



## Karen Springer

### Executive Vice President, Healthcare Operations

**Karen Springer** is Ascension Executive Vice President, Healthcare Operations. In this role, Karen is accountable for Ascension's Ministry Markets, delivering solutions to improve operating performance and achieve operating excellence for all ministries within the Ministry Markets, and the successful execution of strategic operating priorities, as well as management oversight of Enterprise Excellence, which includes Performance Excellence and the Project Management Office.

Karen plays an integral role in evaluating and aligning each Ministry Market's services and structure to enable maximum value for the communities served, while ensuring financial stability and optimal operational performance. She provides leadership and guidance across Ministry Markets' ongoing efforts to explore new models of healthcare delivery.

Prior to this role, Karen served as Senior Vice President, Ascension Healthcare, and Ministry Market Executive, Ascension Tennessee. She also served as Saint Thomas Health President and Chief Operating Officer with responsibility for operational success and effectiveness of Saint Thomas Health hospital facilities, physician practices and numerous joint ventures. Under Karen's direction and leadership, innovation and organizational effectiveness flourished.

Before joining Saint Thomas Health, she honed her leadership skills at the Lutheran Hospital System in Fort Wayne, Indiana, serving first as Director for Cardiovascular and Medical/Surgical ICUs. She went on to become Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana.

Karen also served as Chief Nursing Officer for the Rehabilitation Hospital in Fort Wayne with direct responsibility for hospital operations and for multiple patient care departments. Prior to that, Karen served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Officer for Dupont Hospital, where she oversaw the construction of a new \$52 million facility.

Springer received her Associate of Science degree in Nursing from Germanna College in Virginia and her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Indiana Wesleyan University. She completed her Master of Science degree in Nursing Administration at Ball State University.