

Fall Quarterly Newsletter 2022



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF HANCOCK COUNTY**



Mission Statement:

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Hancock County is a youth development organization providing a positive environment which seeks to inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

"To me, the Boys & Girls Club has made me feel safer than any other place that I've attended. I love to see the smiles on kids faces when I walk into the different rooms there. I love the opportunity they give us to work on our homework so that we get the time back to do other things at home. Miss Meghan has shown me a lot of kindness and has help to teach me and the other kids how to play different sports. She has taught me gratitude and has been a role model for me."

-Ava, age 10

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I have recently celebrated my third year as Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hancock County. I started in 2018 as Director of Operations and now have the honor of leading the organization. I have watched the team here do the most incredible work sometimes in the most difficult situations. One of the most consistent things I've seen is the perseverance and grit from the staff to make sure that your

children feel like they belong, are safe and have fun while they are here. The ability that they have to

connect and form relationships with your children has been a fun journey to be a part of. Every single child, no matter what the situation, deserves to know they are valuable, worthy, loved and capable of being anything

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they want to be in life. Our job is to provide opportunities for that to happen. It is our job to walk alongside you, the parents/guardians, to make sure your children grow up to be productive, caring adults. We want our members to be confident in who they are so when faced with difficult challenges they can persevere and overcome.

"When things change inside you, things change around you."



Chantel Fowler

Summer Camp 2022 Recap

This Summer we had a blast working with the youth of Hancock County and surrounding areas with an energized team ready to empower and engage your youth in a fun and safe environment! From new programming, to a new structure of support for age/grade levels and opening up our doors to a focused approach to a new teen population we saw some memorable moments!



We appreciate the support we had from Greenfield-Central schools to provide a healthy breakfast and lunch

option for our youth each day and to our community for opening their hearts to donate both snack and program supplies as well as supporting our youth in their fundraising efforts this summer... another new approach. Thanks to the teen club's participation in both fundraising and volunteer efforts they were rewarded with a free trip to Kings island to finish the summer!

This Summer we looked to engage our youth in programs that would explore a variety of new areas and allow them to explore both their personal creativity and curiosity. Photography, Spanish, Volunteering, Superhero and Pokémon Clubs, and Money Matters for Teens were just a handful of subjects the youth could engage in.



This Summer we also go to recognize outstanding Summer Camp participants. Members were recognized for their participation and contribution to the programs we ran this year. In keeping with tradition we also awarded one outstanding member for her efforts this period and embodying the "Heart of the Club" award. Congratulations to Megan!



132 Youth Served

Members from 6 different Indiana Counties

28% Live in Single-Parent Households

8,322 Breakfast, Lunch, and Snacks Served



BACK2SCHOOL™

Whatever It Takes to Build Great Futures

Back-to-School is back in full swing at both of our Club sites again this year. We are continuing to offer our Before-School support to our Eastern Hancock Parents and so far 15 youth have taken advantage of the mornings. Our After-School programs have seen an average of 112 youth attending both sites which is up from last year at the same time.

We've got some standout programs being offered at both locations this year that our youth can choose from. Thanks to our success in obtaining the White Family Grant again this year we were able to offer three dynamic STEM programs to our Eastern Hancock Youth. Lego Education SPIKE, Sports Science Camp, and Environmental Extremes Plant Growth are all curriculums we will be able to offer. Branching from our success in our Spanish program from the summer, we are offering a Culture Club that will broadly expose our Jim Andrews members to a variety of different cultures to celebrate and learn about. We are also offering a Home Ec curriculum that will teach Jim Andrews members sewing, meal planning, and encompass our popular Kids Kitchen program.

Our Teens have their own space at Jim Andrews to call their own thanks to some layout changes to our program rooms and support from our summer teens and one of our staff members and her family! Teen nights are new on the calendar this year, and will take place on a variety of Saturdays throughout the calendar year. Teen members 13-18 can attend for free and play basketball, watch sporting events/movies, play in our gameroom, or just hang out with their friends in a safe environment supported by our Youth Development Professionals and Unit Director.

Indiana Kids is in full swing at both Club sites as well. This year we are incorporating all registered Club members in 1st grade and older. Members will receive free homework assistance and tutoring, learn about college and careers, participate in

programming focused around workforce readiness, and give back in 12 hours of community service.

Finally, all of our services would not be possible without the support from our devoted staff at each site that is working with your youth each day. We have five staff members from Eastern Hancock returning again this year, and three members returning from last school year at Jim Andrews with three staff continuing from our Summer Camp and two new members joining our team in Greenfield. We also have a Club parent, Stephanie Brothers, leading our youth through a weekly Art Program on Wednesdays! With our excellent growth we are still looking for dynamic staff for both our Club sites, as well as volunteers. Email rreed@bgchc.com if interested!

Here's to an amazing and fun school year!

112 Youth Served

Members from 3 different County School Districts

27% Live in Single-Parent Households

4,890 Free Supper, and Snacks Served

The Boys & Girls Clubs fill the gap between school and home. We provide welcoming positive environments in which kids and teens have fun, participate in life-changing programs, and build supportive relationships with peers and caring adults.



The CLUB Teen Corner

Hi! I'm Kinsley, and a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hancock County Jim Andrews Unit. I'm a part of the new Teen Center here in Greenfield. Some things to know about me is that I have been coming to the club here for 5 years now, and I have a younger sister, Laila, who also attends. I also have an older brother named Jordin. I've got two dogs, Zeus and Panda! My mom is a nurse and my dad works for the post office. My favorite thing to do is play sports and go on adventures. My favorite sports are softball and soccer! My favorite place to visit is the Boys & Girls Club and Kings Island. My favorite school subjects are Math and Science and right now my favorite song is "Stressed Out" by *twenty one pilots*. My favorite movie is "The Big Giants," and I love to watch the TV show "Henry Danger." If I'm on my device it's usually YouTube or some new app game.



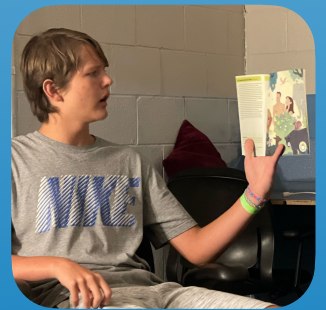
What I like about going to the Boys & Girls Club is that they make you feel safe when your parents are away. I also like it in the Summer because you get to go to the pool and take trips around the county. My favorite thing about the club is that the staff and club members are very nice, especially the Club Directors. One particular staff member that has made the biggest impact on me is Grandma Shelley. She is very nice, and also a real grandma, so she appreciates it when we call her that. To me, she is a role model and my biggest positive role model in my life right now. Some things that teens should know about the club is that we have our own space here and do not have to share a room with younger kids all of the time. The staff that works with the teens are very nice and will treat you with kindness. There are basketball courts so you're able to play when you want. One of the best things for teens is when you get to help with the little kids and one day make a difference in their lives!

Kinsley

Shaping a HEART for service

With the restart of our Teen Center program during the Summer of 2022, we were so happy to see not only the impact that our Teen Group had on our member population, but also within the greater community of Hancock County. Our teens participated in a variety of different

service projects that included reading books to our younger members, moving the building space of Meals on Wheels from their former location to their new space in Greenfield, handing out food and water to the homeless in Downtown Indianapolis, local trash cleanup on both our grounds and nearby Riley Park, and making and distributing blankets to local animal shelters. Volunteering gives our youth the opportunity to work through real challenges and make meaningful change. These transformative experiences encourage our teens to confront moral dilemmas, investigate solutions, and employ innovative thinking. It's what helps to create GREAT Futures.



A Look Ahead



Hispanic & Latino Heritage Month Sept 15 - Oct 15

During Hispanic & Latino Heritage Month, we're exploring these vibrant cultures – their unique histories, contributions, stories, music and cuisine. Because when kids learn about other people's cultures, they grow their curiosity, perspective and respect for others. ¡Ven a celebrar con nosotros! Come celebrate with us!

Building Tomorrow's Entrepreneurs

Did you know that at the Jim Andrews Unit, we've got future business owners creating their very own start-ups? That's right, we have formed our version of Biz Town for our Greenfield members where our kids are selling their food and homemade goods to earn a profit at semester's end.

Each Tuesday-Thursday will be selling their items starting at 4pm! Help support their dream!



Art Program Supplies Needed

Thanks to her generous time, effort, and energy into revitalizing our Art Program at Jim Andrews Unit, Club Parent Stephanie Brothers is requesting some easy donations that you may have lying around your house. We are in need of:

Plastic Bottle Caps (peanut butter, oils, soda, laundry, milk, juice, gatorade, etc.

Yarn/crochet and thread

Fabric scraps/tee shirts/dress shirts

Buttons/beads

Floral wire/bead wire

Canvas tarp-like not wrapped / denim jeans

Youth & Adult Sports

YOUTH CO-ED BASKETBALL



For the third year, we will host our Fall Youth Basketball program for grades 1-6. Dates are Oct. 10 - Dec. 17

Practices once a week, games start November 5th!

Cost is \$60 per player for non after-school member
\$45 per player for current after-school member

We are in need of volunteer coaches & officials.

Visit www.bgchc.com/youth-basketball

ADULT PICKLEBALL



For the third year, our Fisk Gymnasium will play host to our open Adult Pickleball program which will start on October 4th thru

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday Mornings from 10am -1pm & Evenings from 6p-8pm. (*Evening times subject to change*)

Cost is \$2 per player, per session.

Nets and balls provided, some additional rackets on hand.

Email reed@bgchc.com for more information.

The Time is Now to Give



amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

As you continue online shopping throughout the season, please consider selecting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hancock County as the non-profit beneficiary of your online AmazonSmile purchases! Do you primarily use Amazon Prime? NO PROBLEM! As long as you use the smile.amazon.com platform, your Prime account is still usable!

If you have a Kroger Community Rewards Card, please consider linking your household account with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hancock County's account. If you have done this before, don't forget that you must renew the link each year! Kroger Community Rewards is easy to use – the more you shop with Kroger, the more money the Club will earn!



**community
rewards**

SAVE THE DATES:

Dodgeball Tournament

September 10th



Duck Race

October 15th



www.bgchc.com/donate

Our Alumni Corner



STAY CONNECTED

Stay connected with our Club. Meet new friends and make professional contacts.



NETWORK

Access valuable resources for college or career through mentorships, job opportunities and scholarships just for Club alumni.



GIVE BACK

Pay it forward and support the next generation of Club kids. Become a mentor, advocate or volunteer, or donate so Club kids can achieve their Great Futures.

**Are you
#BGCHCMade ?**

**Did your Club
Experience help
shape your life?
Share your story
with us and be an
inspiration for
today's Club kids!**

**Share your story to
rreed@bgchc.com**

Register for Alumni & Friends today at BGCA.org/Alumni

**Your Club Experience
stays with you forever.**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Alumni
& friends

What's Happening on BGCA.org?



Boys & Girls Clubs of America President and CEO Jim Clark shares the latest data on today's kids and teens, as well as how communities, families, government, partners, schools and out-of-school providers can support young people in achieving great futures.

Click [here](#) for the article.

Employers are seeking employees with soft skills like never before. The Coca-Cola Company's human resources leader and Boys & Girls Clubs of America share the most important soft skills to have and how to start building them in the workplace and beyond.

Click [here](#) for the article.



The negative impact of social media, especially Instagram, on the mental health of young people continues to make headlines – here's what you can do to support your kid or teen in having a healthy self-esteem and developing safe digital habits.

Click [here](#) for the article.



What's Up Next?



E-Learning Day Support

We will be open on both September 20 and September 21 for E-Learning Support at the Jim Andrews Unit from 7am - 6pm at no additional cost.

Eastern Hancock parents please email bgchc_asturgill@myninestar.net if attending.

Greenfield-Central parents email rreed@bgchc.com if attending.



Fall Break Registrations

We will be open Oct. 3-7 & Oct. 10-14 for Fall Break at the Jim Andrews Unit from 8am - 5pm / Cost is \$5 per youth per day. We will be serving Breakfast, Lunch, Snack, and Supper options at no cost. Members will participate in Riley Festival Flower Parade!

Eastern Hancock parents please email bgchc_asturgill@myninestar.net if attending.

Greenfield-Central parents email rreed@bgchc.com if attending.



Club Planned Closure

Both of our Club sites will be closed October 18, 19, 20th for required BGCA training. Please make additional arrangements for Before and After School support for these dates.



Thanksgiving Holiday Closures

In observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday, our Club sites will be closed Wednesday November 23-25th. We will reopen back up again on Monday November 28 as normal