

Bio for Candace Jennings

Title: Region President, Hospital Operations, SSM Health St. Louis

Credentials: MSN, MSHSA, FACHE

Background and Experience:

Ms. Jennings has been a health care leader for over 25 years in hospitals and health care systems in Alabama, Texas, Illinois and Tennessee. She began her career as a registered nurse with a Baccalaureate and a Master's degree in nursing and nursing leadership from the University of Alabama and the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She holds a Master's degree in Health Services Administration, also from UAB.

After beginning her leadership career in nursing at UAB Hospitals and Clinics, Ms. Jennings held a variety of leadership positions in large, academic health care systems. She was also a Senior Manager in the Dallas Health Care Practice at Ernst & Young, specializing in organizational resizing projects and patient focused care model design. She has extensive construction planning experience, including the building of the first "green," LEED certified hospital in Tennessee, Franklin Woods Community Hospital. She has also developed Level I trauma and critical care programs in three health systems.

Ms. Jennings joined SSM Health-St. Louis in 2014 as Region President for Hospital Operations. In this role Ms. Jennings is responsible for the operation of the eight St. Louis hospitals that comprise the region. With \$2.4 billion in revenue, over 5,000 employees and more than 2,000 inpatient beds, the region provides the full continuum of care choices for St. Louisans. Ms. Jennings is a Board member for the United Way of Greater St. Louis and is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.