Susan M. Fuehrer joined the VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System in 1986 and rose through the ranks to become CEO on September 28, 2010 until her retirement on June 30, 2019. As the CEO, she served as the leader and visionary for one of VA’s largest healthcare systems, serving more than 112,000 Veterans at 20 locations of care across 24 Northeast Ohio counties each year. Under her leadership, the Cleveland VA was the only VA in the country to consecutively attain 5-star rankings for quality since the inception of rankings in 2006. Mrs. Fuehrer is recognized as a VA trailblazer for making transparent, innovative and data-driven decisions on behalf of Veterans, staff and taxpayers. In October 2019 the President of the United States awarded Mrs. Fuehrer with a Presidential Meritorious Rank Award, the most prestigious award in the Federal career civil service.

Mrs. Fuehrer completed her Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration from the University of New Hampshire in 1986 and her Master of Business Administration from Case Western Reserve University in 1990. She is also a graduate of Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government and the Cleveland Leadership Class of 2008. Mrs. Fuehrer serves on the boards of the Greater Cleveland American Red Cross, Cuyahoga Community College Foundation and the Center for Health Affairs. Her honors include: Crain’s Women of Note in 2018, Insightful Women in NEO by Congressman Renacci in 2018 and Smart Business’ Smart Women Award in 2019.

Post VA retirement, Mrs. Fuehrer joined the MetroHealth System on July 1, 2019 and serves as President for the Institute for H.O.P.E.™ (Health, Opportunity, Partnership, Empowerment). In this role, she aims to address social determinants of health in an ambitious, comprehensive and coordinated manner by connecting individuals and neighborhoods with housing, job training, transportation, healthy food and legal services – continuing to serve the public and improve the overall health for everyone in Northeast Ohio.