

***"It's been another challenging year for kids.  
But when kids have Clubs and Clubs have  
you, tough times can lead to great moments."***

—BOB LANGSETH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY**



# “Meeting the Moment” in Scotts Valley

**This past summer** brought on a significant new partnership between the Boys & Girls Clubs and the City of Scotts Valley. Pandemic-related shutdowns severely impacted the City’s recreation department. In addition, a lack of funding forced the City to outsource its eight-week summer camp. Providing a safe place for kids has always been a priority for the Boys & Girls Club, so we stepped up to offer a summer program option for these youth.

Our new summer program, called “Camp Scotts Valley,” was hosted at the Scotts Valley Community Center. The program was full of summer fun. Highlights included field trips to the Boardwalk and the Downtown Club’s swimming pool, water balloon games, stop motion animation creations and many more ***Moments Like These.***

As summer wound to a close, the community of Scotts Valley faced another challenge: the loss of the City’s afterschool programming. With the success

of Camp Scotts Valley and the desire to continue supporting these families, we expanded our offerings to include onsite afterschool programs at Brook Knoll and Vine Hill elementary schools. The “Eagle Club” and “Bear Club,” as they are affectionately known, are named after each school’s mascot. The new sites have been a tremendous success, allowing the Club to serve an additional 130 youth in Scotts Valley alone.

When asked about his experience at the Eagle Club, Site Director Michael Herzog explained, “A huge highlight is the brand new grass field we can play our games on. It’s a beautiful location with an amazing staff and the most cooperative members I’ve ever had the pleasure of working with.”

Parents feel equally positive.

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**GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.****

# Executive Director Message

**With the 2021-22 school year** now underway, I'm grateful for the opportunity to pause and reflect on what we've accomplished here at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County over the past several months. As summer transitioned into fall, our team was full of hope for our children. Schools were re-opening for in-person instruction. Kids were starting to re-engage in the kinds of afterschool activities that we know are critical to their social-emotional development and well-being.

At the same time at the Clubs, we were brimming with excitement as we wrapped up a fantastic summer. In addition to offering eight weeks of fun and engaging programs at our three Clubhouse locations, we hosted a special summer-long day camp in partnership with the City of Scotts Valley. These programs served a combined 368 youth with traditional fun, games, and programs. Our Summer Brain Gain program made sure students stayed engaged in activities to combat learning loss, while SMART Moves conversations allowed staff and members to talk openly about coping strategies for mental health challenges. We organized weekly field trips that included the Boardwalk, beach, bowling, and roller skating. In addition, our teens gave back to the community via weekly volunteer activities.

Following a jam-packed summer, we were thrilled to return to our true specialty: high-energy, engaging, and academically enriching afterschool programs. This year, the City of Scotts Valley needed us to support more youth by taking on the afterschool programs at Brook Knoll and Vine Hill elementary schools. So our Board of Directors and staff went to work. Within a few short weeks, we presented a plan to the City of Scotts Valley and Scotts Valley Unified School District that has enabled an additional 130 children to participate in our afterschool programs.

"Moments Like This," where people work together to enhance the quality of care for our children, make our daily efforts so much more rewarding. Our staff has endured the twists and turns of the past 20 months, and remain committed to supporting and encouraging the lives of the members and families we serve.

Lastly, I'm thrilled to share that we've completed our most recent facility upgrade: a newly remodeled lobby, front desk, secure entryway, and "quiet room" at our Downtown Clubhouse. In addition to looking great, this project helps ensure the safety of our youth while onsite, which is always a top priority. I want to encourage everyone to stop by to see this beautiful new space in person.

Now, as we begin to bring this eventful year to a close, it's time to plan for the future. We are energized by your support and look forward to bringing back even more of our genuinely transformational programs for even more youth in the year to come. So, as we launch our year-end campaign, "**Moments Like This,**" we hope you will join us by investing in the **Great Futures** that the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County provide for our local youth.



Bob Langseth, Executive Director,  
BGCSCC



## SMART MOVES: Teaching how to cope in tough moments

During the summer of 2021, each of our Clubhouses offered "Smart Moves," a program that focuses on mental health. Not only was this topic all over the news at the Summer Olympics, but it's crucial in light of the many challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

With "Smart Moves," our staff leaders guided youth members through daily skill-building activities that allowed for focused conversations about mental health challenges, coping strategies to learn impulse control and self-regulation. As a result, our members learned ways to create a positive view of their future, gain a positive self-image, avoid peer pressure, and make healthy decisions about risky behaviors. Although our participating youth ranged in age from 5-18 years old, each worked so hard and dedicated their time and energy to learning about creating a positive life for themselves and others.

It was great to have our staff trained in how to deliver this specific program, and I know we'll continue to offer it for years to come. Our team is committed to helping youth ask questions, understand the deep and ever-changing topic of mental health, and embrace the idea that learning is ongoing. In addition, our team creates a safe, educational and fun environment for our members. "Smart Moves" fit perfectly into our summer program at the Clubs!



Maia Yates, Director  
of Program Services,  
BGCSCC



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“The Club provides an engaging, stimulating, and supportive environment that is essential to our family and community. Our kids love the staff and have a blast every day they attend the afterschool program. They’re looking forward to the return of the basketball league as well. We’re grateful for everything the Club has done and continues to do amid a pandemic.”

—Nicole, Parent, BGCSCC

“We are thankful for the afterschool services and enrichment programs provided by the Boys and Girls Clubs. Their dedication to the community has been a lifesaving endeavor during these uncertain times. The thoughtful and caring staff provides a safe, positive, and supportive environment for all the children. The Scotts Valley community is truly fortunate to have the Boys & Girls Clubs. I hope they continue to grow and provide additional services and programs for our community in the years to come.”

—Robert K., Parent, BGCSCC

- **A safe space for kids.**
- **Emotional support.**
- **Mentors who empower youth.**
- **Fun physical activity.**
- **A place to turn to in a time of need.**

**These are the moments that add up to GREAT FUTURES. Thank you for the moments you’ve made possible for kids and families in our community this year.**



# BASKETBALL IS BACK!



The Boys & Girls Club’s basketball league has a long and storied history. Over the years, we’ve built an incredible experience for our youth with the fantastic support of parents, families, coaches, referees, scorekeepers, and both the Golden State Warriors and Santa Cruz Warriors.

At its height before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Boys & Girls Club basketball league had 36 teams, all of which had a weekly practice time and games each weekend. Our partnership with the Golden State Warriors Jr. Warriors Program and the Santa Cruz Warriors enabled us to host our end-of-season tournament at KP Arena. The youth especially loved getting a chance to play on the NBA court and the end-of-season BBQ banquet followed by a trip to a Santa Cruz Warriors game. Watching kids grow and develop each season is a highlight for those who participated in our league over the years.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to re-launch the Boys & Girls Club basketball league for a scaled-back 2022 season, held in accordance with current COVID safety guidelines. Although details are still in the works, we encourage anyone interested in participating to keep an eye on our website; we anticipate registration will go live in early November. Player evaluations will be in early December, with practices starting in January and games in February and March.

It will be a condensed season this year, but the expectation is that we will be back to a full league schedule in September 2022. It’s an exciting time to be getting back into basketball. League Director Bryon Windsor is looking forward to reconnecting with many of the players, coaches, and parents involved in years past.

## League Information:

- The league will have four divisions: Bidy Ball (1st-2nd), Division 3 (3rd-4th), Division 2 (5th-6th), and Division 1 (7th-8th).
- Each team will have ten kids and one to two coaches.
- Every team has a one-hour practice each week at our Downtown Clubhouse gym.
- Each team gets one to two games each weekend throughout the season, playing against each team in their division at least once. Each game is about an hour long.
- Every team makes the playoffs.
- We have referees and scorekeepers present to support every game.



# CLUBHOUSE STORIES



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

## Downtown Clubhouse 'Moments' Reunited *(and it Feels so Good!)*



In June of 2021, the Downtown Clubhouse was able to expand the number of youth served. We had a new teen begin with us during this time, and on her first day, she saw her best friend. They hadn't seen each other since the shelter in place order took effect in March of 2020. They embraced one another and were crying tears of happiness

because they were able to reunite. Moments like this have been one of many highlights this year at the Downtown Clubhouse.

Another great moment happened when our swim lesson program began. One kid, in particular, has been working for almost two years to pass the swim

test so that he could swim in the deep end. Finally, in summer 2021, his hard work paid off, and he took his first successful dive and swam in the deep end of the pool. This moment was so special! It was incredible seeing him filled with such tremendous joy and pride.

—Katee Freeman, Director  
Downtown Clubhouse

## Live Oak Clubhouse 'Moments' Summer Fun



It's hard to believe it's only been a year since we learned how to navigate virtual school and a pandemic. We learned more than we ever could have imagined. Consistent communication with parents and teachers helped us get our members through the adventure of online learning.

Our 5th anniversary at the Live Oak Clubhouse passed quietly in March. We also marked our 5th year with Pleasure Point Surf Club, which takes an average of 30 youth per week out in the ocean. The all-volunteer coaching staff teaches the youth

ocean conservation, wilderness first aid, ocean safety, rescue techniques, and how to surf. Our surf club was one of the few youth sports that did not shut down because of the pandemic.

After such a strenuous year, we made sure to give our members a summer filled with moments to remember. We had activities such as scavenger hunts, color runs, and water balloons, along with our Summer Brain Gain Program. In addition to our summer programming, we offered UPS Road Code to our teen center members this year. This program

focuses on different drivers' safety principles, from basic instruction to the consequences of risky behaviors such as talking on cell phones, texting, or drinking while driving. The program's state-of-the-art virtual driving simulation challenges teens' safe driving knowledge by using virtual reality headsets featuring interactive animation, voice commands, and various driving environments.

This past September, in partnership with Community Bike Collective and volunteers from Shoreline Middle School, we were able

## Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse 'Moments' Celebrating Success



This past year at the Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse has been full of incredible moments. The beginning of 2021 was all about Youth of the Year. The presentation ceremony was a major highlight, especially Joey's acceptance speech. As a student with autism, seeing him glow with pride in his

achievement and his appreciation for the staff was a moment that uplifted us all.

We had an incredible time with several field trips to the park and the Downtown Clubhouse for swimming during the summer. But our favorite summer moment was our day trip to Harvey West

Park and Evergreen Cemetery with the MAH. We spent the whole day at the park playing games and walking the cemetery, with members of the MAH giving us the history of Santa Cruz.

Then we hit the ground running with the school year. After the first week of school, we had our first Teen

# “Moments Like This”

It's been another tough year for the kids and families that rely on the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County.

- When online learning was the only option for school, the Clubs became virtual learning centers—providing devices, wi-fi, and caring adult supervision, to help keep kids on track.
- As depression and mental health concerns surged among youth, the Club provided emotional support and safe social interaction to help build confidence and resilience.
- When other summer and afterschool recreation programs closed, we opened our doors to serve even more youth.

Although 2021 has been another challenging year for kids and families, there are many positive moments and memories to celebrate. Because when kids have the Club and the Club has you, tough times can lead to great moments. Thank you for supporting our Clubs and contributing to these great moments.



to add a Mountain Bike Club. Community Bike Collective provides the equipment for youth who do not have their own. The bike club rides out every other Wednesday and once a month on Saturdays to allow more members to participate.

— Jennifer Sherry, Director  
Live Oak Clubhouse



Night, where we watched a movie, played several games, and ate a ton of food. The following week we hosted a Parents Date Night, where we had our 1st through 5th grade “littles” stay at the Clubhouse till 10 pm. It was another fun night where we played tag, did a hula hoop game, had more food than we knew what to do with, and ended the night with a movie.

Being open, watching these youth thrive, and living in their moments has been a true joy this year.

—Bryon Windsor, Director  
Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse  
& Michael Herzog, Director, Eagle Club Site

# For kids going through tough times, give them more moments like this.

## Help make Moments Bright this Holiday Season!

For many families at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County, the holidays can be challenging. Each year, our Club hosts the Adopt-a-Family program to pair generous donors with families who could use a little help for the holidays. We invite the community to spread warmth and cheer while creating lasting moments by adopting a family this year!

Please visit our website for more information:

[www.boysandgirlsclub.info](http://www.boysandgirlsclub.info)



## What the CARES Act Means for your Year-End Giving

In September, the Internal Revenue Service explained how expanded tax benefits could help individuals and businesses give to charity before the end of this year. The Taxpayer Certainty and Disaster Tax Relief Act of 2020, enacted last December, provides several provisions to help individuals and businesses give to charity. The new law generally extends through the end of 2021 several temporary tax changes initially enacted by the CARES Act. Here's a quick rundown of these changes:

- All individuals, including those who don't itemize their deductions, can claim a deduction for donations up to \$300. This amount increases to \$600 for married individuals filing joint returns.
- Individuals who itemize their deductions may elect to claim up to 100% of their Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) on eligible contributions. Excess contributions may be carried forward for up to five years.
- "C corporations" may elect to claim charitable contributions made during calendar year 2021 up to an increased limit of 25% of their taxable income. Typically, the maximum allowable deduction is 10% of a corporation's taxable income.

Please remember that special recordkeeping rules apply to taxpayers who claim a charitable contribution deduction. Usually, this includes obtaining an acknowledgment letter from the charity before filing a return and retaining a canceled check or credit card receipt for cash contributions.

For more information about other Coronavirus-related tax relief, visit [IRS.gov/coronavirus](https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus). And always consult your tax advisor for details that apply to your specific circumstances.



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

# Your Investment Makes a Difference



Thank you to our Gold and above Business Partners. Your support is essential to our success. On behalf of the youth, families, staff and board members who make up our Club community, thank you for your generous and ongoing support!

***Kaiser Permanente & Modern Woodmen Fraternal Financial***

## What is a Business Partnership?

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County are fortunate to partner with companies and organizations that are investing in the leaders and workforce of tomorrow. "Business partnership" includes financial investment, marketing/PR benefits, and volunteer opportunities.

Are you interested in adding your name to this list of supporters? Check out our Business Partnership Program on our website, email our Development Department, [development@boysandgirlsclub.info](mailto:development@boysandgirlsclub.info), or call our Clubhouse for more information about becoming a business partner today!



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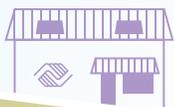
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## Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County Statement on COVID-19 Virus Impact on Upcoming Events

**Safety is the number one priority** of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County, and we are doing everything possible to keep youth, our staff, and volunteers protected from the COVID-19 virus. If at any time, CDC guidelines suggest that we remain remote for safety reasons, we will host all events virtually. Please check the specific event pages on our website for additional updates.

## SAVE THE DATE:

**GIVING**  
TUESDAY

November 30



*Annual Children's  
Holiday Craft & Food Fair*

December 4



**Community  
Open House**  
Great Futures Start Here.

December 7

### FIND US HERE



[www.boysandgirlsclub.info](http://www.boysandgirlsclub.info)



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