

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mental Health Commissioner to Resign Effective June 30

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Mental Health Commissioner Zelia Baugh announced on Tuesday that she will resign her position as of June 30, 2012.

“It has been an honor and a privilege to serve the people of this state. However, it has become increasingly apparent to me that my family priorities require most of my attention at this time,” Baugh said. “I believe the department is well-positioned to continue to make progress toward providing the highest caliber services to Alabamians with intellectual disabilities, mental illnesses, or substance addictions. Throughout the department, there are dedicated individuals who are making a positive difference in the lives of consumers and their families, and I am honored to have served as commissioner.”

Under Commissioner Baugh’s leadership, Alabama became the first state in the Southeast to move all individuals with intellectual disabilities out of institutionalized settings and into more appropriate, community-based care environments. Comprehensive decisions have been made to modernize consumer care with up-to-date treatments and to streamline operations within the agency to provide the best care possible in a difficult budget environment.

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Information about mental health services in the state of Alabama can be obtained by contacting the Office of Public Information and Community Relations at 334-242-3417 or by visiting us online at www.mh.alabama.gov.