



OPPORTUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
CENTERS, INC.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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ODC ANNOUNCES NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO

Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, April 14, 2025

The Board of Directors of ODC is pleased to announce that Erin Smith has been hired as the next CEO of ODC. She will officially join the organization on May 5, 2025. The board would like to thank Julie Strenn for the past five years with ODC. Julie will be leaving ODC in May.

“The board was in unanimous agreement that Erin is the perfect fit to be ODC’s next CEO”, said Pat Gall, ODC Board of Directors Chairperson. “Erin brings vast experience and connections in the industry as well as strong leadership skills. This will support the continued success of ODC into the future.”

With a background in managing home and community-based services, Erin previously ran an independent consulting business supporting providers in the sector. Most recently, she led the Disability Service Provider Network, one of Wisconsin’s key provider trade associations, where she was instrumental in advocating for long-term care system transformation and strengthening provider networks. Erin’s career has spanned a variety of roles, from care management to senior leadership positions in provider network operations, contract negotiations, project management, and transforming long-term care systems.

Throughout her career, Erin has been driven by a passion for helping others live their best lives, whether supporting individuals who rely on long-term services and supports to remain healthy and engaged in their communities or guiding the professionals dedicated to serving people with disabilities. Erin is recognized for her strong, collaborative relationships across Wisconsin’s long-term care industry and is excited to build similar lasting connections with ODC staff and participants.

On a personal note, Erin values family above all else. Currently, that means spending any free time with her husband, cheering on their 14-year-old son at baseball, football and basketball games, her favorite hobby. Between seasons and games, Erin cherishes time with friends and her two dogs, enjoying the outdoors.

Erin’s energy, industry knowledge, passion for individuals with disabilities, and visionary leadership will support ODC success into the future. Please join us for meet and greet at our locations to wish Julie a farewell and welcome Erin.

- Wednesday, May 7th 4:30-5:30 ODC Wisconsin Rapids 1191 Huntington Avenue
- Wednesday, May 14th 12-1pm ODC Marshfield 2406 East 21st Street
- Wednesday, May 14th 4:30-5:30 ODC Stevens Point 2801 Hoover Road

Opportunity Development Centers, Inc. (ODC) is a non-profit agency whose mission is to empower people with disabilities to achieve their work and life goals. ODC was established in 1965 and supports individuals in 21 counties in Wisconsin. ODC supports individuals with disabilities from early years to adulthood. ODC provides skills training, employment services, and connects people with their communities. For more information or to learn more about ODC, please call Ann Lepak at 715-424-2712 or email alepak@odcinc.com.

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