



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**Media Contact: Johnson Gill, (805) 677-5272, Director, Ventura County Health Care Agency**

June 5, 2018

### **Sevet Johnson named to head County Behavioral Health Department**

VENTURA, Calif. –Sevet Johnson has been named as the Director of the County’s Behavioral Health Department. On the recommendations of the Health Care Agency Director and County Executive Officer, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved her appointment. Johnson will also serve as the Local Mental Health Director. The appointment follows a nationwide recruitment that attracted more than 100 applicants.

Johnson, a licensed psychologist, has 15 years of experience in the mental and behavioral health fields. She has worked for the County’s Behavioral Health Department since 2009. She began her County career as a Senior Psychologist and was then promoted to Clinic Administrator and Senior Behavioral Health Manager.

“This position is critical to the health and safety of our communities”, said CEO Michael Powers. “Behavioral Health promotes recovery, hope and resiliency to Ventura County residents with mental health or substance abuse issues. Sevet’s combination of clinical and administrative experience, her calm, thoughtful and collaborative leadership approach and her passion for the mission and vision for the future of the department make her ideally suited for this important role. Sevet understands the importance of maintaining focus on the clients while staying connected to the families and the community.”

The Director of Behavioral Health reports to the Director of the Health Care Agency and is responsible for the administration of the County’s many Behavioral Health programs and services. These include programs for adults, youth, families and alcohol and drug abuse.

“Sevet will use all of her clinical and managerial skills as she develops, maintains and directs the department’s culturally responsive programs,” said Johnson Gill, Director of the Health Care Agency. “Her position requires broad skills in addition to her clinical expertise. The director needs financial expertise, significant leadership ability and the ability to achieve effective outcomes that are both client-centered and data driven.”

Johnson, 37, is a Moorpark resident and will begin her new duties during June at a salary of \$203,887.

Photo: Sevet Johnson

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