



Melanie Patz returned to United Way in September 2022 as president and CEO. During Patz’s previous service with United Way, she led the development of initiatives designed to improve student achievement through access to high-quality early learning and student and family supports during the difficult transition of middle school. In addition, Patz led the initial transition of Full Service Schools from hub-based to school-located therapists.

Patz served as vice president of community investment and impact at Baptist Health, from September 2014 – August 2022. During her tenure at Baptist Health, she spearheaded the implementation of a school health center in Ribault High School, brought the health care clinics caring for un- and under-insured Duval County residents together resulting in the creation of JaxCareConnect, and led the effort to initiate Blue Zones Jacksonville.

Patz has 27 years of nonprofit management experience, a bachelor’s degree in business management from Samford University, and an MBA with a concentration in economics from the University of North Florida.

Patz serves on the boards of the System of Care Initiative and the Early Learning Coalition of Duval, and she is a founding board member of 904WARD. She is a graduate of the 2005 Community Coaches program and Class of 2006 Leadership Jacksonville. Patz was recognized as a 2013 Woman of Influence by the Jacksonville Business Journal, a 2019 Community Health Hero by Agape, a 2020 Woman of Distinction by Gateway Council of Girl Scouts, and a Humanitarian by OneJax in 2020.