

SPRING 2023

Posted.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH NEWS

Kids have been learning how to ice skate with Dr. Eric's Skate Club. Thank you to Dr. Eric for teaching members a great way to be active in the winter!



INSIDE

Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center and meet our Distinguished Award Winners!



How Our Club is Impacting Children and Families

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh is to improve the lives of children and families. Each and every day, our Club focuses on providing quality programs and services for those that need them the most. Here are some of the ways the Club has been supporting children and families over the past year:

Basic Needs

Our Club helps meet the basic needs of our members and their families by providing services like trips to the eye doctor or dentist, haircuts and showers, clean clothes, underwear and socks. In the fall and winter months, this may include providing school supplies, winter coats, hats and boots, and presents at Christmas through our Adopt A Family program. Families may also receive support such as paying an electric bill, providing groceries, or a gift card for gas.

Free Meals

It is the Club's goal to encourage healthy eating habits that promote the well-being of our youth. For every day that they attend the Club, members are provided free meals and snacks. During the school year, the Club provides a snack and dinner.*

In the summertime and on non-school days, youth are provided with breakfast, lunch and a snack.** The Club also serves meals or snacks during scheduled Family Nights, has an onsite Little Food Pantry, provides grocery gift cards to those in need, and serves a meal and delivers turkey dinners to families during Thanksgiving week.

Mental Health & Wellness

Our Club has continued to expand on programs that support members' social-emotional and mental health needs and create positive behavior patterns. 100% of Club members participate in weekly Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) programs that focus on mental wellness, mindfulness, appropriate relationships, and responsibility for actions. In addition, our Behavior Intervention Specialist adds further support by creating individual behavior plans for members who may struggle to express their emotions and leads Club-wide behavior management strategies for staff. Our Club also provides support to those who have experienced a death through our Youth & Family Grief Support Group.

Mentoring

Middle school aged youth are matched with caring adult mentors through our Big Futures Mentoring Program at the Club, a partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters. The program focuses on academic support, leadership and social skill development, career interests, and doing activities together based on the mentee's interests. Additionally, high school students can enroll in the BE GREAT: Graduate program at Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North high schools. Our staff work one-on-one with students at school to stay on track for graduation and create a plan to be college, community, or career ready after graduation.

Parenting & Family Classes

Several times per year, the Club offers free classes that focus on different challenges parents face and activities that encourage family bonding. Some of the classes we've offered are the Keep Calm and Cook On cooking class, Positive Solutions for Challenging Behaviors Workshop, and Dad Camp Night at the Club. These classes are in partnership with UW Foodwise Program, Parent Connection Family Services, and UW Head Start.

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SAVE THE DATE

▶ JUL 18

Afternoon Tea

▶ AUG 6

Alumni Golf Outing

▶ OCT 26

Youth of the Year Dinner



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH



Dear Friends of the Boys & Girls Club,

Summer is just around the corner, and our staff have been hard at work planning fun-filled programs for all ages. We will have three program locations this summer, our downtown Oshkosh Club, Peace Lutheran Church (in its fourth year), and Omro Elementary School (in its second year).

We will continue to have some amazing community partnerships over summer as well. We're on the third summer of our partnership with the Oshkosh Community YMCA for teens. We will offer swimming lessons through the Michael Phelps swimming program, sailing with International Youth Sailing of Oshkosh, and, new this year, 9-12 year olds can participate in the Best Buy Geek Squad Academy Summer Camp, where they will get hands-on experience with some of the newest technology.

All Club members will get to go on field trips around Wisconsin and take day trips to our camp, Camp Radford, in New London.

We are excited to have more space for kids this summer with the completion of our Radford classroom expansion. We are grateful to Bergstrom Automotive for investing in this piece of the project!

Our all-purpose field will be completed in June, followed by the renovation of Head Start in August. As we continue to work hard to close the funding gap, we ask that you please consider giving a gift in support of the Club's Building & Community Center Project. You can read more about the project below.

The school year will soon be coming to a close, and while we put the finishing touches on our summer program, our younger kids are busy doing creative activities, and our seniors are prepping for finals and graduation with the guidance of our Graduate & Career Coordinators. In May, we will celebrate our graduates with a party here at the Club.

I welcome you to take a tour and see first-hand all the wonderful things happening throughout our Club. To schedule a tour, please get in touch with me at (920) 233-1414, ext. 116.

Thank you for continuing to support our mission!

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

Introducing the Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center

The Club is excited to announce the completion of our Radford classroom addition, the Bergstrom Automotive Learning Center. The classrooms, for our elementary-age members, allow the Club to serve 60+ more children each day. In this part of the Club, kids create art and crafts, do STEM activities, participate in social and emotional learning and other structured programs.

"It is so special to see the commitment made by the staff at the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh to support these kids," said Tim M. Bergstrom, President and CEO of Bergstrom Automotive. "We at Bergstrom Automotive were inspired to invest in them through this latest capital campaign. These kids are deserving of these opportunities and support."

Construction continues to move along on the Club's 5-part project. The basement walls and foundation of the new building are going in. The building will include



a second-floor space just for teens. It will also house a community center where several local agencies will collaborate to better serve families (complete in February 2024). The current Teen Center is being renovated to become a space for middle school aged children (complete February 2024). The Club will add an all-purpose field (complete June 2023) and a new playground and second gym (complete late 2024). Head Start is currently under renovation and will also add two more classrooms (complete August 2023). Once finished, the project will allow us to serve 150+ more youth daily.

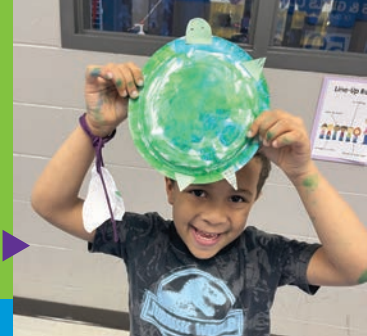
We are still actively looking for donations in order to close the gap and fund the rest of this project. **Give a gift to our Building & Community Center project at bgcosh.org or call (920) 233-1414. We welcome you to schedule a tour to see our Club first-hand and learn more about our expansion.**



Our Quest and Radford groups celebrated Valentine's Day with a party! Kids enjoyed music while decorating cookies and Valentines, and creating artwork.



During STEM learning, members learned about the wildlife and plants native to different islands. They also got crafty by creating their own colorful sea turtles.



Families came together to learn easy, healthy recipes at the Keep Calm and Cook On cooking class. These free classes were in partnership with UW Madison Food Wise program and UW Oshkosh Head Start.

Members shared their dreams for themselves and others by crafting their own colorful dream clouds in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.



A group of 13 members in our Outdoor Adventure Ski Club took lessons at Nordic Mountain and ended the season with a trip to Big Snow Resort at Indianhead Mountain in Michigan. Thank you to Share Winter Foundation for funding this program and providing ski gear for our kids!

Distinguished Awards: Recognizing Friends of the Club

Professional Service Award



▶ Adam Cummings

This award goes to a Boys & Girls Club staff member who's rendered exceptionally devoted service. Adam Cummings has been with the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh for 15 years. He has worn many hats, including working the front desk, youth development, and after-school site coordination. For the last three years, Adam has assisted with our Drivers Education Program by guiding members through classes and

helping them get their temps and licenses. Adam always goes above and beyond to help his team members. He has begun taking on more facilities duties to assist our Director of Facilities, creating a pipeline for the position in the future. Adam enjoys having fun every day with kids and his coworkers, and is always there to make our kids smile and offer support.

Kids & Community Award



▶ Kris Larson and Becket's

This award goes to an individual or business that has demonstrated community leadership in supporting the mission of the Club. Kris Larson and the team at Becket's have been friends and champions of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh for over 14 years. Kris's passion for the Club has shown in many ways over the last few years, especially in 2022. This past summer, Kris provided catering for the Club's Afternoon Tea event

in support of Club girls. The girls were delighted with the delicious lunch Kris put together. When Kris heard the Club was expanding its building, he wanted to know how he could help and chose the Club to be the benefactor of his fall "Grilling with Beer" event. The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh and Kris also share another special connection. Wagner's Meat Market, Kris' other business, currently resides in the same building space the Club did when it first opened its doors in 1970. In 2020, Kris allowed the Club to put up its 50th Anniversary mural outside of Wagner's Meat Market and went out of his way to help the Club navigate the process with the City of Oshkosh. Kris and his team truly love the Club and believe in the value it brings to Oshkosh.

J.R. Vette Friend of Youth Award



▶ Jeff Trembly

This award is named in memory of Lifetime Board Member J.R. Vette and goes to a board member who has put forth outstanding efforts to further the mission of the Club. Jeff Trembly has served on the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Board of Directors since 2008. He is co-owner, vice president, and CFO of Oshkosh Coil Spring, Inc., his family's business. He and his wife, Ann, have been long-term friends of the Club and are

active on several non-profit boards in the community. Jeff joined the Club's board of directors because he wanted to "give back to the community and make a lasting and positive impact on the lives of youth". Jeff has served on the Club's finance committee for many years and has taken on an expanded board president role since 2020. He has also served as treasurer and on our capital campaign, building, and board development committees, and mentors new board members. Jeff can be found at numerous Club events from Thanksgiving and Christmas parties to member graduation parties, on Club tours and much more.

Award of Merit



▶ Elks Lodge #292

This award goes to a volunteer or contributor who has made an extraordinary contribution of time and resources. One of the goals of the Elks Lodge is to invest in the community through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, and improve their quality of life. Elks

Lodge #292 has contributed to our Club for over 6 years, including volunteering, providing school supplies, making Easter baskets for kids, supporting young moms with meals, spending time with teens, and sponsoring our Alumni's Golf Outing. Each Christmas, they put together and deliver 100 Christmas Food Boxes with toys. During the pandemic in 2020, they donated \$1,500 in grocery gift cards for families. For the last 5 years, Elks Lodge #292 has been providing winter boots to our Club members at no cost. Not only do they purchase the boots but they also go shopping with our kids, helping them try on boots and find ones that match their individual styles. These shopping trips have meant so much to our members. Elks Lodge #292 has raised a total of \$15,500 to help 250 kids get new winter boots.

Yes! I want to help ensure great futures for youth who are at risk in the Oshkosh area.

\$ _____ 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:

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



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We are proud to receive the Alberta S. Kimball Award, for making a significant impact in the community, at the Chamber's Annual Meeting in January.

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



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Transportation to the Club

The Club tries to reach as many youth that need our services as possible. Kids are currently bussed from four elementary schools, three middle schools, and one high school to the Club at no cost. In the last year, we were able to triple the number of kids we could transport after-school to the Club to 119 kids daily.

Non-School Days

When school has scheduled closures during the week, the Club is open so that children have a safe place to go during the day. The Club plans adventurous field trips, fun arts and crafts, and exciting STEM activities to keep kids engaged and learning. Teens will often get the opportunity to go on business and college tours. All youth that attend the Club on a non-school day will be served breakfast, lunch, and a snack. If school is closed due to weather, the Club tries to be open if possible. The Club also provides summer programming Monday through Friday at our downtown Club, Peace Lutheran Church and at Omro Elementary School.

*Provided through funding from the USDA and the CACFP program

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Board of Directors

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Doug Hyde*	Bill Radford*

*Denotes past board president

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SPORTS BAR

Save the Date

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 | Gibson Social Club, Oshkosh

Women from the community will gather to celebrate the accomplishments of Club girls this summer at Afternoon Tea! A short program will feature inspiring words from a special guest speaker. Registration opens later this spring. To learn about sponsorship opportunities or how you can get involved in this event, contact our Director of Development & Strategic Initiatives, Katie Talken, at (920) 233-1414, ext. 129 or katieta@bgcosh.org.

