

# 2022

## ANNUAL REPORT



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF ACADIANA





# Great Futures Start Here

## WHO WE ARE

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana is a 52-year-old organization running after-school and summer programs for youth ages 6-18 in 6 parishes. Our mission is “to empower all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as caring, productive, responsible citizens.” Boys & Girls Clubs provide safe places where young people can learn and grow. We believe every kid and teen deserves access to experiences and opportunities that change their lives for the better. Through caring mentors, innovative programming, and an unwavering commitment to safety, Clubs across our area do whatever it takes to support youth on their path to a great future.



MEMBERS AGES 6-18 YEARS

**2,878** YOUTH SERVED

**7 CLUB SITES**

Jackie Club  
Granberry Club  
Vermilion Club  
Iberia Club

Opelousas Club  
Cheniére Energy Club  
Natchitoches Club

## BY THE NUMBERS

 54% Males | 46% Females 

64% Raised in Single Homes

67% Household earns less than \$30,000

FAMILIES SERVED: **520**

75% Under 12 25% 13+

MEALS SERVED: **42,600**

## MESSAGES FROM RHYAN & BEN

Dear Friends of the Club,

In 2022, Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana reached farther and made a deeper impact in the lives of youth who need us most. 2,878 young people had access to safe spaces, meals, mentors, and programs that help guide them to a brighter future.

Your commitment to building strong communities enabled us to grow our footprint and serve a whole new area in need of after school and summer programming. In March of 2022, the Natchitoches Boys & Girls Club opened its doors at the Ben D. Johnson Auditorium, making it our 7<sup>th</sup> Club in 6 parishes. Our organization's goal was to serve more youth while enhancing safety and quality. We achieved those goals and more with your support.

A big thank you to our amazing Board of Directors for their leadership, engagement, and commitment to the mission. The impact that is being made in the lives of our youth are due to the incredible work put in by the BGCA staff. They continue to stretch themselves in order to provide opportunities for our members to learn and grow. We are not able to do any of this without the generous support of, you, our donors in each of our communities. Rest assured that your investment in Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana is creating our next generation of caring, productive, responsible citizens.

2023 will bring forth new opportunities to serve more youth, we hope you will join us!

Rhyan Wheeler, President & CEO



At the Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana, the past year was another exceptional year focused on the continued growth, sustainability, and safety of our club experience for the youth that we serve. The organization was able to expand into North Louisiana with the opening of a new club in Natchitoches, Louisiana. at the Ben D. Johnson Center in early February of 2022. The support from the area's elected officials, local businesses, and the community will ensure the investments in our youth continues to pay dividends for many years to come.

For the second year in a row the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana also made the national spotlight with the help of Author and Philanthropist McKenzie Scott. Her \$1.6 Million-dollar donation to the Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana will fund further expansion to serve more of Louisiana's youth and ensure that the Club's mission of empowering all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens will continue.

Boys & Girls Club of Acadiana was led by CEO Rhyan Wheeler and her staff that put in countless hours and dedication to help build great futures. The entire staff from top down attended numerous training sessions including CPI (Crisis Prevention Intervention), CPR, and helped develop an Emergency Operations Plan focused on youth safety. The safety of the youth we serve is a top priority of all the staff and Board of Directors associated with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and myself we would like to thank McKenzie Scott, as well as all the donors, sponsors, and partners who continue to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana. Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana continues to be on an upward trajectory being able to serve more youth with another expansion into the New Iberia Community, opening a second club at the New Iberia West End Club in July 2023. We look forward to continuing to build great futures and what is ahead for another successful year in 2023!

Ben Lognion, Chief Volunteer Officer



# Providing Growth with Club Programs



*“Throughout my time at the Boys & Girls Club, I have become smarter and more capable of doing anything I put my mind to. The staff has shown me how to set goals for myself and identify what really matters to me. The club has shown me that although I have ups and downs, there is nothing that can stop me.”*

— Granberry Member, Jaliah C.



*“I have seen my boys’ grades climb for which I’m very appreciative because there are some things I cannot help them with. And I owe that to the club. They have also been taught many life skills that will help them through different walks of life through the clubs’ programming. The old quote ‘it takes a village to raise a child’ is true and I’m proud to say my village is the club.”*— Cheniere Energy Parent



## CHARACTER & LEADERSHIP

### PASSPORT TO MANHOOD

encourages boys age 8 to 14 to develop and mature into young men. Passport to Manhood represents a targeted effort to engage young boys in discussions and activities that reinforce character, leadership and positive behavior. Each participant receives a “passport” to underscore the notion that he is on a personal journey of maturation and growth. Each of the program’s 14 sessions use interactive activities to focus on a specific aspect of character and manhood. It also includes a service project where boys learn the importance of giving back to the community.

### SMART GIRLS

is a small-group health, fitness, prevention/ education and self-esteem enhancement program designed to meet the developmental needs of girls in three age groups, spanning ages 8 to 18. Through dynamic sessions, participatory activities, field trips and mentoring opportunities with adult women, Club girls explore their own and societal attitudes and values as they build skills for eating right, staying physically fit, getting good health care and developing positive relationships with peers and adults.



## HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

### TRIPLE PLAY

is a dynamic wellness program that is designed to help youth create opportunities to take charge of their personal health and wellness.

- **Healthy Habits (Mind):** Addresses the ways an individual’s health behaviors are influenced by personal beliefs and exposure to positive modeling. In addition to nutrition education, activities focus on helping youth assess, practice, identify, consider, and recognize health behaviors and messages.
- **Daily Challenges (Body):** Intentional focus on physical literacy: Ability - Increasing capability in basic movement skills and overall fitness; Confidence -the knowledge of the ability to play sports or enjoy other physical activities and Motivation- the intrinsic enthusiasm for physical activity for members to be physically active for life.
- **Social Recreation (Soul):** Emphasis on social and emotional development, or the social, cognitive, and behavioral skills that youth need to be healthy and productive. There is an explicit focus on emotional regulation, healthy relationships (with self and others), and responsible decision-making.



## ACADEMIC SUCCESS

### PROJECT LEARN

reinforces the academic enrichment and school engagement of young people during the time they spend at the Club. Students do much better in school when they spend their non-school hours engaged in fun, but academically beneficial, activities. Through Project Learn, Club staff use all the areas and programs in the Club to create opportunities for these high-yield learning activities, including leisure reading, writing activities, discussions with knowledgeable adults, helping others, homework help, tutoring and games that develop young people’s cognitive skills. Project Learn also emphasizes parent involvement as well as collaboration between Club and school professionals.

### DIY STEM

is a hands-on, activity-based STEM curriculum which connects youth aged 9 to 12 to science themes they encounter regularly. Special attention is paid to connections of theory and application and the common interactions members have with these scientific principles. DIY STEM currently includes five modules: Energy and Electricity, Engineering Design, Food Chemistry, Science of Sports: Football.

### SUMMER BRAIN GAIN

helps prevent youth from falling behind and losing academic skills while school is out. It is comprised of one-week modules with fun, themed activities for elementary school, middle school and high school students that are aligned with common core anchor standards. As a result, kids develop higher-order thinking skills through the Summer Brain Gain modules while staying on track for the coming school year.

### POWER HOUR: MAKING MINUTES COUNT

helps Club members ages 6-18 achieve academic success by providing homework help, tutoring and high-yield learning activities and encouraging members to become self-directed learners. Dedicated youth development professionals and volunteers supervise each session and help youth members complete their assignments for the day.



# THE ANATOMY OF OUR CLUB KID

**GOOD CHARACTER**  
Responsibility through mentorship.

**GROUNDING**  
By fundamentals and good citizenship.

**HEALTHY HABITS**  
Life-long healthy decision-making.

**POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS**  
Built on trust and support.

**VOLUNTEER-MINDED**  
Active in community service.

**AUTHENTICITY**  
Safe to be themselves in  
a positive environment.

**HAPPY**  
Strong self-confidence.

**EQUIPPED**  
Tools needed for success.

**EMPOWERED**  
Through effective programs.

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS**  
On track to graduate from high school.







## LOUISIANA STATE YOUTH OF THE YEAR

On April 30th, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana was honored to host the 2022 Louisiana State Youth of the Year Competition. The Youth of the Year title is a prestigious honor bestowed upon an exemplary young person in recognition of leadership, service, academic excellence, and dedication to live a healthy lifestyle. Gathering at the First Horizon Tower, Keynote Speaker, Hollis Conway opened the Ceremony followed by State Youth of the Year Candidates delivering their award-winning speeches. Rhyann Wheeler, CEO and President of BGCA, and Senator Gerald Boudreaux proudly presented this years Military and Traditional Louisiana State Youth of the Year Recipients: Samuel "Sam" S. and McKinsey N. We congratulate all the candidates who participated in the program as it was an amazing two days spent venturing through multiple Lafayette favorite sites to see. We sent the best of luck to Sam and McKinsey as they competed in the Regional Competition in June.

## 2022 CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

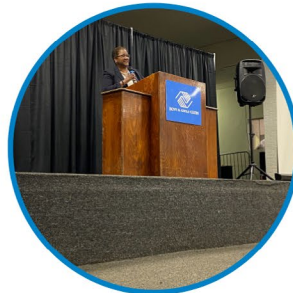
### CELEBRITY WAITER

After a 2-year hiatus, it was wonderful to gather a community together for a common goal and mission to support the Rodney Simon Unit of Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana. Celebrity Waiters, UL Lafayette Ragin' Cajuns Baseball, UL Lafayette Ragin' Jazz, & Kiwansis Abbeville, served meals as the live and silent auction commenced. We send a special thanks to the Quality Sports Authority for hosting the event, Ryan Abshire for great entertainment, Gabe Marceaux and Mike Couvillon for auctioneering, Photo Bomb Dot Com, LLC, to make this event happen.



### A NEW CLUB LOCATION!

Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana opened a club for the Natchitoches youth in March 2022 in the Ben D. Johnson Auditorium. With the closure of the Boys & Girls Club of El Camino Real in 2018, the need for youth development programs for the youth was at a full time need. The re-establishment of a Boys & Girls Clubs has filled the void with robust after-school and summer activities for Natchitoches' youth.



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana celebrated the launch of a new technology-filled Innovation Lab at its New Iberia Club, made possible by a \$20,000-grant from the James M. Cox Foundation. The donation is part of a greater \$150,000 gift from The James M. Cox Foundation to create new Cox Innovation Labs across the nation, develop STEM programming and provide training for the Boys & Girls Club staff. The Innovation Labs are the cornerstone of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Club Tech program, which provide students access to curriculum to advance their computer literacy skills. These Innovation Labs also help bridge the digital divide for children without access to a computer or internet connection at home.

### NEW IBERIA COX INNOVATION LAB



### COUNTRY CONCERT

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana held their Second Annual Country Concert on October 12th with Opening Act, Coteau Grove, and Special Guest, Shenandoah. Family and friends gathered for a night of music, laughs, and memories made making a difference for the youth in our community.





# LEADING THE WAY FORWARD

## Leadership Staff

**PRESIDENT & CEO** Rhyan Wheeler

**VP OF ADMINISTRATION** Fawn Hernandez

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS** Tamara Anthony

**DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT** Brian Ford

**GRANTS MANAGER** Amy Hauser

**AREA MANAGER** Elise Morrison

**RECRUITMENT & ENGAGEMENT MANAGER** Kaitlyn Collins

**EVENTS & MARKETING MANAGER** Samantha Leger

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** Wanda Johnson

**FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR** Donni Carter

*The Club has helped me have a place to go to every day where I feel like I belong but also gives me a place to go where I am surrounded by positive male role models, is especially important to me since I have grown up without a father.*

— Vermilion Member, Mckinsey N.

## 2022 STAFF

## 2022 BOARD MEMBERS

**CHIEF VOLUNTEER OFFICER** Ben Lognion — ISS

**CHIEF VOLUNTEER OFFICER ELECT** Joe Spell — Tides Medical

**PAST CHIEF VOLUNTEER OFFICER** Grant Guillotte — Hancock Whitney

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Robert Benoit — Lafayette Fire Department

Emily Hamner — Pinhook Foundation

Angie Doyle — Burgersmith

Lynwood Creswell — Retired

Abigail Payne — Northwestern Mutual

Jason Patout — Gulf Coast Bank

Hannah Johnson — Klout9

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Blake Adams — Darnall Sikes Wealth Partners

Tracey Lassere — Junior League of Lafayette

Dale Miniex — University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Ken Francis — Coca-Cola

Brach Myers — LHC Group

Brandy Ledet — Louisiana Economic Development

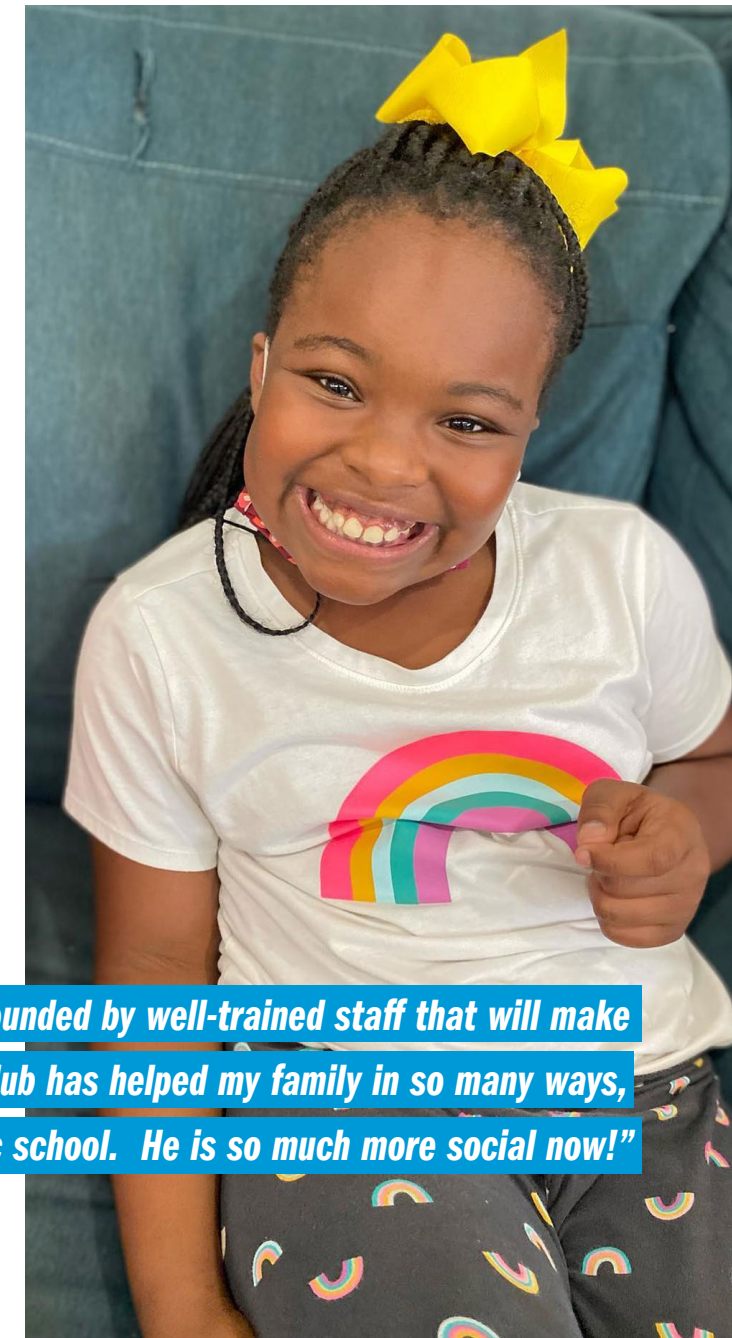
Vanner Erikson — Northwestern State University

Tonya Bolden Ball — Ochsner Lafayette General

Vince Saitta — Colomb & Saitta

*I know when he is at the club he is surrounded by well-trained staff that will make him feel welcomed and supported. The club has helped my family in so many ways, especially when he transitioned to public school. He is so much more social now!"*

— New Iberia Parent







# 2022 DONORS

## \$50,000+

Chevron North America  
Exploration and Production  
Company  
McKenzie Scott  
Myers Family Foundation  
Weyerhaeuser

## \$25,000+

Anonymous  
Boyd Gaming Corporation  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America  
Cheniere Energy  
City of Lake Charles  
Cleco  
Dynamic Insulation &  
Fireproofing Contractors  
International Paper  
Foundation  
LHC Group  
Roy O Martin  
St. Thomas More High School

## \$10,000+

Alliance Compressors  
Arthur Blank Family  
Foundation  
Carrie and Parker Templeton  
City of Natchitoches  
Courtesy Automotive Group  
David Romagosa  
First National Bank  
Genesis Gives  
Gulf Coast Bank  
Jeff Landry  
Jim Doyle  
Lafayette Coca-Cola  
McIlhenny Company  
Meritus Credit Union  
Murphy USA  
Natchitoches Community  
Improvement  
Ray Chevrolet  
Stuller Family Foundation  
Thomas Freeland

## \$5,000+

Abbeville Family Partnership  
Armond Schwing  
Ash Grove Foundation  
Atmos Energy  
Cal-Chlor  
First Guaranty Bank  
Global Vessel & Tank  
Hancock Whitney  
Industrial & Oilfield Services, Inc.  
Jacob Landry  
Kreig Allen  
Kristie McMath  
Lafayette City-Parish  
Consolidated Government  
Louisiana First Horizon Foundation  
Lynwood Creswell  
McElligott Family Foundation  
Moss Motors Pinhook  
Foundation, Inc.  
Preferred Care Services, Inc.  
Ross Campaign  
Rotary Club of Opelousas  
Sterling Automotive Group  
Tides Medical

## \$2,500+

Acadian Ambulance  
ACE Specialties  
Bernhard Mechanical  
Contractors, LLC  
Bradley Beck Agency, Inc.  
Brookshire Grocery Co.  
Coca-Cola  
Cyril Guidry  
Darnall Sikes Wealth  
Partners  
Darnall, Sikes, & Frederick  
Dick's Sporting Goods  
Fred & Karen Hoyt  
Fremín Properties, LLC  
Global Data Systems  
Gulf Coast Office Products  
Kaptel  
La Competitive

Telecommunications  
Live Like Liam of Iberia, Inc.  
Opelousas General Hospital  
Foundation, Inc.  
Roseanne Mitchell  
Russo Exploration  
Shane Langlinais Fund  
St. Landry Foundation  
Tim Metcalf  
Toby Broussard  
Triad Construction  
Vincent Saitta  
Wade Boudreaux

## \$1,000+

Abbeville Building & Loan  
Abbeville Chiropractic Clinic,  
A.P.C.C.  
Abbeville General Hospital  
Acadiana Dodge  
Angie Doyle  
Benjamin Domingue  
Billy & Clara Mosing  
Foundation  
Billy Domingue  
Bolton Enterprises LLC  
(Bolton Realty)  
City Bank & Trust  
DBMC Restaurants of  
Lafayette LA, LLC  
Dinah & John Bradford  
Discount Tire Center, Inc.  
Donnie Landry  
EpicTouch  
Feldman Orthodontics  
Gaiennie Lumber  
Golfballs.com  
Hub Enterprises, Inc.  
Jerry Shea  
Joseph Pearson  
LANTEC of Louisiana  
Lavigne Oil Company  
Libby LeMaire  
M&E Consulting, Inc.  
Macro Companies, Inc.

Mark Alarcon  
Nina S. Chapman Fund  
Northwestern Mutual  
Phil and Mary Lou Brown  
Phil Haney  
Phyllis Krebs  
Rader Solutions  
Raymond Laborde  
Correctional Center Louisiana  
Department of Corrections  
Rayne State Bank  
Rhyan Wheeler  
Russell Landry  
Sans Broussard  
Sheriff Mark Garber  
Charities, Inc.  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
United Way of Southwest  
Louisiana  
Vermilion Parish Sheriff's  
Department  
Warren Farmer  
Woodbriar Senior Living

## \$500+

Acadiana Bottling  
Acadiana Hearing Center, LLC  
Acadiana Security Plus  
AIM Business Captial  
Angelle Broussard  
Arkansas Elder Outreach  
Assurance Financial  
Bank of Erath  
Blair Zuschlag  
Calvin Woodruff, Jr.  
Cardinale Insurance  
CF&S Tank & Equipment  
Chris Alack  
Chris Matt  
Dale Miniex  
David & Jessica Ditch  
David Ashley  
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority  
Douglas Menefee  
Eagle Pest Control &

Chemicals, Inc.  
Facilities Consulting Group, LLC  
Friends of Blake Miguez  
Frontstream  
G&H Tire  
Gauthiers RV Center  
Glenn Lege Construction  
Gulf Crown Seafood  
Hollie Nelms - Edward Jones  
Jack & Lila Lambert  
Joe Pierson  
Jonathon Goudeau  
Jude Duhon  
Leading Home Care  
Leah Lahasky  
Mendoza Ford  
Myriam Hutchinson  
Network for Good  
One Acadiana  
Ottinger Hebert, LLC  
Randy Songy  
Red River Bank  
RV Collision of Louisiana  
Shane Hulin  
State Farm Insurance  
Tamekia Livingston  
Theodore Edwards  
Watt Foster Family Foundation  
Wayne Phillips

## \$1-499

A&A Paint & Body Shop  
Aaron Broussard  
Adam Curry  
Adrienne Burns  
Alex Hoover  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority  
Althea Guidry  
Amazon Smile  
Angela Jones  
Angelle Malbolol  
Annette Doucet  
Annette Montet  
Annette Zerangue Agency  
Barbara Garner  
Bayou State Auctions, LLC

Beau Beaulieu  
Benjamin Law Firm, LLC  
BG Realty and Management, LLC  
Bill Trahan  
BOM  
Bourque Sales & Service  
Brad Ridge  
Brian Guidry  
Bright Funds  
Bruce Brown  
Bryan Spallino  
Canaan Broussard  
Carl Breaux  
Carl Marceaux  
Caroll Trahan  
Carolyn Goodman  
Carrie Lemoine  
Carrington C. Tutwiler  
Carroll Leblanc  
Cashway Pharmacy  
CC Kleinpeter  
Chad & Tobi Edwards  
Charles Fenstermaker  
Cherlyn Hebert  
Chris Bourque  
Chrystal Bengston  
Chun Lau  
Clark Chiropractic  
Clifford & Deborah Hebert  
Collette Rader  
Community First Bank  
Complete Title of Louisiana  
Andrus, Boudreaux, Landry &  
Coussan  
Cory Mouton  
CR Cafes  
Custom Pools by Dohmann  
David Johnson  
Diane Lacour  
Eddie Langlinais  
Edward Jones  
Eleazar Merle Norman  
Cosmetics Emile Myers  
Emily Rinaldi  
Erath Farm Supply  
Eric Thibodeaux  
Erin Mayon  
Ernest & Kinchen  
Exchange Bank

First Presbyterian Church  
Fisher Early Childhood  
Development Center  
Frank Garber  
Fred DeBates  
Frontstream  
Gareth Stevens  
Gillian and Eugene Rogers  
Living Trust  
Glenn & Heather Edwards  
Hamilton Medical Group  
Holly Babineaux  
Home Bank  
Hope Mayon  
James Mitchell  
Jason Matt  
Jean-Paul Coussan  
Jeff George  
Jeffery & Jennifer D'Amico  
Jill Libersat  
Joel Babineaux  
John & Gayle Smith  
John & Kathleen Lassalle  
Joseph Robicheaux  
Julia Lognion  
Julie Barton  
Karen Vincent  
Kate Labue  
Kathryn Herrera  
Katie Abshire  
Kenneth Dejean  
Lasalle Gas Co. Inc.  
Laura Faulk  
Lawrence Broussard  
Lee Posey  
Legacy Funeral Payable Co-Op  
LeMarche LLC  
Liggio Insurance Agency, Inc.  
Loes VanMelle and Kelly Allen  
Mary Mayeux  
Michael Johnson  
Mike Domingue  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
Nichole Bethel  
Norah Rogers  
Oge's Rent All Center  
Panda Express  
Patrick Theriot  
Paulette Yandle

Pellerin Funeral Home  
Phyllis Mata  
Richard Jinks  
Ricky Gonsoulin  
Ricky Lafleur  
Rob Carter  
Ryan Bourriague Campaign  
S. Richard  
Sabine State Bank & Trust Company  
Sarah Bergeaux  
Sharon Menefee  
Sherika Babineaux  
Southwest Solutions, LLC  
Stacey Perrodin  
Stacy Ghanami  
Sully Saunier  
Suzy & Jim Fuller  
The Ben D. Johnson Educational  
Center  
The Benevity Community Impact  
Fund - Morgan Stanley  
The Blackburn Giving Fund  
The First National Bank of  
Jeanerette  
Theriot Family Dental Care  
Thomas & Rosemary  
Zaunbrecher  
Tiffany Harris  
Timothy Bradley  
Toni Quetel  
Tracey Lassere  
Trahan Real Estate Group  
Trent & Jennifer Folse  
Trey & Brienne Hodges  
Vanguard  
Van's Kiddie Care, Inc.  
Venia Lastrapes  
Vernessa Brown  
Vick Peltier  
Walt Zenon  
Walter Boudreaux  
Woman's Club Abbeville

# DONORS IMPACT

## EDUCATION

Programs are designed to ensure that all Club members graduate from high school on time, ready for a post-secondary education and a 21st-century career.

## CHARACTER & LEADERSHIP

Programs develop leadership skills and gain opportunities for planning, decision-making, contributing to Club and community and celebrating our national heritage.

## THE ARTS

Programs are designed to foster creativity in young people, and give them outlets for self-expression. From photography to hip-hop, our arts programs have something that will inspire everyone.

## SPORTS & RECREATION

Programs help develop physical fitness, reduce stress and promote a positive use of leisure time, appreciation for the environment and interpersonal skills.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

Programs develop young people's capacity to engage in positive behaviors to nurture their well-being, set personal goals and grow into self-sufficient adults.



# FINANCIALS

## Revenue

Campaign – 59%
Other Grants – 11%
Events – 9%
Miscellaneous – 6%
AmeriCorps – 6%
LA Alliance – 2%
Foundations – 2%
Government Grants – 2%
United Ways – 2%
Membership Dues – 1%
<b>TOTAL – \$3,683,606.59</b>

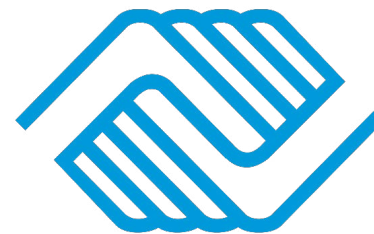






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