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DCTS Information Memo 2024-03

To: Subscribers of the DCTS Information Memo Series Email Distribution List

From: Gynger Steele, Administrator

### **New Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery Director**

Please join me in welcoming Joannette Robertson as Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery (BPTR) director on November 4, 2024.

BPTR manages and supports community-based mental health and substance use services for all ages in collaboration with Tribal nations as well as agencies at the federal, state, county, and local levels.

Robertson has more than 27 years of experience building, managing, and improving health and human services programs through positions with nonprofit organizations and the state. A member of our team since 2014, she currently serves as manager of BPTR's Mental Health Services Section.

Robertson will be teamed with Jason Cram, BPTR's deputy director. This team fulfills the reorganization vision developed in 2019 to create a BPTR director's office with director and deputy director roles. With Robertson's education, training, and experience in social work, there will be a director with a strong clinical background who will set the strategy for BPTR's response to the evolving needs of the people of Wisconsin. With Cram's education, training, and experience in public administration, there will be a deputy director with a strong operations background who will lead day-to-day strategy implementation in collaboration with BPTR's section managers, unit supervisors, program staff, and internal and external partners.

With this leadership team, I'm confident BPTR will grow and expand its positive influence on the lives of all state residents.

Robertson fills the role vacated by Teresa Steinmetz. Steinmetz left the Division of Care and Treatment Services August 29 to become the assistant commissioner for behavioral health for the Minnesota Department of Human Services.

I appreciate your continued partnership in our work.