

FALL 2023

Posted.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH NEWS

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Alumni Association held its 2nd annual golf outing fundraiser, sponsored by NTD, on August 13. The group is happy to announce they raised \$15,000 to support Club youth. Thank you to all those that contributed in support of our Club.



INSIDE

Learn about ways you can help Club families during the holiday season!



Whatever It Takes to Build Great Futures

For over 53 years our Boys & Girls Club has been dedicated to doing **Whatever It Takes** to serve the youth and families in Oshkosh. Over the last year, the Club has been undergoing a major transformation in order to help us better serve our mission and reach more youth and families that need our services.

Exciting New Changes to See at the Club

We broke ground on the project, led by contractor and long-time friend of the Club CR Meyer, in October 2022 and have since completed a classroom expansion in the Radford side of our building, a new multi-purpose turf field, and a full renovation of Head Start, including a new circle drive and additional parking.

Radford Classroom Expansion

The Club's Radford classroom expansion, the Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center, was completed in February. The classrooms allow the Club to double the number of elementary-age members we can serve to 80 youth daily.

Multi-Purpose Field

In June, the new Community First Credit Union Multi-Purpose Field was completed. The turf field provides the Club with a large outdoor space to be used year-round for all types of sports. Kids have been enjoying time on the field daily playing kickball, flying kites and more.

Head Start

In September, Head Start, renamed J. Wilcox Head Start after longtime former Head Start Director Joyce Wilcox and the Club's longtime Director of Facilities Jamie Wilcox, completed a renovation of all three floors of the building it leases from the Club. Classroom space increased from four to six rooms (housing 120 kids) that the Club will use during non-school hours. The entrance moved to Monroe Street, and a safer circle drive and more parking were added.

Opening in March 2024

The Club's new building will be complete in February 2024. If you've visited the Club recently you'll see the outside work is really coming along with the roof on, masonry complete, and the windows are going in soon.

Teen Center & Community Center

The new Verve Administrative Center includes admin offices and the second-floor Amcor Teen Center (ages 13-18), where we will expand on workforce/career readiness, mental health and other programming.

It will also house the Hyde Family Community Center for local agencies to come together to better serve families. We are excited to have 24 organizations already committed, including Children's Hospital, Forward Services, Fox Valley Technical College, Goodwill/FISC, Rawhide, and more.

Middle School Center

A complete renovation of our current middle school/teen space and administrative offices will become a new Oshkosh B'gosh Middle School space, a bigger program space for our middle school-aged members.

Playground, Courtyard and Second Gym

A second gym will connect to our current gym on the east end and a new JR & Suzy Vette playground and courtyard, providing a safer play space, will better serve the 450 children we will have daily.

(continued on back)

SAVE THE DATE

▶ OCT 24

Halloween Party

▶ OCT 26

Youth of the Year Dinner

▶ NOV 23

Festival Foods Turkey Trot

▶ DEC 19

Christmas Party



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH



Dear Friends of the Boys & Girls Club,

It is truly beginning to feel like fall and our after-school programs are well underway! If you come to

visit us at the Club, you're going to see many exciting changes happening. We doubled our classroom space for our elementary-age kids with the completion of our Radford expansion, the Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center. We've gained more outdoor space for sports with the completion of our Community First Credit Union Multi-Purpose Field. Head Start has been completely renovated and gained two more classrooms, that Club kids will use after school, and a new circle drive. We are proud to rename the Head Start building after our longtime Director of Facilities Jamie Wilcox and former longtime Director of Head Start Joyce Wilcox. You can read more about the project in this newsletter.

We have worked really hard to meet our goal for this project and have secured \$16M of the \$18M needed. We'd like to thank everyone that has pledged or given to the campaign so far. If you'd like to give a gift the project please get in touch with me or you can make a donation online at bgcosh.org.

Our staff is focused on educational programming such as STEM, college and career exploration, and additional academic tutoring. All Club members participate in mental wellness and social skills programming, and dedicated one-on-one time is spent with those that need it. Members are staying active through programs

in our gym and on our field, and are learning about healthy eating and overall physical wellness through the Healthy Habits program. Our Big Futures Mentoring Coordinator will continue to match middle school age children with mentors. Please contact the Club if you're interested in learning more about becoming a mentor.

We hope you'll join us for our Youth of the Year Dinner coming up on October 26. It's a night to celebrate members' achievements in the areas of Health & Wellness, Academic Success, and Character & Leadership. Each youth glows with confidence when they come up on stage to be recognized in front of their family, teachers, Club staff, and peers. One of the most exciting moments of the night will be announcing our new 2024 Youth of the Year representative. You won't want to miss it!

I welcome you to visit us and take a tour so you can see all of the wonderful things happening throughout our Club and see our expansion first-hand. To schedule a tour, please get in touch with me at (920) 233-1414, ext. 116. Thank you for your continued support in helping us serve our mission!

Tracy Ogden, CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of Oshkosh, Inc.

Club girls celebrated their completion of our summer Character, Empowerment & Afternoon Tea Program. During the program, girls learned about giving back, celebrating differences, living a healthy lifestyle, and more! They also heard an inspiring message from speaker, Allison Garner.



Thank you to Shea Electric & Communications LLC for treating our kids, staff and the hardworking CR Meyer crew this summer with lunch and sweet treats!



Youth of the Year Dinner

The Youth of the Year Dinner, sponsored by Amcor, is on Thurs., October 26, from 6-8 p.m. at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Convention Center. Donors, teachers, mentors, alum, and special friends of the Club are encouraged to join us in celebrating the achievements of Club members who are being recognized based on their efforts to grow in the areas of Health & Wellness, Academic Success and Character & Leadership. In addition, we will announce our most coveted award of the night, the 2024 Youth of the Year! The Youth of the Year will be awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from the Boys & Girls Club's Charles F. Hyde, Jr. Youth of the Year Scholarship Endowment Fund.

This year's event will be Halloween themed. Feel free to dress in your favorite costume. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with a kid-friendly meal to be served at 6 p.m. Reservations can be made online at bgcosh.org. If you are unable to join us, we hope you will consider supporting the event by sponsoring a family to attend, through corporate sponsorship, or by making a general donation.



Presented by



Thank you to our sponsors:
Presenting Sponsor - Amcor, Achievement Sponsor - Marco Promos, Dinner Sponsor - ThedaCare, Red Carpet Sponsor - Shea Electric & Communications, LLC, and all of our sponsors for making this night possible.

Teens went on a variety of career tours over summer. One visit was to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center where they learned about careers in arts.



All members get to visit the Club's camp, Camp Radford in the summer. They have fun doing a variety of activities, such as building forts, cooking over a camp fire, and fishing.

Ways to Support the Club this Holiday Season



The 15th annual Turkey Trot will be held on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23. The five-mile run and two-mile walk/run and dog jog, will begin at 8 a.m. at the Oshkosh Seniors Center. Proceeds benefit the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh and Oshkosh Community YMCA. Register and find pricing online at www.festivalfoodsturkeytrot.com. Early bird registration runs until Oct. 31st. Participants will receive a free long-sleeve t-shirt and a Festival Foods 6" pumpkin pie. Volunteer to help make this event a success! Sign up online and receive a free Turkey Trot t-shirt as a thank you.

Thanksgiving Meals

Many Club families will not sit down together and enjoy a Thanksgiving meal this year because they cannot afford it or are unable to prepare it. Festival Foods will provide ready-made Thanksgiving Day meals to Boys & Girls Club families in need. If you are interested in purchasing a meal for a Club family, please contact CEO Tracy Ogden at (920) 233-1414, ext. 116 or tracyo@bgcosh.org by Wed., Nov. 15. The Club will coordinate the delivery of the meals to our families.

★ To see more photos of the exciting things taking place at our Club, please visit our Facebook page. ★

Adopt-A-Family

With help from kind and generous donors like you, we can make the holidays brighter for Club families through our Adopt a Family program. Families, who are referred to the program by full-time staff, create wish lists for each child (basic needs items, clothing, and even toys). The Club matches each family with a donor and provides the donor with the family's wish list so they can shop and wrap gifts for their adopted family.



To participate in Adopt a Family, contact Development & Grants Coordinator Bethany Ferguson at (920) 233-1414, ext. 122 or bethanyf@bgcosh.org. Donors are matched with families from October to early December as families become available. Last year the Club was able to give over 220 Club youth a Merry Christmas!



Members Learn Real-World Skills through Junior Achievement

Over the summer, our Quest and Teen programs (grades 4-12th) participated in Junior Achievement (JA), focusing on financial literacy, work and career readiness, and entrepreneurship.



Club members learned about banks, credit cards, loans, starting a savings and checking account, managing expenses, and other financial topics. To focus on career readiness, Quest did mock interviews with volunteers from Winnebago Community Credit Union and Propel Oshkosh. They learned about entrepreneurship by running lemonade stands and discussed what makes a sellable product, supply and demand and making a profit. Our teens worked on resume building and filling out job applications. Along with Quest, they got on-the-job retail experience in a store through Old Navy's Meet & Match Initiative, which provides workforce development experiences to youth.

The program culminated with a visit to JA's mock city in Appleton. Quest simulated different business roles while Teens navigated different life scenarios, made spending decisions and discussed how budgeting decisions can affect them in the future. Thank you to Junior Achievement of Wisconsin and the many volunteers who made this a valuable learning experience for Club members!

Looking for other ways to support Club members?

We are in need of winter waterproof mittens & boots for all ages, or give the gift of a donation to the Club by completing the donation form below:

\$ _____ Gift Amount

Please put my gift towards the Club's general operations

Please put my gift towards the Club's Building & Community Center Project



Donations can also be made online through a safe and secured network at www.bgcosh.org or by scanning the QR code.

Payment Method

- One time payment is enclosed
- I'd like to make a pledge, please contact me
- One time payment should be charged to my credit card
- I'd like to set up (ACH) regular electronic fund transfers, please contact me for details

Name _____
As you would like it to appear on our funding highlights webpage.

E-mail Address _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Credit Card Type:

- Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Name on Card _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

CVV (3-digit code) _____

Signature _____

Date _____

For additional information or questions, please contact (920) 233-1414 or info@bgcosh.org.



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Oshkosh, WI
Permit No. 90



Our Club hosted the MLB Pitch, Hit & Run competition for the first time over summer. Congratulations to Club members Clara and Vivian, who are moving on to compete at American Family Field to win a trip to the MLB World Series! The event was part of an MLB grant awarded to the Club to support baseball equipment and uniforms for Club kids. Thank you, MLB, for this opportunity!

MISSION

To improve the lives of children and families.

VISION

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh will be a generation-changing leading provider of programs emphasizing youth development services and family outreach support to meet the needs of young people 6-18 and their families, especially those who need us most.

CONTACT US!

Phone: (920) 233-1414 | Fax: (920) 233-1816 | Email: info@bgcosh.org

Getting Members Workforce Ready with Old Navy

Our Club has partnered with Oshkosh Old Navy through the This Way ONward Meet & Match Initiative to create fun and new workforce readiness programs for our middle school and teen members. In August, 15 Club members got ON-the-Job training by running the register, dressing mannequins, and other positions at an Old Navy store. Our Club will also be hosting application drives, a career workshop, and a hiring fair with the support of Old Navy volunteers. Money will be earned for our Club, and matched by Boys & Girls Clubs of America, for each event completed.



(continued from front)

“This project allows us to get kids off our waitlists and eliminate renting a second summer site,” said CEO Tracy Ogden. “We will serve 150 more children daily and countless more families through the Hyde Family Community Center. It’s truly a transformational project for our Club families and the Oshkosh community as a whole.”

The Club is working hard to get to the finish line of our capital campaign goal. To give gift to our Building Expansion & Community Center Project please visit bgcosh.org.

▶ **For tours, contact CEO Tracy Ogden at (920) 233-1414, ext 116, or tracyo@bgcosh.org.**

With the opening of our new Amcor Teen Center in 2024, we are excited to partner with more businesses to create valuable workforce readiness experiences for youth. If you’re interested in partnering with our Club, please contact us at (920) 233-1414.

Board of Directors

BOARD OFFICERS

Jeff Trembly, *President*
Noah Hinrichs, *Vice President*
Dale Glen, *Treasurer*
Patty Shea, *Secretary*
Stephanie Gensler, *Advisor*
Mark Lasky*, *Advisor*
Heather Holly-Pinnow*, *Past President*

BOARD MEMBERS

Susan Ackerman*	Darren Lett
Steve Brandes	Jeff Lindemann
Julie Conrad-Peters	Jonathan McKellips
Glenn Curran	Paul Nugent
Art Dumke	Walt Quinlan
Tim Foust	Kevin Ralofsky
Ron Jankowski	Steven Toll
Aaron Johnson	Sarah Wallace

LIFETIME BOARD MEMBERS

Lorie Bunke*	Kurt Koeppler*
Dave Elbing*	Ron Lampe*
Doug Hyde*	Bill Radford*

*Denotes past board president

Printing donated by: **GAME TIME**
SPORTS BAR