

Kelly Mather, Ex-Officio Director



Kelly Mather became a hospital CEO at the age of 28. Originally from Illinois, she graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science in Health Administration in 1989. After completing her undergraduate studies, she moved to Richmond, Virginia where she received her Master's in Health Administration from Medical College of Virginia (VCU). In 1991, Kelly spent a year in Overland Park, Kansas as an Administrative Resident with Humana Hospitals which led to her fast rise in healthcare administration.

She found her true home in Northern California and began her career as an Assistant Administrator at San Leandro Hospital and became their CEO in 1996. In 2001, Kelly was recruited to Sutter Health and served as CEO, Sutter Lakeside Hospital until 2009. During her tenure, Sutter Lakeside Hospital became the most preferred hospital in the area and was recognized for excellence in quality, patient, staff and physician satisfaction. Now serving as the CEO of Sonoma Valley Hospital since 2010, Kelly has led the hospital's transformation into a top performing organization with accolades such as being named one of the top 15 hospitals in the patient safety in the county.

Kelly created the "Healing Hospital" model using four levels of healing to ultimately improve the health of the community. This model is evidence based and follows a health dashboard to demonstrate the positive results from healing and wellness programs. In 2009, this best practice was piloted at Mendocino Coast District Hospital and is now in place at Sonoma Valley Hospital.

Kelly has served as the CEO of Sonoma Valley Hospital for the last four years. She is married and is the mother of three children. When not passionately following her mission to improve health, she writes and has published seven health improvement books. She also enjoys yoga, exercise and spending time in nature.