

Barry Wilfahrt – President/CEO



Barry was named President and CEO of The Chamber Grand Forks, ND/East Grand Forks, MN in January of 2008. The Chamber focuses on relevance, advocacy for business and providing tangible value to its 1,100 Chamber members. During his time, The Chamber has also achieved financial strength and plays a lead role in key community issues at local, state and national levels. The Chamber has been part of a highly successful collaborative effort to maintain GFAFB, create an emerging Unmanned Aviation sector, workforce development efforts, and extensive community engagement in a community visioning processes focused on social offerings, economic diversification, openness and aesthetics and implementation of its action plan. Barry has had a 40 plus year chamber career as CEO in Melrose, MN;

Crookston, MN and Watertown SD, Before accepting his current position in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks.

Barry also owns Stateline LLC, a billboard company in South Dakota, and has a lobbying/consulting firm. Wilfahrt continues to be the registered lobbyist for the ND and SD Professional Appraisers Associations.

Barry has served on more than 170 national, state and local boards over his career. He also continues to serve on the prestigious US Chamber's "Committee of 100" and is one of just 15 US Air Force appointed Air Combat Command Civic Leaders.

Barry has a BS degree in Government from Saint John's University in Collegeville, MN and his MA degree in Urban Studies from Minnesota State University where he was awarded Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Fellowship. Barry is also a graduate of the US Chamber Institute for Organizational Management Program (IOM), US Chamber Academy Program and is a Certified Chamber Executive (CCE).

Barry and his wife Kristi have 7 children and 6 grandchildren in their blended family.