



Welcome to the spring edition of *Deloitte Life* magazine. The launch of this edition coincides with the end of our fiscal year and the one-year anniversary of an important program. In June 2009, we launched the Voluntary Sabbatical Program to give you another career-life fit option. The benefit reflects our continuing efforts to address the needs and desires of our high-performing professionals outside of work. In this edition, we learn about three colleagues who took advantage of the extended sabbatical option.

I continue to take pride in the fact that Deloitte is filled with so many compassionate people. More and more, you are finding ways to offer your time and talents for good causes. Sandy Marger's story is an example of the significant impact just one individual can have by using skills and experience to build relationships and find solutions to important issues – in this case, relief and rebuilding efforts in Haiti.

Meanwhile, Deloitte's sponsorship of the U.S. Olympic Committee is helping to make many connections. Were you aware that Deloitte practitioners around the world are playing roles in international sporting events such as the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa, the 2012 Summer Olympics in London and the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil? In this issue, we describe the experience of one of our professionals who worked on the USA Bid Committee's efforts to help bring the World Cup back to the United States (in 2018 or 2022).

Within these pages, we occasionally feature alumni. Even as they choose to pursue opportunities beyond Deloitte, they remain a part of our community. With Gregg Milligan, we are inspired by his story of courage and by the caliber of people Deloitte attracts and develops, including Gregg's wife, Sarah, an ITS senior manager in Deloitte's Detroit office.

As we begin FY11, I encourage you to take the time to celebrate your colleagues. I'd also like to hear what's on your minds – so connect with me through Straight Talk available on the Edge and let's keep our dialogue going.

Keep up the great work.

Regards,

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Breaking the cycle

Deloitte alum Gregg Milligan overcame the effects of an abusive childhood to become an author and survivor advocate.



Gregg Milligan has many reasons to be proud. He overcame illiteracy to become an award-winning writer, publishing his first book in 2009. He earned a master's degree in computer engineering, graduating with honors from Wayne State University. He's a senior director of infrastructure engineering at one of the top healthcare/hospital systems in Michigan. And he's an articulate, sought-after speaker who gave a keynote speech at the 90th anniversary

celebration of Siena Heights University, his undergrad alma mater, in April.

But Milligan's greatest accomplishment may be as a father, considering his horrific childhood during which he was physically and emotionally abused by his mother. He is most proud that he raised a son, now 23, who grew up in a loving, compassionate home. Milligan's story is one of breaking a cycle and helping others.

"By sharing my experience, I hope to encourage

people to fight, to rise above their own struggles,” says Milligan, a speaker for Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network (RAINN). “I’ve had people come up and say, ‘I now have a voice. I don’t have to succumb to addiction or depression.’”

His story is now getting worldwide attention, thanks in large part to an appearance on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* in February. Milligan, who worked in Deloitte’s Detroit office from 1995 to 2004, and his wife, Sarah, a Deloitte professional since 1996, appeared on the program to discuss his childhood. Although originally scheduled to be a 16-minute segment, Gregg ended up being the topic of the entire show.

After it aired, the episode was posted on Oprah’s Web site and broke all traffic records. More than 400 comments have been posted on the accompanying discussion boards. Gregg’s book – *A Beautiful World* – received a spike in sales; more than 250 copies were sold after the show aired. All proceeds from the book – which is available through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and other online retailers – are being given to abuse-prevention organizations.

A time to heal

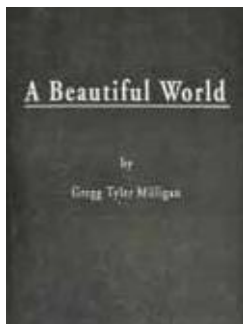
When Gregg started in Deloitte’s Information Technology Services (ITS) department in 1995, he was anxious. His previous jobs had been at companies with fewer than 150 employees, so a job at a big, complex organization like Deloitte was a big step. In addition, Gregg had yet to come to terms with the abuse. “At that point, I still had a lot of demons to deal with,” Gregg says. “My confidence was low and I was scared. Fortunately, my supervisor had a lot of sensitivity and compassion. Getting to know a person in a position of authority with those qualities was important to my recovery.”

While at Deloitte, Gregg began writing *A Beautiful World* during his personal time. The book describes his life through age 11, when he was removed from his mother’s home. Because his mother sued for custody, Gregg spent months in depositions and court testifying against both parents. His mother was allowed

to represent herself and cross-examined Gregg – a particularly trying experience.

Gregg says he wanted to tell his story to escape complacency. “I struggled for many years,” he says, “and finally decided there was no reason that I couldn’t rise above the abuse. I thought, ‘Just because my parents were abusive alcoholics doesn’t mean I have to accept it.’”

Having lived in such a tormented world, it’s not surprising that Gregg’s book was originally titled *God*



“By sharing my experience, I hope to encourage people to fight, to rise above their own struggles.”

Must Be Sleeping. But in the end, he wanted to send a message of hope, which led to *A Beautiful World*. A second book, which will describe his life from age 12 through 18, living in various foster homes, is scheduled to be published in 2011.

Support system

While at Deloitte, Gregg’s confidence grew professionally and personally. It’s also where he met Sarah, the “love of his life.” He didn’t discuss his childhood with Sarah until they had been dating for more than a year. They met in 1996 and married in 2008. Now, Sarah serves as Gregg’s chief editor and confidante. “He’s always been a shining example of courage,” says Sarah, an ITS senior manager. “Gregg has the ability to look at the big picture and truly appreciate life.”

As Gregg has become an advocate for survivors of abuse, Sarah sees wonderful things happening. After *The Oprah Winfrey Show* taping, audience members approached Gregg to share stories and ask questions. Sarah noticed their appreciation and the joy Gregg had in helping others. “That was one of the reasons why he wrote the book,” Sarah says. “He wants people to know that we’re here to save each other and to never give up. He lives that message every day.” ●

Opposite page: Since publishing his book *A Beautiful World* in 2009, Deloitte alum Gregg Milligan has become an advocate for other survivors.

www To access related links, including a link to Gregg Milligan’s episode on *The Oprah Winfrey Show*, visit the [Deloitte Life](#) site on [DeloitteNet](#).