



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

McKee Administration Announces Full Leadership Team for New State Hospital

(Jan. 18, 2023) — Today, the McKee Administration has announced the full leadership team for the Rhode Island State Psychiatric Hospital.

“Opening the Rhode Island State Psychiatric Hospital this past fall was a significant achievement, and we are pleased to have such a strong leadership team in place,” said Richard Charest, Director of the Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals, which oversees the Rhode Island State Psychiatric Hospital and Eleanor Slater Hospital. “Each of these individuals brings needed experience and expertise, as well as a strong commitment to caring for our patients.”

The new hospital’s leadership team consists of:

Irina Beyder, Ph.D., CEO, who started Nov. 6 and has more than 20 years of experience in behavioral health and healthcare leadership, including serving as Chief Operating Officer of the Washington, D.C., Department of Behavioral Health and its 290-bed forensic psychiatric hospital.

Pedro Tactacan, M.D., Chief Medical Officer, who began working at Eleanor Slater Hospital in 1999 and served as its Assistant Chief of Psychiatry and later as its Chief of Psychiatry from 2017 to 2020.

Jason Alexandre, Chief Quality Officer, who started Nov. 6 and has more than 15 years of experience in compliance and quality management, most recently serving as Director of Quality Improvement at CODAC Behavioral Healthcare.

Matthew J. Wiley, Chief Nursing Officer, who started Jan. 17 and has more than 20 years of experience in the mental health field and more than six years of experience in forensic nursing, including serving as Chief Nursing Officer at the Hospital for Behavioral Medicine.

Director Charest served as Interim CEO of the new hospital until Beyder joined on Nov. 6. Amma Pelletier, a nurse at Eleanor Slater Hospital, was on loan from Eleanor Slater to serve as Interim Chief Nursing Officer until Wiley’s arrival on Tuesday.

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