

The Revolution

The Wexford Companies

Post-COVID Issue

Stacey Scott, Vice President of Illinois Operations, inducted into elite Forty Under 40 Society at Hampton University

Stacey Scott, MBA, CCHP, LSSS, Vice President of Illinois Operations, has been inducted into Hampton University's "Forty under 40 Society." She was selected for this prestigious honor out of hundreds of nominations. The Society celebrates young, distinguished alumni who are making extraordinary strides in their personal, professional, and philanthropic endeavors, along with upholding the standards of excellence as set forth by the University. The Historically Black University is located in Hampton, Virginia and has numerous notable alumni including, but not limited to, Booker T. Washington (educator, author, and advisor to numerous presidents), Judge Vanessa Gilmore (youngest appointed federal court judge), Wanda Sykes (Emmy award winning comedian), and Kay Cole James (president and founder of the Gloucester Institute and current member of the NASA Advisory Council).

Health care has always been one of Scott's passions. Stacey is a proud 2004 graduate of Hampton University, her "Home by the Sea." After graduation, she stumbled upon the field of correctional health care, and found it to be a rewarding and necessary way to serve and promote public health. Scott started her career in correctional health care in 2005 as the Statewide Ombudsman for the Mississippi contract while it was under CMS (now known as Corizon Health). After years of experience working in different positions in a multitude of state contract positions, she joined Wexford Health in 2012 as a Regional Manager in Maryland. Her involvement in an array of positions has provided her with a unique



understanding of the operational side of contracts, and also how the health care directly effects the people in our contracted facilities.

"People that find themselves behind the walls of correctional institutions have no choices as it relates to health services," said Scott. "Proper care helps to preserve both physical and mental health, which makes it possible for offenders once freed, to reintegrate into society and be productive members without the burden of poorly managed chronic diseases," she added, noting that Wexford Health does this well. Stacey believes there is a huge correlation between public health and correctional medicine due to high risk-takers showing higher statistics of poor health and incarcerated persons typically being high risk-takers.

Correctional health care truly is a niche market for those that finds themselves working in a facility or with a statewide system. She finds her work in operations for a correctional health care system to be a very unconventional way to help different communities. In essence, she is helping to improve the health of those who re-enter our communities. "As an operational leader, I have the chance to work with outstanding health care professionals across the country and

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ensure quality care to those who in many cases have never received such care,” said Scott. The work she has done in multiple statewide systems has allowed her the opportunity to spend time in some of the most challenging physical plant locations and to work with very unique multi-player, complex systems. Through all of the challenges and opportunities, she still believes that being able to offer health services to an under-served population is rewarding in itself.

Through a myriad of staff development and growth opportunities she has experienced over the years, Scott hopes to use that knowledge to help enhance site onboarding processes at our sites in the future. She understands that correctional health care presents challenges and obstacles that medical and mental health professionals do not experience in other community health care settings. She plans to use these challenges to augment the process for newly hired professionals to help them better adjust to their role in the correctional health environment.

She also strongly believes that correctional health care is not recognized publicly for all the positive aspects that occur behind the walls. Scott explains, “Many people only hear about complaints and other negative press that are minimal compared to the successes happening daily. Correctional health care professionals do the same work that is done in state-of-the-art health care centers across the country. The difference is they make it happen in some of the most unconventional spaces with some of the best outcomes.”

When working as the Regional Director in Baltimore for the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) contract, she was a lead on the team that successfully transferred more than 1,500 offenders to other institutions after Governor Hogan closed the Baltimore Central Detention Center (BCDC). She worked in partnership with site managers and state leadership, ensuring a minimal lapse in continuity of care for detained individuals, regardless of the shortened timeframe and limited communication from DPSCS. Through it all, Scott and her teams



produced significant positive outcomes, ensured care for many chronically ill patients, and made sure the system continued to work without a hitch.

Throughout her career, she has gained a wealth of knowledge and experience – leading state and nationwide teams through successful audits, and improving processes that implement and evaluate the overall delivery of health services to clients. Scott’s strong work ethic, drive to collaborate, and dedication to the work she is doing to make a difference are just a few of the reasons why she was recently named to the list of “Forty under 40 Society” professionals. Reflecting on this accomplishment, Scott said, “To be recognized for my accomplishments and achievements by my alma mater post undergrad is an honor.” After finishing college, she went on to earn her Master’s Degree, then start her professional career. Along the way, she volunteered as a community tutor and Youth Outreach Advisor for Women in Unity for Christ, along with other philanthropic and community opportunities. Upon reflection, she believes volunteerism and community work is a necessity. “I got involved with my community because I really wanted to be of service to others,” said Scott.

When it comes to goals for the future, Scott says she has much she wants to accomplish – almost too much to list. The one idea that is first and foremost on her mind is to create an internship program that provides mentorship to managers and supervisors. This program would help to develop promoted managers and supervisors into more effective and confident leaders, foster more collaboration, and create a sense of teamwork for site-level staff in our statewide systems.

Congratulations again on this fantastic and well-deserved honor, Stacey! 🎉