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## **Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis Announces New Executive Director**

**St. Louis – December 29, 2014 – [Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis](http://www.boyshopegirlshopestl.org)**, a nonprofit organization that empowers at-risk youth to achieve their full academic potential, today announced the appointment of Robert “Deacon” Farrelly as its new Executive Director. Effective immediately, Farrelly will lead the nationally recognized youth development program, which currently helps nearly 75 young people in the St. Louis area through its residential and non-residentially based college preparatory, access and completion services.

“Deacon is a mission-centered, collaborative leader who is poised to lead Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis as it expands to meet the needs of additional deserving youth in our community,” said Bernie Schweiss, Board President of Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis. “With his exceptional credentials in youth development, residential program management and business development, we are confident that he is the right man to move our organization forward.”

Farrelly brings more than 25 years of combined experience in business development, residential program management and the provision of direct, supervisory, clinical behavioral health and coaching services to children, adolescents and families. Most recently, he served as a clinician for The Counseling Center at St. John’s Mercy. As executive director of Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis, Farrelly will lead the expansion efforts of the organization, which currently operates two homes and a non-residential outreach program for at-risk youth in the St. Louis area.

“I’m thrilled for the opportunity to join Boys Hope Girls Hope at a time when the organization is poised to increase its investment in the future leaders of our community,” says Farrelly. “This is a remarkable organization whose mission is to remove barriers for children-in-need so that they may embark on lives of academic success, career productivity and servant leadership.”

Farrelly replaces former Executive Director Brian Hipp as he transitions to the role of Western Regional Director for Boys Hope Girls Hope International. Hipp will continue to support the ongoing success of Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis and the other seven affiliate cities in the Western region in a consultative and capacity-building role.

For more information about Boys Hope Girls Hope, including information about how others can get involved or donate, visit [www.boyshopegirlshopestl.org](http://www.boyshopegirlshopestl.org).

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### **About Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis**

Headquartered in Creve Coeur, Missouri, Boys Hope Girls Hope of St. Louis helps academically capable and motivated children-in-need to meet their full potential and become men and women for others by providing value-centered, family-like homes, opportunities and education through college. The local program currently serves 14 middle and high school students in residence and 50 in the non-residential Hope Prep Academy in the Ferguson-Florissant School District as well as eight collegians.

Founded in St. Louis in 1977, Boys Hope Girls Hope has affiliates in 14 other U.S. cities and four other countries. Since 1991, every Boys Hope Girls Hope scholar has gone on to postsecondary education and 74 percent of scholars have completed college or are on the road to completion. Alumni lead productive careers and serve their local communities in various capacities, including volunteerism as Boys Hope Girls Hope board and committee members and scholar tutors and mentors. For more information, visit [www.boyshopegirlshopestl.org](http://www.boyshopegirlshopestl.org).