

**Biography: Mary O. McWilliams**  
**Executive Director, Puget Sound Health Alliance**

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Mary McWilliams was appointed as Executive Director of Puget Sound Health Alliance in June 2008, after serving three years as a member of its Board of Directors. The Alliance is a regional community collaborative among purchasers, providers and health plans to advance quality and affordability through performance measurement and public reporting on the variation in quality, cost and patient experience in local healthcare and through initiatives to reform provider payment to improve value. In this capacity, she also serves on the Board of the Network of Regional Healthcare Improvement and its Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform.

Ms. McWilliams joined Regence BlueShield in 1997 as Senior Vice President, responsible for the Plan's HMO, health care services, and services to The Boeing Company. In 2000, she was promoted to President and CEO; when she retired in 2008, Regence covered 1.1 million members and generated revenues of nearly \$4 billion. Ms. McWilliams led a turnaround in the company's financial performance, strengthened management systems, and introduced a market-leading product as a bridge to consumer-directed health care.

From 1994-1996, Ms. McWilliams was founding President and CEO of PacifiCare of Washington. She led PacifiCare's entry into the Washington market with the acquisition of two plans, converting the provider network into capitated financial arrangements, expanding virtually statewide, and launching Secure Horizons as a Medicare-Risk plan. Ms. McWilliams later added responsibilities for the northwest region, including PacifiCare's 300,000 prepaid members in Oregon and Washington and 50,000 TPA members, including Microsoft.

From 1983-1994, Ms. McWilliams was founding CEO of Providence Health Plans in Oregon. Under her direction, the plan was established and grew to nearly 100,000 HMO members, 180,000 PPO eligibles, annual revenues of \$150 million and breakeven in less than three years. Other previous positions include project director for American Health Management and Consulting Corporation near Philadelphia and the first marketing director of Rocky Mountain Health Maintenance Organization in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Ms. McWilliams' civic commitments have included Seattle Rotary, Seattle Symphony, YWCA, PONCHO, and the Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce, for whom she is past Chair. She is also a member of the Board of Port Blakely Companies and the Safe Crossings Foundation, a grief support program for children. Additionally, Ms. McWilliams is a director of the Seattle Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. She previously served on the boards of the Russell Trust Company, Gardenburger, Wesleyan University, and the national trade association for health plans.

Ms. McWilliams received her master's degree in health administration from the University of Colorado and a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Wesleyan University, which also awarded her an honorary degree in 2006.

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