

## JUSTIN HORTON NAMED EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF MISSOURI PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Kansas City, MO – May 28, 2019 - Cornerstones of Care is proud to announce the appointment of Justin Horton as Executive Director of Missouri Programs and Services. Horton will provide strategic, executive-level leadership to strengthen existing programs and grow new partnerships throughout Missouri communities.



Denise Cross, president, and CEO, says, "Since joining Cornerstones of Care in 2014, Justin has demonstrated excellent leadership and deep knowledge of the Missouri Child Welfare system. This appointment acknowledges his significant impact on our mission and positions our Missouri programming for even greater success."

Horton served Cornerstones of Care as Technology to Practice Director from 2014-2019 and in this role has led a number of large-scale initiatives which have improved business operations, employee efficiency and client access to timely services. Prior to joining the organization, he held various positions over 11 years with the Missouri Department of Social Services, including case management, quality assurance, quality improvement, and leadership of other child welfare operations at the county level.

"As highlighted by our <u>Safety Starts Here</u> public awareness campaign, children cannot be healthy until they are safe. I am grateful for this new opportunity to empower our staff by supporting their unwavering commitment to improving the safety and health of children and families," says Horton. "Together, we will continue forward with our important work to help children and families heal and prepare for the future."

Ryan Dowis, chief operating officer, and executive vice president, says, "Justin's personal and professional commitment to the safety and health of our staff, children and families will positively impact communities we serve across Missouri. I look forward to working alongside Justin towards our mission of safer and healthier communities."

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## About Cornerstones of Care:

Cornerstones of Care has a long legacy of partnering with children and families to improve the safety and health of communities. It serves more than 11,000 children and families through education, mental & behavioral health, foster care & adoption, youth & family support, and community trainings in Kansas, Missouri and beyond. For more information, visit cornerstonesofcare.org.