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# Falls native starts as Essentia's CEO

**David  
Herman**

Minnesota is our home, and home to our families," he said the release. "We are thrilled to return to northern Minnesota."

Herman most recently served as president and CEO of Vidant Health, a health system in eastern North Carolina. There he oversaw an organization with eight hospitals, 70 clinics and 12,000 employees. Prior to that, he served on the Mayo Clinic staff from 1988 to 2011, where he was a professor of ophthalmology.

Herman continues to practice as an eye specialist, and will see patients


Essentia Health has a long, successful history with strong physician leadership and community partnership," Herman said. "I am honored and proud to be here."

Herman is a 1975 graduate of Falls High School, as well as a 1977 graduate of Rainy River Community College. His parents still live in the Falls, as does his brother and his family.

Former CEO Peter Person will assist Herman with the transition. Person will continue to serve Essentia as emeritus CEO, working part-time on special projects until June 30.

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