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State Mental Health, Addiction Agency Fills Leadership Vacancies

Appointments Include New Family and Children First Director and NOPH Hospital CEO

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) filled two key staffing vacancies today with the appointments of Chad Hibbs as Ohio Family and Children First (OFCF) director and Tamara L. Junge as chief executive officer at Northwest Ohio Psychiatric Hospital (NOPH) in Toledo.

As director of Ohio Family and Children First, Hibbs will work in partnership with and respond to requests from the Health and Human Services Cabinet, the Governor’s Office, and the Office of Health Transformation; convene planning, policy, and fiscal workgroups to address cross-system issues, needs, and service gaps related to children and families; provide guidance and technical assistance to county-level Family and Children First Councils (FCFCs); and communicate with state officials, agencies, and community partners about initiatives, policies and funding impacting children and families.

Hibbs served a combined 10 years as director of the Guernsey and Coshocton counties Family and Children First Councils before being named OFCF’s East Regional Coordinator in 2014. In that role, he managed OFCF activities in 44 counties in eastern Ohio, and served as interim project director for a \$4 million Engaging the New Generation to Achieve their Goals Through Empowerment (ENGAGE) System of Care Implementation Grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The goal of the four-year grant project is to develop a statewide system of care framework for youth and young adults, ages 14-21, with mental health challenges, co-occurring disorders and multi-system needs. He previously served as executive director of Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Guernsey County.

He is a commissioner of the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, among numerous other leadership roles. He holds a master’s degree in Organization Development and a bachelor’s degree in Communication both from Bowling Green State University.

As CEO at NPH, Junge will oversee a staff of 202 employees and be responsible for the well-being, care and treatment of 114 patients at the Toledo hospital. In addition to overseeing day-to-day hospital operations, Junge will also manage relations with the Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Boards in the 23-county catchment area served by the hospital.

Junge brings more than 20 years of experience in the field of behavioral health and human services to her new position. She previously served as the hospital’s clinical services director and as a part-time professor of social work at Defiance College. Junge has also served as director of Clinical Services for Arrowwood Behavioral Health, as a Licensed Independent Social Worker/Mental Health professional for the Fulton County Health Center, Stress Unit and honed her skills at the Wood and Henry county hospitals.

She earned a Master of Science and Social Administration with an emphasis on mental health from Case Western Reserve University. She also holds a bachelor’s degree in social work from Lourdes College and an associate degree in human services from Northwest State Community College.