



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THURSTON COUNTY



2023

Community
Impact Report

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO



Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County was founded in 2001 when a group of insightful and caring community members recognized that kids and teens in Thurston County needed a safe place to be outside of school hours, a place that would be theirs, a place without financial barriers, a second home, a Club.

Their determination and leadership solidified a relationship with the Tumwater School District to open the first Club, located in Tumwater, the Boone Family Branch. 22 years later we have eight Club locations, serving youth in grades K-12 in Lacey (2), Olympia (2), Rochester, Tenino, Tumwater and Yelm.

Since opening our doors in 2001, we have served over 16,000 youth - inspiring and enabling them to realize their greatness. We know young people achieve academic success, develop healthy lifestyles, and good character when they have the support of caring staff and volunteers, access to targeted programs, and attend the Club regularly. Clubs provide a safe and positive environment, supportive relationships, opportunities, expectations, recognition, and, of course, fun!





As I reflect on the past year I am filled with gratitude for your unwavering support and commitment to our mission. Your dedication has been instrumental in helping us navigate through the challenges of the past few years, and continue to meet the needs of the youth and families we serve.

In 2023 we planned strategic growth in several areas. We sought to increase the number of youth we serve annually, and we did! Our total membership grew by over 450 youth and our summer attendance increased by 36%. We served more kids, more often, and they are thriving. We aimed to increase service to the kids who need us most through support of their social emotional health and outreach to youth with housing insecurity. The number of youth in these targeted programs grew by 166%. Teens in our community are especially vulnerable to risk factors. We know Clubs are a beacon of hope and a place of refuge for them, promoting prosocial activities and creating an environment where they belong. Last year our RMAC Branch Teen Center celebrated one year in operation, serving 125 teens in 2023. Our teen centers across the county give youth access to daily mentorship from caring adults who instill in them character, leadership, academic success, and a desire to live healthy lifestyles.

While we are still recovering from certain effects of the pandemic, and we realize this will continue into the future, we remain steadfast in our mission to inspire and enable youth to realize their greatness. The importance of this work cannot be overstated, as it lays the foundation for a brighter future and ensures that our youth are equipped to thrive in an ever-changing world.

As we look ahead, I am optimistic about the opportunities that lie before us. With your continued support I am confident that we will continue to grow and expand our reach, making a lasting difference in the lives of youth and their families, regardless of any challenges that may arise.

Once again, thank you for your support and dedication. Together we will continue to create great futures for youth in Thurston County.

In gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stin".

Shellica Trevino
Chief Executive Officer

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

SAFE PLACES & MENTORSHIP



TOTAL
MEMBERS
309

**BOONE FAMILY BRANCH
(TUMWATER)**



TOTAL
MEMBERS
281

**KAILA CELESTE BRANCH
(LACEY)**



TOTAL
MEMBERS
119

GRIFFIN BRANCH



TOTAL
MEMBERS
125

**RAJ MANHAS BRANCH
(RMAC)**



TOTAL
MEMBERS
65

OLYMPIA BRANCH



TOTAL
MEMBERS
108

TENINO BRANCH



TOTAL
MEMBERS
180

ROCHESTER BRANCH



TOTAL
MEMBERS
207

YELM BRANCH



2023 COUNTY-WIDE REACH

1,394
REGISTERED
MEMBERS

114
OTHER YOUTH
SERVED

1,508
TOTAL YOUTH
SERVED

8
CLUBS

88
STAFF

78%
Age 12 and Under

22%
Teens

43%
People of Color

51%
Receive Free
or Reduced School Lunch

34%
Single-Parent Households



Nearly 200 Club members in 2023 benefitted from social and emotional skill development in the Kaila's Kids program. The program is named to honor the memory and contributions of long-time Club staffer Kaila Celeste Rants-Jorgensen, who started our Social Emotional Health program in 2018.

“As the Director of Kaila’s Kids, I support members’ social-emotional learning,” says Ursula Zuker, LICSW. “I draw from my clinical knowledge to provide non-therapeutic, preventative skill-building to our members.

Learning can occur while playing any game at the Club; a game of Uno can be an easy opportunity to learn about how frustration feels in one’s body, or members who are experiencing real-time conflict, can be guided through communication, emotional regulation, and repair.”



Club members receive support from the Director of Kaila’s Kids as well as the Skills Coach, Mara Harris, in dedicated one-on-one or small group sessions at the Club. When needed, families are provided information about outpatient providers and community resources. “Overall, we support our Club community in navigating member needs related to social and emotional development,” says Zuker.

KAILA’S KIDS

YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Youth of the Year is the premier recognition program for Boys & Girls Clubs. The participants who earn the Youth of the Year title embody the values of leadership, service, academic excellence and healthy lifestyles. They exemplify the powerful impact that Clubs have in the lives of young people.



The program runs the entirety of the year, building towards the Youth of the Year Retreat. This weekend retreat gives participants the opportunity to meet teens from across the state, build rapport with them and their mentors while engaging in team-building activities, mock interviews, and multiple rounds of speech delivery. While everyone begins the weekend a bit timid and unsure, they leave having formed lasting friendships and with increased confidence and pride in themselves. All of this prepares them for their org competition.

On February 2, 2024, North Thurston High School Junior **Keoni Borja**, who attends the RMAC Branch in Lacey, was awarded the title of **Thurston County Youth of the Year** at our annual Community Celebration. Keoni earned this honor after competing with teens from Clubs in Lacey, Rochester, and Yelm. In his speech, he shared how attending the Club has had an impact on his life, highlighting that meeting his mentor Miss Latasha helped him work toward being the very best version of himself.

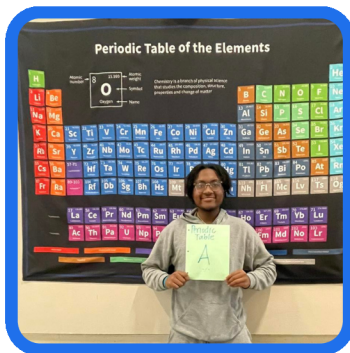


Keoni strives to be open-minded, vulnerable, a leader, and knows that with the support of the other members and the staff he has met at the Club, he will live out these character traits while learning new lessons that push him to be all that he can be!

Youth often face challenges that have an enormous impact on their academic progress. All of our Clubs offer Power Hour, an incentivized homework support program, and multiple of our branches offer Get Good Grades (G3) tutoring, for youth who need extra help in math and/or reading. **Last year, 322 youth participated in our academic support programs.**

The G3 program is run in collaboration with school districts and opens the door to a deeper understanding of member grades and their areas of need. Members not meeting grade level standards or who are at risk of not graduating on time are enrolled in the program by their parents, for the school year and spend three or more hours each week focused on homework, studying, and developing learning strategies.

“I touch base with members every day to ask them how they are doing in life and in school. I ask what help they need to achieve their goals,” says RMAC Branch Director Latasha Pinkney. “This way, members are supported in being accountable to themselves, rather than feeling obligated to do schoolwork because someone else wants them to do so.”



PROVEN OUTCOMES:

- 87% of participants maintained or improved grades in reading over the course of the 22/23 school year!
- 85% of participants maintained or improved grades in math over the course of the 22/23 school year!
- Participants experienced increased confidence about academic & school-related goals & achievements.

PROJECT LEARN

COMMITMENT TO TEENS



Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County serves teens at all eight of our branches, and our RMAC Branch is dedicated to serving only teens. During the pandemic, participation among this age group dropped, as teens were in remote learning and getting to the Club was not easy without transportation. **In 2023, we experienced growth in teen membership at all of our Clubs, serving 307 teens county-wide.**

Adolescence is a vulnerable time in one's life, the Club provides safe places where teens attend because their voices are heard. These youth vote with their feet, attending each day even when they have the choice to spend their time elsewhere. Our team is committed to reaching the teens who need us most and will continue to prioritize increasing service to teens in the coming year.

From academic and mental health support, to making sure their basic needs are met, staff work to ensure that they check in with teens, meeting them where they are and supporting them in moving forward with their goals. From hanging out with friends playing board games, to a volleyball match or a game of basketball, members have plenty of opportunities to build relationships and learn how to be part of a community. Staff make it a priority to be informed about the issues teens are experiencing in their world, their schools and their lives. From mentorship, leadership and service opportunities, to celebrating diversity, Club staff are committed to helping every member cross the stage at graduation, prepared to take on their lives as responsible, caring, and productive members of the community.

Every member experiencing housing insecurity receives a 100% fee waiver to attend the Club. Donations from our supporters allow us to provide youth a Club experience filled with childhood memories during a very complicated time in their lives. It's really simple, kids deserve to be kids. Club membership offers so much more than a safe and fun place to be after school. Members and their families become part of the Club community, where they find caring adult mentors, life-changing programs, and help with resources and referrals to address their unique needs.

75 of our Club members experienced housing insecurity in 2023. Last year, we approved over \$125,000 in scholarships for these youth.

“We connect Club families experiencing housing insecurity to resources in a judgement free, non-threatening way,” says BGCTC Senior Area Director Leah Bradley. “We meet people where they are in life.”

“Clubs extend a bridge of support, not only to the youth we serve, but to their families as well, an example of that support is our Adopt -a- Family program, which provides holiday assistance to families in need.” says Felicia Maae, BGCTC Area Director

Eligibility for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Youth Services Act as implemented through our school district partners is kept confidential at Club, to protect privacy and promote a sense of belonging. School Districts have been instrumental in providing transportation so youth can benefit from the mentorship, quality programming, academic support, friends and fun available at the Club each and every day!

HOUSING INSECURITY-
how do Clubs help?

Jeremiah Milbank Society

The Jeremiah Milbank Society recognizes donors who make unrestricted gifts of \$10,000 or more in a calendar year to their local Boys & Girls Club. Through their leadership of unrestricted financial giving, these individuals help ensure that every child and teen who attends Boys & Girls Clubs of Thurston County is provided with hope and opportunity, a safe place to learn and grow, and relationships with adults who positively impact their life.

It is an honor and privilege to recognize these individuals for their unwavering commitment to youth and their future.



2023 Society Members

Mike "B.J." Bjerke
Lora & Graham Budd
Peter & Kathryn Fluetsch
Ray Hardee
Mike & Vicki McKinnon
Jeff & Kathy Powell
Pat & Helen Rants
Chad & Janice Sutter
Judy Weigand

Steve & Michele Boone
Zale & Kristen Crawford
Jen & Eric Foley
Amee & Craig Kiefer
Jace Munson
Erin Rants
Ron Rants
Mike & Diane Tice
Michelle Wickett

Members of the Lifetime Giving Society have shown a long-term commitment to the support of youth in Thurston County with their substantial donations at the following levels:

Leader
Mentor
Benefactor
Philanthropist

We extend our gratitude to these exceptional individuals for their steadfast dedication to the youth in our community and their invaluable contributions to shaping the future of the youth in our Clubs!



2023 Society Members

Dr. Tony & Christie Agtarap-Leader	Steve & Michele Boone-Mentor
Lois Kussman-Leader	Ron Rants-Mentor
Mike & Vicki McKinnon-Leader	Graydon Smith-Mentor
Jim & Gayle Phillips-Leader	The Stars Foundation-Philanthropist
Titus-Will Families Foundation-Leader	
Judy Weigand-Leader	
Michelle Wickett-Leader	

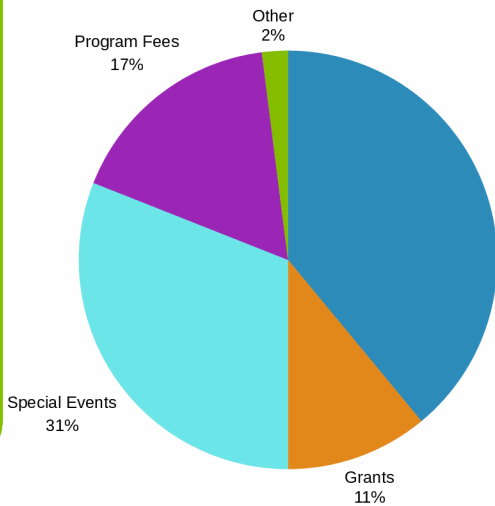
Lifetime Giving Society

2023 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

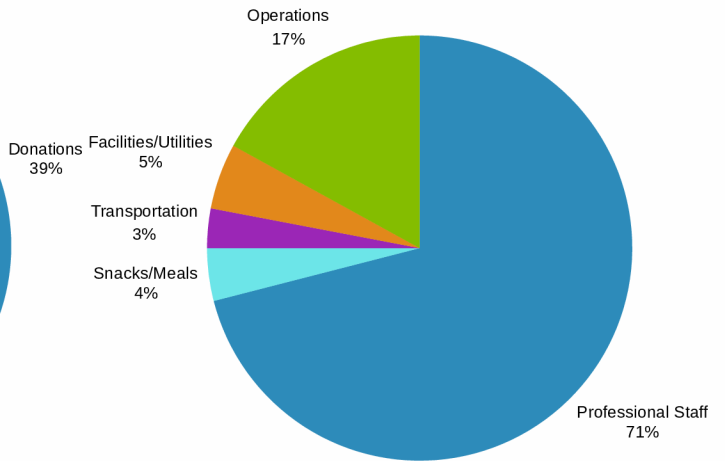
Our Club members thrive thanks to caring individuals, community partners, and businesses who share in our commitment to create safe places where youth and teens feel connected and supported.

This incredible support provides a Club experience that empowers youth to create GREAT FUTURES!

ANNUAL INCOME



ANNUAL EXPENSES



The Sustaining Partnership program connects and leverages partnerships with corporations and organizations with a passion for creating brighter futures for kids and teens in Thurston County.

With a \$25,000 annual commitment, Sustaining Partners provide deep support for the youth and families who benefit from the programs and services offered at the Clubs.



SUSTAINING PARTNERS

Our sponsors support hundreds of youth who attend our Clubs each day

Boys & Girls Clubs of Washington

City of Yelm

Dairy Queen

Griffin School District

Lucky Eagle Casino

Movement Mortgage

North Thurston Public Schools

Olympia School District

Puget Sound Energy

Saint Martin's University

Small to Tall Pediatric Dentistry

Sunset Air

Tenino School District

The Nisqually Indian Tribe

Titus-Will Automotive Group

TwinStar Credit Union

WSECU

Capital Business Machines

Color Graphics

FORMA Construction

Harbor Food Group

LUV Cookies

MultiCare

Olympia Orthopaedic Associates

Pillar Financial Group, LLC

Rochester School District

Setina Manufacturing

TBG Holdings

The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis

The Valley Athletic Club

The Rants Group

Tumwater School District

Umpqua Bank

SPONSORS



BOARD LEADERSHIP

Our dedicated Board of Directors:

Kim Asay	Steve Boone
Carrie Benjamin	Kevin Bogatin
Travis Burns	Kirsten Conklin
Zale Crawford	Josh Cummings
Voshte Demmert-Gustafson	Jessica Grubb
Denise Hibbeln	Josh Johnston
Amee Kiefer	Brandy Nelms
Danielle Rants	Brian Rich

Administrative Team:

Shellica Trevino, Chief Executive Officer
David Doyle, Chief Financial Officer
Tami Collins, Director of Resource Development
Nathan Carlson, Director of Personnel & Training
Leah Bradley, Senior Area Director
Felicia Maae, Area Director
Ryan Piles, Area Director- Facilities & Nutrition
Ursula Zuker, Director of Kaila's Kids
Erin Scheel, Grant Writer
Mara Harris, Skills Coach
Kristel Paet, Development Coordinator
Lynnette Avery, Office Manager

Club Directors:

Ashleigh Ashton, Griffin	Natasha Maestas, Tumwater
Heather Harris, Rochester	Latasha Pinkney, RMAC
Nina Helsel, Olympia	Monica Serpas-Chase, Lacey
Frankie Longoria, Tenino	Emily Sharwark, Yelm

STAFF LEADERSHIP



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THURSTON COUNTY
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GREAT FUTURES START [HERE.](#)

Contact BGCTC's Administrative Office at info@bgctc.org or 360-956-0755