

SOUTH DAKOTA

Kim Malsam-Rysdon

Secretary

South Dakota State Department of Health



Kim Malsam-Rysdon is the secretary of the South Dakota Department of Health. She also serves as the governor's senior advisor and is a member of the governor's executive committee. She previously served as secretary of the department of social services, deputy secretary of social services, and director of the divisions of mental health and developmental disabilities in the department of human services. Prior to working for the state of South Dakota, Malsam-Rysdon worked to help people with disabilities live and work in their communities.

Malsam-Rysdon grew up in Wisconsin and New Hampshire before her family returned to South Dakota. She attended college at the University of South Dakota, where she graduated from the university honors program and received her bachelor's degree in political science. Malsam-Rysdon went on to receive a master's degree in social work from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with a concentration in healthcare policy.

Malsam-Rysdon and her husband Steve have been married 25 years, and they are blessed to have two sons, Jake and Joe. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, gardening, traveling, and enjoying the Missouri River with her family.