



**For Immediate Release**

### **Valeo Behavioral Health Care Announces New CEO**

Valeo Behavioral Health Care announced a new Chief Executive Officer today. Valeo has hired Bill Persinger Jr., MHA as CEO of Valeo Behavioral Health Care, Valeo Community Residence Program, Inc., and the Valeo Foundation.

Persinger is a native Kansan and brings a wealth of knowledge in the mental health field. His career history includes positions as Executive Director of Mental Health Center of East Central Kansas in Emporia, Chief Executive Officer at KANZA Mental Health & Guidance Center in Hiawatha, and Program Director at Iroquois Center for Human Development in Greensburg.

He has a Master of Healthcare Administration from the University of Minnesota, a Master of Science, and a Bachelor of Science and Education from Emporia State University.

Persinger said upon acceptance of the position, *"The CEO position is an opportunity to make a contribution to the health and well-being of others on a larger scale, continue Valeo's ongoing contribution to public behavioral health policy, and bring my specific skill set to a fine organization that is poised for continued success. Many complex changes are upon our field of public mental health. I am fully prepared to actively lead the agency going forward as it excels in the areas of health integration, collaborative partnerships in the community, and many other developments on the near horizon."*

Persinger plans to relocate from Osage to Shawnee County. He begins his role as Valeo CEO Nov. 5, 2015. Christine Wills, Director of Mental Health Programs at Valeo has served as interim CEO since February 2015.

#### **Contact**

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*"The Boland Group is pleased to announce the successful recruitment of a new CEO for Valeo Behavioral Health care. Sometimes we are brought in because a previous search failed, so time is of the essence. This was the case with the Valeo CEO search; over ten months had passed without a hire. The Search Committee evaluated five firms before selecting us. We started the search on August 3rd, finalist candidates were interviewed on September 30th, an offer was extended and accepted the first week of October, and the candidate started November 5th -- three months from search start to candidate start." ~ Ann Boland, President, The Boland Group*

Valeo's Chair, Jen Davis, wrote Ann: *"We have finally completed a long and exhausting hiring process with a great candidate and future. I want to take this opportunity to thank you again for all of your work and assistance with this process. You have been a pleasure to work with and a professional at every turn... Everyone is extremely pleased with Bill, including all of the staff. We all feel that we made an excellent choice and wouldn't have had the opportunity without your expertise."*