



County of Tulare

Board of Supervisors · County Administrative Office

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 18, 2021

CONTACT: Tammie Weyker-Adkins, 559-636-5041

EMAIL: TMWeyker@co.tulare.ca.us

NEW HOMELESS INITIATIVES PROGRAM COORDINATOR NAMED

VISALIA, CA – The Tulare County Board of Supervisors announces the appointment of Noah J. Whitaker to the position of Homeless Initiatives Program Coordinator, effective June 21, 2021. Whitaker fills the Homeless Coordinator position formerly held by Charles Felix prior to his move to County Counsel.

“With Noah’s many years with the county heading up the Suicide Prevention Task Force, and his focus on connecting individuals to services and supports, I am confident that he is going to continue to serve the community members of Tulare County well,” stated Board Chair and Chair of the Task Force on Homelessness, Amy Shuklian.

Whitaker has over 12 years of experience working for Tulare County and has risen through the ranks of Tulare County Health & Human Services (HHSA) most recently serving as the interim Homeless Initiatives Program Coordinator. Whitaker previously held the positions of Community Outreach Manager and Director of the Tulare County Suicide Prevention Task Force, and Administrative Specialist II for HHSA.

HHSA Director Timothy Lutz says, “I am thrilled to have Noah stepping into the Homeless Coordinator role. Homeless services and programs are going to be a central focus for HHSA over the foreseeable future. Noah will step into a program that has evolved tremendously over the last year and a half; he will continue efforts to build strong relationships with our community partners, city governments, and County Departments and help coordinate service delivery for the homeless population across our entire county.”

Noah served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Continuum of Care on Homelessness, now called the Kings-Tulare Homeless Alliance, and as a coordinator for the Tulare County Suicide Prevention Task Force from 2008-2011. Prior to that, he worked as a Recovery Specialist III Team Lead for Kern County Department of Mental Health where he provided leadership to a team serving the homeless community. He has worked as a consultant for Fresno County Department of Behavioral Health, a contractor for the County of Santa Cruz Behavioral Health Division, and as a consultant with Your Social Marketer Inc. for community-based suicide prevention efforts.

Whitaker has contributed to improving all aspects of HHSA’s community outreach efforts, strengthening stakeholder connections between both governmental entities and community organizations, and implementing innovative programs and strategies. Most recently he has assisted in the development and implementation of a multi-disciplinary team serving the homeless population with a multi-faceted approach toward personal outreach and engagement while providing connections to needed services.



County of Tulare

Board of Supervisors · County Administrative Office

Whitaker holds a bachelor's degree in Sociology/Theatre and a Master of Business Administration degree from California State University, Bakersfield.

Noah resides in Tulare with his wife, Lindsey, and their children.

###