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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

April 2, 2015

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Appointment to the Commissioner of Mental Health

Dear Honorable Members:

Pursuant to Article 13 § 1301 of the County's Charter, I hereby appoint Michael Ranney to be the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health beginning April 3, 2015.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact my Chief of Staff Jennifer Hibit. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

Michael R. Ranney, MS, CRC, LMHC
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Clarence, New York 14031
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Summary Qualifications

Program planning, development, implementation, research and evaluation that includes ongoing collaboration with stakeholders within the adult system of care and criminal justice system.

Twenty-five years of clinical and administrative experience in working with individuals with mental illness and substance abuse that includes adults, children with emotional disturbance and families. Knowledgeable in the interface of the mental health system and criminal justice systems.

Comprehensive knowledge and leadership abilities regarding Erie County government, system of care and shared vision in initiatives of recovery oriented services and practices.

Commitment to partnerships, team building, integrity, quality assurance, advocacy, collaboration and coordination.

Employment

2005-Present Director of Intensive Adult Mental Health Services Erie County Department of Mental Health

Administrator responsible for oversight and delivery of Forensic Mental Health Services in the Erie County Correctional settings. Planning and implementation of service expansion of jail mental health programming, diversion programs, care coordination initiatives in collaboration with service providers, law enforcement and stakeholders. Process owner for multiple quality management projects within Forensic Mental Health office with focus upon improved services and cost savings. Develop policy and procedure and implement same within the jail setting. Quality assurance responsibilities and review utilization patterns of processes/services within jail setting. Reform and transform jail mental health services. Attained compliance with the United States Department of Justice settlement agreements. Have supervisory responsibilities of 17 mental health employees and 8 vendors of the University Psychiatric Practice. Appointed by Commissioner of Mental Health Designee of Health Officer and 9.45 status, including approval of Kendra's Law petitions.

**Feb. 2010-
Present** **Outreach Counselor, Crisis and Re-stabilization Emergency Services
Team**
Spectrum Human Services

Provide crisis intervention to youths and family members in crisis. Assess need for emergency room assessment for hospitalization, assist families in identifying appropriate services and linkages and crisis de-escalation.

1999-2005 **Coordinator, Single Point of Entry (SPOE) for Adult Care
Coordination and Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Program**
Erie County Department of Mental Health

Monitoring and accountability function of all cases within the SPOE for Care Coordination Services in Erie County, as well as enrollees in the Western New York Care Coordination Program (WNYCCP) and Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program. Develop and implement policies, procedures and program standards. Coordinate and ensure delivery of services. Monitor and evaluate effectiveness of the programs. Participate in site visits and collaborate with contract managers. Chair SPOE Advisory Group, co-chair of Case Review. Work in partnership with state, county and private sectors of the mental health system. Planning, providing, facilitating and implementing trainings regarding the SPOE processes, Medication Grant Program and Recovery. File Court petitions, investigate reports on individuals alleged as in need of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). Prepare records and reports; consult with physicians, attorneys, providers, peer run agencies, families regarding treatment planning, service delivery, and critical situation resolution. Advocate on behalf of consumers. Trained in Person-Centered Planning at a practice and organizational level. Implementation of Child Adult Integrated Reporting System (CAIRS). Provide supervision to Housing Coordinator, Assistant Coordinator and Senior Statistical Clerk.

01/90-Present **Field Instructor**
State University of New York at Buffalo

Counseling and Educational Psychology, Rehabilitation Counseling
Field Instructor.

06/02-12/02 **Family Mental Health Counselor**
Child and Family Services

Provide mental health counseling to adults and children on an individual and family basis.

03/88-11/99 **Forensic Mental Health Specialist II**
Erie County Department of Mental Health
Forensic Mental Health Service

Conduct clinical evaluations, provide treatment recommendations and

**Certifications/
Licensure:** Certified Rehabilitation Counselor-Retired - #17847; 1984-present
 Licensed Mental Health Counselor-#3313-1; 2006-present
 9.45 Emergency Admissions Designee-1990-present

**Specialized
Training:** NYS OMH Suicide Prevention Trainer
 Safety Training
 Mandated Reporter of Child Protective Services
 Parenting Education & Custody Effectiveness (PEACE) - Trainer

 Critical Incident Care: Core Competency Training

 Moving Cultural Competence Forward in Your Organization
 Situational Leadership: Person-Centered Planning

**Advisory
Board
Membership:** Alternative to Incarceration Board; Honorable Penny M. Wolfgang

Special Awards: National Alliance for the Mentally Ill in Buffalo & Erie County - President's
 Award - 2004

**Publications
& Research:** *Outpatient Commitment in New York: Examining Violence,
 Compliance and Demographic Characteristics of the
 Seriously Mentally Ill under Kendra's Law*, S. Erickson, 2003.
 Canvassed for research intern, advocated and negotiated with
 county and state attorney, NYS Office of Mental Health, provided
 data, and supporting information.

"Assisted Outpatient Treatment in Erie County", Mental Health
 World, Vol. 8, No.4, 2000.

"Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program in Erie County-
 Department of Mental Health Update", Mental Health World,
 Vol.9, No. 3, 2001

New York State Rehabilitation Association, 23rd Annual Conference
 Albany, New York

**Special
Presentations:** Transforming Mental Health Services in a Large Correctional System,
 8th Academic & Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health;
 March 20, 2015, Boston, Massachusetts.

**Community
Involvement:
[1999-present]** Special Education Parent Teacher Student Association
 (Former chairperson; Summer School Program for special education
 students. Included presentation to School Board)
 Collaborative relationship with Parent Network, Inc