

## Rand named Boys and Girls Club chief

By Whitney Helm Staff writer | Posted: Saturday, December 26, 2015 10:00 am

BELOIT — It's back to his old stomping grounds for Mark Rand.

Rand replaces Fred Buggs as the Stateline Boys and Girls Club's chief professional officer. Buggs worked for the club since 2005 until he resigned in August.

Rand is a Beloit native and aside from leaving to go college at University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, has lived in the city his entire life.

"My involvement with the Boys and Girls Club here started as a kid. I was a member as a kid and used to come in high school and did a project on the organization in college. For the last 12 to 13 years, I've been involved here as a volunteer. All three of my boys have been involved in sports here," Rand said.

Rand, who is a former School District of Beloit school board member, started in the position at the Boys and Girls Club on Dec. 8, and described his first day as normal. After getting set up with all the computer files, it was all about meeting the kids and staff.

Still, he said his biggest achievement on his first day was not getting too far ahead of himself.

"My biggest anxiety was to slow myself down. I had so many ideas, I had to realize it's a marathon, not a sprint. It was very exciting meeting with full-time staff and letting them know what my expectations are," Rand said.

Though it's not a sprint, one piece of business Rand wants to complete is a five-year strategic plan for the organization.

"Making an impact on the community has always been the fiber of who I am and I think the greatest impact we can make with kids," he said.

The Stateline Boys and Girls Club has two locations in the area — the E.J. Dalton Beloit Boys & Girls Club at 1851 Moore St., in Beloit, and the South Beloit Boys & Girls Club at 1169 Dorr Road, South Beloit. It serves more than 200 kids daily.



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