

## MIKE OBERHAUS

*Board Member since 2011  
Executive Committee Member  
Fundraising Committee Member  
Board Chair 2018-2019*

Mike Oberhaus has two main goals every week: Run at least four days; and run no fewer than 12 miles total. Running may be in his blood, but he admits it was never in his family before he got hooked at age 11. “I actually came from a family of wrestlers,” he chuckles. “I was the oddball.” But it was a desire to fit in and hang with a close friend’s older sibling that got him running in the first place. “I was surprised. It was enjoyable!” Oberhaus remembers. He found it to be therapeutic, challenging, and rejuvenating all at the same time. And it still gives him a natural high, even after all these years. “You’re able to get away, decompress, get in aerobic exercise *and* time alone. It even helps your critical thinking,” the Vice President of Finance and

Administration with the Quad Cities Chamber says. And those ongoing benefits drove him, at a young age, to start eating healthier. He saw a direct correlation with what he put in his body and his performance on the track. He’ll be the first to tell you he’s no “health freak,” but he has a passion for creating a healthier community {QCHI’s mission} – especially for our young people. As Superintendent of the Rock Island-Milan School District for nearly a decade he said health issues were often front and center for many students—primarily because they struggled to find providers. “I saw firsthand how it diminished their well-being. It’s hard to be successful when you don’t feel well.” He says it was an easy choice to join QCHI (where he’s served on the Board since 2011). Making sure all sectors of the community continue to come to the table is still near and dear to Oberhaus’s heart. “If we want to be a healthy community we have to make it affordable and accessible for all.”



**QUAD CITY**  
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# Board Stories

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