Joanne Mather Conroy, MD, was selected by the Board of Trustees in June 2017, as President and CEO of Dartmouth-Hitchcock (D-H) and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Health (D-HH).

As CEO of New Hampshire’s only academic health system, Dr. Conroy has overseen significant positive changes, including a dramatic turnaround in the D-HH system’s financial performance, the announcement of two major new expansion projects and a strategic planning process that will guide the organizations into the future.

From FY2017 to FY2018, D-HH reversed a $7 million operating deficit, posting a positive margin of $47 million in FY18—a $54 million turnaround. The health system is now in its third consecutive year of positive financial performance. Dr. Conroy has reached out to D-HH employees across the system to improve staff morale and engagement, and has overseen significant improvements in compensation and benefits. D-HH recently announced a $150 million expansion of the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center (DHMC) in Lebanon and will open a $59 million expansion at D-H’s Manchester location, which will include an Ambulatory Surgical Center. Both of these projects will increase access to key clinical services for patients. In the spring of 2018, Dr. Conroy oversaw a strategic planning process that engaged all areas of the D-HH community in understanding and articulating strengths and challenges, and defining future strategies and areas of focus necessary to build upon the organization’s success in the health care marketplace.

In 2019, Dr. Conroy led the Board of Trustees in the signing of a Combination Agreement between D-HH and the Manchester, NH, based GraniteOne Health system, an endeavor that will help to meet the growing demand for seamlessly integrated, high quality, lower-cost primary, specialty, ambulatory and inpatient care throughout the region. This agreement formalizes a 15-year collaboration between the organizations.

Under her leadership, DHMC has been selected to address one of the region’s most dire health care issues, and is now serving as one of nine “hubs” in the state’s hub-and-spoke model for delivering care to victims of the opioid crisis. D-H is leading the nation in innovative and effective treatment for treating and supporting patients suffering with substance misuse disorders and behavioral health issues.

Dr. Conroy is a committed leader in advancing equity in the workplace, and in addition to advancing health care in New Hampshire, Dr. Conroy is a co-founder of “Women of Impact,” a nonpartisan group of 60 female health care leaders representing all sectors of the health care industry across the nation, who believe that health care for all will be improved with more women in leadership. Dr. Conroy was also instrumental in D-HH becoming one of the founding signatories of the TIME’S UP Healthcare initiative, which aims to increase safety and gender equity in the health care industry. She serves on the board of advisors for the Carol Emmott Fellowship, which works to expand the connections and experiences for top women leadership candidates in health care. She is the author of several papers and publications on equality in health care leadership.
Her recent awards and honors include being named to the American Hospital Association’s Board of Trustees in 2019. She was named one of the “100 Most Influential People in Healthcare” by Modern Healthcare in 2018 and was included on their inaugural listing of Women Leaders Luminaries in 2019. She has been named to Boston Business Journal’s “Women of Influence” list, and Becker’s Hospital Review’s “130 Women Hospital and Health System leaders to Know,” “135 Nonprofit Hospital and Health System CEOs to Know,” and “36 Women Physician Leaders to Know.” Under her leadership, D-H has been named as the #1 ranked hospital in New Hampshire by U.S. News & World Report in 2018 and 2019. Dr. Conroy has also been selected to present the Emery A. Rovenstine Memorial Lecture at the 2020 American Association of Anesthesiologists, an annual lecture delivered by a prominent anesthesiologist.

Prior to joining D-H and D-HH, Dr. Conroy served as CEO of Lahey Hospital & Medical Center in Burlington, MA, and as Chief Health Care Officer for the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, DC. She has served as Chief Medical Officer, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Executive Vice President of the Atlantic Health System based in Florham Park, NJ. While serving as Executive Vice President, Dr. Conroy was named President and Chief Operating Officer for the Morristown Memorial Hospital (now called Morristown Medical Center) in Morristown, NJ. She held several academic and administrative leadership positions at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC), including President of the MUSC medical staff, Director of Residency Education for the Department of Anesthesiology, Chair of the Department of Anesthesia & Perioperative Medicine, Associate Vice President for Medical Affairs, Executive Medical Director and Senior Associate Dean of the MUSC College of Medicine.

She received her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Dartmouth College as a member of only the second Dartmouth class to admit women. As an undergraduate, she was the recipient of a Robert Sloan scholarship from Singer Corporation. Dr. Conroy received her medical degree from MUSC, where she completed her residency in anesthesiology, serving as Chief Resident for one year.

Dr. Conroy is board certified with the American Board of Anesthesiologists, attained a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Pain Management and is a diplomat with the American Academy of Pain Management.