

Trailhead Community Health Foundation of Greater Akron Announces Appointment of Inaugural President and CEO

November 20, 2025

AKRON, OH — Trailhead Community Health Foundation of Greater Akron (“Trailhead”) is pleased to announce the appointment of Tracy Carter as its inaugural President and Chief Executive Officer. Trailhead was established to advance health and wellness across Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, and Wayne Counties. As the Foundation’s first President and CEO, Carter will lead the organization through its developmental years, building the infrastructure, partnerships, and strategies necessary to position Trailhead as a transformative force for community health in the Greater Akron region.

“We are thrilled to welcome Tracy to Trailhead,” said Marty Hauser, Chair of the Board of Directors. “Her leadership, experience, and deep commitment to community health make her the ideal candidate to steer this new and valuable asset for our region. We look forward to working with her to create a lasting impact on the well-being of the residents we serve.”

In this role, Carter will oversee all aspects of Trailhead’s operations, grantmaking, fundraising and donor relations, and community engagement efforts. She will also work closely with the Board of Directors and community stakeholders to shape the Foundation’s strategic direction and ensure that its initiatives meaningfully enhance community health and well-being.

“I am grateful to the Trailhead trustees for selecting me to serve as the inaugural President and CEO of the Foundation,” Carter said. “I am committed to leveraging my expertise, passion, and relationships to build and manage an organization that will bring additional investment to nonprofit entities focused on helping individuals lead healthier lives.”

Carter has more than 36 years of experience in healthcare administration, public health planning, and external affairs. Throughout the course of her career, she has built a distinguished record of leading complex organizations, fostering collaboration, and advancing community-focused initiatives. Her extensive background reflects both strategic leadership and a deep commitment to service, qualities that align closely with Trailhead’s mission to build stronger, healthier communities across the Greater Akron region.

She currently serves as System Director of Government Affairs and Health Policy at Summa Health, where she leads strategy and engagement on public policy and funding issues affecting healthcare access, services, and community well-being. In addition, she has provided volunteer leadership to numerous civic organizations, including the Akron Community Foundation, where she has served as president of an affiliate fund advisory board from 2009 to 2013. In 2023, she co-founded a new affiliate fund and is serving as president of its inaugural advisory board.

As a native of Akron, Ohio, Carter is widely respected throughout the community and remains deeply committed to improving the health and vitality of her hometown and the broader region. Carter earned her Bachelor of Business Administration from Ohio University and a Master of Health Services Administration from the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

For additional information about Trailhead Community Health Foundation of Greater Akron, please visit [Trailheadhealthfoundation.org](https://trailheadhealthfoundation.org).

About Trailhead Community Health Foundation of Greater Akron

Trailhead Community Health Foundation of Greater Akron is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving health and wellness across Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, and Wayne Counties. Trailhead supports initiatives that expand access to care, promote preventive health, and address the social determinants of health that impact individuals and families throughout Northeast Ohio

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