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OPTIMAE ADDS PRESCRIBERS TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHEASTERN IOWA

SEPTEMBER 26, 2016 (DES MOINES, IA) – Optimae LifeServices announced today it has hired two mental health prescribers for its behavioral health divisions in Central and Southeastern Iowa.

Physician’s Assistant Jayson Gesulga, a California native, joined Optimae’s Central Iowa team and will serve customers in Polk, Story and Jasper counties. Gail Kirkpatrick, an advanced registered nurse practitioner from Iowa, will see Optimae customers in Southeastern Iowa, including Mt. Pleasant, Fairfield, Fort Madison and Burlington.

Gesulga and Kirkpatrick officially joined Optimae this week and will begin seeing customers this week.

“We are thrilled to have both Jayson and Gail as part of our Optimae team,” said William Dodds, President and Chief Executive Officer of Optimae LifeServices. “Their medical expertise allows us to grow our behavioral health division and expand Iowans’ access to a much needed service, especially in underserved rural areas of the state.”

Gesulga brings five years of experience in the medical field to his position. A recent graduate of Saint Francis University in California, he has expertise in mental health, neurosurgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine and family practice.

Most recently, Gesulga worked at an urgent care clinic in California. He earned his Bachelor of Science in biochemistry from the University of California Riverside, a Master of Science from Saint Francis University and a physician’s assistant degree from Moreno Valley College.

Kirkpatrick is a board certified and licensed family nurse practitioner who brings more than 16 years of nursing experience to her position at Optimae. During her career, she worked at the Cottage Hospital in Illinois where she cared for customers with mental illness.

Kirkpatrick earned an Associate's degree in liberal arts and pre-nursing from Lincoln College and a Bachelor's degree in nursing from Mennonite College of Nursing.

Referrals in Central Iowa can be made by calling (515)243-3525. Customers in Fairfield can call (641)472-5771, while those in Keokuk and Fort Madison can contact (319)372-3566. Referrals in Burlington can be made by contacting (319)237-1732. Those in Mt. Pleasant can call (319)385-8051.

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About Optimae LifeServices

Optimae LifeServices, Inc. provides healthcare and human services for individuals with disabilities and mental illness from 36 counties Southeastern and Central Iowa counties. For nearly three decades, we have equipped our customers with supports and services that encourage choice, empowerment and community integration. Our programs include community-based, behavioral health, home health and residential care services. We advocate for the rights and needs of approximately 3,900 Iowans each year, providing the quality of care we would want for our own family.