

# Barry Spear State Chairman



Barry Spear is the Vice President of System Development for the Iowa Health™ System based in Des Moines Iowa. He has been a high school teacher, sales consultant, sales manager, economic development director and healthcare marketing and planning administrator.

Mr. Spear was graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Secondary Education from the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls and also with a Master of Arts in Education Administration from Northeast Missouri State University in Kirksville.

He is married to Cari, a registered nurse and legal nurse consultant and has two children, Kevin a cancer treatment specialist and Stephanie and emergency room physician.

Barry is an active community volunteer and lists the following organizations and leadership positions; Make a Wish Foundation of Iowa (founder and board member since 1986); United Way (Cedar Rapids Campaign Chair and Des Moines Committee chair); March of Dimes Walk America chairman; Big Brothers Big Sisters; Iowa Mentoring Partnership (Board Chair); Partnership for a Drug Free Iowa (Board Chair-4 terms); Face it Together Coalition (board member fighting meth addiction and production); Iowa Committee for Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (state chair); a 2006 invitee to the Iowa Business Council Deputy committee. Spear was also just appointed to the Governor's Commission on Volunteerism and will serve until 2010.

His responsibilities at Iowa Health™ include retreat facilitation; leadership training and recruitment; healthy community project development; philanthropy leadership; early child hood education health curriculum development; adolescent traumatic injury prevention; and health system growth and development.

"In 2002, I was asked to represent the state of Iowa as one of three attendees to the National Security Briefing at the U.S. Army War College in Pennsylvania. In short, we received high level classified briefings from the CIA, the FBI, the NSA, the Joint Chiefs and also a think tank involved in restoration of economies in war torn countries. It was a life changing experience for me and upon my return to Iowa, I made it known that if I could ever contribute in any way to the defense of our country, I wanted to pursue it. Today, I read the newspaper and listen to media broadcasts very differently. In the Fall of 2005, I was nominated for the Secretary of Defense appointment to chair the Iowa Committee. It's not only an honor.... It's my responsibility," Spear said when asked why he volunteers with the Iowa ESGR committee.