

## Marie Zimmerman joins UCare as Vice President of Strategic Partnerships

*Experienced health care leader advances UCare's growth goals  
through strengthened strategic partnerships*

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 1, 2022 – [UCare](#) has hired [Marie Zimmerman](#) – an experienced and successful leader of Medicaid and health care organizations and reform initiatives – as the community-based, nonprofit health plan's Vice President of Strategic Partnerships. In her role at UCare, Zimmerman is responsible for providing strategic leadership in identifying and executing business partnerships that align with UCare's mission and strategic goals around growth, value and affordability.

“Marie is a much-respected health care, Medicaid and reform-minded leader in Minnesota,” said UCare Senior Vice President of Public Affairs and Chief Marketing officer Ghita Worcester. “Her vision and experience will enable UCare to sustain and grow strategic, value-based partnerships that provide our members a path to the best health for their lives. We are pleased to welcome her to our leadership team.”

For the past 15 years, Zimmerman has held a myriad of leadership positions advancing health care system redesign and whole-person care while reducing cost. She is accomplished in fostering relationships with a broad set of stakeholders including legislative, community, health plans and providers, and local, state and federal agencies.

Most recently, Zimmerman was Vice President at Aurrera Health Group where she led a new business line, built a new team of state Medicaid and health care staff experts and strategic partners, and led large-scale health reform efforts on behalf of national organizations, states, counties, plans, providers and advocacy groups. Prior to that, Zimmerman was the Assistant Commissioner/Medicaid Director for the Minnesota



Department of Human Services (DHS) responsible for overseeing Minnesota's public health care programs and operations, including Medicaid and MinnesotaCare. She led an organization of 800 employees administering every aspect of operations and strategic vision. Previously, Zimmerman was a Vice President at Hennepin Healthcare and held positions of increasing responsibility at the Minnesota DHS during her 13-year tenure.

Zimmerman serves on Icaro Health's Medicaid Advisory Board and the Centers for Victims of Torture Policy Committee. She has been recognized with a Medicaid Leadership Institute Fellowship from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, a Movement of Hope Vision Award from Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota, and a Women in Health Care Leadership award from the Women's Health Leadership TRUST. Zimmerman has a Master of Public Policy from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Economics and Political Science from the University of St. Thomas.

### **About UCare**

[UCare](#) is an independent, nonprofit health plan providing health care and administrative services to more than 600,000 members throughout Minnesota and parts of western Wisconsin. UCare partners with health care providers, counties and community organizations to create and deliver Medicare, Medicaid and Individual & Family health plans.

The health plan addresses health care disparities and care access issues through a broad array of community initiatives. UCare has received Top Workplaces honors from the Star Tribune for 12 consecutive years since the rankings began in 2010.

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