

Jim Forstner, MSc

Chief Executive Officer, Emory Decatur Hospital, Emory Hillandale Hospital, Emory Long-Term Acute Care



In 2018, Jim Forstner became the first Chief Executive Officer of Emory Decatur Hospital, Emory Hillandale Hospital and Emory Long-Term Acute Care, when the DeKalb Medical system merged into Emory Healthcare. Jim played a pivotal role in guiding the strategic partnership between the two systems and now oversees the continuing growth, capital investment and patient care strategy for the DeKalb Operating Unit.

Jim joined DeKalb Medical in 2004 as Executive Director of Contracting and Revenue Management and, soon thereafter, his role expanded as the Executive Director of Revenue Cycle. In 2010, Jim's role expanded and he took on responsibility for leading service lines, including Cardiovascular Services, Imaging and Post Acute Care.

In late 2012, Jim was appointed the Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer for the health care system and in 2014 was promoted to Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer. He brought a fresh approach to growing service lines and integrating with physicians in the community. He also worked closely with the employed physician group and the DeKalb Physician Hospital Organization to lead the design and development of the clinical integration model that bonds independent physicians in the community with our health system to prepare for the future of health care reforms. In 2016, Jim was promoted to the role of Chief Operating Officer.

Jim's background reflects a rich set of educational and business experiences that prepared him well for this role. He was an honors undergraduate at the University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill, earning a Bachelor of Science in Health Policy and Administration. He went on to earn a Master's of Science in health policy, planning and financing from the University of London's School of Economics. He worked for two years at UNC Memorial and three years as a Senior Consultant for Arthur Anderson and BearingPoint Consulting in revenue management prior to joining DeKalb Medical.

Jim and his wife, Jennifer, live in Mableton with their two daughters.