



Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County Key Personnel Qualifications, Roles and Bios

Qualifications and Roles

Key personnel at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County (BGCTC) Clubs are helping put young people on the path to great futures. With their collective belief that helping youth today means they'll approach adulthood stronger and more capable, BGCTC staff help youth foster positive relationships with caring adults and connections to new friends in a positive environment, reinforcing a sense of belonging, personal accountability, civility, and civic responsibility. Each member of our staff is proud to be part of a generation-changing program that supports a commitment to learning, positive values, healthy habits, and high expectations for success as an adult.

The BGCTC **CEO** leads the organization in all facets of operation, fundraising and strategic direction; is the face of the organization in the community; and supports both Board and staff teams in order to oversee the implementation of the mission of the organization.

BGCTC's **Chief Operating Officer** provides leadership to all Thurston County Clubs in the areas of professional development, program quality and efficiency, and parent/community relations. Shellica is responsible for ensuring that Club staff receive appropriate training and support, programs operate with a focus on quality and impact and facilities are safe and welcoming for Club members.

BGCTC's **Director of Finance & Administration** manages the daily financial and banking functions for the entire organization. In addition, with the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer, the Director of Finance assists in developing the full-year budget and produces monthly financial statements for administrative and Board of Directors review.

BGCTC **Branch Directors** manage the overall daily operations of their respective Club with the primary concern for programs and service delivery to youth, supervision and training of staff, facilities management, community relations and member administration. Essential responsibilities for each of the branch directors include providing leadership, strategic planning, resource management, partnership management, and marketing.

Chris Woods, CEO

Chris Woods, long-serving Thurston County educator and school administrator, was named CEO of Boys and Girls Clubs of Thurston County in April 2019. He brought to the position a long history of commitment to youth and community collaboration through his experiences as teacher, principal, coach, and school administrator.

In his short time serving the Boys & Girls Clubs, Woods helped facilitate the addition of two new Club branches to the organization: Yelm and a location at the Raj Manhas Activity Center ("RMAC branch"), bringing the number of Club locations in Thurston County to seven. His experience in education and as a life-long resident of Thurston County has strengthened partnerships with county school districts and community partners to maximize efforts to support youth academically, socially, and emotionally during the pandemic and remote learning.

Despite the challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, Boys & Girls Clubs in Thurston County remained open. They were **among 13% of Clubs nationwide who kept their doors open** throughout mandatory school closures. Initially serving first-responders and essential workers, the Clubs then opened enrollment following Department of Health guidelines regarding capacity and safety. When the organization's budgeting model turned upside down with a move to full-day programming, Woods and his team continued to steward supporters and donors to continue investing in Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County.

As Woods looks to the future of the organization, his goal is to equip the organization with a diverse and sustainable revenue stream, high quality facilities for children and staff, expansion of services to include social, emotional, and mental health support, and continue to build on the strong and collaborative partnerships with all school districts in Thurston County.

Woods earned a B.A. degree from Central Washington University in K-8 Elementary Education and K-12 Special Education and prior to his position as CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County, he served as Assistant Superintendent for the Tumwater School District. Woods' credentials also include an M.A. in School Administration and Principal Certification from City University and Superintendent Certification from Seattle Pacific University.

He has served as a board member for the Briggs YMCA and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Western Washington; a coach with Thurston County Youth Football League, South Sound Baseball, and the YMCA; and a volunteer with Greater Olympia Young Life and West Olympia Rotary.

Shellica Trevino, Chief Operating Officer

2020 marks the 19th year of Shellica Trevino's tireless Boys & Girls Club career in which she held a range of positions: Front Desk Receptionist, Social Recreation Coordinator, Membership Manager, Branch Director, Acting Executive Director, and, most recently, BGCTC's Director of Operations. Her tenure at various Clubs provided opportunities to hone her talent at professional development, program quality, parent and school relations and mentorship. Shellica shares how the challenges she and her family faced in her childhood revealed generosity and compassion by others. She believes the Clubs can serve a similar purpose for families that may be facing tough times. In 2013, Shellica received the Maytag Dependable Leader Award honoring her commitment to Boys & Girls Clubs, her impact on the lives of youth and the leadership shown in serving youth and the Clubs. Considered a role model by many colleagues as well as youth, one member summarized Shellica by stating, "She always sees the best in me when others — or even, I — don't and that encouraged me to keep doing my best." When not supporting or working for the Clubs, Shellica enjoys spending time with her husband and their sons, who all love the BGC as much as she does.

David Doyle, Director of Finance & Administration

David Doyle was named as BGCTC's Director of Finance & Administration in January 2020. He brought to the position 25 years of experience in corporate accounting and financial management working in NJ, GA, TN, and eventually to the Lacey/Olympia area in 2019. David holds a BBA in Accounting from Temple University (Philadelphia, PA) and an MBA in Finance from Fairleigh Dickinson University (Florham Park, NJ). Outside the office, David enjoys golfing, spending time with his wife traveling, and reconnecting with the Pacific Northwest.

Mike Babauta, Director of Personnel and Training

Mike Babauta came to Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County in 2008. During his tenure, Mike has been a Program Director, Branch Director, Area Director, and now serves as the organization's Director of Personnel and Training. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Western Washington University. In his free time when he is not frequenting Disneyland, Mike's interests include refereeing youth football, playing his ukulele, and eating anything his mom cooks.

Leah Bradley, Lacey Branch Director

Leah Bradley was named the Tenino Boys & Girls Club director in Summer 2016 and brings to the position over ten years of youth development and leadership experience. Leah's history as a responsive leader makes her a strong choice to lead the Lacey Branch. Some of the positions served during her tenure with the Clubs include: Program Director, Teen Coordinator, Club volunteer, and Choreographer/Hip Hop teacher. Additionally, Leah served as a Tumwater Youth Program Volunteer, a Residential Advisor with Community Youth Services, and was a member of Intercity Transit's Citizen Advisory Committee. Through these experiences Leah gained a solid foundation of providing positive leadership and mentorship to youth and their families; gaining extensive knowledge about youth-related community resources; experience training others to implement programs and to ensure youth/Club safety and quality; and collaborating with diverse communities. Within BGCTC, Leah is known for her superb work ethic, excellent communication skills, and the ability to work with diverse groups and situations. Leah obtained her AA from Peninsula College and is a senior in standing at Evergreen State College having studied Social Work. In her free time, she enjoys music, sports, and learning new things.

Heather Harris, Griffin Branch Director

Heather Harris' first association with BTCTC began 15 years ago as a Club mom and she has worked for the organization for the past 7 years. Her foray into the Clubs began as a volunteer and assisting with BGCTC marketing efforts and event photography. Since then, she found her calling as a Youth Development Profession and served in multiple Program Staff roles from running the gym and homework room to managing the Teen Center. In 2016, she became the Rochester Branch Program Director, a position that expanded her skills to connect with and make a positive impact on the children in the community. In 2021, Heather was named the Griffin Branch Director and filled a critical role of helping establish the eighth Club location in Thurston County. She says, "I hope to take everything I have learned and gained from the kids in Rochester to create a safe, supportive and positive Club experience at the Griffin Branch." Outside of the Clubs, Heather is a proud mom to two daughters and enjoys hiking, paddle boarding/kayaking, DIY, painting, and photography.

Trevor Trulson, Olympia Branch Director

Since 2016, Trevor Trulson has served the Olympia Branch of Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County (BGCTC), for the last two years as its Branch Director and prior to that as the Program Director and as the Teen Director (Tumwater Branch). Trevor enjoys managing and encouraging staff to create engaging programs and opportunities for the over 100 youth and teens served by the branch. Additionally, he aims to continue growing the Olympia Branch by fostering positive relationships with volunteers, community, and school district members, and especially Club members and parents alike. Says Trevor,

“As the Olympia Branch Director, I want to grow this branch to serve more children and families in the future.” When not serving youth in the community, Trevor enjoys watching college and professional basketball and football and going to the driving range or playing golf with his 11-year-old brother.

Erika Arellano, RMAC Branch Director

Erika Arellano became Branch Director of BGCTC’s newest branch location at the Raj Manhas Activities Center (RMAC) in summer 2020. Born and raised in Colorado, Erika found herself in the Pacific Northwest by way of being a military family. Since 2013, she served as a youth development professional for the Buckley Air Force Base Youth Center implementing a wide range of activities from 4H to Torch Club, interfacing with Boys & Girls Clubs in this role. She also has experience directing operations for 24 Hour Fitness. Her personal interests in health and fitness feed her desire to foster healthy habits in youth. “Health-focused programs allow youth to understand and see the benefits of healthy choices both physically and mentally,” said Erika. “I can’t wait to see kids attending the RMAC branch flourish as we start this new chapter with Boys and Girls Club.” Outside of her work at the Club, Erika engages in fitness programs and health plans for herself and others and often competes in fitness shows.

Ryan Piles, Rochester Branch Director

Ryan Piles was named Rochester Branch Director in 2015 after nine years working in various capacities at the Clubs: Program Director, Teen Center Coordinator and Gym Staff Lead. His tenure in youth development has deepened his passion to serve kids and encourage them to work hard for what they love. Ryan says he honored and hopeful to be at the helm of the Rochester Club because of the positive path provided to youth. His hope is that the Club and greater Rochester community grow more connected and engaged. He adds that he’s more than up for the challenge noting that Tumwater Football and his grandmother taught him a thing or two about hard work and dedication. Ryan’s outside interests include all types of sports and spending time with his family.

Mara Harris, Tenino Branch Director

Mara Harris has served a number of positions with Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County (BGCTC), but her Club journey began as a Rochester Branch Club member in middle school. She was selected twice as BGCTC Youth of the Year. Mara brings to the Club Director position an array of experiences in various positions at difference branch locations: Program Lead (Rochester), Front Desk Coordinator (Tenino), Teen Director (Tumwater and Olympia). She also served on the Marketing & Resource Development Committee for the Chehalis Boys & Girls Club during the early years of start-up and construction. Mara aims to build strong relationships everywhere she goes and understands on a personal level the positive impact Clubs have on the youth and families they serve. Her mission has been to make a positive impact in the communities she serves, and she is excited to continue to grow our Tenino Branch. Outside of the Clubs, she enjoys kayaking and spending time with her loved ones.

Felicia Mae, Tumwater Branch Director

Felicia Mae has served Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County for over 10 years. Her journey began when the Tumwater Branch first opened their doors to the community in 2001. Felicia brings to the Club Director role an array of knowledge from her experiences in the various positions previously held by her: Program Coordinator, Front Desk Coordinator, Early Bird Lead and Program Staff. Felicia aims to fulfil our Mission to inspire and enable youth to realize their greatness while providing a positive

environment pushing for success of the youth and families she serves. Her mission has been to make a positive impact in the communities she serves along with the families who cross her path. Outside of the Clubs, Felicia is very family-oriented and enjoys spending time with her loved ones.

Andrew Serpas-Chase, Yelm Branch Director

Since 2013, Andrew has served Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County in a number of positions: Tumwater Teen Coordinator, Olympia Program Director, Olympia Branch Director, and most recently as the Yelm Branch Director. His Club experience combined with being raised and attending school in Yelm made Andrew an excellent leadership choice for the Yelm Branch when it opened its doors in 2019 as the sixth Thurston County Branch location. Andrew's approach to work in the Boys & Girls Club Movement is grounded in his belief that communication and relationships with schools, teachers, service providers, and families is essential in providing wrap-around support for youth who need it most. He adds, "This work with youth in Yelm gives me the opportunity to give back to the community I grew up in." Prior to working with the Clubs, Andrew worked with the Tumwater Parks and Rec basketball program and has coached youth and AAU basketball for 6 years. He holds Bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Psychology from Central Washington University and is working toward a Master's degree in Psychology with a focus in Applied Behavior Analysis. In his spare time, he enjoys playing basketball and exploring new restaurants and foods.