



Contact: Rachel Dybicki
Media@mhplan.com
(313) 324-3700

Meridian Health Plan Names Karen Brach President of Illinois Office

CHICAGO, Ill. (April 4, 2016) — Karen Brach has been named the new President of Meridian Health Plan of Illinois and is scheduled to step into that role on April 5. Brach is a managed care executive with more than 15 years of Medicaid and Medicare managed care senior leadership experience.

Most recently, Brach was the Vice President of Medicaid for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL). Prior to her position at BCBSIL, she was Vice President of Business Development for UnitedHealthcare and Health Plan CEO and Executive Director of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan. She has also worked with Amerigroup, Baptist Health Plan (formerly Bluegrass Family Health) and MetLife.

“I am looking forward to my new role with the largest Medicaid health plan in Illinois and their relentless focus on quality. As a new addition to the Meridian Family, I plan to continue support of the local markets while insuring sustainable growth and further enhancing our relationship with the State of Illinois and the members we serve,” said Brach.

Brach has extensive knowledge in health plan operations and compliance of government-funded and commercial health insurance programs. She began her career as a nurse, graduating from Rush University in Chicago, Ill. with a Bachelor of Science degree.

“We are happy to welcome Karen into our Meridian Family. Having such a well-rounded individual with nationwide healthcare experience will be a true benefit to our leadership team,” said Jon Cotton, President and COO, Meridian Health Plan.

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