



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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New Leadership for a New Year *Margaret Schultze named Acting Commissioner*

Richmond, Va. – Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Commissioner Martin D. Brown has accepted a new role in the McDonnell Administration as Special Advisor to the Governor for Family Re-integration of State Offenders. As Special Advisor, Mr. Brown will work with staff of the Secretary of Public Safety and the departments of Corrections and Juvenile Justice to develop and implement prisoner re-entry initiatives of the Governor that are associated with reconnecting offenders with the family.

Margaret Schultze, former Deputy Commissioner of VDSS, will serve as Acting Commissioner effective immediately. Schultze's experience in state government began in 1997. As director of the gubernatorially appointed Family and Children's Trust Fund, Schultze raised resources and awareness for the prevention and treatment of family violence, including child abuse and neglect, domestic violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse. Her tenure with FACT led to increasingly responsible roles within the Department including the oversight of both programmatic and administrative functions, now culminating in her current position as Acting Commissioner.

VDSS is one of the largest Commonwealth agencies, partnering with 120 local departments of social services, along with faith-based and non-profit organizations, to strengthen families and improve communities statewide.

A native of Roanoke, Virginia, she graduated from Hollins University (formerly Hollins College) with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology and a teacher certification. Prior to her work in human services, she was the Director of Financial Aid for Roanoke College. Margaret and her husband live in Midlothian.

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The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) www.dss.virginia.gov is headquartered in Richmond and administers social services programs consistent with Federal and State law and policy of the State Board of Social Services through 120 local departments of social services (LDSS) and regional state offices throughout the Commonwealth. VDSS' mission is "People helping people triumph over poverty, abuse and neglect to shape strong futures for themselves, their families and communities."