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Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 HCRS appoints Anne Bilodeau as its next Chief Executive
2 Officer

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 The board of directors of Health Care and Rehabilitation
6 Services (HCRS) announced today the appointment of Anne
7 Bilodeau as the organization's next chief executive officer,
8 effective April 1.
9 Bilodeau has been with HCRS since 2019 and has served
10 as chief operating officer for the past four years. In this role, she

11 has played a central part in advancing the agency's mission and
12 strengthening its operations.

13 As CEO, Bilodeau will provide overall strategic and
14 operational leadership for the nonprofit organization, working
15 closely with the board of directors to set vision and direction,
16 ensuring strong financial stewardship, and foster a positive
17 organizational culture in support of HCRS' mental health,
18 substance use, and developmental services.

19 Bilodeau "brings a deep commitment to our mission,
20 strong operational expertise, and a clear vision for the future of
21 community mental health services in our region," Phil Blackburn,
22 chair of HCRS' board of directors, said in a news release.

23 Bilodeau will succeed George Karabakakis, Ph.D., who
24 will retire at the end of June, following 32 years of service to
25 HCRS. Under Karabakakis's leadership, HCRS expanded to 20
26 locations and annual revenue exceeding \$70 million.

27 "George will be remembered for his focus on building
28 strong relationships, developing innovative programming, and
29 consistently making decisions based on doing what is right,"
30 Blackburn added.

31 Bilodeau joined HCRS as chief human resources officer
32 six months prior to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, when
33 her leadership during an unprecedented period was highly
34 regarded by staff and clients alike. She was promoted to chief
35 operating officer in 2022, and in that role, she spearheaded the
36 agency's efforts to become certified as a Community Behavioral
37 Health Center (CCBHC).

38 She also led HCRS' contract with the Department of
39 Mental Health to deliver statewide Enhanced Mobile Crisis
40 services in partnership with Vermont's nine other designated
41 community mental health agencies—the first collaboration of its
42 kind in the state's community mental health system, according to
43 the news release. In addition, Bilodeau has been instrumental in
44 advancing the use of technology to improve operational
45 efficiency and support service delivery.

46 She is an active member of Vermont Care Partners'
47 network of community mental health agencies and serves as
48 treasurer on the Board of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital. She
49 holds a bachelor's in political science from Regis College and a
50 master's in professional studies from Pennsylvania State
51 University.

52 She is widely respected for her expertise in program
53 management, fostering cross-agency partnerships, and driving
54 system innovation. Her leadership has been characterized as a
55 strong dedication to integrating forward-thinking solutions that
56 directly benefit the people and communities served by HCRS.

57 "I am honored to have the opportunity to lead this
58 incredible organization and to build on the strong foundation
59 created under George's leadership," said Bilodeau. "The
60 dedication of HCRS staff and the impact of the services provided
61 to thousands of people across southeastern Vermont are truly
62 inspiring."

63 Karabakakis will remain at the agency through June to
64 ensure a smooth leadership transition.

65 "I have every confidence in Anne's ability to take on this
66 role and know that HCRS will continue to thrive under her
67 leadership," said Karabakakis.

68 HCRS provides mental health, substance use, and
69 developmental services to individuals and families throughout
70 Windham and Windsor counties. Visit hcrs.org for more
71 information.

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