

# Leadership

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Leadership

## Leadership

VNS Health is changing health care. Our goal is to make it easy to access, simple to understand, and meaningful to the people in our care, at every stage of their health care journey. Our leadership team brings to life our Core Values of empathy, agility, and integrity to help continue our legacy of care and commitment.

## Executive Leadership



### Dan Savitt

President and Chief Executive Officer



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### Dan Savitt

President and Chief Executive Officer

As President and Chief Executive Officer of VNS Health, Dan

Savitt oversees one of the largest not-for-profit home- and community-based health care organizations in the United States.

Prior to becoming CEO of VNS Health in February 2021, Mr. Savitt was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Savitt brings extensive experience from his work at US Acute Care Solutions, Landmark Health LLC, UnitedHealth Group, Northwest Airlines, and the Ford Motor Company.

Mr. Savitt holds a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies at the University of Michigan and a Master of Business Administration from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.



## Michael Bernstein

Executive Vice President and Chief Experience Officer



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## Michael Bernstein

Executive Vice President and Chief Experience Officer

As VNS Health's Executive Vice President and Chief Experience Officer, Michael Bernstein is responsible for Marketing, Communications, Consumer Experience, Contact Center Shared Service, Development, Facilities, and Core Administrative Services.

He previously held key leadership roles at VNS Health from 2005 through 2015, first as Vice President and Chief Marketing

Officer and then as Executive Vice President, Business Operations, and Chief Marketing Officer. Mr. Bernstein left VNS Health in 2014 to help found Extend Fertility, the first enterprise in the country focused exclusively on providing elective egg-freezing services to women. He returned to VNS Health in 2018 and served as Executive Vice President and Chief Administrative Officer until 2020.

Mr. Bernstein holds a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and a Master of Business Administration from Columbia Business School.



## John Burke

Executive Vice President and Chief of Health Plans



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## John Burke

Executive Vice President and Chief of Health Plans

As Executive Vice President, Chief of Health Plans, John J. Burke brings 25 years of executive-level experience in health care, much of it focused on serving low-income, elderly, and immigrant populations, helping them to lead better, healthier lives through improved health care access and outcomes.

Before joining VNS Health, John was CEO of SOMOS Innovation, where he led the introduction of the full risk, delegated model

known as Innovator, which gained over 100,000 Medicaid members across 600 primary care physicians in its first two years. Prior to SOMOS, John spent 16 years at WellCare of New York, assuming the role of President in 2013. Earlier in his career, John held a range of positions with Healthfirst, New York Life, and MetLife.

John is a graduate of Fordham University and holds a Master's degree from The McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University.



## Kerry Parker

Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Risk Officer

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## Kerry Parker

Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Risk Officer

As Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Risk Officer of VNS Health, Kerry Parker is responsible for directing and overseeing the Legal Affairs, Risk Management, Board Governance, Government Affairs, and Internal Audit functions for VNS Health and its subsidiaries and affiliates. He also oversees VNS Health's Provider and Corporate Compliance and Privacy functions, led by the SVP of Compliance.

Prior to joining VNS Health, Mr. Parker practiced health care law, labor and employment law, and litigation as a partner with the law firms of Epstein, Becker & Green, P.C. and Gibbons, P.C. He has served in various leadership roles in other nonprofit organizations, including as a Trustee and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Springpoint Senior Living, Inc., the leading New Jersey provider of senior living and care.

Mr. Parker received his Juris Doctor with honors from Seton Hall University Law School and served a judicial clerkship in the Superior Court of New Jersey.



## **Keith Patterson**

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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## **Keith Patterson**

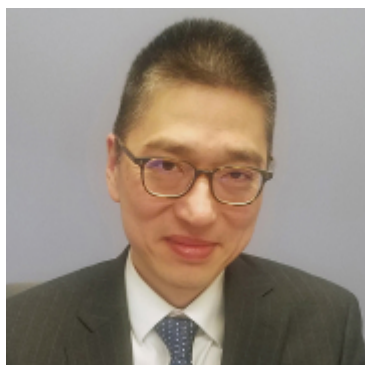
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

In his role as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Keith Patterson is responsible for providing overall financial and strategic direction to VNS Health.

Prior to joining VNS Health, Mr. Patterson most recently served as Chief Financial Officer for Ready Responders, an on-demand community health care service. He has also held several senior financial leadership positions at UnitedHealth Group and Optum. Prior to that, Mr. Patterson served in senior corporate

development, corporate finance, and financial planning and analysis roles at Aetna, following a number of years in Equity Research and Investment Banking with J.P. Morgan.

Mr. Patterson holds a Bachelor of Science in Finance from Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University and a Master of Business Administration from the Stern School of Business at New York University, with a concentration in Strategy and Leadership.

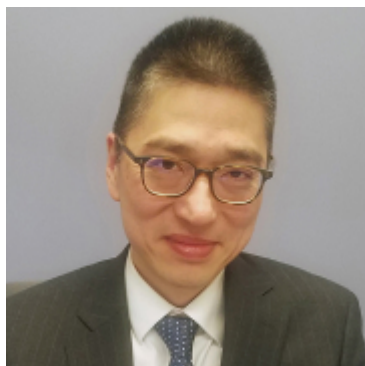


## **Tim Peng, PhD**

Executive Vice President, Science & Technology

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## **Tim Peng, PhD**

Executive Vice President, Science & Technology

As Executive Vice President, Science & Technology, Timothy Peng, PhD, oversees VNS Health's Business Intelligence and Analytics (BIA) and Information Technology (IT) teams, as well as the Center for Home Care Policy & Research at VNS Health. In this role, Mr. Peng leads a strategic function that integrates these teams to drive innovation and technology across VNS Health, informed by meaningful, timely data.

Mr. Peng has been a part of VNS Health for more than 20 years. In that time, he served as both a Research Scientist for the Center for Home Care Policy & Research and subsequently was

named Vice President of Data Science and Strategic Analytics. His most recent role at VNS Health was Chief Data Analytics Officer.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Yale University and a Doctorate in Psychology from the University of Michigan's Research Center for Group Dynamics, Institute for Social Research.



## David Rosales

Executive Vice President and Chief of Provider Services



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## David Rosales

Executive Vice President and Chief of Provider Services

As Executive Vice President and Chief of Provider Services, David Rosales leads the VNS Health Home Care, Hospice Care, Personal Care, and Behavioral Health teams, and oversees population health and business development.

David first joined VNS Health in 2006 as part of the organization's Performance and Innovation team. He left the organization in 2014 and served in senior positions at the national health care consulting firm Manatt Health, advising health systems around the country on how to expand the reach of Medicaid services to care for vulnerable populations. He returned to VNS Health in 2018 as EVP and Chief Strategy

Officer. David also previously served as a Deland Fellow in Health Care and Society at Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital, prior to which he held positions with Oliver Wyman consulting company and Goldman Sachs.

David holds a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard College and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard Business School.



## **Gail Thakarar**

Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer



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## **Gail Thakarar**

Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer

As Executive Vice President and Chief People Officer, Gail Thakarar oversees all aspects of VNS Health's HR and people management strategies, to ensure that the organization has the right people to achieve its goals and deliver on the shared mission.

Ms. Thakarar comes to VNS Health with extensive experience as a global HR leader. She began her career with GE, GlaxoSmithKline, and Bank of America; more recently she has worked with start-ups and Fortune 200 companies across industries. As a trusted advisor to the C-suite and an advocate for teams and employees, she fosters agility and growth as companies navigate digital and cultural transformations.





Ms. Thakarar holds a Master of Business Administration from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania in Industrial Relations and a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Mumbai. She has worked in cultural centers globally and is fluent in several languages.

## Medical Leadership



### **Ritchell Dignam, MD**

Chief Medical Officer, Provider Services

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## **Ritchell Dignam, MD**

Chief Medical Officer, Provider Services

Ritchell R. Dignam, MD, is Chief Medical Officer for Provider Services at VNS Health. She also serves as Hospice Medical Director for VNS Health Hospice Care and as Program Director of VNS Health's Hospice Fellowship Training Program.

Prior to joining VNS Health, Dr. Dignam was a Hospice Medical Director at VITAS Healthcare. She has also served as Medical Director at several New Jersey hospice agencies and other medical institutions. Board-certified in internal medicine, geriatric medicine, and hospice and palliative medicine, Dr. Dignam also served as a geriatrician and an assistant professor at the Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine's New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging (formerly known as the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey), where she has practiced since 2000.

Dr. Dignam attended undergraduate and medical school at Far Eastern University in Manila, where she received a Bachelor of Science in medical technology from the School of Medical Technology, and a Doctor of Medicine from the Dr. Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation.



## **Jay Dobkin, MD**

Chief Medical Officer, Health Plans

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# Jay Dobkin, MD

Chief Medical Officer, Health Plans

As Chief Medical Officer, Jay Dobkin, MD, brings five decades of medical experience to VNS Health Health Plans. As an infectious disease specialist, he provides important insights into the coronavirus and the illness it causes, as well as the challenges that health care providers are facing. He also serves as medical director for SelectHealth, a special needs plan for people living with HIV.

Prior to joining the VNS Health team, Dr. Dobkin was the director of Columbia University Medical Center's AIDS program from 1988 to 2009. He has been a faculty member at Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons since 1979 and has served as a consultant to the World Health Organization and other organizations on the care of HIV in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. On World AIDS Day, December 1, 2021, he received a special recognition award from the Commissioner of New York State's Department of Health.

Dr. Dobkin received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Harvard Medical School and completed his residency at Montefiore Medical Center.

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