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MARY KAY BURNS NAMED INTERIM HEALTH OFFICER IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY

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Tallahassee, Fla.—The Florida Department of Health has announced Mary Kay Burns, R.N., B.S.N., M.B.A., as interim health officer for Charlotte County. Since 2004, Burns has served as health officer for the Florida Department of Health in Desoto County and in 2012 her role was expanded to include Highlands County as well.

"Ms. Burns has an extensive health background spanning both the private and public sector," said Kim Barnhill, deputy secretary for County Health Systems. "She brings the experience and commitment needed to continue moving health forward in Charlotte County."

Burns has worked in a variety of hospital settings, including as vice-president of nursing services and in director roles in case management, utilization review, quality and education. Her work for the department has largely focused on building relationships and partnerships to aid the counties she serves. During her time as administrator with Desoto, the department received a Prudential Productivity Award in 2014 for its School Health Dental Program.

Burns is a 2009 graduate of the Public Health Leadership Institute of Florida. She is a member of the Rotary Club of Arcadia, a past president of the Desoto County Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Florida Public Health Association and Florida Association of County Health Officers. Burns serves as a board member for Charlotte Behavioral Health Care, Health Planning Council of Southwest Florida, Heartland Rural Health Network and the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

About the Florida Department of Health

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