

Aryal, Visger elected to WWF board of directors

DICKINSON, ND – Tony Visger of ConocoPhillips and Urja Aryal of ABLE Inc. are the newest members of the Western Wellness Foundation (WWF) board of directors.

The WWF is the parent organization of the Best Friends Mentoring Program (BFMP). Aryal and Visger will help set policy and guide decisions for BFMP, which provides mentoring services to more than 130 youth in Dickinson as well as Stark, Bowman and western Morton counties.

Visger is an instrumentation and engineering specialist with ConocoPhillips in Dickinson, where he lives with his wife, Kara, and two children. Originally from Wisconsin, Visger earned a degree in criminal justice and worked in law enforcement in Rapid City, SD. Since moving to Dickinson, he has served as a substitute teacher in the Dickinson Public Schools, as a Mustang Baseball coach and in the oilfield since 2012.

A native of Nepal, Aryal became a BFMP mentor in 2015 while an international student at Dickinson State University (DSU), and has continued to become rooted in the community after graduating in 2017. While continuing her mentoring relationship and taking on volunteer leadership roles at BFMP events, Aryal also works for ABLE Inc. as a support coordinator. The Rotary Club of Dickinson named Aryal a "Rising Star" for her numerous leadership roles.

"Both Tony and Urja bring solid leadership dynamics to our organization," said Kris Fehr, executive director of WWF. "They are well known in the community for their volunteerism. We are very fortunate to have their perspectives and vision on our board."

The board also appointed Caleb Burgard, a facility supervisor for Dickinson Parks and Recreation as its new vice-president. He replaces Chase Breitbach, who resigned from his position to pursue a new post with the Southwest District Juvenile Court. Breitbach will continue to support BFMP and the WWF Board through a new advisory role.

To group also tabbed Amanda Lindvig, an assistant vice president and mortgage loan officer for Gate City Bank as its new secretary/treasurer. She will replace Kevin Moberg, an assistant professor of English and Education at DSU, who is completing three consecutive terms on the board spanning nine years.

Carter Fong, a field agent with the Knights of Columbus Insurance, chairs the WWF Board.