



## YMCA CEO TOM DEN BOER RESPONDS TO NEGATIVE CAMPAIGN

**Janesville, Wisconsin** (January 24, 2019) – YMCA CEO Tom Den Boer is responding to various reports in the media which have attempted to paint him and his work as the CEO of the Northern Rock County YMCA in a negative light. Dr. Den Boer states, “During my thirteen years as CEO of Northern Rock County YMCA, I have been a faithful steward of the Y’s mission to put the Christian principles of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility into practice. I have always worked diligently to advance the mission of the YMCA and established strong lines of communications with members, the board, and the public.” He added, “It has been difficult to read recent comments about my work at the YMCA, many of which have no basis in fact or are founded on innuendo. I look forward to working with the Board to resolve any issues.”

Jason Engledow, a former YMCA Board member and President, agreed that Tom has been an asset to the YMCA. “As a former YMCA Board member and YMCA President for over 9 years, I would note what Tom has accomplished in 13 years along with the YMCA staff, which has been tremendous for the community.” He continued, “Tom’s leadership was instrumental with the successful implementation in 2008 of the comprehensive aquatic center at the Downtown Janesville YMCA as well as the successful capital campaign of raising over 4 million dollars for the Parker YMCA in Milton, WI in 2013. Tom accomplished this during the Great Recession in 2008 and the economic environment changes that followed the Great Recession.” Mr. Engledow also described his impressions of working with Tom. “In general, I find Tom’s leadership to be mission focused while at the same maintaining successful operations. He also advances relationship-based fundraising campaigns which provide scholarships for children and families.” He also noted that “Tom’s salary is based upon his performance of meeting seven standards and objectives on an annual basis which has been the same format used for his evaluation since 2005 when he was hired.” Mr. Engledow concluded, “Tom could run any organization profit or non-profit. He would be a very valuable acquisition for any YMCA or non-profit looking for a new CEO; those organizations would feel very fortunate to have Tom as their CEO.”

Dr. Den Boer’s attorney, Colin Good, of Hawks Quindel in Madison, stated, “It has been disappointing watching this internal issue being played out publicly. I am concerned that the people orchestrating this campaign to oust Dr. Den Boer are very close to engaging in defamation, either through their comments or correspondence, if they haven’t done so already. Communications which are false and harm or diminish the reputation of another in the community, such as those meritless allegations being leveled at Dr. Den Boer, are tantamount to defamation.” Attorney Good continued “We look forward to working with the Board to resolve any issues they present but steadfastly believe Dr. Den Boer has been a dedicated and trustworthy employee.”