



State of Wisconsin  
**Department of Health and Family Services**

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Jim Doyle, Governor  
Kevin R. Hayden, Secretary

February 20, 2007  
For Immediate Release

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## **Jason Helgerson Appointed Medicaid Director**

Department of Health and Family Service's Secretary Kevin R. Hayden is pleased to announce the appointment of Jason Helgerson as the new Administrator of the Division of Health Care Financing. The appointment is effective March 19<sup>th</sup>.

"Jason has one of the best minds in health care and I'm glad he's part of Kevin's team in leading my health care reform efforts," said Governor Doyle. "Jason's been instrumental in developing sound policy to help ensure all Wisconsin residents have access to health care and he's perfectly suited for this position as we move forward with the state's health care initiatives."

Helgerson has served as Executive Assistant for the Department since February 2005 and has played a key role in developing BadgerCare Plus, the Governor's initiative announced in 2006. BadgerCare Plus will streamline Medicaid, BadgerCare and Healthy Start into one comprehensive program. The initiative will expand coverage to more children and families, adults without children, farmers, and other low-income adults. BadgerCare Plus will help ensure that 98 percent of Wisconsin citizens will have access to affordable, comprehensive health insurance, including covering all children.

Prior to coming the Department of Health and Family Services, Helgerson served as the Executive Assistant for the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.

In addition, Helgerson served as the Senior Education Policy Advisor for the mayor of San Jose, California. He helped draft and implement the mayor's innovative education policy agenda including the use of redevelopment funds to expand access to preschool for low-income families.

Helgerson has also held key public policy positions in the City of Milwaukee and for Milwaukee Public Schools. He has worked on a number of projects, including the development of the Neighborhood School Initiative that led to the first significant investment in a generation into inner-city Milwaukee schools.

Helgerson holds a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Chicago and a Bachelor of Arts degree from The American University in Washington, D.C.

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