



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

CHRIS ABELE • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date: August 30, 2016

To: Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, County Board of Supervisors

From: Chris Abele, County Executive

Subject: Appointment of Héctor Colón

Pursuant to Wisconsin Statute Sec. 59.17(2) and subject to confirmation of your Honorable Body, I am pleased to reappoint Mr. Héctor Colón to the position of Director of Health and Human Services for Milwaukee County.

Mr. Colón has a strong background in human services, government administration and broad leadership skills. As Associate Executive Director at the United Community Center, Mr. Colón led staff of the Adult Day Center, Senior Center, Care Management, and Housing programs. While working for then-Governor Doyle, Mr. Colón served in several capacities and oversaw economic, workforce, and regulation initiatives. He holds a Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy from UW-Milwaukee and certificates in Management and Leadership from Harvard, Marquette University and the University of Kentucky.

Over the last almost six years, Mr. Colón has worked tirelessly to improve services for our neediest members of the community. He is a visionary leader with a demonstrated ability to bring people together to solve problems. Mr. Colón is a servant leader who operates with high integrity and always strives to do the right thing for his employees, people who receive services at DHHS and the community. Under Mr. Colón's leadership, DHHS has ended a 30 year wait list for people who need long term care supports to live in the community; decreased chronic homelessness by 75%; ended a 12 year section 8 waiting list; transitioned hundreds of people with mental illness and intellectual disabilities out of long-term care units and into community living arrangements; implemented over 20 million dollars of new or enhanced community based services that has led to a 34% decrease in emergency detentions and a 20% decrease in emergency room visits and adopted the use of evidence-based assessment tools and programs within delinquency and court services to inform decision-making that has led to better outcomes for the youth in this community.

Under Mr. Colón's leadership, DHHS has garnered numerous awards and received national, state and community-wide recognition for its dedication, collaboration, and innovation. DHHS is poised for even bigger and better things in the years ahead, and because I am confident that Mr. Colón will continue to exercise the skill and leadership necessary to fulfill the Department's mission of serving our most vulnerable residents, I ask you to give this appointment your favorable consideration.

Chris Abele
Milwaukee County Executive

cc: Supervisor Supreme Moore Omokunde, Chair, Health and Human Needs Committee
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Board of Supervisors
Allyson Smith, Committee Coordinator
Hector Colón