

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
Inter-Office Communication

**DATE:** August 19, 2016

**TO:** Sup. Theodore Lipscomb, Sr., Chairman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Héctor Colón, Director, Department of Health and Human Services

**SUBJECT:** **An informational report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, providing an overview and brief video of the department's *Do the Right Thing* employee values program**

**Issue**

The department respectfully requests the opportunity to make a verbal presentation to the County Board's Committee on Health and Human Needs and show a brief video about the Department of Health and Human Services' *Do the Right Thing* employee values program.

**Background**

In 2015, DHHS launched a department-wide employee engagement survey to learn from employees about what the department is doing well and where it can improve. DHHS leadership committed to working on areas for improvement identified through the survey. One of the results from this effort was the development of an employee-led engagement program called, *Do the Right Thing*. This program was introduced to DHHS staff through a presentation and video during DHHS All-Hands meetings in February and March 2016.

**Discussion**

The *Do the Right Thing* employee engagement program is designed to help DHHS achieve its goals by encouraging employees to live our values: honesty, integrity, respect, dignity, excellence, diversity, and partnership. This program aims to build morale, trust, and an enthusiastic culture across DHHS and recognize employees for "doing the right thing." The mission of the *Do the Right Thing* program is to inspire employees across DHHS to honor their commitment to serve others and motivate their peers through living our workplace values and delivering exceptional services to our clients, customers, and our community.

An employee-led committee that represents all DHHS divisions plans the work of this program. The committee's efforts are geared towards engaging employees by helping them understand what each DHHS value means in the workplace through defined behaviors and recognizing them for demonstrating these behaviors. Activities planned include a Values-In-Action program, Values Week, and Values Award program.

**Recommendation**

This report is informational and no action is required.



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Héctor Colón, Director

Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele  
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office  
Kelly Bablitch, County Board  
Supervisor Supreme Moore-Omokunde, County Board  
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