David C. Herman, MD
Essentia Health
Chief Executive Officer

David C. Herman, MD, serves as chief executive officer for Essentia Health, an integrated health system headquartered in Duluth, Minn. Dr. Herman oversees 69 clinics, 15 hospitals and 14,400 employees who care for patients in Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota and Idaho. He is committed to upholding the organization’s values of quality, hospitality, respect, justice, stewardship and teamwork.

Dr. Herman is a native of International Falls, Minn. He received his medical degree from Mayo Medical School in Rochester, Minn., and completed his residency in ophthalmology at Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education. He was a senior staff fellow in ocular immunology and uveitis at the National Eye Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md. He received a master’s degree in medical management from The University of Texas at Dallas.

Dr. Herman served on the Mayo Clinic staff from 1988 to 2011, where he was a professor of ophthalmology and held many leadership roles. Following his time at Mayo, Dr. Herman became CEO of Vidant Health in eastern North Carolina. He joined Essentia Health in January 2015.

Dr. Herman currently serves on the board of trustees of Ronald McDonald House Charities, the international charity that sponsors and supports Ronald McDonald Houses across the globe; the board of trustees of The College of St. Scholastica; the board of trustees of the Minnesota Hospital Association; the board of directors of the Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement; and the board of directors of the American Board of Ophthalmology.