

Jefferson Center names new CEO

Dr. Kiara Kuenzler has more than 13 years of behavioral health experience



Kuenzler

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Staff report

Kiara Kuenzler, Psy.D., has been named the new chief executive officer of Jefferson Center for Mental Health.

Kuenzler joined Jefferson Center in October 2017, to work alongside Harriet L. Hall, Ph.D., who officially stepped down as CEO after 37 years of service.

"I am excited to work with community partners, staff and the people we serve to develop and support innovative models and programs that open new doors to achieving the overall health of our community. Every person has a voice and a story that deserves to be heard and every person should be able to access and participate in the care that will improve their lives," Kuenzler said in a news release.

She was hired as deputy CEO in March, and officially assumed the role of CEO on July 19, 2018.

"I've had the opportunity to watch Kiara grow as a leader in the healthcare arena and am convinced there is no better leader for Jefferson Center today," Larry Renoe, Jefferson Center board chair, said in the news release.

Kuenzler comes to Jefferson Center with more than 13 years of behavioral health experience. Her most recent role was chief operating officer of Foothills Behavioral Health Partners.

Kuenzler is a licensed psychologist and received her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Denver, followed by a post-doctoral fellowship in administration and evaluation psychology at the University of Colorado Medical School. In addition to her 9 years of experience in health care administration, quality, and program evaluation, Kuenzler has more than 12 years of direct clinical experience, and served as adjunct faculty in the psychology department at the University of Colorado, Denver.

"I am honored to have been selected to lead Jefferson Center and thrilled to be joining such a dedicated, passionate and innovative team," In a released statement, Kuenzler said she was thrilled to join "such a dedicated, passionate and innovative team."

"As we navigate potential shifts in policy and funding within the healthcare landscape, we are more committed than ever to ensuring that we are supporting each individual and family in achieving their behavioral health and wellness goals."

For more information about Jefferson Center, visit www.jcmh.org.

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