



State Mental Health, Addiction Agency Appoints New Hospital Services Administrator

(COLUMBUS – March 18, 2019) The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) today named Merissa McKinstry as Deputy Director of Hospital Services. In her new role, McKinstry will oversee administrative operations for Ohio’s six, state-run regional psychiatric hospitals.

McKinstry has more than 15 years’ experience in the behavioral health field. She began her career in state government and served as the Legislative Liaison for the former Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services. From there, she moved into the private sector where she worked for Springstone, most recently serving as the market CEO for Columbus Springs Hospitals, and previously as chief operating officer and director of business development. As a charter employee, McKinstry helped to lead startup operations for two hospitals and two outpatient treatment locations. She also worked as the director of business development and as community liaison for Universal Health Services Inc. Fox Run Center for Children and Adolescents in St. Clairsville, Ohio.



She has served as a member of several behavioral health-focused organizations, including the Ohio Hospital Association’s Behavioral Health workgroup, Netcare Foundation Board, Franklin County Psychiatric Task Force, and as chair of the Franklin County Bed Board. McKinstry also volunteers time with the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Ohio.

She has an MBA with a concentration in Healthcare Administration from Mount Vernon Nazarene University and a B.A. in Political Science from Ohio Dominican University. McKinstry resides in Newark with her husband Bruce, and their two daughters.

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