

Dear Gateway Professionals,

It has been remarkable to watch as our Foundation has grown over the last two years. We have had the privilege of being guided by the talents of Ralph Tiffany and Barbara Blanchar. These two individuals were responsible for spearheading the relationship with the Imagine Academy of Environmental Science and Math. Through their hard work and efforts, we have grown our Inter-City School Program to reach over a 1,000 kids in two different schools. This last year we have also launched a junior program that has a vision of growing the game through our local school districts. Eight different golf professionals came together to expose the game of golf to the students at Bellerive Elementary School. With the success of this program, we are being asked to grow our involvement within the Parkway School District. We can proudly report that we have tangible evidence of introducing and committing new golfers to this great game.

I take great pleasure in introducing a new chapter in our Foundation. With the money raised at the Foundation Pro-Am on June 16-17, the Gateway PGA Foundation has the revenue to launch a mentor program. This program is going to be a joint venture between the professionals of our association and the students of the Innovative Concept Academy. For those unaware of the ICA, please click [HERE](#). The students of the ICA are some of St. Louis' most incorrigible youth. They have been released from the Missouri Public School system for behavioral issues. This special school was started to provide these individuals with a second chance. The Gateway PGA Foundation made a resounding impact on the lives of these individuals through the introduction of golf in April – May of this year. In a follow-up survey, the youth of this school responded with a 74% favorability of wanting a Gateway PGA Mentor to be part of their lives. In reading the results of this survey, I feel an obligation for our Association and its members.

The Gateway PGA Foundation looks to launch our mentor program by the end of the summer/beginning of fall. We would like to take down the names of our professionals who would be willing to commit time out of their schedule. We would look to our professionals to provide an experience for these individuals on a bi-weekly to monthly basis. The experiences could include: A trip to a St. Louis monument or place of interest, an hour on the golf course or practice facility, and lunch or dinner. The things that we do on a daily basis and take for granite are the things that these individuals have never experienced. The Foundation will reimburse professionals for their incurred expenses and will also pay a professional fee for your time and talent. More details will be released shortly.

Please take the time to click [HERE](#) and put your name on this list and commit your talents to the betterment of the underprivileged youth of the Gateway PGA. I promise you that you will get as much, if not more, out of this commitment than the kids of ICA. Thank you for considering this cause and supporting your Foundation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A-Riley". The letters are stylized and somewhat cursive.

Josh Riley, PGA  
Executive Director - Gateway PGA