Garry L VanGorder has been the executive director of the Cortland County Business Development Corporation and President/CEO of the Cortland County Industrial Development Agency since his appointment in 2009. He came to the BDC and IDA after eight years as executive director of the Cortland County Chamber of Commerce.

A Cortland native, Mr. VanGorder returned to the community after three years with the Metropolitan Development Association, Central New York’s regional economic development entity now known as Centerstate CEO. He began his career as a general assignment reporter at newspapers in Pennsylvania, Florida, and New York, and later as a communications specialist for Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York.

Mr. VanGorder holds an Associate’s Degree in Journalism from the State University of New York Agricultural and Technical College at Morrisville and a Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science from SUNY Oswego.

In the community, he is currently chair of the Guthrie Cortland Medical Center Board of Trustees, president of the Cortland Regional Sports Council board of directors, board member of the Cortland Housing Assistance Council, a gubernatorial appointee to the Central New York Regional Economic Development Council, co-chair of the city’s $10 million Downtown Revitalization Initiative, and member of several other community advisory boards, organizations, and committees.

He his wife, Valarie, live in Cortland.