

## LEADERSHIP PROFILE



Vice President, Health Programs

**The Carter Center**

Atlanta, Georgia

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**“We believe access to health care is a human right, especially among poor people afflicted with disease who are forgotten, ignored, and often without hope.”**

*--President Jimmy Carter*

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### A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

**The Carter Center is a pioneer and global leader in public health.** The Center’s deep, sustained commitment to eradicating and eliminating neglected tropical diseases and its work in mental health have improved literally millions of lives. Its unique program portfolio, expertise and partnerships have advanced health and hope in some of the poorest and most isolated places on earth.



**This is a time of promise for The Carter Center and its global health work.**

As a result of the Center’s historic campaign, Guinea worm is expected to be the second disease ever eradicated. Cases are down by more than 99.9%, from 3.5 million in 1986 to 54. The Center’s Board of Trustees, leadership and donors have committed additional resources to overcome the remaining obstacles to eradication. Elimination of river blindness and control of lymphatic filariasis and trachoma are in sight, as is improving mental health and well-being globally.

**The Center’s incoming CEO, [Paige Alexander](#), begins her tenure this summer.** With an annual Health Programs budget of approximately \$95 million plus significant in-kind medical donations, the Center is poised to continue and build upon its track record as a vital force in global public health.

**The Vice President, Health Programs has an exciting mandate.** The VP Health will lead in the accomplishment of current ambitious goals, and will envision the next critical global health challenges the Center will confront.



**Carter Center Health Programs combat preventable diseases globally.** Current programs include Guinea worm eradication, river blindness elimination, trachoma control, lymphatic filariasis elimination, schistosomiasis control, elimination of malaria and lymphatic filariasis in Hispaniola, public health training in Nigeria and Sudan, and mental health programs.

**The VP Health provides leadership and direction to all Carter Center health programs.** The VP Health leads a talented, committed global team of over 2,000 staff members, 54 based in the U.S., and represents the Center's health programs at national and international meetings and events.

The VP Health will shape and implement a strategic vision for Carter Center Health Programs, communicate effectively and build relationships with all Health Programs' stakeholders. The VP Health will have the skills and experience to lead and manage multiple teams and programs, and to inspire people around vision and implementation of current and future program goals.

## MANDATE FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT, HEALTH PROGRAMS

**The Vice President, Health Programs has an extraordinary mandate.** The VP Health will lead the Center to accomplish current ambitious goals and embark on the next era of innovation and impact. The VP Health will be an energizing, respected public health professional with significant, relevant experience in public health, executive leadership and management.

The VP Health reports to The Carter Center's CEO and is a member of its top leadership team, which works to build synergies, collaboration and culture across the organization. The VP Health will have authentic passion for the work and the potential of The Carter Center. The VP Health will have the relational skills, vision, strategic acumen and courage to shape a bold future while fully embracing the current challenges and the principles of the founders.

The VP Health will:

- 1. Be an inspiring global public health leader with relevant expertise and results.** The VP Health will be a credible leader of vision, strategy and implementation, able to engage and inspire team members, colleagues, partners and funders and work collaboratively across the Health and Peace disciplines to solve complex problems. The VP Health will embrace the dual mandate of successfully completing current initiatives while developing future direction that builds upon the Center's unique assets.

**2. Ensure achievement of current ambitious goals.**

Several current health programs are advancing toward conclusion, and successful completion will require leadership, focus and tenacity. The VP Health will assess progress and facilitate the team's efforts, adding research, analysis or other resources essential to overcoming final obstacles. Among these challenges are Guinea worm infections in animals and reaching certain isolated populations at risk for onchocerciasis in the Americas.



**3. Lead next-generation strategy, planning and accomplishment.** The VP Health will lead development of Health Programs vision and strategy, fostering innovation and fresh thinking. The VP Health will lead the process of envisioning a bold, unique and impactful future consistent with the Center's mission, core capacities and difference-making potential. With the team, the VP Health will develop and operationalize annual and long-range plans.

**4. Enhance the Center's reputation, relationships and support.** The VP Health will be a compelling frontline representative and a credible, substantive communicator and fundraiser who builds relationships across with global partners, institutions and major donors. The VP Health will represent the Center at global and domestic conferences and events, in the media and through oral and written presentations.

**5. Be a great manager of the team, the work and the culture.** The VP Health will have significant executive experience and a record of building collaborative, high-performing teams and working across organizations. The VP Health will recruit and develop world-class talent, and will contribute to a positive culture of shared values, standards and accountability. The VP Health will have the financial, operational and business acumen to manage a large, complex budget, inspire and mentor a dispersed global team, and foster professional development.

## PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The ideal VP Health is a dynamic, proven public health expert with relevant global leadership experience and passion for the Carter Center's programs and potential. The ideal leader has an MD, PhD or EdD, significant leadership experience, and results in international health and other contexts.

Personal assets will include:

- Credibility, authenticity and ability to inspire
- A dynamic, energizing presence
- An inclusive style that fosters collaboration, cooperation and buy-in



- Self-confidence *and* humility—mission over ego
- Compassion, relationship building, listening and communication skills
- Ability to balance setting direction with building shared vision
- Tenacity and the confidence to always do the right thing
- Strengths in leading strategy, innovation and execution
- Ability to be a persuasive advocate for the Center’s Health Programs

## THE ORGANIZATION



**The Carter Center is a global leader in human rights, focused on peace, health and alleviation of human suffering.**

Founded in 1982 by former President Jimmy Carter and Rosalynn Carter, The Carter Center has saved and enhanced countless lives in over 80 countries. The Center seeks to prevent and resolve conflicts, enhance freedom and democracy, and improve health.

The Center is a leader in the eradication and elimination of diseases, focusing efforts to ‘get to zero transmission’ in some of the poorest and most isolated places on earth. Inspired by the successful eradication of smallpox in 1977, The Carter Center houses the International Task Force for Disease Eradication, which constantly looks for opportunities to accomplish eradication, the pinnacle of public health.

The Center’s Health Programs have an annual budget of approximately \$95 million in cash and \$200 million in donations of essential medicines. The Carter Center also has a very significant endowment to secure its future.

The Center has spearheaded the international campaign to eradicate Guinea worm disease. Without a vaccine or treatment, and through use of simple tools like health education and fine-mesh filter cloths, cases of the disease have been reduced more than 99.9 percent since 1986, from 3.5 million to 54 in 2019. With support from donors and a 2019 \$20 million Carter Center investment, the team



is addressing emergent challenges such as Guinea worm presence in dogs and baboons. There is strong commitment at the Board, donor and organizational levels to achieving the Guinea worm eradication goals.

With its partners, the Center has made great strides in eliminating river blindness (onchocerciasis) from Latin America. Through health education and mass drug administration, people in the region are no longer being blinded by the disease, caused by the vector-borne parasite *Onchocerca volvulus*.



Of the six countries that were endemic in 1996, four have stopped transmission of the disease. In Ghana, Carter Center-led interventions have helped eliminate blinding trachoma as a public health problem. Additionally, Carter Center work in Nigeria, Hispaniola and Ethiopia has shown it is possible to eliminate lymphatic filariasis (elephantiasis) as a public health problem.

The Health Programs team aspires to greater integration within and beyond the program areas, including more cross-collaborative engagement with the Center's Peace Programs. Looking to next opportunities, the Health Programs team could pilot new programs that leverage existing expertise at the community level.

In its 2019-23 Strategic Priorities document, the Center commits to continuing its leadership in the fight to eliminate and eradicate neglected tropical diseases that disproportionately affect the very poor. The Center intends to prioritize work that benefits women and girls and to be known for its expertise, data-driven analysis, rigorous monitoring and evaluation, and its commitment to sustainability. The Center will magnify its impact through ongoing expansion of its network of partners, including governments, communities and other NGOs.

The Carter Center is guided by unchanging principles:

- The Center believes that people can improve their own lives when provided with the necessary skills, knowledge, and access to resources.
- The Center emphasizes action and measurable results in the lives of the people it seeks to help.
- The Center values the courage to break new ground, fill vacuums, and address the most difficult problems in the most difficult situations.
- The Center recognizes that solving difficult problems requires careful analysis, relentless persistence, and the recognition that failure is an acceptable risk.
- The Center is non-partisan and seeks to work in partnership with other organizations from the highest levels of government to local communities.

The Carter Center collaborates with other organizations to carry out its global mission. Partners include Emory University, the International Task Force for Disease Eradication, public and private entities and the communities where it works.

For more about The Carter Center, go to [www.cartercenter.org](http://www.cartercenter.org).

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## THE RELATIONSHIPS

The VP Health reports to the CEO of The Carter Center and leads a team of 2,253, including 54 individuals who are based in Atlanta. Direct reports include the Program Directors of Mental Health, Guinea Worm Eradication, Trachoma Control, River Blindness/Lymphatic Filariasis/Schistosomiasis/Malaria, Special Health Projects and several special advisors.

The VP Health collaborates with Carter Center Peace Programs and with a broad, diverse set of external partners.

## THE LOCATION

The VP Health is based near downtown Atlanta in The Carter Center Kirbo Building, five blocks from the main Carter Center campus.

Atlanta is home to over five million residents and one of the most dynamic, liveable metro areas in the U.S. It ranks in the top five cities nationally for Fortune 500 headquarters. It is home to the world's busiest airport and major institutions including Emory University, Georgia Tech and the country's largest consortium of historically black colleges and universities.

Nationally prominent public-benefit and nonprofit organizations based in Atlanta include the CDC, the Task Force for Global Health, CARE, American Cancer Society, Habitat for Humanity International, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

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The Carter Center/Emory University is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages candidates of all backgrounds to apply for this position.

**To apply or suggest a prospective candidate,  
email [cartercenter@BoardWalkConsulting.com](mailto:cartercenter@BoardWalkConsulting.com)  
or call Kathy Bremer or Diane Westmore at 404-262-7392.**

