

Influential Women Showcase Gulsah Mattson: Area President At Gallagher Leading HR Leaders With Purpose

BLOOMINGTON, MN, UNITED STATES, August 6, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Mission-Driven Executive Combines Strategic Business Leadership, Community Impact, and a Commitment to Developing Future Leaders

Gulsah Mattson is an accomplished business leader serving as Area President at Gallagher, where she oversees P&L performance, service delivery, client retention, and business development across her region. Based in St. Paul, Minnesota, Gulsah is recognized for her ability to combine strategic execution with a strong commitment to people, culture, and customer experience. With nearly two decades of experience spanning health and benefits, consulting, and operations leadership, she has built a reputation as a mission-driven executive who delivers results while creating environments where teams and individuals can thrive.



Gulsah's leadership approach is rooted in authenticity, accountability, and purpose. She believes that strong organizations are built by investing in people, maintaining meaningful relationships, and aligning business strategies with the needs of clients and communities. Throughout her career, she has successfully led complex operations, managed large teams and budgets, and developed strategies that strengthen organizational performance and long-term growth.

Her professional journey reflects determination, adaptability, and continuous growth. After moving to the United States, Gulsah began her career in an entry-level call center position at Anthem, Inc., despite already earning an MBA from Dokuz Eylül University. Through dedication, strong performance, and a commitment to learning, she steadily advanced through leadership roles, ultimately progressing into executive positions with organizations including Mercer and

Gallagher.

Gulsah's career path demonstrates the power of perseverance and professional development. Her experience includes leading large-scale teams, improving operational performance, strengthening client relationships, and driving business transformation initiatives. In addition to her U.S. corporate experience, her early international background in business and trade provided her with a broader analytical perspective and appreciation for diverse markets, cultures, and business practices.

Beyond her executive responsibilities, Gulsah is a passionate advocate for leadership development, economic empowerment, and advancing opportunities for women. As a female immigrant leader, her own journey has shaped a deep commitment to helping others navigate and accelerate their careers. She serves on the Board of Directors for HIRED and supports organizations such as Dress for Success, both of which help individuals access meaningful employment opportunities and build long-term career success. Through mentoring, community engagement, and professional development initiatives, Gulsah is dedicated to inspiring and elevating the next generation of leaders, particularly women seeking to break barriers and create their own paths to success.

One of Gulsah's most notable initiatives is the creation of the HR Thrive Awards, a platform dedicated to recognizing HR professionals and elevating the human resources community. As founder of the HR Thrive Awards, she is helping shine a spotlight on the critical role HR leaders play in shaping workplace culture, supporting employees, and driving organizational success. Through HR Thrive, Gulsah is creating opportunities to celebrate innovation, resilience, and leadership while helping strengthen connections across the broader HR community.

Gulsah attributes her success to staying grounded in her values, setting clear goals, and executing with intention. She believes that meaningful growth comes from understanding measurable outcomes and creating accountability around them, often referencing the principle that "you can't manage what you don't measure." At the same time, she recognizes the importance of adaptability, knowing that resilience and flexibility are essential qualities in today's rapidly changing business environment.

One lesson that has profoundly shaped her leadership journey is the belief that "feedback is a gift." By encouraging honest conversations and embracing continuous learning, she has built teams and cultures centered on trust, accountability, and personal growth.

For young women entering the workforce, Gulsah encourages them to first understand their purpose and let that guide their decisions. While mentoring and networking are valuable, she believes lasting success comes from authenticity, consistent effort, and delivering meaningful results. She encourages aspiring leaders to learn from others while remaining confident in the unique strengths and perspectives they bring to the table.

As the business and HR landscape continues to evolve, Gulsah sees tremendous opportunity to innovate, strengthen organizations, and elevate the impact of human resources leaders. Through initiatives like HR Thrive, she remains committed to advancing the profession and creating spaces where leaders can connect, learn, and grow together.

At the center of both her personal and professional life are the values of authenticity, relationships, and service. Whether supporting clients, mentoring future leaders, or serving her community, Gulsah believes that leadership is ultimately about helping others succeed.

Outside of work, she finds balance and inspiration through time outdoors, fitness, travel, and spending time with family and friends. These experiences help her recharge, maintain perspective, and bring her best self to the people and organizations she serves.

Through her leadership at Gallagher, dedication to community involvement, and passion for developing others, Gulsah Mattson continues to make a lasting impact on the business and HR communities. Her career is a testament to the power of perseverance, purpose-driven leadership, and the belief that success is measured not only by results achieved, but by the lives positively influenced along the way.

Perhaps most importantly, Gulsah is on a personal mission to get to know every HR leader she can, learn their stories, understand their challenges and aspirations, and find ways to elevate and celebrate their contributions to the business community. Through that commitment, she hopes to strengthen the HR profession while helping leaders feel seen, valued, and connected.

Learn More about Gulsah Mattson:

Through her Influential Women profile, <https://influentialwomen.com/connect/Gulsah-Mattson>

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