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Girls on the Run International Announces Three New Board Members

New board members to enhance Girls on the Run mission of empowering young women in the U.S. and Canada

Charlotte, N.C. – January 28, 2022: Girls on the Run International (GOTRI) is pleased to announce the appointment of three new board members: Dara Bazzano, Monika Goyal, MD, MSCE and Scott Lilly. The new officers will help advance the organization’s goal of connecting girls to programming that builds joy, confidence and a lifelong appreciation of health and wellness.

“Dara, Monika and Scott are innovative, strategic and accomplished leaders and we are thrilled to welcome them to our board. The unique skills and expertise they possess will fuel our ability to achieve organizational goals and reach new heights,” said Elizabeth Kunz, chief executive officer, Girls on the Run International. “With their leadership, I am confident that more participants will have the opportunity to recognize their inner strength now so they can unleash their limitless potential in the future.”

Dara Bazzano is senior vice president and chief accounting officer at T-Mobile US, Inc., the second biggest wireless carrier in the United States. She previously served as chief accounting officer at CBRE Group, Inc. (CBRE), the world’s largest commercial real estate services and investment firm. Before joining CBRE, Dara had the role of global controller and chief accounting officer at The Gap, Inc. Prior to that experience, Dara served as an assurance partner at PwC and KPMG where she served numerous roles over 13 years.

“As someone deeply passionate about female empowerment, intentional programming that supports emotional needs and creating a world where more girls are brave enough to follow their dreams, joining the Girls on the Run board of directors is an ideal opportunity,” said Dara. “I am so appreciative to be working alongside other thought leaders who similarly recognize the importance of supporting girls’ passions, creating safe spaces of belonging and fostering healthy relationships that last a lifetime.”

Dr. Monika Goyal is a pediatric emergency medicine physician and serves as associate chief, director of academic affairs and research, for the Division of Emergency Medicine at Children’s National Hospital in Washington D.C. Further, she leads a National Institutes of Health-funded research program which seeks to eradicate health disparities through the development and implementation of technology-enhanced interventions in the emergency department.

“I am honored to serve on the board of Girls on the Run,” said Dr. Goyal. “It is an exemplary organization that strives to impact the health of girls through physical activity, team building, leadership and self-confidence.”

Scott Lilly is an experienced human resource professional and has worked in both the for-profit and non-profit arenas. He currently is a manager in the Software Engineering organization, where he leads a team that provides strategic and tactical operations support. Prior to joining Apple, he spent eight years at Thurgood Marshall College Fund advancing to serve as its chief programs officer. Scott also worked at Inter/ActiveCorp/IAC, a Fortune 500 New Media Technology Company in a number of human resource roles where he was passionate about creating environments where everyone could thrive.
"As a native of Charlotte, N.C., I was familiar with Girls on the Run and was impressed with their approach to empowering girls through an experience-based curriculum that creatively integrates running," said Scott. "Recent times have demonstrated young people need the tools to allow them to navigate uncertainty and Girls on the Run has research-backed programming that focuses on building social, emotional and physical skills while encouraging healthy habits for life. To be asked to join the board is a privilege and I look forward to contributing to the mission."

Girls on the Run board members play an integral role in advancing the Girls on the Run mission by providing thought leadership, vision and strategic direction to the organization. To learn more about Girls on the Run and its programs, please visit www.girlsontherun.org.

About Girls on the Run

Founded in 1996 with 13 girls, Girls on the Run, an international nonprofit organization, has now served over 2 million girls. Over the course of the program, girls in 3rd-8th grade develop essential social, emotional and physical skills to successfully navigate life experiences. The program culminates with girls positively impacting their communities through a service project and being physically and emotionally prepared to complete a celebratory 5K event. With the largest 5K series by number of events in the world, Girls on the Run hosts more than 330 5Ks per year. Girls on the Run is included as a top research-based program in a Social-Emotional Learning Guide developed by researchers at Harvard University and has been recognized by the National Afterschool Association (NAA) as one of the most influential after-school programs. Visit www.girlsontherun.org to learn how to get involved in your community.