

# COMMUNITY CORNER

## NEWSLETTER

February 2021 | Winter



## Community Happenings

- Peer Mentorship matching 2/1/21
- Emotional Intelligence Presentation 2/12/21
- Mental Health First Aid 2/27/21
- Community event at Top Golf 2/27/21

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### Hello Go Further Community!

Happy 2021 all! I hope everyone's New Year's resolutions are still holding strong! GFF had a great January, which began with the completion of our first ever GFF New Member Orientation! This orientation was graciously hosted by The ACA Club of Overland Park, and included a group of incoming mentors, mentees, and additional GFF support members (both in-person and virtually).

During the New Member Orientation, the group reviewed GFF program details spanning from peer mentorship to executive coaching workshops, upcoming community events (including Harvester's Food Bank and Mental Health First Aid, sponsored by Johnson County Mental Health), as well as overall GFF community expectations where the acronym YOGOWYPI was energetically introduced.

YOGOWYPI – "You Only Get Out What You Put In" is a phrase I heard back at a middle school assembly that

has always stuck with me and is applicable to various life experiences. From sports, to jobs, to personal relationships, and everything in between, this fun little saying helps level set expectations we should have for ourselves when approaching what we take on in life. This applies to the GFF program through the relationship between the mentee and mentor, getting involved in community events or executive coaching workshops, interest groups, exploring the developmental curriculum, and so much more. The list of opportunities and resources that young professionals can take advantage of by joining the Go Further Foundation is long and can be maximized by just remembering... YOGOWYPI!

January was also an exciting month for some external GFF meetings! Yes, meetings can still be exciting and fun! Our team has been building relationships with several professionals to help gather expertise in topics such as grant writing, fundraising, human resources, and organizational strategy. I am happy to announce that we have added some fire power to our leadership team. The Board voted to add **Colleen Geller** as the new Director of Organizational Development. Her main focuses will include developing and implementing GFF objectives and key results, as well as working as a match specialist for our peer mentorship program. Colleen will be pivotal in GFF's long term strategy and we are very excited to have her a part of the team!



Additionally, we released our first executive coaching session with **Doug Booker**, an acclaimed Leadership Consultant and Author. We discussed topics addressing approaches to different types of leadership styles within managerial positions, the impact on culture, and overall advice for young professionals as they navigate their first job. My favorite piece of advice from Mr. Booker was to, “make sure to get coffee with that boss, friend, colleague BEFORE you need something from them”. This speaks to the importance of building effective relationships and the impact they can have on your personal and professional life. By establishing this positive relationship, a request for help feels much more like a favor from a friend, rather

than a demand from a stranger. There is never a shortage of knowledge nuggets from Mr. Booker! If you don't believe me, check him out on LinkedIn!

Our GFF team is very devoted to building positive relationships with both organizations and individuals that share the same passion in regard to making an impact on their communities. This January we also began cultivating a strategic partnership with a national organization that prides itself on defending potential. For now, that's the only hint I'm providing, stay tuned for the next publication to learn more!

As always, I wanted to thank you all for your continued support for GFF. If you're interested in keeping up with what we're up to more regularly, please follow our Facebook or LinkedIn pages @GoFurtherFoundation. I look forward to talking to you all soon!

**Be Well,  
Mark Potts**

