

CEO SUMMIT

Keynote Speakers

Trista R. Harris

[Trista R. Harris](#) is President of FutureGood, a consultancy focused on helping visionary leaders build a better future. Trista is a philanthropic futurist and nationally known as a passionate advocate for equity in the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. She has been featured on CNN and MSNBC, and her work has been covered by the Chronicle of Philanthropy, the New York Times, Minneapolis St. Paul Business Journal, Forbes, and numerous social sector blogs. She is an international speaker on using the tools of futurism to solve society's biggest challenges.



Prior to launching FutureGood, Trista was president of the Minnesota Council on Foundations (MCF), a vibrant community of grant makers who award more than \$1 billion annually. She also was the executive director of the Headwaters Foundation for Justice, served as Futurist in Residence for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and was the Director of Advancement for Portico HealthNet. Harris earned her master's of public policy degree from the Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, and her bachelor of arts from Howard University, Washington, DC. She also has received a certificate in strategic foresight from The University of Oxford. Harris currently serves on the board of the Association of Black Foundation Executives as well as several other boards.

Pam Knecht

[Pam Knecht](#) is President and CEO of ACCORD LIMITED, a national consulting firm. Over her 40-year career, she has consulted with over 100 for-profit and not-for-profit organizations across multiple industries. She regularly assists boards and CEOs with strategic planning; corporate and governance restructuring; strategic partnership facilitation; and governance assessment, development, and coaching.



Pam is a frequent speaker and facilitator at local, regional, and national conferences and serves as faculty for The Governance Institute, iProtean and the American Hospital Association. In 2007, Pam was named a Governance Advisor by The

Governance Institute. She has authored over 80 articles and white papers addressing strategic planning and board effectiveness.

Prior to joining ACCORD, Pam was a consultant for an executive education and organization development firm that served the Fortune 200. She is a graduate of Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts.

Paul Osterman, Ph.D.

[Paul Osterman](#) is the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Professor of Human Resources and Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management as well as a member of the Department of Urban Planning at MIT. From July 2003 to June 2007, he also served as Deputy Dean at the MIT Sloan School. His research concerns changes in work organization within companies, career patterns and processes within firms, economic development, urban poverty, and public policy surrounding skills training and employment programs.



Osterman has been a senior administrator of job training programs for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and has consulted widely for government agencies, foundations, community groups, firms, and public interest organizations. His most recent book is “Who Will Care for Us: Long Term Care and the Long Term Workforce” (Russell Sage, 2017). In addition, he has written numerous academic journal articles and policy issue papers on topics such as labor market policy, the organization of work within firms, careers, job training programs, economic development, and anti-poverty programs.

Jodi M. Sturgeon

[Jodi M. Sturgeon](#) is President of PHI, a nonprofit committed to improving quality care for older adults and people with disabilities by creating quality jobs for direct care workers. Under her leadership, PHI has worked with hundreds of employers and achieved state and national policy victories elevating compensation for millions of home care workers.



Jodi has worked in nonprofit management for more than 25 years. She previously held Vice President and Chief Operating and Financial Officer roles at PHI, introducing innovations that strengthened the organization’s infrastructure and programs. Prior to PHI, Jodi was Vice President of the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund, where she directed investment in housing, jobs and services for low-income individuals and families. She is on the Board of Directors and serves as Board Treasurer for both Cooperative Home Care Associates in New York City, the largest worker-owned company in the country, and Home Care Associates of Philadelphia.

Panelists

Marian Baldini

Marian came to KenCrest as CEO in December 2015. She has over 40 years of executive planning, administration, academia, and direct support in the human services sector, 14 of which she served as Chief Operating Officer at JEVS of Philadelphia. Prior to her tenure with JEVS, Marian was Regional Operations Director for Northwestern Human Services (NHS), and before that, Vice President at Elwyn.



Marian earned a B.A. in Psychology from Temple University, an M.A. in Mental Health Evaluation from Drexel University, and an M.B.A. from Widener University. She is currently an Adjunct Faculty Member of the graduate program at Widener University School of Business. She has been recognized by Philadelphia Business Journal as one of the “Most Admired CEOs” (2019) in the region and a “Woman of Distinction” (2015); one of Main Line Today’s “Power Women” in 2021; and most recently recognized by Lutheran Services of America for her leadership as their first-ever Paragon Award recipient in 2022.

LaSharnda Beckwith, Ph.D.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran Social Services of Southern California, Dr. LaSharnda Beckwith oversees the strategic direction and execution of the agency's core mission: ignited by faith, we live out God's love by embracing, equipping, and empowering vulnerable people in Southern California. Establishing a vision for community impact that works across private, public, and corporate sectors, Beckwith leads a diverse team of 150+ employees across 18 offices in eight counties, to improve conditions for underserved and marginalized communities.



Dr. Beckwith joins the organization from California Southern University where she most recently served as Provost and Chief Academic Officer. She offers a wealth of fiscal and executive management to the position following a 27- year career with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) retiring as the Vice President of Eastern Region, responsible for profit and loss for operations.

Sloan Bentley

Sloan brings over 35 years of senior living housing and care experience to Lutheran Life Communities. She is passionate about bringing new products and systems to Lutheran Life to ensure the perpetuity of the Mission. Sloan has personally developed a new program that was launched in 2022; an enterprise-wide culture program named Grace in Action [GIA]. GIA is modeled after a hospitality structure customized for Lutheran Life Communities, founded on Grace-Filled Living, a component of its Mission. On weekends, Sloan enjoys time on the golf course with husband Dan. Fitness and well-being are important to Sloan, evidenced by the many Zoom calls and meetings conducted from the treadmill desk in her office or during walks with her dogs, Chicagoland weather permitting!



Angela Bovill

Angela Bovill is president and CEO of Ascentria Care Alliance. She joined the organization in 2008 as chief financial officer, was named chief operating officer in 2011, and became president and CEO in January 2013. Before joining Ascentria, Angela was general manager of Digital Services for IDEXX Laboratories, where she worked for 17 years in business development, mergers and acquisitions, and turnarounds. While at IDEXX, she created and launched two new service lines, and turned around a new business acquisition from a major loss to the most profitable in the company.

Angela graduated magna cum laude from the University of Southern Maine, majoring in Economics, and earned an MBA with honors from Boston University. She has completed multiple executive education programs, including at the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza School of Business and Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.



Stephanie Chedid

Stephanie Chedid is the President and CEO of Luther Manor and the Luther Manor Foundation. She has led the organization since 2015 focused on delivering high-quality care in an engaging living environment, developing partnerships with hospitals and grant-making organizations, and driving strategy and innovation to ensure the future of the organization's mission. Prior to Luther Manor, Stephanie spent over 20 years in the investment industry serving hospitals, senior living providers, and non-profits.



Stephanie has been a lecturer for the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee College of Health Sciences. She serves as Vice Chair of Public Policy for LeadingAge Wisconsin, Development Committee Chair for the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee Foundation, and as a board member of managed care company, MHS Health Wisconsin a subsidiary of Centene Corporation.

Cheryl Fisher

Cheryl Fisher, M.Ed., LPC, is the Vice President of Business Development for Foster Care and Child Welfare Programs at Centene. Cheryl joined the company in 2010 as the Clinical Manager for the Texas Foster Care managed care program. That role grew to include oversight of behavioral health programs in multiple states serving a foster care population. In 2018, Centene created a Foster Care product team to focus on best practices for managing healthcare services for youth served through the child welfare system. Cheryl now leads that team.



Prior to joining Centene, Cheryl was a therapist for the Victim Assistance Centre in Houston, TX, where she provided counseling focusing on child victims of physical and sexual abuse. Cheryl has over 20 years of experience serving children with behavioral health conditions and emotional disturbances.

Luanne Fisher, Ph.D.

Luanne B. Fisher is President and Chief Executive Officer for Liberty Lutheran. Collaboration is a cornerstone of Luanne's successful business philosophy. Luanne's strategic positioning is evidenced by the significant growth of the organization and the expansion of the Liberty Family of Services. Luanne was named Chief Executive Officer of Liberty Lutheran in 2001.



Awards received in 2012 include the Paul P. Haas Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition for her service and commitment in the aging services field. In October 2012, Luanne received the national Excellence in Leadership Award recognizing her exemplary leadership and dedication to excellence and innovation in the care and services of the aging.

Luanne has served on the Lutheran Services in America Board of Directors. In addition, Luanne was a Dean's Professor at the University of the Sciences and has been an Adjunct Faculty Member of Temple University. Luanne has served as Chairperson of the Pennsylvania Lutheran Agency Network, SouthEast Pennsylvania Association of Non-Profit Homes for the Aging (SEPANPHA), Samaritan Counseling Services, KenCrest Centers, and Governance Committee for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Social Ministry Committee of the ELCA.

Luanne is a licensed Nursing Home Administrator and holds a B.S. degree from the Pennsylvania State University, and a Master's Degree and a Doctorate of Philosophy from Temple University.

Ted Goins

Ted Goins began his career in long-term care as a certified nursing assistant, a certification he still maintains. A graduate of Lenoir-Rhyne University, Goins is a licensed nursing home administrator and served at Trinity Village in that capacity for 10 years prior to being named president and CEO in 2000.

Goins has served as Board Chair for Lutheran Services in America, as well as served on the NC Legislative Study Commission on Aging, NC State Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators, and the Board of LeadingAge. He is currently on the Board of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, the Editorial Board of the North Carolina Journal of Medicine, and the Board of the NC Health Care Facilities Association.



Eric Gurley

Eric Gurley is a skilled financial and operational professional with decades of senior housing and healthcare experience, excelling in the areas of strategic planning, implementation, and reporting.

Under his leadership, Immanuel grew from 300 employees to 1,400 and expanded missional service to underserved populations through the implementation of three innovative models of care. Eric also oversaw the creation of the Immanuel Vision Foundation and the Immanuel Community Foundation.

He is a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association Board and Finance Committee, Omaha Symphony Board and Finance Committee, Lutheran Giving Board and Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Finance & Audit Committee.



Keith Jones

As President and Chief Executive Officer of AbleLight, Keith Jones is responsible for all aspects of the organization, including the strategy and execution needed to meet the needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, now and in the future.

Jones brings more than 20 years of experience to his role, having led transformation efforts in the health care field, including at several highly complex multistate companies, and has consulted with many Fortune 500 companies with a focus on accelerating the execution of strategic plans.

Most recently, Jones served as CEO of Blue Sprig Pediatrics, a company he founded in 2017 that offers behavior support services (ABA Therapy) to children with autism. Blue Sprig has grown to more than 160 locations throughout the country.



Damyn Kelly, Ph.D.

Damyn Kelly, J.D., Ph.D. is the president and CEO of Lutheran Social Services of New York (LSSNY), a leading social service agency serving more than 7,000 New Yorkers every day. Damyn oversees a \$60 million annual budget and nearly 650 highly qualified employees in the delivery of quality human services for the benefit of all New Yorkers, especially those most in need.

Damyn is a skilled strategic leader who has worked for two decades as the chief executive of organizations serving many disenfranchised members of the community. His work has improved the lives of the formerly incarcerated; those living with mental illness, developmental and intellectual disabilities; and the homeless. He has leveraged his experience, industry knowledge and strong commitment to community advocacy, to bolster the business practices and financial success of several social service agencies.

As CEO of Southeast Bronx Neighborhood Centers, Inc., Damyn had great success managing a multi-service agency serving more than 6,000 children and families in a variety of educational, vocational, and behavioral treatment programs across 11 facilities.



Shelley Kendrick

Shelley Kendrick became Ecumen President and CEO in 2019, after serving as its Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President of Operations since 2015. Shelley has extensive leadership and operations experience in senior housing and services. She joined Ecumen in 2012 and has led the management of the organization's housing and care center communities, including strategic development, quality of care, operations, community relations, financial performance, and innovation.

Shelley has also led the ongoing expansion of Ecumen Hospice, which has grown to four regional offices, serving ten times the number of people daily than it did in 2015. Shelley holds a Masters in Nonprofit Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame and a B.S. in English Language and Literature from Eastern Michigan University.



Allison Lowery Palmer

Allison Lowery Palmer is a Children's Bureau Senior Advisor in the Office of the Associate Commissioner where she works on developing and implementing the Associate Commissioner's strategic planning, regulatory, policy, and priorities for the Children's Bureau. Allison is a national policy expert who focuses on the federal foster care, guardianship, and adoption assistance programs. She has been instrumental in interpreting, drafting policy, training, conceptualizing, and coordinating implementation and monitoring of the foster care and adoption assistance programs, including the Family First Prevention Services Act. Additionally, Allison works on coordinating issues and guidance within Children's Bureau about the Family First prevention program.

Prior to joining the Children's Bureau, Allison performed pro bono work representing parents whose children had been removed from their homes. She also worked as an attorney with the Legal Aid Bureau in Baltimore City. Allison holds a Juris Doctorate from The University of Michigan Law School.

Adam Marles

Adam Marles is the President and CEO of Lutheran Senior Services. Adam joined LSS in November 2021. Before coming to LSS, he served as the President and CEO of LeadingAge PA, a trade association representing nearly 400 providers of quality senior housing, health care, and community services throughout Pennsylvania. In addition to his time with LeadingAge PA, Adam has experience within senior living organizations from serving as Senior Vice President, Advancement and Strategic Initiatives, for Phoebe-Devitt Homes, a multi-site provider based in Pennsylvania.



Prior to working in senior living, Adam worked as a practicing attorney representing healthcare providers. He holds a Juris Doctor degree from Temple University, a Masters of Arts in Public Communication from American University, and a Bachelor of Arts in English from Muhlenberg College.

R. Kevin McFeely

Kevin is the President & CEO of Futura Age, which operates two not-for-profit senior communities in Washington. Many lifestyle options such as Cottages, Apartments, Assisted Living, Memory Care and Skilled Nursing are offered to more than 500 residents with services being provided by 450 employees.

Kevin received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Wayne State University, Detroit, MI and a Master's degree in Health Services Administration from George Washington University, Washington, DC. He has taught long-term care leadership courses to graduate and undergraduate students in a university setting and attained his Retirement Housing Professional Fellow (RHPPF). He has served for more than 30 years as the CEO for both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations, free standing and chain affiliated. He continues to work with State and National Associations to lobby for meaningful legislation to improve the lives of those he serves.



Andy McMahon

Andy McMahon is the Vice President of Health and Human Services Policy at UnitedHealthcare Community & State. Andy focuses on integrating and leveraging affordable housing and human services to provide better care at lower costs for populations with complex health needs. Andy works with UnitedHealthcare's Medicaid plans and the myConnections™ team, and his portfolio includes policy and program work in affordable and supportive housing, criminal justice, child welfare, and social impact investment.



Prior to joining UnitedHealthcare, Andy worked at the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) for 15 years, most recently as the Vice President for Policy and External Affairs. At CSH, Andy led an array of national, state, and local efforts to align systems and integrate resources to create supportive housing opportunities for vulnerable populations. Prior to CSH, Andy held positions in state and local government, as a lobbyist for state housing and community development agencies in Washington, D.C., and helped found a non-profit housing organization in Minnesota.

Tim McNeill

Timothy P. McNeill is the founder of Freedmen's Health, a Washington, DC healthcare consulting firm specializing in implementation of innovative models of care. Tim has led the firm's consulting efforts serving customers including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), U.S. Administration on Aging (AoA)/Administration for Community Living (ACL) and various Foundations and National Non-profit organizations. Under an HHS/ACL contract, Tim has been the lead technical assistance provider to establish and support integrated networks to deliver new models of care that address medical risks and social determinants of health supporting value-based contracting in 26 States.



Tim is a Registered Nurse with a bachelor's degree from Howard University and a Master of Public Health from Eastern Virginia Medical School. Mr. McNeill is also a retired U.S. Navy Nurse Corps Officer.

John Moeller

John Moeller has more than 25 years of experience in ministry on nonprofit leadership. Before joining Inspiritus in February 2017, he served as the CEO at Action Ministries in Atlanta. John is ordained as a minister in the United Methodist Church.



Linda Norman

The Rev. Linda Norman is the Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Administration for the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA. In this role, Norman oversees a primary source of financing to ELCA congregations and ministries.

Norman graduated from Trinity University in San Antonio in 1997 with a bachelor's degree in business administration. She earned a Master of Science degree in accounting, also from Trinity, in 1998 and her CPA in 1999. She received her Master of Divinity in 2006 from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and accepted a call at Bethel Lutheran Church in Chicago where she served until 2009.



Norman joined the staff of the ELCA churchwide organization in 2006, serving first as controller and then Chief Financial Officer for the ELCA Foundation. In February 2011, she became controller and treasurer for the ELCA. Norman is also an advisor to the Board of Trustees of the Board of Pensions of the ELCA and the Endowment Fund of the ELCA.

Craig Patnode

Craig Patnode is CEO for SimplyConnect, a population health and community platform for streamlining communications, operations and patient centered approach to helping patients, residents and families navigate care.

Craig was CEO for Eldermark Software a national assisted living electronic health record and prior was CEO SterilMed a medical device company. Both were successful acquisitions.

He is a graduate of St. Thomas University, St. Paul, Minnesota.



Connie Phillips

Connie Phillips, MSW, began her tenure with Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest in February 2015 as CEO and President. Connie has spent her career as a nonprofit leader in Arizona, working in the fields of mental health and domestic violence. LSS of the Southwest's services span 4 counties and include refugee resettlement and immigration; emergency services (those experiencing homelessness and hunger); aging and disability services (nonmedical in-home, Meals-on-Wheels, and shopping services); and family and children's services (foster care and family resource centers). Connie spent several years as associate faculty for ASU's School of Social Work and is currently a field instructor for second year MSW students.



Carol Roberts, Ph.D.

Carol Roberts has served as the President and CEO of LSS of Northern California since 2012. During her tenure, the organization has grown from a modest homeless services organization with programs in San Francisco, Sacramento, Concord and Stockton to serving nearly 4,000 individuals annually across nine Northern California counties: Contra Costa, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Stanislaus and Yolo.

Prior to joining LSS, Carol was the Director of Health and Human Services for Sierra County, where she served for six years. Dr. Roberts has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and over 30 years of administrative and executive experience in social services delivery. She has a passion for serving those in need and is a strong advocate for homeless and at-risk populations.



Joy Ryan

Joy Ryan is a farm kid from Gilby, ND. Her parents carefully tilled about 1,000 acres of pure alkali land to make a home and life for Joy and her three siblings. Although they were not first-generation immigrants, this setting created a household with a strong immigrant mentality...focused on education as a means to success, with faith and family as the foundation on which all good things are built.

Joy has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice, a Master's in Management and a Certification in Executive Leadership from the University of Michigan. She followed a successful career in Communications and Higher Education with a now 30-year career in Human Services.



She has been CEO of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch since 2018 and is humbled to work to “help at-risk children and their families succeed in the name of Christ.” Over 300 children receive residential treatment and education at the Ranch annually, and another 2,000 of all ages receive outpatient services. Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch is one of the very first Recognized Service Organizations of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, having been founded in 1952.

Phil Scarpelli

Phil Scarpelli is the President and CEO of the Brevard Family Partnership Family of Agencies. Since the inception of privatization, he has been proudly involved in Florida’s child welfare system as early as the late 1990s. Previously, Phil worked as part of the Department of Children and Families Central Region’s Leadership on its middle and senior managers’ professional development and talent management. Before that, he was the State Director with Key Assets Florida, Inc., part of the International Core Assets Group, a leading children’s services provider.



Phil has 30 years of experience working in behavioral healthcare and child welfare in both clinical and administrative capacities. Throughout his career, he has been committed to children and families at risk.

Phil has a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and Gerontology from Iona College and a Master’s Degree in Psychology from Yeshiva University.

Mark Stutrud

Mark A. Stutrud serves as Chief Executive Officer of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), a position he has held since 2007. LSSI is the largest social service provider in Illinois with program sites throughout the state. Prior to joining LSSI, Mark served as president and CEO of Lutheran Social Services of Michigan where he led the organization in overall growth and developed a full continuum of home care services. Additionally, during his tenure there, Mark successfully completed three capital campaigns and grew foundation assets from \$3.5 million to \$13.5 million. Previously, he held positions as vice president for Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota and as executive director of Behavioral Health Services at Allina Health System in Minneapolis, Minn.



Rev. Jeffrey Thiemann

The Rev. Jeff Thiemann is President and CEO of Portico Benefit Services, a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which provides innovative health and retirement programs to those who serve. He is Board Chair for the Church Benefits Association and is on the Steering Committee of the Church Alliance. He was executive pastor at Saint Matthew Lutheran Church in Walnut Creek, California.

Prior to answering a call to ordained ministry, Jeff worked in a variety of business settings including President and CEO of a Silicon Valley startup and nearly 20 years at Hewlett-Packard. He earned a bachelor's degree in computer science engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a Master of Divinity from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and graduated from Harvard Business School's The General Manager Program.



Reier Thompson

Reier Thompson has been President and CEO of Missouri Slope since 2013. Reier holds a Bachelor's degree from the University of Mary, and a Master's of Business Administration from the University of Mary. Reier is a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator (LNHA) in North Dakota and a Health Services Executive (HSE). He is a member of the American College of Health Care Administrators, North Dakota Long Term Care Association (NDLTCA), Bismarck Kiwanis Club, and the Bismarck/Mandan Young Professionals Network.



Patrick Thueson

Patrick Thueson was appointed to President of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota in March 2020.

Prior to becoming President, Patrick held the position of LSS Chief Operating Officer and CFO, responsible for Services, Human Resources, Finance, Accounting, Marketing & Communications, and Information Technology. Patrick has been with LSS of Minnesota since 2007. Prior to coming to the not-for-profit sector, Patrick held a variety of leadership roles with Coca-Cola Enterprises as part of their finance, operations, and marketing functions.



Patrick is a Thrivent / LECNA Fellow, a leadership program organized around vocation, calling and visionary organizational leadership designed to equip the next generation of leaders of

Lutheran organizations. Patrick earned his business degree from the University of St. Thomas in Saint Paul.

Linda Timmons

Linda's 33-year career began in high school working at Bethphage Village at Axtell, Neb. Through the years, she has held numerous positions within the organization, working in Nebraska, Texas, and Colorado.

When Mosaic was formed in 2003, Linda was named Senior Vice President of Program Services. In 2006, she was named President and Chief Operating Officer. She became Mosaic's President and Chief Executive Officer in 2008.

She holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Nebraska at Kearney, in Kearney, Nebraska and a Master of Arts from St. Edward's University in Austin, Texas. Linda is the past board chair of Lutheran Services in America and the Council on Quality and Leadership.



Chris Tonniges

I'm just a slightly above average guy who went from a 23-year career in banking to join the amazing team at LFS as the Chief Excitement Officer in August 2021. I like my Huskers, Cubs, watching my 3 adopted kids grow up to be young adults and occasionally get out to lose about 6 golf balls a round. I also have a 1-year-old, so I have joined a lifetime tuition payment program and if you enjoy the show, please feel free to leave a tip in the cup at the end of the stage.



George Trauner

George Trauner has been with Bethesda Lutheran Services for more than 23 years. Prior to being named CEO in August of 2015, he served as the Director of Operations for more than 14 years. When talking about the decision to name him as CEO, Pastor Scherr, Chairman of the Board of Directors, stated George's compassion for kids as well as his keen understanding of all aspects of regulatory and financial bodies as determining factors.



Mr. Trauner earned his Bachelor of Science Degree from Slippery Rock University and his Master of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership from Mercyhurst University. He has completed the Meadville-Western Crawford County Chamber of Commerce Leadership training. In addition to his responsibilities at Bethesda Lutheran Services, Mr. Trauner serves as the President of the Union City School Board, a board member for the Northwest County IU5 and a member of Rotary Meadville.

David Trost

David has held a leadership role since joining St. John's United in June 1995. His first position was as Administrator of the only building on the campus. Over time, his fingerprint has been on every new project unveiled by St. John's United. He has served as Executive Director of Mission Ridge, developed the campuses in Laurel, Red Lodge, and the Billings Heights.



As a founding leader in the culture change movement The Eden Alternative, David developed the Center for Generations childcare center over twenty years ago and the center still operates today bringing meaning and purpose to both the children and elders. He serves as the Principal agent overseeing the management agreement for the retirement community, Sapphire Lutheran Homes, in Hamilton, MT.

David holds a master's degree in Health Administration from Montana State University – Billings and a bachelor's degree in Health Care Administration and Psychology from Concordia College – Moorhead, MN.

In his current capacity as the President & CEO, David leads over 700 employees who nurture a human services organization that serves children, adoptive couples, parents, and seniors. David's family includes his wife Michelle, a Nurse Practitioner, and children Caleb, Parker, and Hayden.

Devotion

Pastor Mark Huber

Back by popular demand, Mark Huber joins us for a seventh year as our theologian in residence. Pastor Mark is the founding pastor of Sanctuary Church, a growing community of faith on the South Shore of Boston. He comes to Sanctuary after a brief stint wandering the world as a musician, working with congregations in Columbus, Ohio, and Berkeley, California, and graduating with a Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary.

A Starbucks lover, aspirant songwriter, and professional instigator, Pastor Mark can often be found gathering people up to create large works of art, think deep thoughts about God, or attempt to make the world a better place. He has led Sanctuary's expansion to a second location in Plymouth, Massachusetts, and when not on the clock can be found hiking, biking, or generally enjoying the beauty of the South Shore with his wife and daughter.

