BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS Conference Location: Lake Area Technical College REA COUNCIL Detailed Conference Information: bgcofwatertown.com/GMAC TUESDAY, JULY 22nd 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM Hosted Pizza Meal at The Sandbar on Lake Kampeska WEDNESDAY, JULY 23rd - Lake Area Technical College 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM **Board Member Meet-and-Greet** Board Members are invited to arrive early. Registration will be open.

2025 GMAC Annual Conference

July 22nd - July 24th

Watertown, South Dakota

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Networking Lunch and Welcome Think 3D, Sioux Falls, SD

We will kick off the conference with a build-your-own sandwich bar and introductions from GMAC leadership! Registration will be open. **Empathetic Leadership and Fostering Positive Work Culture** Vaney Hariri, Chief Culture Officer + Co-Founder Transform Your Workplace Culture. Strengthen Your Business. Unlock the power of a strong, thriving culture with proven strategies to improve employee engagement, leadership, and performance.

https://letsthink3d.com/ 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

4:35 PM - 5:15 PM

5:45 PM - 10:00 PM

10:30 AM - 11:15 AM

11:15 AM - 12:00 PM

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

1:15 PM - 2:10 PM

Sponsored by First PREMIER Bank/Bankcard 3:40 PM - 4:30 PM

Get FUTURE READY Tyler Ashley, National Director, Strategy Execution Boys & Girls Clubs of America In this session, you will learn more about the collective strategic priorities to inspire and empower our members to achieve success and to champion opportunities for all young people. Metro Clubs Native Clubs

Future Ready Breakout Sessions: Continue the discussion about Future Ready initiatives. Groups will be divided in the following ways: Traditional Clubs Camel Races!

Led by Tyler Ashley, Alan Brostoff, Tim Reiplinger, and Wally Graffen Greater Midwest Area Council Annual Business Meeting An Evening of Fun at the home of Scott and Jodi Driscoll Enjoy go-karts, Papa D's food truck, yard games, and the unforgettable A shuttle service will be provided from the hotels and back! Run like a life-sized board game, the Blue Door Derby Camel Race has become the most popular fundraiser in Watertown. A lucky Club will go home with cash winnings if their camel crosses the finish line first! More Camel Race details to come for your Club to get involved! Papa D's, a local favorite, food truck will be serving brisket, pulled pork, chicken wraps, fries, cheese curds, and mini doughnuts!

Hospitality Room available at the Hampton Inn following THURSDAY, JULY 24th - Lake Area Technical College 8:30 AM - 10:15 AM Financial Resiliency and Sustainability Karen Englert, Director of Government Relations, Club Services Bridget Hoffman, Director - Resource Development Club Consultant

State Breakout Sessions

ND/SD - Bridget Hoffman

Engaging the Board - Panel Discussion

IA/NE - Larry Kent, Senior Director of Government Relations

Moderated by Stacy Jones, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Sioux Empire

Boys & Girls Club of the Aberdeen Area, Mike Herman - Aberdeen, SD

Enjoy lunch with your professional peers to share ideas, ask questions, and build supportive relationships with those who understand the challenges and

Boys & Girls Club of Black Hills, John Pence - Lead & Hill City, SD Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities, Jim Franklin & Tom Schnack

Boys & Girls Club of Bemidji, Andrea Kent – Bemidji, MN

Boys & Girls Club of Siouxland, John Olson – Sioux City, IA

What is the digital landscape—and how can we navigate it?

Keith Swingle, Vice President of Business Development for NetVPro,

Nancy Vossen, Director of Information Systems, BGC of Central Minnesota

This session will explore how to manage digital assets, handle licensing, protect against cyber threats, and secure support and funding. Real-world examples will highlight common challenges and offer simple, practical tips you can apply in a Club

Networking Round Table - Lunch & Learn

rewards of your important work.

Resource Development

Program/Operations

Board Members Native Clubs

Breakout Sessions

or business setting.

Operation Impact - What's Up Next?

Impact goals at your local Clubs.

Rich Ohm, Owner, Fallout Shelter

opportunities.

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM

3:20 PM - 4:30 PM

5:30 PM - 10:00 PM

Breakout Sessions

Watertown, South Dakota

connect those in need to help.

School Partnerships

North Dakota

Breakout Sessions

Club of Watertown

tomorrow.

the summer.

Judge Carmen Means, SD Third Judicial Circuit

Liz Brownell, CEO, Boys & Girls Club of Watertown

Mary Swingle, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs Central Minnesota

Wally Graffen, BGCA Midwest Regional Vice President

John Tursi, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Corridor - Cedar Rapids, IA

The Ambassadors from SD/ND, MN and IA/NE, along with Midwest Regional VP, Wally Graffen, will facilitate a conversation about the next steps in the Operation Impact initiative. Now that action plans are put down on paper...how do you execute them, modify them, utilize data, and continue progressing toward the Operation

Stronger Together: Collaborative Approach to Youth Offender Program

Explore how community partnerships can transform the path of justice-involved youth. This panel discussion will highlight the Codington County youth offender

shared accountability, early intervention, and wraparound support help young people take responsibility for their actions while staying connected to positive

program that connects the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown, local law enforcement, court system, counseling services, and other agencies. Together, these partners provide supportive, restorative alternatives to traditional juvenile justice. Learn how

Suicide Prevention: Tools & Resources for Supporting Youth & Communities

This session will provide practical knowledge and tools for suicide prevention and

Certification and explore key resources, referral options, and programs to use in their youth development work—gaining skills to respond with confidence and

Robin Nelson, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley – Fargo,

Robin will share best practices and models of success for operating Club programming in a school-based setting. Learn strategies for building

Staffing Strategies - Catching Keepers: Building Connections

them by building memorable moments into their work experiences.

Steve Steele, CEO, Boys & Girls Club of the Capital Area, Head Football

Learn how to WIN recruitment and retention strategies by building genuine connections with current, new, and prospective employees and retaining

Creating a Compassionate Culture: Implementing Trauma-Informed Care Nat Eastman, Student Success Director, BGC of the Sioux Empire - Sioux Falls

Learn how trauma affects youth—and why your approach to care matters. This session will cover the key elements of trauma-informed care and will identify how to

Dr. Todd Brist, Principal, Watertown Middle School, Board Member, Boys & Girls

challenges, and common stereotypes of each age group—and how these dynamics influence workplace culture and team dynamics (e.g., a Gen X leader managing Gen

This session explores generational differences—highlighting the strengths,

Z staff). We'll then turn our focus to Gen Alpha, examining emerging traits and trends and how they may shape future programs and services. Walk away with insights to foster stronger collaboration today and prepare for the needs of

Take a tour of the Main Club Site of the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown.

Hall of Fame Reception and Dinner - Goss Opera House

The Club was remodeled in 2018 and is a state-of-the-art facility serving 350 kids in

Join us at the beautiful Goss Opera House for an evening of inspiration and celebration as we honor the outstanding individuals who have made a lasting

Boys & Girls Club of Watertown Main Club Site Tour

impact across the Great Midwest Area Council.

Shuttle Service will be provided from the hotels.

Hospitality Room available at the Hampton Inn following

The Hall of Fame Dinner will recognize leaders, innovators, and changemakers whose dedication and achievements have

helped shape the movement in lowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota,

and South Dakota.

incorporate trauma-sensitive approaches to support healing, resilience, and

relationships to leverage out-of-school time success.

Coach, Pierre Governors – Pierre, South Dakota

emotional safety within your Club environment.

Bridging Generational Differences

Kelli Rumpza, Community Prevention Specialist, Human Service Agency –

education. Attendees will learn about the QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer)

Miranda Wright, Diversion Coordinator, Boys & Girls Club of Watertown

Annie Brokenleg, Juvenile Diversion Coordinator - State of South Dakota

Louis Canfield, Director of Diversion Services, BGC of Watertown

Heather Stricherz, Clinical Coordinator, Human Service Agency

Scott Polski, Codington County Deputy State's Attorney

CEO

Boys & Girls Club of Watertown, Liz Brownell – Watertown, SD

Hear from League of Eagles honorees, Area Council, and Alliance Board of

MN - Karen Englert

Clubs Represented: