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New Deputy Commissioner joins Department of Health and Social Services

Ree Sailors brings more than 30 years of experience to leadership role

ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services selected Ree Sailors as Deputy Commissioner for family, community and integrated services. She assumed her duties Nov. 1, after moving to Alaska from Arlington, Va.

“Ms. Sailors brings a wealth of knowledge on new issues the department is addressing, including the adoption of electronic health records and the infrastructure for that system,” said Commissioner William Streur. “We’re glad to have her and her expertise on board.”

Her new position will oversee the department’s divisions of Juvenile Justice, Children’s Services and Public Assistance.

Sailors has more than 30 years of administrative experience in health-related matters. She most recently served as program director for the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices, where she was responsible for managing the center’s Health Information Technology portfolio, providing policy assistance to the states on electronic health information exchange, and adoption and use of electronic health records. Prior to her work for the National Governor’s Association, Sailors was senior health policy advisor in the Office of the Governor of Oregon. Sailors holds a master’s degree in social work from Florida State University with an emphasis in planning and administration.

A photo of Sailors is online at www.hss.state.ak.us/press/images/Ree_Sailors.jpg

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