



## **Bottom Line - Chicago Elects Brad Couri Board Chair**

Chicago, Ill. – August 31, 2016 – Bottom Line has elected Brad Couri as Chair of its Chicago Board of Directors. Couri succeeds Dr. Harold Wilde, President Emeritus of North Central College who will remain on the Board as Chair of the Governance Committee.

Couri currently acts as Managing Principal of Chicago Fundamental Investment Partners, a Chicago investment management firm with over \$800 million of assets under management.

"We are incredibly grateful to have attracted such a committed cadre of Board members to accelerate our growth across the city," noted Bottom Line's Chicago Executive Director, Chris Broughton. "Brad's passionate commitment to our shared mission combined with his experience launching his own firm in Chicago are a huge asset for us as we continue to scale across the city."

Couri first joined the Chicago Board of Directors in 2015 and served on the host committee for its inaugural Get In, Graduate, and Go Far Luncheon in 2016. He and his business partner and fellow Board member, Levoyd Robinson, also pioneered a unique Summer Fellowship Program focused on enhancing students' career professional development.

"I am extremely excited about the opportunity to deepen my engagement and help Bottom Line grow and prosper in Chicago," remarked Couri. "Making sure low-income, first-generation students not only get in but also graduate from college is of critical importance for our city and its future. Bottom Line is well-positioned to address this huge unmet need in Chicago by scaling its highly effective and cost-efficient program model, which it has spent the last 20 years developing and improving.

Prior to co-founding CFI Partners in 2005, Couri served as Managing Director at Citadel Investment Group, LLC, where he was responsible for Citadel's multi-billion dollar fundamental credit portfolios. Earlier in his career, Couri was the founder and Portfolio Manager of the Distressed Investment Group at Bank of Montreal and held various positions at First Chicago Corporation. Couri graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame and earned his J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law, with honors.

### **About Bottom Line**

Bottom Line's mission is to help low-income, first-generation students get into college, graduate from college, and go far in life. Founded in 1997, the organization initially served 25 high school seniors in Boston but has grown dramatically over the last two decades to serve more than 6,200 students across Massachusetts, New York City, and Chicago. Bottom Line's full-time, trained counselors deliver intensive, one-on-one advising from application all the way through college graduation. The Chicago Region launched in July 2014 and has grown quickly to serve nearly 700 students this year on its way to serving 2,000 Chicago students annually by 2020.