



**AREA AGENCIES ON AGING ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN**  
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**For Immediate Release**  
**March 7, 2017**

**Linda Burghardt selected as new Executive Director**

Lansing, Michigan – President Bob Schlueter announced this week that Linda Burghardt has been appointed Executive Director of the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan. “We are thrilled to have Linda join our team! Her extensive experience with the Legislature and three associations makes her the perfect fit for our leadership position.” President Schlueter is Executive Director of the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan, based in Traverse City.

Burghardt has 17 years of experience as a nonpartisan staffer with the Michigan State Senate and previously served as the Government Relations Director for the National Association of Social Workers Michigan Chapter, Executive Director of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Michigan, and President and CEO of the Mental Health Association in Michigan. She has a BA from Cornell University and a MPA from Michigan State University. “I am very excited to be working with such a dynamic, creative, and cutting edge group of professionals who are changing the landscape for older Michigianians.”

As Director, Burghardt will represent Michigan 16 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs), serving older adults and people with disabilities in all 83 counties in the state. Michigan’s AAAs have over 40 years of experience, almost 1,000 employees, and administer over \$300 million in funding each year. Their mission is to keep older adults living an independent, quality life in their own homes as long as possible.

Linda Burghardt replaces Mary Ablan, who is retiring after 32 years with the Association.

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