

Misty Givens named CEO of the
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Arkansas River Valley



The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Arkansas River Valley Board of Directors voted unanimously to name Misty Givens as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Club effective March 14.

Misty Givens has over 20 years of leadership experience in education, out-of-school time programming, grant and finance management, continuous improvement and small business ownership. She most recently served as Director of Operations and CFO for Arkansas Elite Welding Academy in Quitman, AR. In this role she built capacity in the leadership team, acquired funding essential to meet the demands for growth and pressures due to Covid-19, formed partnerships to assist students in acquiring funds to pay for training and aligned policies and processes to meet federal, state and stakeholder requirements. Misty previously served as the Program Director for 21st Century Community Learning Centers at the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE). In this role she oversaw the application and awarding of federal grants that provide out-of-school time programs for youth as well as the operation and evaluation of those programs. Prior to her leadership of administering the federally funded grant program, she worked as a School Improvement Specialist and Program Advisor for Teacher Recruitment and Retention for ADE. She also served the Atkins School District as Supervisor of Curriculum and Assessment. Misty began her career in Education in 2006 as a secondary math teacher and spent 6 years in the classroom. Prior to her start in education, she owned and operated a residential and commercial cleaning business in central Arkansas from 2000-2008 and worked as a commercial and property and casualty insurance agent from 1997-1999.

Misty earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Management in 2005 from Central Baptist College in Conway, a Master of Arts in Teaching in 2008 from the University of Central Arkansas in Conway and an Education Specialist in Leadership in 2015 from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. She has been a member of the Arkansas Association of School

Administrators and Arkansas Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, served on ADE's Strategic Performance Management Team, ADE's Reading Initiative Team, as an ambassador for Arkansas Children's Week and as a Commissioner to Governor Asa Hutchison's Advisory Committee on National Service and Volunteerism in 2016.

Misty resides in Conway, and is the proud mother of three sons, Austin, Zac, and Jace Harp, and has one beautiful granddaughter, Alex Ray. She is a dog lover and enjoys spending time with her family, running, hiking and the beautiful Arkansas outdoors.

Misty said, "I am beyond honored and humbled to have been selected for this opportunity. I am looking forward to leading such a great team to positively impact area children and families. I am excited to become part of the River Valley communities and to partnering with local businesses and organizations to assure the success of each young person we serve."

For more information, please contact Misty Givens at 479-968-7819 or via email at mistygivens.bgcarv@gmail.com.