



NEWS RELEASE

(For immediate release)

HERO announces board of directors; elects new officers

RALEIGH, NC (March 9, 2022) — The Health Enhancement Research Organization ([HERO](#)) announces the appointment of four (4) new directors to the HERO [board of directors](#) and elected new officers. The board also bid farewell to four (4) dedicated directors who have served HERO during a critical time.

The HERO board provides oversight and direction to guide the growth and evolution of HERO. The board is made up of corporate executives and individuals from a cross-section of HERO's membership which includes public and private sector employers, universities, health plans, health systems, providers of employee health and well-being services, benefits consultants, brokers, and non-profit organizations.

“The HERO board represents diverse voices in the industry and a range of employer perspectives. These individuals have a passion for health and well-being and a spirit of collaboration that is central to everything we do at HERO. Over these past couple of years, they have kept HERO on a steady course, navigating historical challenges while also charting a new strategic plan to guide us toward new research and learning priorities,” Karen Moseley, President and CEO of HERO.

HERO's four (4) new directors include:

Steven Noeldner, PhD, MS -- Partner & Senior Consultant, Total Health Management, Mercer

Steven has been with Mercer for more than 17 years and has more than 30 years of experience in the well-being and health promotion field. He specializes in strategy development, execution of health and well-being initiatives, and measurement and evaluation. Prior to joining Mercer, Steven amassed broad health management industry experience, including managing clinical cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitation programs, hospital administration, university teaching, research, corporate health management, and president and COO of a health promotion vendor. Steven holds a MS in clinical exercise physiology and a PhD in exercise science with concentrations in sport psychology, exercise physiology and biomechanics. He is certified by the American College of Sports Medicine as a program director.

Jennifer Posa, PhD, MS -- Global Head, Employee Mental Well-Being & Workplace Effectiveness, Johnson & Johnson

Jennifer is responsible for the development of the mental health and well-being strategy and workplace effectiveness programs for Johnson & Johnson (J&J) employees worldwide. Prior to joining J&J, Jennifer spent 17 years at Mayo Clinic in multiple business development and strategy development roles. She has also led numerous successful industry research initiatives—a few under HERO's name—and is a well-known subject matter expert and thought leader in the areas of organizational support, psychological well-being at the workplace, and building cultures of health within organizations. Jennifer holds a BA in psychology from Denison University, an MS in health-fitness management from American University, and a PhD in industrial/organizational psychology from Capella University.

Krystal Sexton, PhD -- Americas Regional Lead, Human Performance, and Care, Shell Oil Company

Krystal is the scientific liaison to the business, demonstrating the impacts of positive and organizational psychology, cognitive and social neuroscience, and the science of inclusion on business outcomes. She obtained an MS in biostatistics, PhD in epidemiology from the University of Texas School of Public Health and completed postdoctoral fellowships at both MD Anderson Cancer Center and Baylor College of Medicine.

Ryan Sledge, MPH, MBA -- Vice President of Workforce Health and Safety at HCA Healthcare

Ryan partners across teams — both clinical and non-clinical including human resources, infection prevention, and performance improvement—to ensure caregivers receive great care so that they can focus their passion and energy on providing great care. In his previous role as Director of Worksite Operations and Product Development for OhioHealth, he was responsible for creating a sustainable culture of health for OhioHealth's 29,000 employees, as well as the employers served by the program in the Columbus region. He has over 10 years of experience in wellness and health management working with employer and community populations, including stints at HealthFitness, Trinity Health, and Beaumont Health. His academic background includes a BS degree in exercise science, an MPH degree from Michigan State University, and an MBA degree from the University of Michigan. Sledge is the newly elected Treasurer of the HERO Board of Directors.

The four (4) new members join an existing HERO board that includes:

- Joan (Joni) M. Troester, MBA, Senior Assistant Vice President and Deputy Chief Human Resources Officer, The University of Iowa. Troester will serve as the Chair of the HERO Board of Directors.
- Dexter Shurney, MD, MBA, MPH, Chief Health Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Officer for Adventist Health. Shurney will serve as the Vice Chair of the HERO Board of Directors.

- Tamara (Tami) Simon, JD, Senior Vice President, Consulting Leader for Segal. Simon will serve as the Secretary for the HERO Board of Directors.
- Anita Shaughnessy, MEd, Health & Well-being Benefits Strategy Consultant, for Wells Fargo. Shaughnessy will serve as HERO Board Immediate Past Chair.
- Karen Moseley, President & CEO of HERO.
- Maggie Biscarr, MSW, Director of Global Partnership Solutions for PepsiCo.
- Chris Calitz, MPP, National Executive Portfolio Lead, Health & Well-being for the American Heart Association.
- Janis Davis-Street, MS, MA, EdD, Associate Manager, Health & Productivity of Health and Medical for Chevron.
- Gerardo D. Durand, MD, MPH, Occupational Medicine, and Clinical Services Director for 3M.
- Marlece Sherman Estella, MD, MHCM, SVP of Health & Chief Medical Officer for bp.
- Nico Pronk, PhD, MA, FACSM, FAWHP, President of the HealthPartners Institute; Chief Science Officer HealthPartners, Inc.; Adjunct Professor of Social and Behavior Sciences at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

The new board members replace outgoing HERO members Jack Groppe, PhD, FACSM, FACN, Professor at Judson University; David Schweppe, SVP and Chief Analytics Officer at MedeAnalytics; Seth Serxner, PhD, MPH, Chief Health Officer, and SVP, Population Health for Optum; and Shelly Wolff, MBA, health and well-being executive advisor.

For complete biographies and photos of the HERO Board of Directors, please visit <https://hero-health.org/about/board-of-directors/>

###

For more information: Crystle Helderman, HERO Director of Communications
(408) 516-4472 / crystle.helderman@hero-health.org

About HERO – Based in Raleigh, NC, 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.herohealth.org. Follow us on Twitter [@heroehm](https://twitter.com/heroehm), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/heroehm), or [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/heroehm).