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## Disability Network/Lakeshore selects former City Council member as new director

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By **Greg Chandler | The Grand Rapids Press**

HOLLAND -- An advocacy group for people with disabilities has chosen a local banker and Holland city councilman to be its new executive director.

Todd Whiteman began his new duties Monday as executive director of Disability Network/Lakeshore. Whiteman, 38, comes to the Holland-based nonprofit after having spent the past four years business development manager for the local branch of United Federal Credit Union. He also previously directed Golf Pro Links, a Christian nonprofit organization serving professionals in the golf industry.

"We find him to be results oriented, reliable, empathetic, and visionary," said Mary Jo Baweja, a Disability Network board member who headed up the search committee.

Whiteman was elected to the Holland City Council in 2009, representing the city's Fifth Ward, and also previously served on the city's Board of Zoning Appeals.

He replaces Ruth Stegeman, who retired last December after having served as the organization's executive director since its inception as the Lakeshore Center for Independent Living in 1992.

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