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March 25, 2021

To: All ODDS Staff, Stakeholders and Providers
From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services
Subject: Wishing Bruce Baker all the best

With mixed feelings, I am announcing that ODDS Children's Services Manager Bruce Baker is retiring at the end of May.

Bruce has dedicated his career to supporting children and families. Before coming to ODHS he worked for non-profits, primarily in the children's mental health field. The least 11 years were devoted to ODDS children's services.

Bruce said "I feel lucky to have landed in this position and to be surrounded by families and professionals who carry this vision to help children and families to have full lives."

His steady leadership of children's services, and his willingness to work across programs to meet the needs of children and families, is a skill that has benefitted many.

Bruce oversaw the expansion of services to children under the K Plan that made it possible for families to support children with significant needs in their family home. He broadened access to children's residential services beyond the metropolitan areas, so when families needed to choose residential services for their children those services would be provided closer to home. He increased collaboration across services, including work with child welfare and children's behavioral health.

He's made an incredible, positive impact and we will miss him.

At times like this it's important to look at opportunities to refine what we do. We are using this change to adjust and ensure children and families hold a strong focus across all our policy efforts. The policy and training staff in the children's services team will become part of the ODDS policy team that reports to ODDS Deputy Director Anna Lansky. We will recruit for a new Children's Services Manager soon. The position will retain supervision of the Children's Residential program, the Children's In-home Intensive Services (CIIS) program and participation children's services planning efforts. Please watch for that posting if you are interested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lilia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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