



Spotlight on Programs

At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County, we believe that all kids deserve the opportunity to thrive. That's why we fill our Clubs with caring adult mentors and enriching activities that support academic success, promote healthy lifestyles and develop good character and citizenship.

But what does that actually look like on a day-to-day basis? Read on to learn more about the programs and activities that unfold under the "Three Pillars" of our youth development model.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

We're currently focused on providing academic enrichment in a safe, inclusive, and fun learning environment to help youth rebound from the challenges posed by the pandemic. As informal learning spaces staffed by consistent, caring adults, our clubs are uniquely positioned to offer academic support. Our clubhouse-wide "Power Hour" complements and reinforces what youth learn at school via daily 60-minute sessions in which every member at the club receives homework help, tutoring, or participates in focused, self-directed learning opportunities. As Betzy, a member at the Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse, explains: "I like getting my homework done at the

Club. I wouldn't want to wait til the last minute and do it at home when I'm tired. And I like that I can ask staff for help if I need it."

The creative arts are also an essential component of academic success. At our Live Oak Clubhouse, the "Illustrating Your World" class guides youth through the process of brainstorming a concept, using drawing techniques to create character studies, and using professional materials to create portfolio-level Illustrations. Another offering, "Experiments in Art," is a fusion of art and science that encourages curiosity by inviting members to experiment with different mediums and how they interact. Our youth are enjoying these opportunities to explore their creativity, and as Elijah explained, "if you want to be an artist one day, it's good to learn while you're young."

Our music classes include Beginning Piano, which uses the "Color Method" to help members ages 7-8 memorize notes and patterns, while older students use the Faber series to learn performance theory and technique. "Digi Music Lab" facilitates small-group hands-on learning to produce digital music, using basic recording skills and software to turn members' song ideas into reality. As staff member Casey explains, "The tools and

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Executive Director Message

As I sat down to write this message **to all of you who we consider our BGCSCC family**, I was struck by the realization that I did indeed announce that I am retiring in a few short months. I can't possibly thank you enough for all of the well wishes I have received from you and express my gratitude for all of the support you have provided for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County.

During the past 11 years **we have seen so many changes within the Club** including opening a new Clubhouse in Live Oak in partnership with Live Oak School District and the County of Santa Cruz. Two years later we partnered with a team in Scotts Valley to start a new program on their site and eventually merged the two organizations under our banner. Now we have begun the process of discovery and planning for a new full-sized facility in Scotts Valley.

For two years now we have run our programs under the unfortunate circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, and I'm proud to say **we have come out stronger than ever** due to the support of our community, and the dedication and commitment of our staff, volunteers and Board of Directors. Our entire organization has embodied the BGCA slogan "Whatever it Takes" to ensure "Great Futures" for our members.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the hundreds of staff members who have worked tirelessly and superbly during my tenure here in Santa Cruz. Everything our Club has accomplished has been based on the truly transformational programming provided for our members. I was taught at my first Boys & Girls Club that **kids vote with their feet**, and as old fashioned as this sounds today, our families and members are choosing our Clubs for their out-of-school time because of our tremendous staff.

I have had the privilege of working with so many outstanding community leaders as part of our Board of Directors. All of these men and women have worked tirelessly, as volunteers, to steward our Club through the years. They have made it possible to expand our services by helping increase our fundraising capacity, creating the opportunities and support for staff to thrive and grow as leaders, which all allowed **more opportunities for our youth to develop their personal path to a great future.**

The Board of Directors was courageous as they helped lead the Club through the numerous adjustments, now known as pivots, which allowed us to remain open serving youth throughout this pandemic. Our clubhouses were some of the first out-of-school time facilities supporting "essential worker" families and guided hundreds of children through their year of virtual school.

In conclusion I would like to add that **it is with great excitement for what comes next, and just the right amount of sorrow, to know that my time with BGCSCC will**

soon come to a close. I have had the most rewarding time in my career working with all of you and all of our terrific staff over the past 11 years here in Santa Cruz County. We have all worked so hard with one thought in mind, 'Do Whatever it Takes', to help provide inspiration, support, mentorship, and so much more for all of our members.

With abundant gratitude, THANK YOU!



Bob Langseth, Executive Director

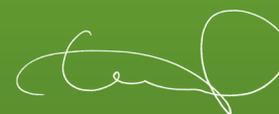
President's Message: A Legacy Worth Celebrating

After an incredible 38 years with Boys & Girls Clubs, our Executive Director, Bob Langseth has decided to retire to enjoy a much deserved change of pace. While our Board is sad to see Bob transition out of his role, we're grateful for his leadership over the past 10 years.

Bob's contributions to our community have been vast—from establishing the Live Oak and Scotts Valley clubhouses to remodeling the Santa Cruz clubhouse to everything in between. His vision brought back a robust co-ed basketball program, new teen program areas, and strong partnerships with local school districts. Our single downtown clubhouse was serving about 130 youth per day back in 2011 with a total enrollment of 1,000 members. By 2019, our three clubhouses were serving 435 youth per day and had over 2,600 members.

One of my favorite times with Bob is at our annual Golf Tournament. You can see his passion for raising funds and supporting the Club by doing whatever it takes: he golfs, he serves lunch, he's the auctioneer, and he gives a gracious speech that reminds us all that we can make a difference by supporting local youth.

As the Board of Directors, we're here to ensure a smooth transition. We'll be conducting a comprehensive search for our next Executive Director, and will keep our community updated along the way. In the meantime, please join me in thanking Bob for all he has done for our Clubs over the years.



Teresa Swart
BGCSCC Board President



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technology to create music are more accessible than ever before. There's nothing more rewarding than seeing kids' faces light up when they hear their own song they created, played back."

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

When it comes to healthy lifestyles, being physically active is at the top of our list. Favorite activities include swimming, basketball, and playground classics like dodgeball and capture the flag. One of our Club's most unique offerings is the Pleasure Point Surf Club, which takes an average of 30 youth per week out into the ocean. Now in its 14th year, and 6th year of partnership with BGCSCC, the Club's all-volunteer coaching staff teaches youth about ocean conservation, wilderness first aid, ocean safety, rescue techniques, and of course, how to surf. Our surf club was one of the few youth sports that did not shut down during the height of the pandemic, and is a welcoming space for all youth – whether they prefer to explore tide pools and play in the shorebreak, or take their surfing skills to the next level. As Tala, age 13, explains, "Surf Club is a place where I can release my stress built up from the week."

Our Clubhouse staff have also spent a lot of time focused on supporting our youth members' mental health, which is crucial in light of the challenges posed by the pandemic. One key tool has been "SMART Moves," a program in which staff leaders guide youth through daily skill-building activities that allow for focused conversations about mental health challenges, and coping strategies to learn impulse control and self-regulation. As a result, youth learn ways to create a positive view of their future, gain a positive self-image, avoid peer pressure, and make healthy decisions about risky behaviors.

GOOD CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP

Leadership development is a central element of the Boys & Girls Club movement. Our "Torch Club" program offers a small-group leadership and community service experience for middle school youth aged 11-13. Torch Club is a powerful vehicle through which Club staff help meet the special character development needs of younger adolescents at a critical stage in their development. Each year, Torch Club members work together to design and implement volunteer service projects of their choice, in four areas: service to Club and community, education, health and fitness, and social recreation. In past years, they've led cleanup efforts at their neighborhood park, written the "about this pet" descriptions to help local shelter animals get adopted, "filled the barrel" for Second Harvest Food bank, and planned the annual clubhouse Halloween party.

For more than 70 years, Boys & Girls Clubs across the nation have celebrated inspiring teens and their incredible journeys via the "Youth of the Year" program. Here at BGCSCC, we recognize local youth for their outstanding leadership, service, academic excellence, creativity and dedication to living a healthy lifestyle. One recent example is Downtown Club member Ricky, who is our 2021 Academic Success recipient. Ricky's dedication to academics resulted in his selection into the Cabrillo Advancement Program, an amazing opportunity that will support him in being college-bound via ongoing counseling, tutoring, academic support, field trips, a week-long summer institute and a \$2,000 scholarship to attend Cabrillo College. As Downtown Clubhouse Director Katee Freeman explained, "we are incredibly proud of his hard work in achieving this goal!"

BASKETBALL ROUNDUP!

After more than a year on hiatus due to the pandemic, we were thrilled to relaunch our basketball league for the 2021-2022 season.

It was incredible to have our Downtown Clubhouse once again filled with the sound and energy of basketball practice every afternoon.

Our dedicated volunteer coaches focused on skill-building and teamwork to get kids tuned up after a year off from organized play. We welcomed 280 players aged 6-14 across our four divisions, for a total of 22 teams. Each team practiced once per week at the Downtown Clubhouse, with one to two games per weekend.

Our 1st and 2nd grade "Biddy Ballers" had a great time while learning the basics. As Pepe, age 7, explained, "I got lots of practice dribbling and passing, and I loved getting to play real basketball games. It got a little crazy. It was like watching basketball on TV, but in real life!"

Among the many highlights this season were a girls-only clinic with the Santa Cruz Warriors, end-of-season playoffs at Kaiser Permanente Arena, and group trips to watch the Santa Cruz Warriors play.

As she reflected on the season, 3rd grader Miranda said "I really liked my coaches and teammates. I learned how to do a layup, and how to be less shy and a little more confident being myself." When asked about the highlight of the season, she explained, "I loved playing in KP Arena. It looks big, and feels even bigger when you're playing. I kept thinking 'I can't believe I'm playing a basketball game at the Santa Cruz Warriors' stadium!'"

Lucas, an 8th grader who has played with us for 5 seasons, shared: "I learned that no one wins as an individual. We worked together as a team really well." As a more experienced player, he and his team focused on "learning to not make easy mistakes. Keeping it simple, like making our layups." Jake, a 5th grader said that his favorite moment of the season was "blocking another player's shot. As a shorter person, this was a great feeling!"

We're grateful for all the volunteers, coaches and parents who helped make this season possible, and are so proud of each and every player who participated. See you next season!





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

2021

IMPACT REPORT

Our Mission

to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



The Need in Our State

In California, nearly 3.1 million children would be enrolled in an afterschool program if one were available to them, and more than 607,000 kids were alone and unsupervised between the hours of 3pm and 6pm in 2020.¹

Our Reach



Eagle Club
BROOK KNOLL ELEMENTARY



Live Oak Clubhouse



Bear Club
VINE HILL ELEMENTARY



Joe & Linda Aliberti Clubhouse



Downtown Clubhouse

5

Boys & Girls Club Sites
in Santa Cruz County

Member Demographics 1,222 Youth Served

55

Adult Staff

80%

Ages 12 and Younger

20%

Teens

47%

Minority Races or Ethnicities

26%

Live in Single-Parent Households

39%

Qualify for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch

The Club Experience

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.

Demonstrating Our Positive Impact



Good Character & Citizenship

THE NEED — 26% of all youth in California were involved in a physical fight in the past year.³

WHAT WE DO — Torch Club, Youth of the Month, Youth of the Year.

OUR IMPACT — 63% of Club members volunteer in their community at least once per year, while 86% believe they can make a difference in their community.

90% of our Club members expect to graduate from high school, and **82%** expect to complete some kind of post-secondary education.

86% of Club members believe they can make a difference in their community.



Academic Success

THE NEED — 16% of young people in California fail to graduate from high school on time.²

WHAT WE DO — Torch Club, Youth of the Month, Youth of the Year.

OUR IMPACT — 90% of our Club members expect to graduate from high school and 82% expect to complete some kind of post-secondary education.

How you can help

With your generous support, Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County will create opportunities to help more kids and teens achieve great futures. To make a donation or learn about other ways you can help, contact Lis DuBois, Director of Strategy, at 831-423-3138 or visit www.boysandgirlsclub.info/donate.

Healthy Lifestyles

THE NEED — 31% of young people in California are overweight or obese.⁴

WHAT WE DO — Individual sports and recreation activities, Basketball League, SMART Girls, SMART Moves, Pleasure Point Surf Club, Triple Play.

OUR IMPACT — 67% of Club members ages 9 and older report getting at least an hour of physical activity on five or more days per week.



BGCSCC
PLEASURE POINT
SURF CLUB

¹ <http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/data/geo/California/overview>

² <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/ad/datasummary.asp>

³ <http://nccd.edc.gov/youthonline>

⁴ <http://nccd.edc.gov/youthonline>

Looking for a way to support youth in our community? Come join our team of difference-makers.

Whether you love playing basketball, have a passion for the arts, or simply enjoy helping others, there's a role for you at the Club. By joining our team, you can make lifelong memories, earn money doing what you love, and have fun supporting local youth. To learn more about available positions, please visit www.boysandgirlsclub.info/careers.



Dive into Aquatics at the Downtown Clubhouse

In a coastal community like Santa Cruz County, learning how to swim is an essential safety skill for all young people. It's also a fun way to stay active and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

We're excited to announce that we've partnered with Cougar Swim School to expand the aquatics offerings at our Downtown Clubhouse. We'll be offering rec swim for Club kids during Spring Break and afterschool, as well as small group

swim lessons on select weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings beginning this summer. Not only do swim lessons reduce the risk of drowning, they can create a love and respect for water early on, while building confidence that will stay with kids for the rest of their lives.

Do you know a young person who'd like to learn to swim in a welcoming, youth-centered environment? If so, give us a call!

Swim Lesson Details:

- Swim lessons will begin in June 2022
- Each session includes four 30-minute lessons over a two-week period
- Lessons are taught in small groups of up to four children with one instructor
- The enrollment fee is \$60 per two-week session (scholarships available)
- Sign up by emailing katee@boysandgirlsclub.info or by calling 831-423-3138.

Become a Friend of the Club!

We're thrilled to announce the launch of The Friends of Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County, a support group that offers community members the opportunity to connect with each other, socialize, and use their talents to inspire and positively impact the lives of local youth.

The group's inaugural event will be the *First Annual Grand Tabletop Luncheon* featuring incredible themed tables and coveted raffle prizes. The event will be held on Saturday, May 7 at Cafe Mare from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Join us to engage with like-minded community members, celebrate the achievements of young leaders, and learn about the exciting plans the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Cruz County has in store.

To learn more about the Friends of the Club or RSVP for the Grand Tabletop Luncheon, please contact Lis DuBois at lis@boysandgirlsclub.info.



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

It's time to "SWING INTO GREAT FUTURES."

The 51st Annual Swing into Great Futures Golf Tournament in memory of Don Bailey supports the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Cruz County's efforts to enable young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

Our 2022 Golf Tournament will be held Friday, July 8th at the beautiful DeLaveaga Golf Course in Santa Cruz. Join us for an afternoon of fun capped off with a celebratory dinner reception at the Grille at DeLaveaga.

We hope you will participate in this special tournament by signing up to play, becoming a sponsor, or making a donation. All funds raised go directly to helping kids and teenagers stay safe, connected and on track for a great future.

To register please visit
[www. boysandgirlsclub.info](http://www.boysandgirlsclub.info).



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GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



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OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
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SAVE THE DATES:

**Summer Program
Registration**
April 4, 2022

**Friends of the Boys & Girls Club
Grand Tabletop Luncheon**
May 7, 2022

**Golf
Tournament**
July 8, 2022



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