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Grass Roots: Boys and Girls Club names new leader

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January 12, 2010 9:20 am • By Pat Schneider (0) Comments



There's new leadership going into place at the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, or the BGCCD. The organization is announcing its hiring of Michael Johnson, most recently with the recreation department in Philadelphia, as chief executive officer.

Here's more from the club's press release:

"Our kids, staff, volunteers and Board of Directors are excited that Michael will be leading our organization towards accomplishing the ambitious goals we have to build successful futures for all youth in Dane County," says Mary Burke, President of the Board of Directors for BGCCD.

Johnson has held several leadership positions throughout his career and currently serves as the Deputy Recreation Commissioner for the City of Philadelphia. His previous positions include Executive Director for the Monsanto Family YMCA in St. Louis, Special Assistant to the CEO of Philadelphia Public Schools and District Director for Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago managing programs in public housing units and in high schools on the south side of Chicago.

"Of all the superb and talented people that I had the privilege to work with over the years," former Superintendent of Chicago and Philadelphia Public schools Paul Vallas says, "few have been dedicated, hardworking and industrious as Michael Johnson."

Michael Johnson is the new CEO for the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County. [Enlarge Photo](#)

Grass Roots: New Boys and Girls Club chief brings gritty life experience to the job
 When Michael Johnson, 34, went to a reunion of his Chicago elementary school class, he learned he was one of four boys still alive from a class of 23. [Read more](#)

Johnson recently served on the boards of the Police Athletic League of Philadelphia, Columbia North YMCA and was named Non-Profit Executive of the Year by the St. Louis Metro Sentinel Journal. In 2007, Mayor Francis G. Slay of St. Louis proclaimed a day in Michael's honor recognizing his work in the St. Louis community.

"I am excited about this opportunity," says Michael Johnson, "and I look forward to moving to Dane County to serve and work with all our partners to reach the youth and families of Dane County who need us the most."

Johnson has a BA in Business Education from Chicago State University, an MBA from the University of Phoenix, and certifications in Human Resource Management from Cornell University and certifications in Fundraising Management from Indiana University, School of Philanthropy. Johnson is married to Toya Whitaker-Johnson and they have a five year old son name Michael Johnson Jr. Johnson will officially start his role with BGCCD on February 15, 2010.

The Boys and Girls Club of Dane County runs two centers, 2001 Taft St., in South Madison and 4619 Jenewein Rd., Fitchburg, in the Allied Drive neighborhood.

Tags [Boys And Girls Club Of Dane County](#), [Michael Johnson](#), [Mary Burke](#)

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