

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Behavioral Health Division Administration
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: January 13, 2014

TO: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
Kerry Mitchell, Director, Human Resources

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

SUBJECT: **Report from the Director, Department of Health and Human Services, requesting an extension of the temporary assignments for the Deputy Administrator and Director of Clinical Compliance for the Behavioral Health Division (BHD)**

Issue

Chapter 17 of the Milwaukee County Ordinances allows county employees to be temporarily assigned to a higher classification (TAHC) for a period of up to 180 days in order to maintain the delivery of quality public services. Temporary assignments in excess of 180 days must be approved by the County Board.

Background

The Behavioral Health Division (BHD) Administrator position has been vacant for the last several months. As a result, Mr. Jim Kubicek, the BHD Deputy Administrator, was temporarily placed into the vacant BHD Administrator position last August. In September 2013, Ms. Jennifer Bergersen, the BHD Director of Clinical Compliance, was then temporarily placed into the BHD Deputy Administrator position to ensure continuity in organizational support and leadership. In January and February, respectively, these TAHC's will extend beyond 180 days.

Discussion

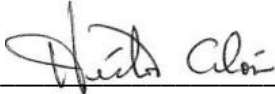
The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has been working diligently to fill the BHD Administrator position. Last summer, DHHS contracted with a professional search firm to recruit candidates for this position. Based on the search results, DHHS/BHD leadership screened and interviewed candidates this past fall. Unfortunately, the two top candidates removed themselves from consideration and the third candidate was not recommended by the interview panel.

Given the critical nature of this position, especially as BHD undergoes a major transition in its service delivery, the Department immediately launched a second search which originally yielded three potential candidates. The panel is screening two of those candidates but one asked to be removed from consideration.

At this time, it is unlikely we will be able to hire a candidate prior to the January 14, 2014 expiration of Mr. Kubicek's TAHC as Interim BHD Administrator. In addition, Ms. Bergersen's TAHC as BHD Deputy Administrator will need to be extended.

Recommendation

The Department of Health and Human Services is requesting a 180-day extension to July 31, 2014 of the TAHCs for both Mr. Jim Kubicek as Interim Administrator and Ms. Jennifer Bergersen as Deputy Director.



Héctor Colón, Director
Department of Health and Human Services

cc: County Executive Chris Abele
Raisa Koltun, County Executive's Office
Kelly Bablitch, County Board
Don Tyler, Director, DAS
Josh Fudge, Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS
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