



ANNETTE M. WALKER, MHA

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Annette M. Walker is the visionary health care leader tapped to build a 21st-century comprehensive cancer campus in Orange County for City of Hope, named by U.S. News and World Report as the best cancer hospital in California.

A national leader with local influence

Named one of the **25 most influential women** leaders and one of the **Top 100 most influential leaders in U.S. health care** (2019) by Modern Healthcare magazine, Annette believes bringing City of Hope's world-class, highly specialized cancer care to Orange County is the most important chapter in her career. It allows her to serve the 3.2 million people of Orange County, which has been her home for 40 years. Working with physicians, community leaders, health care experts, and others, Annette will lead the development of a 190,000-square-foot cancer center for innovative cancer research and treatment at FivePoint Gateway in Irvine. Stemming from this hub will be a network of services and programs spanning Orange County that provide breakthrough treatments and therapies, as well as education and preventive care to make the region healthier.

Known for her ability to get the job done, Annette is a master at strategy and planning. Before coming to City of Hope, she was President of Strategy for Providence St. Joseph Health, the nation's third-largest health system. While there, she was instrumental in bringing two noted health organizations together, and, within the first year, succeeded in convening key stakeholders to develop a transformational strategic plan. Annette also served as interim president and chief executive of St. Joseph Health before the merger of St. Joseph Health and Providence.

At the crossroads of business, innovation and wellness

Annette is a leader in acute care, as well as wellness and disease prevention. Her vision has led to the development of innovative partnerships with large organizations that provide wellness and health management programs for their employees.

She is the author of numerous articles on wellness, health care marketing, quality, planning and management and a featured speaker for national audiences. Annette has received many health care, leadership and innovation honors for her work from major institutions, organizations and publications, most recently as **Orange County Business Journal's Top Woman in Business** and **Business Person of the Year** (2019), and one of the **Top 100 Orange County Influencers by The Orange County Register** (2019).

Community engagement and personal growth

Always interested in giving back, Annette has served on a wide range of boards for more than 15 years. She presently serves as chair of the finance committee of the Diocese of Orange and the Orange County Business Council. She was also a board member and chair of American Unity Group, Ltd. (a Captive Insurance Company), the Well Being Trust, and the boards of St. Joseph Health's Santa Rosa Memorial, Petaluma Valley Hospital, Mission Hospital and St. Mary Medical Center, and the CSJ Educational Network. In 2015 she was the chair of the highly successful American Heart Association's Women's Go Red campaign. Additional board participation includes several non-profits and health care professional organizations.

FAVORITE QUOTE

*"I am not afraid;
I was born to do this."*

Joan of Arc

She is the **mother of six children, grandmother of 12**, and attributes her approachable leadership style to her rich family and personal life. Annette is an advocate of organizations promoting effective work-life balance, personal growth and development. Most recently, she embarked on a 170-mile journey by foot along the storied **Camino de Santiago** in Spain, an ancient trail traversed by pilgrims since the 9th century. Annette holds a master's degree in health care administration from the **University of Minnesota** and a bachelor's degree in biology from **Loyola Marymount University** in Los Angeles.