

Staff Briefing

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Santa Barbara County Department of Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Services

Marianne Garrity, RN, Appointed Assistant Director for Administration

Executive brings career focus on customer service, staff satisfaction, and multicultural health care.

Following a national recruitment, **Marianne Garrity, RN**, has been named ADMHS Assistant Director for Administration effective May 8, 2006. Ms. Garrity will succeed **Carrie Topliffe, CPA**, who was recently selected to head the Santa Barbara County Department of Child Support Services.

As Assistant Director for Administration, Ms. Garrity will supervise **Lupe Reyna, CFO**; **Jack Juntunen**, Department Analyst, Contracts; **Lyndi Swanson**, Human Resources Manager; **Dana Fahey**, Data Processing Manager; **April Howard**, Departmental Analyst, Administration; **Tony Murguia**, Facilities Manager; and **Jan Edmunds**, Medical Records Supervisor, who, in turn, oversee the activities of 41 employees.

Ms. Garrity, a Carpinteria resident, is currently the Regional Vice President of Operations for HealthCare Partners (HCP). HCP is a privately owned multi-specialty medical group with 400,000 members in the Los Angeles basin.

"We want to continue to build a strong infrastructure to support staff and avoid the fiscal crises that plagued the Department for a few years," notes **Dr. Broderick**. "Ms Garrity possesses a unique combination of demonstrating



compassion for people with addiction and mental illness and serving as a highly successful administrator for more than 15 years."

Inclusive Hiring Process

In the ongoing spirit of seeking staff and community input in the ADMHS recruitment, three panels interviewed potential candidates. The community panel included **Cecilia Rodriguez** of C.A.L.M., a children's community-based organization (CBO); **Jennifer Newbold**, Work Training Program, an adult CBO; **Michelle Fitzpatrick**, Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services; **Ann Eldridge**, Mental Health Commission; **Sylvia Barnard**, Good Samaritan, an alcohol/drug CBO; and **Al Rodriguez** and **Lupe Reyna** with ADMHS.

Top candidates were also interviewed by the Administrative Management and Executive Teams.

Managing Multicultural Services

As HCP Regional Vice President, Ms. Garrity managed a \$28 million

budget and served nine geographically and multiculturally diverse health centers, including service to Latino and minority communities.

In this capacity, Ms. Garrity supervised outcomes-based quality care management, monitored customer and staff satisfaction, and coordinated 80 vendors, hospitals and behavioral health specialists. She also has extensive experience with the Medical system and private insurance.

Commitment to Quality Service

Ms. Garrity received an RN degree from LAUSC School of Nursing and served as a psychiatric nurse at several medical centers between 1976 and 1988. That year she joined Unihealth America in Burbank, California as Manager of Crisis Services.

In 1991 Ms. Garrity was hired as Director of the Behavioral Health Program with Benefit Panel Services, a position she held until 1993, when she was promoted to Corporate Director for Specialty Case Management.

She has served in her current position as Vice President of Regional Operations, Healthcare Partners Medical Group, since 1996.

"I am impressed by the quality of staff we continue to hire throughout the department," comments Dr. Broderick. "Staff and the community will be impressed by Ms. Garrity's professionalism and long-term commitment to improving health care services, especially to multicultural clients."