

Kenneth Fawcett Jr., MD

Vice President, Spectrum Health Healthier Communities

Ken Fawcett, MD, is vice president, Spectrum Health Healthier Communities, which is part of [Spectrum Health System](#), a \$6.9 billion not-for-profit, integrated health system based in West Michigan. He works with a team of dedicated professionals to further improve West Michigan's most pressing health issues while creating the most equitable health outcomes possible at the individual, neighborhood, and regional space that we serve. Healthier Communities' highest priorities are addressing inequities and resulting disparities through helping at-risk adults prevent and manage chronic diseases, improving birth outcomes and reducing infant mortality, and increasing economic security as a means of improving long-term health. This is also done in collaboration with community organizations. At the core of the program's outreach are the underserved—people whose demographic, economic or cultural characteristics impede or prevent their access to health care or place them at risk for poor health care outcomes. Under Dr. Fawcett's leadership, Spectrum Health received one of health care's most respected community service awards, the 2016 Foster G. McGaw Prize for Excellence in Community Service, as well as the American Hospital Association's 2016 NOVA Award for the Strong Beginnings Program. In addition to the community-based work, Dr. Fawcett has been coordinating efforts within Spectrum Health and community organizations around the social determinants of health, behavioral health strategy, and our response to the opioid crisis.

Background

Since the early 1990s, Dr. Fawcett has provided clinical care and has participated in physician management, leadership and governance activities for Spectrum Health and its predecessors. After forming a private primary care practice following completion of his internal medicine and pediatric residency, he was one of the leaders in the creation of an employed physician group—initially Butterworth Health Partners and later Primary Care Partners. Following the merger and creation of Spectrum Health, he served as board chair and executive medical director.

Dr. Fawcett has held various roles within the Spectrum Health Medical Group, the largest and most comprehensive multispecialty medical group in West Michigan, beginning at its inception in 2008. He has served as primary care department chief, chief medical officer, board chair and interim president. In his current role with Spectrum Health Healthier Communities, he is passionate about interacting with clients in neighborhoods where our services are needed the most, especially mission-based work. He describes this work as being in rhythm with his soul.

He received his bachelor's degree from [Albion College](#) and his Doctor of Medicine from the [University of Michigan Medical School](#). He completed a combined internal medicine and pediatric residency program at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Michigan.

Affiliations

Dr. Fawcett is an active member of the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#), the [American College of Physicians](#), the [American College of Healthcare Executives](#) and the [American Association for Physician Leadership](#). He is a clinical associate professor at [Michigan State University College of Human Medicine](#) while serving on multiple community boards.