



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF WISCONSIN

Antigo
Appleton
Baraboo
Bayfield
Beloit
Berlin
Black River Falls
Chippewa Falls
Cumberland
Delavan
Eau Claire
Fitchburg
Fond Du Lac
Fort Atkinson
Fort McCoy
Green Bay
Hartford
Hayward
Jackson
Janesville
Kenosha
La Crosse
Little Chute
Madison
Menasha
Milwaukee
Nekoosa
Neopit
Odanah
Oshkosh
Plover
Red Cliff
Reedsburg
Rice Lake
Sheboygan
Sheboygan Falls
Sparta
Stevens Point
Sturgeon Bay
Superior
Tomah
Waukesha
Wausau
West Bend
West Salem
Weston
Wisconsin Rapids

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 14th, 2019

CONTACT: Dan Hebel, Alliance President
PHONE: 920/904-0126

Gussert Named Boys & Girls Clubs of America Alliance Professional of the Year Wisconsin Director Recognized Nationally for Government & Development Work

Houston, TX – Boys & Girls Clubs of America just named Andy Gussert the 2019 Alliance Professional of the Year at their national convention in Houston, recognizing him for work in lobbying, government relations, fundraising and development.

"Andy has positioned our clubs to work with both democrats and republicans, across the administration and the legislature," said Alliance President Dan Hebel, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club in Fond du Lac. "As we partner with Wisconsin to build a workforce for tomorrow, Andy has made the case that our clubs have solutions to many of Wisconsin's largest problems."

Boys & Girls Clubs of Wisconsin serve more than 144,800 youth at 159 sites located across 57 cities, which is more by population than any other state in the country. They collectively provide over two million meals and snacks to kids across the state each year at no cost, and every dollar invested in a club returns \$12.42 in earnings and cost-savings back to that local community.

Over the past year, Wisconsin Clubs created a unique coalition partnership with YMCAs and the Afterschool Network to advocate for afterschool programming and mental health services. Clubs hosted their first "Youth of the Year" advocacy event in March, and secured full four year scholarships for the winners to UW Madison and Marquette University. Gussert served on Governor Tony Evers' "What's Best for Kids Advisory Council", and on June 4th, 2019, the Joint Finance Committee passed full funding for "Be Great: Graduate" that was introduced in the Governor's budget. Gussert also worked with Kohl Philanthropies to send over 700 youth on week long 'learning journeys' to Washington DC, at a cost of over \$750,000.

"Nobody succeeds working alone," said Andy Gussert, Wisconsin Alliance Director. "This award reflects the efforts and advocacy of our 2300 staff, 550 board members and 10,200 volunteers across the state. They are the backbone of our clubs." Gussert, a native of Wisconsin, was born in Milwaukee, raised in Clintonville, and like many of the youth they serve, was the first generation to attend college with scholarships to Lawrence University.

The Wisconsin Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs mission is to ensure all young people, especially those who need us most, can reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. For more information, contact Wisconsin Alliance President Dan Hebel at **920/924-0530**.

#