Panelists: Tom Bres, Chief Information Officer, Sparrow Health System

Tom Bres is Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Information Officer for Sparrow Health System. Tom joined Sparrow in 2008 as it's CIO, and his leadership has turned IT into a competitive advantage for Sparrow, resulting in a transformation of healthcare across Mid-Michigan.

This technology turnaround included a successful conversion to the Epic electronic health record system in four Sparrow hospitals, and 35 ambulatory practices. Sparrow was awarded "HIMSS Stage 7" recognition for their technology adoption, a level only achieved by the top 3% of health systems in the country. Currently, as a direct result of Sparrow's Epic implementation, more than 88,000 Patients in Mid-Michigan regularly access their medical records through this technology.

Tom was promoted to his current role as CAO at Sparrow in January 2015. In addition to information technology and clinical engineering, his responsibilities also include facilities management and development, real estate services, legal and risk management, marketing, the Michigan Athletic Club and Sparrow Foundation.

Tom is the immediate past Chair of the Board of Great Lakes Health Connect, one of the nation's largest providers of health information exchange services. He's also on the board of Bluetree Network, an industry leader in Epic consulting services.

While much of Tom's experience is around technology, he has a passion for people development, organizational climate, and cultural change. And he's been able to leverage those interests across all his roles and responsibilities.

Prior to Sparrow, Tom spent 19 years with IBM, primarily in sales and marketing roles. His last position with IBM was as the Business Unit Executive for their brand software sales group in the Great Lakes region, a 340 million dollar sales division within IBM's software business.

Tom earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and Management from Albion College in Albion, Michigan. He grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and currently lives in East Lansing with his wife, Lisa, and their four children.