Thomas J. Strauss
President and Chief Executive Officer,
Summa Health System

Thomas J. Strauss is president and chief executive officer of Summa Health System. Prior to joining Summa in 1999, Strauss was president of Meridia Health Services in Cleveland. For 10 years, he held a number of leadership positions with Meridia, including the leadership for the system’s eight service lines, president of the eastern region, president of Meridia South Pointe Hospital, president of Meridia Suburban Hospital and president of Meridia Institute/Meridia Health Ventures. A pharmacist by trade, Strauss earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, and completed his residency in pharmacology at Mercy Hospital, also in Pittsburgh. Strauss is the Chairman of the Greater Akron Chamber Board of Directors and a board member of the Akron Regional Hospital Association, Akron Tomorrow, Austen BioInnovation Institute in Akron, Habitat for Humanity of Summit County and Premier, Inc.

Thomas Malone, M.D.
President, Summa Akron City and St. Thomas Hospitals

Thomas Malone, M.D. serves as president for Summa Akron City and St. Thomas Hospitals. Prior to joining Summa Health System, Dr. Malone served as president and chief executive officer of Harper University and Hutzel Women’s Hospital, a 560-bed academic medical center affiliated with Wayne State University. Dr. Malone is a diplomate of the National Board of Medical Examiners, the National Board of Pediatrics and Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine. He received his undergraduate degree from John Carroll University and his medical degree from The Ohio State University.

Martin P. Hauser
Chief Executive Officer, SummaCare, Inc.
Chief Government Relations Officer, Summa Health System

Martin P. Hauser is chief executive officer of SummaCare, Inc., one of the region’s fastest growing health carriers. He also serves as chief government relations officer at Summa Health System. Hauser began his healthcare career at Summa Akron City Hospital and held a variety of progressive leadership roles. While president of Akron City Health System (ACHS), a not-for-profit joint venture between Akron City Hospital and members of its medical staff, he oversaw the creation of SummaCare. Hauser received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from The University of Akron.
Robert A. Kent, D.O.
Chief Executive Officer, Summa Western Reserve Hospital

Robert A. Kent, D.O., is chief executive officer of Summa Western Reserve Hospital, Northeast Ohio’s first physician-owned, full-service community hospital. He is also president of Western Reserve Hospital Partners, the entity created to bring Summa Western Reserve Hospital to the community. Dr. Kent also serves as president of Premiere Medical Partners, a large, multi-specialty physician group in Northeast Ohio, and Premiere Medical Resources, a physician management services organization. Additionally, he maintains a private practice in Cuyahoga Falls. Dr. Kent has served on several Summa Health System boards, and has also functioned as director of Medical Education and vice president of Medical Affairs for Cuyahoga Falls General Hospital.

Thomas A. DeBord
President, Summa Wadsworth-Rittman and Summa Barberton Hospitals

Thomas A. DeBord is the president of Summa Barberton and Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospitals. He has more than 21 years of progressive leadership in healthcare financial and operations management. DeBord earned both a bachelor’s degree in accounting and a Master of Business Administration in finance from The University of Akron. He is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and a member of the Leadership Akron 2009 graduating class. Active in many community groups, DeBord is a board member for the American Heart Association and a member and past president of The Rotary Club of Barberton.

Cheryl Henthorn
Chief Executive Officer, Summa Rehab Hospital

Cheryl Henthorn is the chief executive officer of Summa Rehab Hospital, a joint venture between Summa Health System and Vibra Healthcare. Henthorn has over 30 years of experience at Summa Health System across multiple departments including physical therapy, respiratory care, laboratory services, clinical education and process improvement. After working as a physical therapist, Henthorn went on to lead Summa rehabilitation services as an assistant director, manager and director. Henthorn completed the Advanced Leadership Program at the University of Akron and her Bachelor of Science in allied health at The Ohio State University. She is also a fellow of the Healthcare Leadership Academy program through the Advisory Board, supported by Harvard Business School.
Ronald R. Suntken, Ed.D., FACMPE  
**President and Chief Executive Officer, 
Crystal Clinic Orthopaedic Center, LLC**

Ronald R. Suntken, Ed.D., FACMPE, is president and chief executive officer of Crystal Clinic Orthopaedic Center, a partnership with Summa Health System, and chief executive officer of Crystal Clinic, Inc. Dr. Suntken began his healthcare career at SIU School of Medicine in Springfield, Ill., and has served as the senior administrative and executive officer for a number of medium and large healthcare organizations, in both fee-for-service and capitated environments and in both independent and system-aligned entities. Dr. Suntken received a Doctor of Education degree in business education, finance and business communication from Northern Illinois University, and both a Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems from San Diego State University.

Erik Steele, D.O.  
**Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer**

Erik Steele, D.O. serves as senior vice president and chief medical officer for Summa Health System. In his role, he is responsible for providing system-wide strategic direction and oversight of clinical quality, patient safety, performance improvement initiatives and care management. Prior to joining Summa, Dr. Steele served as chief medical officer, chief administrative officer and senior vice president at Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems, a seven hospital, 30 company organization in Bangor, Maine. He received his undergraduate degree from Bowdoin College and his D.O. degree from University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine. Dr. Steele completed his internship at University of Medicine and Dentistry, Kennedy Memorial Hospital, Stratford, New Jersey, and his residency at Eastern Maine Medical Center.
Steven P. Schmidt, Ph.D.
Vice President, Clinical Research and Innovation, Summa Health System

In his role as chief operating officer of the Summa Foundation, Steven P. Schmidt, Ph.D., leads the advancement efforts of the foundation in support of the mission of Summa Health System in philanthropy, community benefit, government relations, and education and research. In this role as vice president of Clinical Research & Innovation, Dr. Schmidt has leadership responsibility for the vision and administration of the system’s clinical research and innovation agenda including original Summa-based research, collaborations with academic partners, and support for Summa’s partnerships. Dr. Schmidt was previously director of Summa’s Division of Surgical Research since 1982 and remains personally engaged in conducting original research. He was formerly an adjunct faculty member at Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) and is currently a member of the NEOMED Board of Trustees. Dr. Schmidt received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana, and was awarded a Ph.D. in biology and physiology from Idaho State University.

Phylis Ferrara
President and Chief Development Officer, Summa Foundation

Phylis Ferrara is president and chief development officer for Summa Foundation. She joined the organization in August, 2013. In this position, Ferrara is responsible for overseeing the strategic direction and operations of the development division of Summa Foundation.

Prior to her tenure with Summa, Ferrara was vice president for institutional relations and development for University Hospitals in Cleveland where she oversaw principal giving and gift planning. She was instrumental in the transformation of the development program at that health system. Before joining University Hospitals, she served as the executive director of development and alumni relations for John Carroll University.

Ferrara attended Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, OH and is a member of several distinguished healthcare-related organizations, including: the Healthcare Advisory Board and the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy.
Roxia Boykin
Vice President of Community Benefit and Diversity, Summa Foundation

Roxia Boykin is the vice president of community benefit and diversity for the Summa Foundation. Bringing more than 30 years of healthcare experience in areas including nursing, patient care and operations, Boykin is responsible for leadership in community benefit, volunteer services, employee engagement and diversity. She serves as the primary builder and sustainer of positive and productive relationships between Summa Health System and the community and is responsible for leading strategic and operational direction to the system’s community-based health prevention, education and promotion strategies. Throughout her expansive career, Boykin has served on a number of community boards and has been actively involved in a variety of community initiatives. She earned a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Kent State University and a master’s in public administration with a concentration in healthcare administration from Cleveland State University.

Brian Derrick, CPA
System Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Summa Health System

In his role as system vice president and chief financial officer, Brian Derrick is responsible for managing the financial structure and systems for Summa Health System and for leading strategic financial initiatives across the System. Derrick earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in accounting from Thiel College in Greenville, Pa. and is a Certified Public Accountant. Derrick joined Summa from Albert Einstein Healthcare Network in Philadelphia, Pa. where he was CFO for eight years. He also has held various financial leadership positions at the Jefferson Health System in Philadelphia and the UPMC Health System in Pittsburgh.

Bryan Kennedy
President and Chief Operating Officer, Ohio Health Choice

Bryan Kennedy is president and chief operating officer of Ohio Health Choice. Ohio Health Choice is the only provider-owned statewide Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) in Ohio. After graduating from John Carroll University with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, Kennedy’s career started in the employee benefits arena with Great West Life. In 1994, Kennedy moved to the managed care contracting and strategy side by joining The Cleveland Clinic Health System. In 2006, he transitioned back to the benefits side, taking on the challenge of reinventing Ohio Health Choice to better compete in the ever-changing healthcare marketplace.
Unhee Kim  
**System Vice President, Service Lines and Ancillary Services, Summa Health System**

Unhee Kim, system vice president of Service Lines and Ancillary Services for Summa Health System, is responsible for leading the strategy development, marketing, business development, volume growth, planning and execution for nine service lines. She is also responsible for existing and future ambulatory centers for diagnostic and therapeutic services, hospital-based clinical services of pharmacy, laboratory, respiratory and neurology/sleep lab, among others. Prior to joining Summa Health System, she served in various leadership positions at University Hospitals Health System. She received her Bachelor of Science in nursing at The University of Akron and her Master of Business Administration from Cleveland State University.

Charles R. Vignos, C.P.A.  
**President, Summa Health Network  
Vice President, Managed Care, Summa Health System**

Charles R. Vignos, C.P.A., is president of Summa Health Network and vice president of Managed Care for Summa Health System. Vignos has held this position since 2001 and oversees the managed care contracting activities for Summa Akron City, Summa St. Thomas, Summa Barberton and Summa Wadsworth-Rittman Hospitals, as well as Summa employed physicians and other joint venture relationships. Vignos also oversees the Clinical Integration Model and Messenger activities of the 1,200 member physician-hospital organization (PHO). Prior to joining Summa in 2001, Vignos spent 11 years as vice president of Finance for Hometown Health Network in Massillon, Ohio. He is currently a member of the Healthcare Roundtable for Managed Care and the Ohio Society of Certified Public Accountants, and serves on the boards of Cleveland Health Network-Managed Care Organization and Ohio Health Choice.

Lanie Ward  
**System Vice President, Patient Care Services  
Chief Nursing Officer, Summa Health System**

Lanie Ward joined Summa Health System as system vice president of Patient Care Services and chief nursing officer in 2007. With more than 20 years of nursing leadership experience, Ward is responsible for the direction and evaluation of nursing and patient care services at Summa Health System. Previously, Ward served as chief nursing officer for Broward General Medical Center and North Broward Medical Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. She received her Master of Business Administration from Florida Atlantic University and Bachelor of Science in nursing from the University of Kentucky.