



Women in Sports Helping Inspire the Next Generation



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NEWS RELEASE

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New Nonprofit Gives High School Women Opportunities to Explore Careers in the Sports Industry

Women in Sports Helping Inspire the Next Generation (WISHING) focuses on mentorship, scholarships, and job shadowing to level the playing field for all women.

MISSION, KANSAS — A new nationwide nonprofit called Women in Sports Helping Inspire the Next Generation (WISHING) strives to level the playing field for all women by giving high school juniors and seniors opportunities to explore careers in the sports industry. WISHING prioritizes partnering with Title I schools but is open to all students.

Founded in November 2022 by 25-year old Stoughton, Wisconsin native Kristen Nett, WISHING is a 501(c)(3) that provides one-on-one mentoring, job shadowing opportunities, and scholarships for junior and senior women in high school. The program runs from September to May and requires a time commitment of three hours per month from participating students.

“I saw a need to help give high school women opportunities to explore careers in the sports industry, so they could leave high school feeling empowered,” Nett said. “WISHING was founded to provide equal opportunities for all women and to give them access to educational and financial resources to pursue a career in the sports industry. I am excited to partner with hundreds of women in sports across the nation to give young women the opportunity to learn about a career in sports.”

In just three months, WISHING has partnered with schools from 15 states to implement the program, customizing it to each school’s specific needs. Schools are participating from several states including Virginia, Utah, North Carolina, Missouri, Kansas and Tennessee.

WISHING has more than 200 mentors from over 35 different states. Mentors are employed across the sports industry by colleges and universities and organizations such as Major League Baseball, the National Basketball Association, the National Football League, the National Hockey League, Special Olympics and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

The organization's leadership team consists of vice presidents Ty Smith (Fredericksburg, Virginia) and Glenda Davis (Cleveland, Ohio), regional coordinators Samantha Rubin (Madison, Wisconsin) and Himani Mor (Amherst, Massachusetts), and Nett (Mission, Kansas), who serves as the president.

"WISHING is an incredible program that will encourage future generations of females to set their goals high and never stop working until they achieve them," Smith said. "Our goal is to increase the number of women in sports, especially those in leadership positions."

To sign up as a mentor or mentee, visit wishingmentors.wixsite.com/wishing. To implement WISHING in an entire district or school, or to learn more about supporting WISHING, email wishingmentors@gmail.com.

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Founded in November 2022, Women in Sports Helping Inspire the Next Generation (WISHING) is a 501(c)(3) with a vision to diversify the sports industry while creating equal opportunities for all women and a mission to provide women in Title I high schools opportunities to learn about a career in the sports industry. For more information, visit wishingmentors.wixsite.com/wishing.