



NEWS RELEASE

(For immediate release)

HERO announces board of directors, adds three new members

Diverse range of employer, health care industry voices will guide focus on health and well-being for employers and individuals

WACONIA, MN (April 26, 2018) — The Health Enhancement Research Organization ([HERO](#)) announced today the appointment of Marleece Barber, MD; Dexter Shurney, MD; and Joni Troester to the HERO [board of directors](#).

The HERO board is composed of volunteers who provide oversight and direction to guide the growth and evolution of HERO and to shape the broader conversation on how to improve workplace and community health and well-being.

“The HERO board represents diverse voices in the health care industry and a range of employer perspectives. These individuals are widely recognized for their thoughtful leadership, and I look forward to the insight they will bring to HERO,” said Paul Terry, president and CEO, HERO. “Each of our board members has a passion for health and well-being and a spirit of collaboration that is at the core of everything we do at HERO. The knowledge and experience they bring to the board allows us to continue our work to enhance the broader understanding of how to improve health and well-being and help people live their best lives.”

Marleece Barber, MD: As chief medical officer and director of health, wellness, and employee health and life insurance benefits at Lockheed Martin, Dr. Barber designs, develops, and executes a health and productivity strategy that includes wellness and preventive care for more than 100,000 employees. She serves on the board of directors of the National Business Group on Health and The Leapfrog Group.

Dr. Barber earned a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Dillard University, a doctor of medicine degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry, and a master of science degree from Harvard University School of Public Health.

Dexter Shurney, MD: Dr. Shurney is chief medical officer and senior vice president of clinical affairs for digital health and wellness company Zipongo, co-author of the book “Integrating Wellness into Your Disease Management Program,” and president-elect of The American College of Lifestyle Medicine. He is board certified in general preventive medicine and public health and has served as editor of the *Journal of Managed Care Physicians*.

Dr. Shurney has a bachelor of science degree in biology from Loma Linda University, a doctor of medicine degree from the Howard University College of Medicine, a master of business administration degree from University of Detroit Mercy, and a master of public health in preventive medicine and public health from the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Joni Troester: The University of Iowa's assistant vice president for total rewards, Troester provides leadership for compensation, broad-based benefit offerings, and integrated health management programs for approximately 20,000 employees. She has extensive experience developing and implementing strategies and systems designed to foster a positive work environment, and received the Heart of HERO award in 2015 in recognition of outstanding contributions toward the advancement of health and well-being at the University of Iowa.

Troester earned a bachelor of science in exercise science and a master of arts in physical education from the University of Iowa. She also earned a master of business administration from the University of Iowa Henry B. Tippie College of Business.

Dr. Barber, Dr. Shurney, and Troester join an existing HERO board that includes:

- Seth Serxner, chief health officer and senior vice president, population health, Optum;
- Anita Shaughnessy, vice president, benefits manager, Wells Fargo;
- Lilly Wyttenbach, executive director, JPMorgan Chase & Co.;
- Ron Goetzl, vice president of consulting and applied research, Truven Health Analytics;
- Paul Terry, CEO, HERO;
- Josh Glynn, global health and performance manager, Google;
- Nico Pronk, president, HealthPartners Institute and chief science officer, HealthPartners, Inc.;
- Betty-Jo Saenz, senior director, benefits, DHL;
- David Schweppe, national vice president, customer analytics and reporting, Kaiser Permanente;
- Tamara Simon, managing director and global practice leader, knowledge resource center, Conduent Human Resource Services;
- Laurie Whitsel, director of policy research, American Heart Association; and
- Sue Willette, senior vice president, employer healthcare strategy, Consortium Health Plans.

The new board members replace outgoing board members Fikry Isaac, MD, chief medical officer and vice president of global health services, Johnson & Johnson; and LaVaughn Palma-Davis, senior director, health and well-being services, University of Michigan. All HERO board members serve three-year terms.

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About HERO – Based in Waconia, MN, HERO (the Health Enhancement Research Organization) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)3 corporation that was established in 1997. HERO is dedicated to identifying and sharing best practices that improve the health and well-being of employees, their families and communities. To learn more, visit www.hero-health.org. Follow us on [Twitter](#) @heroehm, [Facebook](#), or [LinkedIn](#).