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ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County Announces New CEO



Cuyahoga County, OH – The Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County formally announces its unanimous decision to select Valeria A. Harper, MA, CDCA, as the organization’s Chief Executive Officer effective August 1, 2017. Ms. Harper follows William M. Denihan, current CEO who will be retiring on July 31, 2017, to lead the organization.

“Ms. Harper was recommended as CEO to the full Board from the search committee that interviewed both internal and external candidates – all with stellar qualifications,” explains Eugenia Kirkland, LSW, MSSA, CDCA, Chair of the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County. “Ms. Harper is respected and trusted in the community-at-large and possesses the leadership and administrative qualities, as well as the passion, to lead the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County into the future.”

Ms. Harper thanks the Board and states, “I am honored to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Denihan and lead the organization in any future challenge we may face.” She is very pleased to have the support of the Board and declares, “I am looking forward to serving our community in this new capacity and will not disappoint.”

“Valeria has the grounded understanding of where we’ve been, where we need to go in the future, and I have every confidence in her,” expresses Mr. Denihan. “She is a first-class professional and individual who has dedicated her career to the people of Cuyahoga County. I am thrilled to pass the baton to her.”

Ms. Harper, a veteran in the behavioral health system for over 35 years, is the current Vice President of Operations for the ADAMHS Board and has been employed by the Board for nearly 30 years. Ms. Harper oversees the program planning, development and monitoring in the areas of Adult and Children services; Residential Programs and related services; Operations; Vocational/Employment services; Consumer Operated and Peer Support services and the Community Support Network and Community Teams tied to the state psychiatric hospital system. Ms. Harper’s complete bio can be viewed at www.adamhsc.org.

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Editor’s Note: Valeria A. Harper is available for interviews by contacting Scott Osiecki, Chief of External Affairs, at 216-479-3261, or osiecki@adamhsc.org.