



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE LOWER NAUGATUCK VALLEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley
Announces New Board President, New Directors**

Shelton, CT, May 2, 2018 – The Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley is pleased to announce its new Board President and five new Directors:

Frederick W. Serra, NFP – President
Harry Burlakoff, Minuteman Press of Shelton – Director
Christopher Douglas, Encon – Director
Dave Jones, Splash Car Wash – Director
Christen Perry, Wellington's Restaurant – Director
Carlo Sarmiento, City of Derby – Director

“Fred has clearly demonstrated his commitment and value as a member of our Board of Directors,” says Shaye Roscoe, Executive Director. “Fred’s company, Serra & DelVecchio, has been a valued supporter of our Club for more than a decade. We look forward to his leadership over the next three years, as well as the experience of our five new Directors: Harry Burlakoff, Christopher Douglas, Dave Jones, Christen Perry, and Carlo Sarmiento.”

Serra, a Club kid himself, brings a wealth of experience to the Boys & Girls Club as a local business owner of 35 years. Serra began serving the Club in 2005 as a Corporator, advancing to a Director, and taking the reins as Back-a-Kid Annual Appeal chairman in 2017, before being tapped for the Presidency.

During his career Serra was the CEO and Chief Mergers and Acquisitions Officer of Serra & DelVecchio Insurance and is now a Managing Director of NFP, the fourth largest independent insurance broker in the country. Serra serves on many local boards and was the past Chairman of the Connecticut Benefit Brokers.

Fred, his wife, Lisa, and their six children and grandchildren all live in the Valley.

“I have worked in private business my entire career, and many of my clients were nonprofit organizations,” says Serra. “I understand their unique needs, and my number one goal is to build on the strong Board the Club currently has—creative thinkers that are passionate about our mission.”

The newest Directors were inducted onto the Board at the Club’s annual meeting and are part of the organization’s strategic plan to enhance the diversity and industry knowledge of the Board.



“Our new Directors have a broad range of experience and lots of enthusiasm, which will help us execute our vision and keep pace with the rapidly growing needs of our community and the kids we serve,” says Roscoe.

Harry Burlakoff of Minuteman Press Shelton has been involved in our community since opening his business in 2009. Harry joined the Greater Valley Chamber of Commerce, the Seeds to Leads Networking Group, the Valley United Way’s Corporate Volunteer Council, and the Exchange Club of Shelton. Giving is in Harry’s nature, and he goes above and beyond assisting our Boys & Girls Club, as well as the other nonprofits in our region. Harry is a graduate of the Leadership Greater Valley Class of 2015.

Chris Douglas is co-President of Encon, which he joined in 1982 as a service technician. Known as one of the hardest working men in the industry, Chris quickly acquired the experience and education necessary to advance into sales and engineering in 1987. He has extensive industry knowledge of commercial HVAC design, installation, and building controls. Chris holds professional licenses in heating, piping, cooling, electrical, and solar. As a charismatic executive with a dedication to excellence, Chris leads by example and sets a high standard for the entire company. Chris is an alumnus of the Boys & Girls Club. While attending the Club he enjoyed spending time in the fitness room and participating in the floor hockey league. He joined the Board as a way of giving back. Chris and his wife reside in Shelton.

Dave Jones is originally from Monroe and now resides in Shelton with his wife of six years and his two infant sons. He has been employed with Splash Car Wash in Shelton for 14 years. He played high school baseball and football and attended community college. While growing up, Dave’s father taught him that “when people are different they may need a helping hand, so use your God-given ability to help others.” Dave found himself always helping out those who were different. Dave joined our Board of Directors because he realized that the Boys & Girls Club was much more than a place to play sports. It was a place where kids who may feel different because of their circumstances can find a safe haven and guidance for their future.

Christen Perry has been familiar with the Boys & Girls Club her whole life. Her father, Leon Sylvester, was a Board member for xx years, and her husband, Ben Perry, is a Club alumni as well as a past Board member. Christen received her degree in Business Management from Post College and has worked at Market Data and the Ascot Club, and is now with Wellington’s Restaurant, all in Shelton. Christen, Ben, and their daughters live in Shelton.

Carlo Sarmiento was born in Argentina, and he and his family came to the United States in 1981. He now serves the City of Derby as the Building official, Planning and Zoning Enforcement Agent, the Blight Officer, and the Relocation Officer. Carlo is an accomplished cook and donates much of his time helping charitable organizations and nonprofits with their catered events. In addition to serving on our Board, he is a member of the Valley Angels as well as the Sargent in Arms for The Fourth Watch.



Boys & Girls Clubs fill the gap between school and home. The Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley provides a welcoming, positive environment in which kids and teens have fun, participate in life-changing programs, and build supportive relationships with peers and caring adults. More than 3,300 kids in four units attend our programs on a yearly basis.

For more information about the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley, visit www.BGC-LNV.org.

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