

**Press Release
For Immediate Release**

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YMCAs Enter into Management Agreement

March 9, 2022 – The YMCA of the Cass and Clay Counties and the Fergus Falls Area Family YMCA have entered into a Management Agreement for shared CEO services that will begin March 15, 2022.

The Fargo and Fergus Falls Board of Directors came to this agreement following conversations between the two Ys supported by the Upper Midwest Alliance of YMCAs and YMCA of the USA. Currently, the Fergus Falls Y is under the management of Interim CEO, Pat Riemersma, who has been acting in that role since September 2021.

"Pat has done an exceptional job leading our YMCA," stated Board President, Kendra Olson. Olson went on to say, *"Our Board of Directors has been very deliberate about selecting our Y's next leader. Pat has been a tremendous asset to us as we considered our options for the future of our Y."*

Riemersma shared, *"Interim CEOs are only allowed to support a YMCA for a 12-month period. As we considered leadership options, we reached out to the leadership of the YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties in Fargo, ND. They've been great to work with and their CEO, Steve Smith, is a fantastic leader that brings a great deal of experience to our community."*

The decision to move forward with the management agreement was made after both parties reviewed other management agreement models and identified key deliverables between the two organizations.

Olson shared, *"The purpose of this management agreement is to provide opportunities for collaboration between our two organizations in addition to developing long-term goals for each organization separately."*

NEWS FROM THE YMCA



At any singular time during the course of a year, over 100 Ys across the country may be in a management agreement. This agreement will be in effect for 12 months. At the conclusion of the 12-month period, both Boards will examine the success of the agreement and will determine the next steps.

"This is exciting for both Ys. Each organization has valuable staff leaders, who will share and learn from each other. It allows us to examine efficiencies and identify opportunities that will help us continue to provide great YMCA programs and services in our region." mentioned Steve Smith, CEO, YMCA of Cass and Clay Counties.

The Y strengthens the foundation of our community through fitness programs, youth camps, swimming lessons, and team sports for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities. We are more than just a place to work out. At the Y, we help build a healthy spirit, mind, and body for all while remaining true to our core values of caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility.
