

July 2020

DHSS Secretary Molly Magarik: Biography

Molly Magarik was sworn in as Secretary of the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services on July 31, 2020. As Secretary, she leads the principal agency charged with keeping Delawareans healthy, ensuring they get the health care they need in a fast-changing world, and providing children, families and seniors with essential social services including food benefits, disability-related services, and mental health and addiction treatment. She oversees one of the largest departments in Delaware's government with an annual budget of more than \$2 billion.



As Secretary, Magarik chairs the Health Fund Advisory Council, and is a member of the Delaware Health Care Commission and the Delaware Center for Health Innovation Board. Secretary Magarik has served as the Deputy Secretary for DHSS since February 2017, directing and managing key priorities for DHSS, including health care financing, payment and delivery system reform; budget administration and management; and early childhood education. She also served as the Department's chief strategy officer, and developed and maintained critical partnerships with Delaware cabinet agency leaders, the legislature, the federal delegation, advocates, and health care system leadership throughout the state

As part of her portfolio of work, Secretary Magarik will continue to lead strategic planning efforts and coordinate with the DHSS Reorganization Committee on key recommendations, including realigning the organization with greater accountability. Over the coming months, she also will work to reorganize the Department to provide more coordinated and person-centered services for the people of Delaware. Additionally, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Secretary Magarik, along with the Division of Public Health, will continue to advise the Governor's office on the pandemic response, while ensuring that the department's critical services continue in a manner that is safe for both staff and the people the agency serves.

Following her nomination by Governor John Carney, Magarik was unanimously confirmed June 23, 2020, by the Delaware State Senate to be the state's 14th Secretary of DHSS.

Before joining DHSS, Magarik served as State Director for then Congressman John Carney and Political Director for Beau Biden's campaign for Attorney General. She also worked as a strategic advisor across nonprofits and government, including as Executive Director of the Delaware Democratic Party. Magarik is a candidate for a Master's of Health Care Delivery Science from Dartmouth College, and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and Women's Studies from the University of Delaware. She and her husband, Josh, have two daughters and live in Middletown.