

Media Release

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NDCS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED

(LINCOLN) – Today, Director Scott R. Frakes announced the appointment of Alice Mitwaruciu, Ph.D., as the behavioral health administrator for the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services (NDCS).

Dr. Mitwaruciu received a Bachelor of Divinity from St. Paul's University in Kenya and holds a Master of Education degree from the University of Idaho – Moscow with a specialty in Counseling and Human Services and a Master of Science degree in Counseling Psychology from the University of Utah – Salt Lake City. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Utah and completed a doctoral internship at the Beatrice State Development Center (BSDC) in Beatrice, Nebraska.

Dr. Mitwaruciu worked at BSDC for more than two years before taking a position at NDCS as a clinical psychologist at the Lincoln Correctional Center in January 2014. Since that time she was promoted to the assistant behavioral health administrator for mental health services where she was in charge of overseeing mental health and violent offender services while providing clinical and administrative supervision for all mental health staff. In August 2016, Dr. Mitwaruciu began serving as the acting behavioral health administrator.

Director Frakes stated, "I have worked closely with Dr. Miwaruciu over the last year and a half and have been impressed with her knowledge and her vision. I believe she is the leader the behavioral health division needs."

"This appointment is an honor and privilege. I look forward to working with the newly-appointed medical director to address patient needs in the areas of psychology, psychiatry, and medical needs of the inmate population," said Dr. Mitwaruciu. "I am committed to providing leadership, supervision, and coordination of mental health, substance abuse, sex offender, and violent offender services while supporting and advocating for behavioral health staff as we continue to offer clinical programming that meets the community standard level of care as we work together to keep people safe."

Dr. Mitwaruciu's appointment is effective today. Her annual salary is \$138,000.