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★ Hernandez to leave Belle Center for People Inc.

Business First by Tracey Drury, Buffalo Business First Reporter
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The Belle Center will begin a search for a new chief executive to replace **Nestor Hernandez**, who is taking a new post at **People Inc.** later this month.

Hernandez first joined the agency in 2006, and is credited with increasing revenue and programs at the West Side nonprofit agency.

Over the past six years, the agency grew from a staff of five with revenues of \$544,000 to 90 employees and an operating budget of \$2.3 million.

Michael Rivera, board president, called the transition "bittersweet" for the organization, as Hernandez moves on to become associate vice president for service provision and delivery at People Inc.

"He has helped to put the organization on a successful pathway to providing greater services for underserved children and families in the community to have success in life," Rivera said.

The Maryland Street agency offers 15 programs, including pre-K and home reading services, a school-age child care and leadership programming, as well as the Buffalo AmeriCorps program.

Resumes from qualified applicants are being accepted as the board begins the search process.

Tracey Drury covers health/medical, nonprofits and insurance

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