



Featured Story: Ivan Gilreath Named Club CEO

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands is excited to announce Omaha native and Boys & Girls Clubs alum, Ivan Gilreath, as President and CEO, effective February 1st, 2011. Ivan returned to Omaha from Minneapolis, after five years with insurance giant ING, most recently as the president of the company's Employee Benefits Division. Before ING, Ivan spent 20 years with Mutual of Omaha.

"It feels really good to be back in Omaha, leading the organization that gave me so much," says Gilreath. "I have spent my entire professional career in the corporate world, but never lost my passion for serving at-risk youth."

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Ivan grew up in a single-parent household with four siblings. While his mother worked hard to support the family, Ivan spent much of his time at the North Omaha Boys Club. He recalls certain staff members at the Club as being the positive male role models who set positive

examples, and laid the foundation upon which he would achieve great things.

"I am a product of my club and my community," Gilreath says with conviction. "I hope my story and my experiences will inspire the youth of our Clubs to dream bigger and expect more of themselves and their futures. The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands is a great organization and I look forward to continuing that tradition of greatness. Today more than ever our young men and women need the Boys & Girls Clubs. Our mission is to provide the programs and activities that will lead them towards becoming positive and productive members of society."

"A committee of community and board members organized the national search for our new president," says BGCM Board Chairman, Tim Holland. "We received hundreds of qualified resumes both nationally and locally. Through an exhaustive process we found the best candidate in Ivan. His leadership skills and passion for youth development will be a great asset for the children of Omaha."

Ivan takes over the Club reins from retiring CEO, Fred Schott. Schott will play the role of senior advisor and will work closely with Ivan during the

transition process, and beyond as needed.

Ivan's management team will include two experienced Club professionals; Tom Kunkel, Chief Professional Officer, and Laura Schabloske, Chief Development Officer. Kunkel and Schabloske will continue to play key roles in Club operations and fundraising. Both are passionate believers in the Boys & Girls Club movement and the impact it has on the youth in Omaha, Carter Lake and Council Bluffs.

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Get to Know the CEO

visit goo.gl/1IFmT or scan the QR Code with your smartphone to watch Ivan Gilreath's first CEO vAddress.

Fred Schott Retires From Storied Club Career

Fred Schott has been a member or served a Boys & Girls Club for the better part of 53 years. He attended college at George Williams College in Chicago on a W. Clement and Jesse V. Stone Boys Club scholarship, and finished up at the University of Louisville. It was there he began his professional career at the Portland Avenue Boys Club - the same Club he attended as a young boy.

Fred and his wife Donna moved to Omaha in 1972 with their three young girls, because Fred wanted to further his Club career under the tutelage of Bill Hinckley and Tom Davis. With the help of another Club scholarship, Fred earned a Master's Degree in Urban Studies from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

He left the Clubs in 1981 to start a career in the insurance industry, but remained close to the Movement as a consultant, speaker, trainer and board member.

In 2002, Fred returned to Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands as President and CEO, a title he held until February 1st of this year. Under Fred's leadership, BGCM rebuilt the new North Omaha Unit, opened the Westside, Mount View and Council Bluffs Units, and doubled the number of members served each year.

In "retirement," a term he uses loosely, Fred plans to continue to serve poor and underprivileged youth in the community through various outlets. To quote Fred himself, "you never really leave the Boys & Girls Clubs family."



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Featured Stories

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**DaSean A. Named
Youth of the Year**



About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands (BGCMI) is one of the largest youth service agencies in the Omaha metro area. With six traditional Club locations in North and South Omaha, Mount View Elementary, Westbrook Elementary (Westside), and Carter Lake and Council Bluffs, IA, and one middle school extension site at Morton Middle School in Omaha, BGCMI helps over 6,216 kids receive the direction and educational support that is vital to their success.

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On Saturday, January 15th, DaSean Anderson of the North Unit was selected Boys & Girls Clubs of the Midlands Youth of the Year. The competition was held on the 20th floor of the Woodmen Tower, with judges, staff, family and friends in attendance.

DaSean, a Senior at Marian High School and a 9-year Club member, told the story of her father's murder and her mother's addiction and legal troubles, and the stress it put on her and her two younger brothers.

She went on to describe her discovery of the Boys & Girls Clubs at a pivotal time in her life and the presence of positive female role

models that changed her outlook on life. In closing, DaSean talked about her mother's recovery and her successful path towards earning her master's degree.

DaSean is now set to take her passion and her story to the Nebraska Youth of the Year competition, where she will compete against other youth for the title of Nebraska Youth of the Year and a college scholarship.



- North Omaha Boys Club Alum
- Bryan High School Graduate
- Undergraduate Degree: UNL
- Masters Degree: UNO CBA
- 20 years with Mutual of Omaha
- Four years with Xerox
- Five years with ING
- Founder of the Midwest Trailblazers
- Recipient of the Living the Dream award from the City of Omaha
- Proud father of two college students
- Married for 25 years