# Newsletter



## Meet Our New President,

Jared Weston





Hometown: Marion, OH High School: River Valley

Sport: Basketball

Family: Marguerite (wife of 12 yrs), 2 Daughters (Adalynn (10) & Rylann (8))

College: University of Toledo (BA, MLS)

Favorite Sports Teams: All Cleveland

Professional: 20yrs in collegiate athletic fundraising, corporate partnerships, leadership development, and studentathlete development

For Fun: Anything outdoors with the kiddos, basketball, golf, learning guitar

Favorite 5P: "People" - We are all better together





# **Alumni Spotlight**





#### Shanvanth R. Arnipalli Central Ohio: Class of 2017

### What is your greatest take away from

Handshake America?

Handshake America has taught me the value of mentorship and community, wherein, with the help of these pillars I am able to leverage my strengths and personality to build camaraderie and love myself through adversity to navigate crucibles in life.

#### Where are you now?

I have been selected to receive a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Grant in Taiwan for the 2023-2024 cycle. I am thrilled to embark on this journey to further develop my professional attributes as well as to grow personally. Moreover, I hope this time away from my current academic commitments would serve as a refresher for my graduate career path.

What do you do for fun? I cook, take walks, and read!





# **Mark Your** Calendar

**MAY 2023** 

#### **Central Ohio**

- The Huddle Thursday, June 22nd @ The Fives
- Golf Classic Monday, July 24th @ OSU Scarlet Golf Club

#### **Metro Atlanta**

• The Huddle - Saturday, June 17th @ Chastain Park

#### **Western North Carolina**

• The Huddle - Tuesday, June 20th @ Lake Toxaway



Meet Coach Gina



# Getting to know Coach Gina Vlasek



#### Where do you work?

I work at a healthcare company called OPTUM and support a team of approximately 20 behavioral health EAP counselors who are placed at various sites across the country. I am a licensed professional counselor (LPC) in Georgia and love working in behavioral health.

#### What's it like being a Handshake America Coach?

I was a Handshake America Coach for 4 years from 2019-2022. It was a joy to connect with the students and watch them grow and develop during a pivotal year in their lives. I walked away from each and every meeting inspired by the students' level of depth and insight during group conversations, and I continue to keep in touch with some of them. Further, it has also been a great experience to be surrounded by many wise and talented coaches.

#### How has this role impacted you?

Volunteering at Handshake America reminded me how important community is to me. Having a sense of belonging to something outside of work, family and friends adds to my overall sense of well-being and fulfillment.

#### What do you do for fun?

I love to travel, especially to national parks and foreign countries. I've been to some beautiful locations such as Yosemite National Park, Manuel Antonio National Park in Costa Rica, Machu Picchu and Iceland. I also enjoy getting together with friends and family, watching professional tennis or the Braves, hiking and going to concerts.



## **PROGRAM UPDATES**

#### **EXPANDED REACH**

- Western North Carolina (2021)
- Metro Atlanta (2017)
- Central Ohio (2011)

#### COACHING

Team-Based Coaching
3 Volunteer Coaches + 6 Student-Athletes

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

- Awarded \$512,500 in Postsecondary Scholarships to 402 Student-Athletes
- Alumni enrolled in 115 colleges in 24 states

# **JOIN THE TEAM**

- As a <u>Coach</u>
- As a <u>Regional Volunteer</u>
- As a <u>School Partner</u>
- As a **Corporate Teammate**
- As a <u>Financial Teammate</u>

**Your Regional Leaders** 

Central Ohio - <u>Joel Juday</u>

Metro Atlanta - <u>Tommy Kramer</u>

Western Carolina - Doug Probst

# **Handshake America Class of 2023**







#### SPECIAL THANKS to our NATIONAL TEAMMATES

#### **LEADERS**

Penny & Rick

Patty & Doug

JACKSON

PROBST

DESIGNER BRANDS

GOLD

Trisha & Bill Cindy & Dave JORDAN

Rov

Ronnie Ruth & Keith

PROBST PROBST ROBINSON STEPHENSON

Deloitte.



#### SILVER

Jessica & Adam Rachel & Joel Bonnie & Steve Robyn & Ron Angela & Roger Lisa & Paul Debra & Brian Jennie & Mark Michelle & Chris CHAIT JUDAY

KNIER

RANSOM

RAWLINS

Bill

SHREVE SINGLETON

Matt

WILSON









Kurt

Brenda & Bob Elaine & Bart BARKLEY

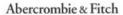
BOYER BURGDOERFER BUSSEWITZ ESPOSITO GATTERDAM HOLEHOUSE KRAMER LANNING MARTIN MORLAN

Barry

Judy & Chris

Dave Cody

Larry Kellie & Drew Jill & Peter Stephen Paul Mark Adam Lauren Jared Beth PRUSIECKI RISCH RISCH ROGERS SCHROEDER VISK WALKERLY WEINGARTNER WENDLING MORALES MURPHY POFF

















**IN-KIND TEAMMATES** 











