

HONORARY DEGREE—AUGUST 2025

Loren Hamel

Doctor of Business Administration

Loren Hamel, former president of Corewell Health, Southwest Michigan, has spent his over 40-year career ministering to the health care needs of his local community and the holistic needs of Andrews University. His dedication to service, leadership and innovation have created a lasting impact on the Southwest Michigan region.

Hamel attended classes on the Andrews University campus from elementary school through his graduation from the University. In 1976, he received a Bachelor of Science from Andrews, with honors, and went on to graduate from the Loma Linda University School of Medicine in 1980. He then moved to Hinsdale, Illinois, for a family practice residency, where he served as chief resident, and subsequently completed a master's degree in health services administration from the University of Michigan.

Hamel returned to Berrien Springs in 1983 to practice family medicine at University Medical Specialties. He went on to serve in various leadership roles within the Lakeland Health system, including president of the medical staff, vice president and CEO. In July 2024, after leading several company transitions, he retired as president of Corewell Health in Southwest Michigan.

Hamel was instrumental in the 2018 merge of Lakeland Health with Spectrum Health. He led three local hospitals, 50 outpatient sites and 500 local physicians while taking on the additional role of chief strategy officer for Spectrum Health and managing the system's health ventures and innovation activities. When, in 2022, Beaumont Health and Spectrum Health merged to become Corewell Health, Michigan's largest health system and employer, Hamel served on the senior leadership team.

As a health care leader, Hamel has demonstrated a passion for strategy, respect for data, and dedication to reducing health disparities and achieving health equity. He has also been committed to creating a culture of love and respect within the health care system. His "Bring Your Heart to Work" campaign, which was featured in Harvard Business Review, enhanced clinical outcomes, leveraged data, and improved the experience of patients and staff.

Hamel also contributed to the broader community as cochair of Michigan's Great Southwest Strategic Leadership Council; cofounder of Affirmant Health, Michigan's largest clinical integrated network; and board member and chair of the Michigan Health & Hospital Association, from whom he received a meritorious service award in 2024.

For over four decades, Hamel has additionally served the Andrews University community in many roles, including as director of Student Health Services, clinical professor of nursing, president of the Alumni Association, chair of the J.N. Andrews sculpture committee, member of the Andrews University search committee for the past three presidents, member of the Andrews University Board of Trustees and several of its subcommittees, and co-chair of the President's Council.

He and his wife, Ann, share seven children and nine grandchildren.

For his significant contributions to health care administration, especially in Southwest Michigan, and his ongoing commitment to excellence and mentoring, Andrews University takes great pleasure in honoring Loren Hamel with the degree Doctor of Business Administration, *honoris causa*.