



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

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TENNCARE NAMES NEW DIRECTOR OF MANAGED CARE

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – TennCare Director, J.D. Hickey, today announced Winnie Toler as Director of Managed Care for the TennCare Bureau beginning November 1, 2004. She takes over the position vacated by former MCO Director, Darin Gordon, who now serves as Chief Financial Officer.

Toler will be responsible for the management and oversight of TennCare's eight managed care organizations and, together with the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, the program's two behavioral health organizations. Her duties will include negotiating contracts with MCOs, monitoring contract compliance, and refining MCO performance measures.

"The TennCare model relies heavily on our managed care organizations. Selecting the right partners and aligning contract incentives that help achieve our state's healthcare goals are critical to the delivery of healthcare services to TennCare enrollees," Hickey said. "Winnie's broad managed care experience will serve TennCare well during this critical time in our program's development."

Toler's more than 20 years of healthcare management experience with state governments and private sector healthcare organizations includes health plan operations, financial oversight and budget analysis, provider network adequacy, and contract negotiation. She has served in upper management positions for a variety of managed care groups including Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program, Universal Care of Tennessee, Columbia/HCA, Meharry Medical Services Foundation and the State of Michigan's Office of Children and Youth Services.

"I'm excited to accept the challenge of ensuring appropriate oversight of our managed care partners," Toler said.

TennCare is Tennessee's managed care insurance program for 1.3 million people who are poor, disabled or uninsured.

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<http://www.tn.gov/tenncare/news.html>

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