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LEADINGAGE FLORIDA NAMES NICK VAN DER LINDEN AS DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

TALLAHASSEE—LeadingAge Florida, Florida’s only association representing the entire continuum of care for older adults, announced today the hiring of **Nick Van Der Linden** as Director of Communications.

Mr. Van Der Linden joins LeadingAge Florida from the Florida Department of Health where he served in various communication capacities. In his new role, he will serve as spokesperson and media contact for the organization, further develop brand recognition, and provide high-quality and timely information to members representing the entire continuum of care for Florida’s senior population.

“Nick is a tremendous addition to our association,” said Steve Bahmer, LeadingAge Florida President and CEO. “He has proven experience and a diverse background in communication that will be vital to informing our members and increasing our outreach. I’m very excited to have him join our leadership team and confident he will provide the quality communications our members have come to expect.”

Mr. Van Der Linden began his career as a Public Information Specialist for the Florida Department of Health where he had an active role in the daily operations of the media office, including the management of media inquiries and responses. He later served as the speech writer for the State Surgeon General before being appointed as the Department’s Interim Communications Director.

A graduate of Auburn University, Mr. Van Der Linden earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Communications. He earned certification in Six Sigma Green Belt and ToP Facilitation Methods and lives in Tallahassee with his wife Austyn and his one-year old son.

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Established in 1963 as a Florida not-for-profit corporation, LeadingAge Florida is committed to assisting its members in achieving excellence as providers, businesses and employers. The Association provides up-to-date regulatory information, a wide variety of educational opportunities, representation before the Legislature and government agencies, group purchasing services, and opportunities for networking with peers.