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Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis Announces Leadership Change

INDIANAPOLIS – November 10, 2017 – The Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis, which enables young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens, announced today the appointment of Edie Olson as interim executive director. Olson fills the vacancy left by James R. “Rick” Whitten who, following 12 years of service as executive director, recently stepped away from his role to pursue new opportunities. During Whitten’s tenure, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis opened its first new Club facility in 20 years and expanded capacity in order to provide out-of-school opportunities to over 7,300 youth annually in some of our city’s most challenged neighborhoods.

Olson, a recent retiree from a career in human services, brings expertise in program management, strategic planning, team building and organizational development. She also brings a deep understanding of how to create healthier communities gained from 24 years spent at Families First strengthening parents, repairing relationships and helping remove barriers to a stable and productive life.

“We are excited that Edie has agreed to serve in a transitional capacity during such a pivotal time for our Clubs,” said Board Chair Rob Hofinger. “Her experience at Families First paired with her professional background will be an incredible asset to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis as we move towards our 125th year of providing a safe and supportive atmosphere for children to learn and grow.”

“I am honored to be given the opportunity to lead the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis as the organization embarks on a monumental year and look forward to working with their wonderful staff to put young people on the path to great futures,” said Olson, upon accepting the appointment.

Olson began her service as interim executive director on November 9, 2017. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis wishes Whitten well as he continues his professional service work and thanks him for his years of service helping provide a safe haven for young people across Indianapolis.

A search by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis board for a permanent executive director will begin shortly.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis

Since 1893, Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis have served the Indianapolis community. With five facility-based Clubs and eight school-based sites, BGCINDY serves over 7,300 youth annually in the areas of career exploration and educational enhancement, citizenship and leadership, the arts, and health and fitness. For additional information, please call (317) 920-4700 or visit www.BGCINDY.org. Follow Boys & Girls Clubs of Indianapolis @BGCINDY and “Like” us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/bgcindy](https://www.facebook.com/bgcindy).

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