Boys & Girls Club of Dane County CEO named Midwest Region Executive of the Year

by Staff
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MADISON — Michael Johnson was named the Midwest Region Executive of the Year by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Professional Association at their annual conference held in Indianapolis, Indiana. There are 572 clubs with more than 760,000 members in the Midwest Region, encompassing 13-states from North Dakota to West Virginia. As a result of Johnson’s leadership, he will be one of five regional winners to be considered for the 2012 National Executive of the Year Award for Boys & Girls Clubs of America, out of 4,000 Clubs worldwide, the agency's highest award for executive leadership.
Johnson has been the CEO for the Boys & Girls Club (BGC) for almost three years. During his tenure, the Club has seen unprecedented growth and development. Currently the organization has expanded from two sites to eight school base sites and has almost doubled the number of youth served. In the last two years the Club has opened a full service credit union, a state of the art music studio, houses an alternative school, and currently transports more than 250 kids weekly from ten schools in three different school districts.

Recently BGC of Dane County was named one of five Clubs in the nation to receive the Money Matters Innovation Award from the Charles Schwab Foundation and was named one of ten Clubs in the nation to receive the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Be Great: Graduate Award.

Under Johnson’s leadership, Boys & Girls Clubs through the generosity of its donors has invested significantly in educational programming. Recently renovating its facilities, purchasing new vans, hiring more teachers, case managers, and tutors resulting in more than 500 local kids enrolling in their College Prep Program which has produced 100 percent graduation rates for three consecutive years in a row with more than 95 percent of its students currently enrolled in local colleges and universities.

He has also led the effort in raising millions of dollars to support local kids in the community, recently sleeping on the roof of a local fitness facility for three consecutive days through a major storm convincing the community to raise more than $330,000 for the Club’s annual bike ride which resulted in the largest special event fundraising in the Club’s history. Johnson has recently organized community dinners, back pack giveaways and during the hurricane in Joplin, Missouri led an effort to organize dozens of volunteers, resulting in them driving seven truckloads of water, food and medical supplies to the Boys & Girls Club in Joplin, Missouri. Johnson and his team were the first group of volunteers to arrive to the Joplin Boys & Girls Club and they slept on the
Boys & Girls Club floor at night and worked in eight hour shifts removing debris from people’s homes during the day and late evening hours.
Locally, Johnson received the W.E.B. DuBois Community Advocacy Award from the Madison Chapter of the NAACP last weekend.