**Outgoing VA leader Susan Fuehrer to join MetroHealth**

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Susan Fuehrer

Susan Fuehrer, the outgoing leader of the VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System, is joining MetroHealth as its president of social determinants of health and health equity, effective July 1.

Fuehrer will lead MetroHealth's efforts to identify and address the root causes of the community's health issues and will work to eliminate barriers to care, according to a news release. She'll engage community partners to connect individuals with resources in order to keep them healthy and end health disparities.

Roughly 80% of an individual's health status is determined by social, environmental and other factors outside of medical care, according to the release.

"Good health is about much more than good health care. It's about things like healthy food, educational opportunities, job training, stable housing, safe neighborhoods and a clean environment," Dr. Nabil Chehade, senior vice president and chief population health officer, said in a prepared statement. "Susan's prior experience leading one of the country's largest VA health systems and advocating for patients and the community aligns perfectly with our mission."

Fuehrer, who spent most of her career at the VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System, recently announced her plans to retire from the system after 34 years, effective June 30.

Fuehrer received her Master of Business Administration at Case Western Reserve University and is a graduate of Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She serves on the boards of the Greater Cleveland Red Cross, Cuyahoga Community College Foundation, the Center for Health Affairs and the Federal Executive Board, according to the release.