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*Setting the Standard in Health Care Excellence*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Pete Pringle Named Interim Behavioral Health Director**

(Ventura County, CA) — Ventura County Health Care Agency has announced Pete Pringle, LCSW, who has been the Behavioral Health Division Chief -- Youth and Family, since June of 2016, has stepped in as Interim Behavioral Health Director, following the resignation of Elaine Crandall last month.

Pete began his career with the County's Behavioral Health Department in September 1994 as a clinician providing mental health services to youth and families. He remained in that role for 10 years with the last few years also serving as a Clinic Administrator.

He then moved into his role as a Behavioral Health Manager in the Youth and Family Division. With the exception of the five years between 2011 – 2016, when he worked with the Adult Mental Health Division, Pete has devoted the majority of his career to working with youth and families.

He has extensive experience in program development, implementation and evaluation. He comes to his new role with comprehensive knowledge of state and federal regulations related to the provision of mental health services and has enhanced skills in strategic planning, budgeting, and operations management that is consistent with the department's goals and mission.

“It will certainly be an honor to serve as the Interim Behavioral Health Director and I’m very grateful to the members of the Board of Supervisors, CEO Mike Powers and HCA Director Johnson Gill for their vote of confidence and support. The Department is facing a number of challenges and exciting opportunities and it will be my privilege to support our phenomenal Behavioral Health team during this transitional period,” says Pringle.

Pete's demonstrated leadership and communication/collaboration skills, that promote a common vision with staff and community partners to better service the needs of clients and their families, will be a tremendous asset to the county.

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