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Jeffers named KCHD Executive Director

The Kane County Board appointed Barbara Jeffers, MPH, the permanent Executive Director of the Health Department Feb. 13. Jeffers had been serving as Interim Executive Director since June, 2012, when she was appointed to fill the position of former Executive Director Paul Kuehnert, who left for another position.

Jeffers said she will sustain the momentum of the department in terms of protecting the community, maintaining its partnerships, and continuing the department's strategic planning. Her commitment to partnerships is stronger than ever, for only by working together can the Department achieve its vision of having the healthiest residents in Illinois by 2030. The commitment to strategic planning continues to be firm as the first implementation projects of the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) are now being felt throughout the county. "The CHIP needs the support of everyone if we are to successfully attack the threats to community health and well being and meet our health priorities," Jeffers said. "This is not just a Health Department document, it is a blueprint for the entire community to follow for a better quality of life for all of us."

Over the last seven-plus years, Barbara Jeffers has held several positions at the Health Department, the most recent prior to being named Interim Executive Director was as the Assistant Director for Administration. In that role, she was responsible for high level administrative functions including budgeting, human resources, labor relations, and facilities management. Prior to County Government, she was employed by the State of Illinois for 14 years, her last appointment being the Director of Training and Development for the Department of Human Services. She possesses a unique set of skills and attributes that will continue to be an asset to the Health Department. Barb has a Masters of Public Health degree from Northern Illinois University and a Bachelors of Science Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

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