine at the
 Feinstein Institutes for
 Medical Research*
Northwell Health

Betty Diamond, MD is a pioneer in the basic and clinical research of autoimmune diseases, particularly systemic lupus erythematosus. For more than four decades, Dr. Diamond has been dedicated to the study of autoantibodies, how they arise and how they affect brain function, specifically how they may contribute to changes in cognition or behavior in patients with lupus. As a scientific leader, she has committed her career to helping female investigators navigate their careers in the male-dominated – often biased – medical research arena. Dr. Diamond was elected to The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in May 2022 for her research in molecular medicine. She was formerly president of the American Association of Immunology and served on the Board of Directors of the American College of Rheumatology and the Scientific Council of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS). Dr. Diamond is also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and a member of the National Academy of Medicine. Dr. Diamond graduated with a BA from Harvard University and an MD from Harvard Medical School. She has headed the rheumatology divisions at Albert Einstein School of Medicine and at Columbia University Medical Center. She is the director of the PhD and MD/PhD programs of the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell.



In healthcare and biomedical research, it is important to foster an environment of learning and openness and to recognize the need for equity and diversity and that advances come through partnership with patients. The efforts of women and other underrepresented groups in the medical and research fields can transform curiosity into breakthroughs that change medical care and the lives of patients."



Marisa Farabaugh
Chief Supply Chain Officer
AdventHealth

Marisa Farabaugh is Senior Vice President and Chief Supply Chain Officer for AdventHealth. In this role, she provides strategic direction toward new and sustainable supply chain and business services efficiencies including aligning people, processes and technology, optimizing sourcing, driving cost and control initiatives, and maintaining a culture of efficiency and effectiveness. Farabaugh is also responsible for system-level environmental sustainability work, along with governance and strategy for AdventHealth design and construction services, ancillary, and support services areas, including pharmacy, radiology, laboratory, respiratory care, facilities, food and nutrition services, biomedical engineering, security, and environmental services.

Farabaugh has an extensive background in the management of multi-functional teams, resource utilization, financial analytics, processes engineering, and mergers and acquisitions. She previously served as Vice President of General Services and Chief Supply Chain Officer for Wake Forest Baptist Health in North Carolina. Her experience also includes positions with University of Florida Health and The Hershey Company.

Farabaugh earned a master's degree in business administration from Pennsylvania State University, and a bachelor's degree in industrial and systems engineering from the University of Florida.



Behind the recognition of great work by any leader, is a great team willing to lean into challenges and trust one another. The people make the difference and I have been fortunate to learn from and work with great people throughout my life.

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” – African Proverb



Debra Fields
Executive Vice President and Chief Transformation Officer
City of Hope

Debra Fields joined City of Hope over 25 years ago as its first chief compliance officer, drawn to its decades long legacy of philanthropy, whole person care and groundbreaking scientific discoveries, and has held a variety of leadership roles. Serving as Chief Transformation Officer since 2016, Debra leads a uniquely integrated set of system functions all aimed at creating the environment that enables City of Hope to fulfill its mission: to make hope a reality for all touched by cancer and diabetes. She oversees human resources and talent stewardship; diversity, equity and inclusion; culture and experience; internal and external communications; brand and marketing; strategic initiatives navigation, organization effectiveness and change; and legal and compliance. Her work over the past years has focused on chaperoning City of Hope's transformation into a national system, through organization design, talent strategy, geographic and infrastructure expansion, and organizational culture renewal. Fields serves as a key leader in preparing City of Hope to trailblaze in healthcare by designing a national cancer care and research system that uniquely integrates clinical ingenuity, scientific discovery and unparalleled compassion.

Fields obtained her juris doctorate, from Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and her undergraduate degree, from Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts.



City of Hope has grown in recent years to become one of the largest cancer research and treatment organizations in the U.S. and I am excited about the impact we will continue to have on the lives of people touched by cancer and diabetes. The trailblazing spirit that created City of Hope in 1913 is thriving today across our national system, and is embodied by every one of the over 12,000 doctors, nurses, scientists, and staff who bring hope to all patients and families touched by cancer and diabetes no matter their background, zip code or personal circumstances.



**Stacy Garrett-Ray,
MD, MPH, MBA**
*Senior Vice President
and Chief Community
Impact Officer*
Ascension

Stacy Garrett-Ray, MD, MPH, MBA, leads the development and implementation of strategies that address community needs and healthcare access, invest in and maintain sustainable impact for health, and convene partners to direct investment and program development for Ascension nationally.

Most recently, Dr. Garrett-Ray previously served as Vice President/Medical Director of the University of Maryland Medical System's Population Health Services Organization and President of both the University of Maryland Quality Care Network and Transform Health MD. There, she was responsible for leading the planning, development and execution of value-based, population health initiatives and innovations for multiple populations (approx. 100,000 commercial, federal, self-insured patients) with over \$1 billion in medical costs.

A board-certified family physician, Dr. Garrett-Ray lives in Maryland with her husband and daughter and is actively involved with her community. She earned her B.S. in biology and a women's studies minor from the University of Richmond and her MD from the University of Maryland School of Medicine. She completed her family medicine residency at the University of Maryland Dept. of Family and Community Medicine where she served as chief resident. She earned her MPH and MBA degrees from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



It's an honor to be recognized on the Reuters Events Trailblazing Women in Healthcare list with so many influential women paving the way in the industry. I'm continuously inspired by our Ascension team's dedication to advance health equity and our health system's commitment to provide compassionate, personalized care for all people. We will continue our Mission-driven journey to improve the health of our communities and the lives of the people we are honored and blessed to serve and serve beside."



Elizabeth Golden
*Executive Vice President
for Communications,
Marketing, and
Government and
Community Affairs of*
NYU Langone Health

Elizabeth Golden, Executive Vice President for Communications, Marketing, and Government and Community Affairs, is responsible for advancing NYU Langone Health's reputation and unique identity as one of the nation's premier centers for excellence in clinical care, biomedical research, and education.

In this role, she leads the institution's engagement with its diverse audiences of patients, staff, and key stakeholders. This includes development and implementation of NYU Langone's public affairs, digital engagement, internal communications, government and community affairs, traditional and digital marketing, and advertising strategies. Throughout her career, leaders and executives have relied on Golden's counsel on critical communications and public affairs issues. She specializes in embedding storytelling to boost organizational thought leadership, employee engagement, and cultural transformation.

Golden brings decades of experience in developing holistic corporate affairs strategies in highly regulated environments, including pharmaceuticals, finance, and government. Prior to joining NYU Langone, she spent 17 years at Pfizer Inc., where she led transformative corporate affairs initiatives involving corporate reputation, external and internal communications, as well as public affairs. Most recently, Golden was the vice president and chief of staff for Pfizer's chief commercial officer and president of the global biopharmaceuticals business, where she served as a member of the leadership team.



I am honored to lead a team of powerful storytellers and strategic thought partners who advance NYU Langone Health's strategy, elevate and defend our brand, and celebrate the exceptional people behind it. Every day, this outstanding team of dedicated professionals helps showcase the clinical and scientific breakthroughs that truly differentiate us as a world-class institution and the innovations that give hope to so many patients and their families in New York and around the world.



Felicia Hill-Briggs, PhD
Emeritus Professor, Institute of Health System Science at The Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research
Northwell Health

Dr. Hill-Briggs, PhD, was on faculty at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine for 22 years and was the 201st woman to be promoted to full professor. In 2021, she transitioned to Northwell Health as the Vice President of Prevention and was also the Simons Distinguished Chair in Clinical Research at the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine and an associate director and professor within the Institute of Health Systems Science at Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research.

Her expertise was in the design of individual- and system-level interventions to prevent and improve the management of diabetes and other chronic diseases, with a particular focus on populations disproportionately experiencing health inequities. A key piece of her legacy is the ADA-recognized DECIDE Self-Management Support Program, which was initially designed to support diabetes self-management. The DECIDE program has improved medication adherence and self-management behaviors, has been adapted to improve outcomes across four chronic conditions, and continues to expand.

Dr. Hill-Briggs published more than 80 peer-reviewed publications and has spoken at numerous scientific forums, nationally and internationally. She is an elected member in the National Academies of Medicine and Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM).



Felicia was a shining light within the health community and an example for women researchers worldwide. We hope that her hard work and legacy continues to improve lives and inspire new interventions to cure disease."

– Ian Briggs, Dr. Hill-Briggs widower



Dr. Okiki Louis
President at Oscar Medical Group
Oscar Health

Dr. Okiki Louis is the President of Oscar Medical Group where she oversees clinical operations for Oscar Health.

Dr. Louis is board certified in emergency medicine and completed her residency at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. Prior to her role at Oscar, she served as the Vice President of Medical Operations for the Mountain Region at Concentra and as an Urgent Care Physician at WellStar Health. Earlier in her career, she spent eight years as an emergency medicine physician.

Dr. Louis received her Bachelor's degree in Molecular and Cell Biology from the University of California, Berkeley, and her M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.



It's an honor to be recognized alongside such a phenomenal group of trailblazers in healthcare. Women in medicine are uniquely positioned to pave the way toward a more equitable and accessible healthcare system. As our industry evolves, it's imperative that women remain at the forefront by bringing their individual perspectives, finding innovative solutions to longstanding problems, and serving as role models for the next generation of students and leaders."


Dr. Elaine Mardis

*Co-executive director of the Steve and Cindy Rasmussen Institute for Genomic Medicine at **Nationwide Children's Hospital***

*Rasmussen Nationwide Foundation Endowed Chair in **Genomic Medicine**
Professor of Pediatrics at **The Ohio State University College of Medicine***

Elaine Mardis, PhD is co-Executive Director of the Steve and Cindy Rasmussen Institute for Genomic Medicine at Nationwide Children's Hospital and holds the Rasmussen Nationwide Foundation Endowed Chair in Genomic Medicine. She also is a Professor of Pediatrics at The Ohio State University College of Medicine. Dr. Mardis is an internationally recognized expert in cancer genomics and immunogenomics, with more than 550 published manuscripts. Her early work contributed to the Human Genome Project, considered one of the greatest scientific feats in history. She co-led the effort to sequence and analyze the first cancer genome using massively parallel sequencing technology and was integral to large-scale cancer genomics discovery projects including The Cancer Genome Atlas, and the Pediatric Cancer Genome Project. Her ongoing research interests pursue integrated molecular characterization of both pediatric and adult cancers with a focus on precision oncology. She leads an NCI-funded study that performs clinical molecular profiling of pediatric cancers which has tested more than 2500 cases to-date. Dr. Mardis serves as an advisor to international cancer centers including the DKFZ (Germany), Institute for Molecular Medicine (Portugal), Ontario Institute for Cancer Research (Canada), and four US NCI-designated cancer centers. In 2019, Dr. Mardis was elected a Fellow of the American Association for Cancer Research and a member of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine.



This recognition is humbling, especially because my efforts to introduce genomics into the practice of medicine are so capably supported by the expertise of a large team of colleagues and collaborators who, like me, are committed to improving diagnostic accuracy toward best outcomes for patients and families, I am delighted to be recognized with this impressive group of women whose passion and work are impacting so many lives every day."


Traci Morris

*Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
Essentia Health*

Traci Morris is a senior finance executive with over 25 years of experience in growing and transforming integrated health care systems. As chief financial officer and treasurer at Essentia Health – a regional \$2.8 billion non-profit integrated health system – she optimizes financial management processes in complex, matrixed environments and provides leadership for enterprise-wide finance functions. During her tenure, Traci has helped strengthen the organization by overseeing multiple mergers and acquisitions and by securing financing for a \$900 million replacement hospital. Outside work, Traci enjoys extending her financial and governance



I'm honored and privileged to receive this recognition and for this opportunity to represent women in health care. One of our core values at Essentia Health is teamwork, and it's through the strong support of our teams that we're able to make a healthy difference in the lives of the patients and families we serve.

Looking back 25 years, being in finance, I was often the only female in the room. That has changed significantly over the past 5 to 10 years. Now, when I look down the hall in the Essentia Health administrative office, it seems like we have equal representation throughout. We've always seen women in health care, especially in nursing, but we're seeing more women as clinicians and in areas of administration and leadership that we haven't seen historically. This is a welcome change in health care."



Amber Sims, MBA
*Executive Vice President, Chief
 Strategy and Growth Officer*
Ascension

As Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer for Ascension, Amber led the creation of a single national strategic plan for the organization and actionable roadmap. She works in partnership with the Ascension Leadership Team to align the portfolio and investments to position the organization to thrive. She is accountable for incorporating Ascension's point of view across all markets and developing the roadmap for future state through plans to enhance the physical footprint and service portfolio.

Amber has served Ascension for more than 22 years in positions of increasing responsibility, moving from the Tennessee ministry market to the system-wide team. She leads first with the mission and works to best leverage the collective knowledge and resources to improve the holistic health and well-being of the people and communities Ascension serves.

Her responsibilities focus on the strategic direction of the organization, sustainable growth and portfolio design. Leading a cross-enterprise team, Amber develops an approach to optimize system-wide investments in people, technology, programs and facilities to foster an integrated population health delivery model that supports the value-based care journey.

She earned her B.S. in Healthcare Administration/Management from Western Kentucky University and MBA from Belmont University.



I'm grateful and humbled by this recognition. My time with Ascension has been purposeful and fulfilling. I have learned from my diverse roles across our Tennessee ministry market and now am honored to guide the strategic direction for our system nationally. I look forward to helping evolve our approach to serving our patients and communities with a focus on even greater impact as we live out our Mission."



Stacey E. Rosen
*Executive Director of the Katz
 Institute for Women's Health*
Northwell Health

Stacey E. Rosen, MD is the senior vice president for Northwell Health, New York's largest health system, Katz Institute for Women's Health (KIWH) and partners council professor of Women's Health, Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. A practicing cardiologist for over 30 years, Dr. Rosen has leveraged her clinical experience to become a leader and champion for women's heart health with a focus on the elimination of healthcare disparities through comprehensive clinical programs, sex- and gender-based research, community partnerships and professional education. Under her guidance, the Katz Institute of Women's Health consists of more than 700 cross-discipline medical professionals whose goal is to deliver better, more seamless, comprehensive care to women, addressing all of their need all while redefining how society and the health industry study, treat and care for women. For her work, Dr. Rosen is an internationally recognized leader and sought-after keynote speaker and advocate. She co-authored the book, "Heart Smarter for Women: Six Weeks to a Healthier Heart," and co-produced the documentary "Ms. Diagnosed." In 2018, Dr. Rosen received the American Heart Association's Women in Cardiology Mentoring Award and in 2021, she received the AHA's Physician of the Year Award.



Now is the time to rethink, refocus and revolutionize how we study and care for women. I am honored to be recognized among so many notable women and together, I am hopeful for a future that prioritizes improving the health of women."



Christina J. Valentine
M.D., RDN, FAAP, FASPEN
Chief Medical Officer and EVP
Kate Farms

Dr. Christina J. Valentine is a Physician and Dietitian who advocates dietary strategies that create proven results in health and aims to disrupt morbidity and costs due to poor intakes! As the Chief Medical Officer for Kate Farms, she supports the mission to make nutrition the foundation of health so that people can live their best lives and be all they are capable of by providing the science strategy behind their high-quality, plant-based, and organic nutrition designed for both tube feeding and oral use.

Her food as medicine inspiration began at Ball State University, was furthered during her graduate degree in human nutrition from the University of Florida and continued throughout her medical training at Baylor College of Medicine. Her nutrition work spans 30+ years and she is currently a Professor in Pediatrics and Nutrition at the University of Arizona where she clinically practices as a neonatologist. Most recently, her study with omega 3 DHA in pregnancy reduced preterm birth!

Dr. Valentine is committed to innovations that not only provide meaningful clinical outcomes but also support ease of use through novel and sustainable packaging. Finally, she is passionate about training health care providers on recognizing and improving malnutrition.



Improving and amplifying nutrition beyond my own community so that people can live their best lives is a privilege and it is an honor to be among those trailblazing healthcare!”



Debbie Weitzman
Chief Executive Officer,
Pharmaceutical and Specialty
Solutions Segment
Cardinal Health

Debbie Weitzman is Chief Executive Officer of the Pharmaceutical and Specialty Solutions Segment at Cardinal Health, a global company ranked 14 on the Fortune 500.

In this role, Debbie is the driving force behind a dynamic team that is the crucial link between the clinical and operational sides of healthcare.

She has a track record of breaking barriers throughout her more than 30-year career, including becoming the first woman to hold a CEO position at Cardinal Health.

Debbie is continually setting an example for other emerging female leaders and works each day to build an environment where employees feel welcome, seen and heard.

In this spirit, she leads the Women’s Impact Network at Cardinal Health in which she seeks to advance goals for gender representation, engagement, equity and allyship.

Debbie’s leadership at Cardinal Health underscores her as a transformative figure in the healthcare industry, driven by innovation, impact, and a steady commitment to building a healthier future for all.



As a mother of two children recently “launched” in the real world, I know firsthand the many challenges working mothers face at every phase. To keep women on track in the workforce, the burden is on the senior leaders of today to figure out how to be flexible and adaptable for working mothers. The world has changed a lot, and the pandemic was an accelerator for innovative models. I think we can find new solutions that will open more options for women and help fill the pipeline for a future with gender parity at all levels.”



Annette M. Walker
President
City of Hope Orange County

Annette M. Walker is the visionary President of City of Hope Orange County who has gained a national reputation for her industry-changing insights, outstanding leadership, and keen abilities to bring people together and achieve extraordinary results. Twice recognized as one of the most influential leaders in U.S. healthcare, Walker leads City of Hope's \$1 billion expansion in Orange County, California, the nation's sixth largest county. She considers her leadership at City of Hope among her most important roles as she is transforming cancer care for generations of patients.

In 2022, Walker and her team opened Orange County's most advanced comprehensive cancer center and broke ground on the region's only specialty cancer hospital, opening in 2025. The academic cancer campus creates a national model for delivering breakthrough research and pioneering treatments. Walker has also established a network of clinical locations. A champion of sponsorship and mentorship, Walker has guided hundreds of younger women leaders. She is a mother of six and grandmother of 15, attributing her approachable leadership style to her strong family life.

Walker earned a master's degree in healthcare administration from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's degree in biology from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.



Our nation's health care system was largely founded and operated by gifted and committed women. Today, women around the world are using their influence for good, including the exceptional women at City of Hope who are accelerating cancer treatments and cures. As leaders, we cannot miss the opportunity to sponsor younger women to ensure opportunity and access to the C-suite. Sponsorship includes creating time for people and opening doors for them. I am grateful for those who sponsored me. I would have missed many opportunities without their encouragement and support."



Vickie White
Chief Brand and Consumer Officer
AdventHealth

Vickie White is the Senior Vice President and Chief Brand and Consumer Officer of AdventHealth. Bringing to her role a lifelong passion for health care, Vickie oversees AdventHealth's national brand strategy and consumer experience, as well as digital marketing, reputation management and creative design.

Vickie has been a huge driver behind the organization's innovation strategy, the heart of which is transforming the consumer's health care experience. In this work, she has led an organization wide effort to listen to and absorb the experiences of our consumers and patients, and to create solutions that vastly improve their experience with health care. Her home base, the Design Center at AdventHealth, leads out on innovation projects that have ripple effects not only system-wide but also industrywide.

Vickie attended University of Central Florida's College of Business Administration. At AdventHealth her former roles included Senior Vice President of Marketing and Innovation, as well as the Vice President of Strategic Partnering.



As leaders, we may feel the onus to be the ones to come up with the winning solution, or to devise the one fix to our biggest problems. But from my experience, I have found that the answers often originate from the ones we're trying to develop solutions for. This requires us to go to our consumers first in our journey to solve for their biggest pain points throughout their health care journeys."