

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vera French Community Mental Health Center Appoints New Chief Operating Officer (COO)

DAVENPORT, IA – The Vera French Community Mental Health Center is pleased to announce that Denise Beenk, LISW has been appointed to Chief Operating Officer (COO).

In this role, Denise will oversee Vera French’s Residential and Outreach Programs, Supported Community Living, Carol Center, Integrated Health Program, and Business Operations. Ms. Beenk will also work in conjunction with the Clinical Director in oversight of other various programs.

Denise Beenk obtained her Bachelor of Social Work degree from Western Illinois University and her Master of Social Work degree from University of Iowa. Currently, she is pursuing her Master of Business Administration degree from Upper Iowa University. Denise has been employed at Vera French since January 2011 as Director of Residential and Outreach Programs. Ms. Beenk also led Vera French as the Interim CEO from May 2016 through January 2017.

Denise stated, “I am very pleased to move into the COO role as I will be able to continue working with multiple persons and departments throughout the agency to promote the mission of Vera French, and work to improve and expand the programs and services offered to our community.”

About Vera French Community Mental Health Center:

Vera French Community Mental Health Center serves as mental health advocate for all populations in Scott County, Iowa. Through the Center’s clinical and community outreach services, our staff seeks to help people live to the best of their ability while coping with mental illness. Services include individual, group and family therapy for children and adults in a clinic setting. Vera French also offers School-based therapy available in schools in the Davenport, Bettendorf, Pleasant Valley and North Scott school districts. The Rick’s House of Hope program works with children experiencing trauma, loss or grief.

Additional programs for chronically ill adults include the Pine Knoll Residential care facility for 24-hour support and voluntary outpatient programs to assist individuals in gaining new skill sets needed to live independently. The Carol Center provides a place for learning skill sets, receiving a subsidized meal and peer interaction.