Reflection from Dr. Flint Fowler

I continue to be amazed and thankful for the level of financial and community support we receive. Each year just gets better and better, and I am proud to be a part of such a great cause that positively impacts the kids and teens of the St. Louis region. I am also grateful for an amazing staff and their
commitment to our kids. Here are a few of our highlights from 2018:

• Last year, more than $9.7 million was raised in support of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis programs and services
• Remodeled the auditorium at the Herbert Hoover Club
• Thanks to a $20,000 Triple Play grant from Anthem, our Herbert Hoover Club unveiled a renovated gamesroom complete with new furniture, music system, mounted TVs, gaming systems and a serene water feature
• Frank Leta Automotive Group awarded the Youth of the Year winner a new car and, Wanda and Michael DeHaven presented the Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year scholarship in the amount of $5,000
• Continued our partnership with Maryville University to include “A Week in the Life of a Maryville Student” a five day overnight experience for Club teens
• Teamed up with the ZAC Foundation to provide swim lessons and promote water safety to campers
• The Great Futures Gala attracted its largest crowd ever while Table For Four set attendance and fundraising efforts
• Grew the membership of our Women’s Leadership Circle and Friends of the Club affinity groups
• Selected as one of the top Clubs implementing the UPS Road Code teen safe driving program nationally
• Inducted five new former Club members into the BGCSTL Alumni Hall of Honor and celebrated staff, board members, volunteers and supporters for their commitment to our Club children
• Broke ground on the Teen Center of Excellence in Ferguson MO which will offer afterschool and summer programs to teens and youth (ages 12-18) in the North County area. The Teen Center of Excellence, one of the first in the country, will be 26,856 square feet, have three levels and include a nutrition education center, outdoor garden, gym, intellectual commons, teen lounge, auditorium, outdoor basketball and activity court, music and art studio, office space and maker space
• Media attention/coverage for the groundbreaking ceremony was off the chart thanks to our media partners to include over 50 stories, covering an audience of over 5.2 million and a publicity value of $250,000
• The ground breaking for the new Teen Center also signified the launch of the public phase of our fundraising campaign, “A Place to Become”, to complete construction. Donors and supporters put their stake in the ground to declare, “I’m In!” to support Ferguson and North County youth! The campaign raised $5M in 2018 and more than $18M to date
• Introduced a new recognition event for our $10,000+ annual donors and “A Place to Become” supporters where we
honored the Taylor Family and Suzie and Dave Spence

This year brings the opening of our newest Club, the Teen Center of Excellence in Ferguson, an expanded impact on North County youth and so much more! Until then, stay plugged in by mentoring, volunteering, attending an event or spreading the word about the impact BGCSTL is having on youth ages 6-18 all over St. Louis City & County.

**Best Buy Opens Teen Tech Center at Herbert Hoover Club**

BGCSTL, Best Buy, Premium Retail Services, Gateway PGA REACH and Bellerive Country Club celebrated the grand opening of the newest Best Buy Teen Tech Center this week. The center is the first in St. Louis and the 25th that Best Buy has opened nationwide.

Over 1,100 square feet of space was converted into a fully equipped interactive and innovative space with everything needed to engage youth ages 10-16 with STEAM activities. The Center includes a music studio, 3D printer, t-shirt press maker, coding stations, state of the art computers, monitors and virtual reality headsets. The Best Buy Teen Tech Center will give BGCSTL members the opportunity to learn critical tech skills and prepare for the tech-related jobs of the future. Members will have free access to high-end technology, multimedia production, video, graphic and web design, music production as well as college and career preparation opportunities. BGCSTL President Flint Fowler notes, "It’s a place where kids who aspire to become coders, graphic designers, music producers or directors, 3D animators or game developers can thrive! We are grateful to Best Buy and all of the partners involved with bringing this type of
technology to our Club teens!” To read the full release, click here. Or, to view photos of the space and the teens in action, click here.

Camp Registration Open for Kids & Teens

The summer camp season is here and the Boys & Girls Clubs will be offering day camp at eight locations across St. Louis City and North County. Our summer camp offers youth ages 6-15 fun and dynamic experiences that will spark creativity, engagement, and exploration through learning activities. Swimming, teen and STEM programs as well as field trips are just a few of the things campers can experience. Click here for prices, dates and more information about summer camp OR, to hear more about our camps, view our Great Day St. Louis segment, here.

Ladies Lunch Supports Club Girls

Thanks to all of the sponsors who are supporting our upcoming annual women’s luncheon, Table for Four! To date we have sold over 115 tables, the highest in the history of the event! The event will be held March 8, 2019, beginning with networking and registration at 11 am and the program from 11:45 am - 1 pm at the Chase Park Plaza. Proceeds support activities and experiences designed to help girls develop healthy lifestyles, positive self-esteem and make good decisions. The Joan Ellyn Silber Award for Volunteerism and Leadership will also be granted to one of our teen girls during the event. Blue Door Sponsors to date are Arcturis, Enterprise Holdings, Inc., Gateway Blend, U.S. Bank and Webster University and, SMART Girls sponsors are Ameren, Bayer, Centene Charitable Foundation and Clive & Melissa Grannum.

Ferguson Middle School Club
314.335.8330
701 January Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63135

Grannemann Elem. School Club
314.335.8350
2324 Redman Road
St. Louis, MO 63136

Herbert Hoover Club
314.335.8000
2901 N. Grand Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63107

Lee Hamilton Elementary School Club
314.335.8340
401 Powell Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63135

O'Fallon Park Club
314.932.1371
4343 West Florissant
St. Louis, MO 63115

Riverview Gardens Club
314.335.8275
174 Shepley Drive
St. Louis, MO 63137

Southeast Middle School Club
314.953.7795
918 Prigge Road
St. Louis, MO 63138

Special Initiatives
Mentor St. Louis

Newsletter Contact
For more information or with questions, contact Shuntae Shields Ryan, VP, Marketing & Communications via phone 314.335.8009 or email.
Jim Butler Golf Tournament

The Jim Butler Golf Charity Classic, one of St. Louis' premier golf tournaments, will take place on June 17 at the Country Club of St. Albans. The event supports Club Health & Life Skills programs. This highly anticipated event features an 11:30 shotgun, lunch, on course food stations and dinner. Both courses will be available for the tournament. Click here for more.

Friends Casino Night Supports Club Youth

Join the young professional's group, Friends of the Club, for Casino Night - an evening of live music, dancing, casino games, raffles and more to raise money for Club youth on Saturday, April 27, 6:30 pm at the Vault at Southside Tower. For more information, click here.
Member Moment

Thanks to our Mentor St. Louis volunteers for continuing their commitment to our Club members. They recently spent one-on-one time with mentees celebrating and acknowledging their first half of the school year successes. They played board and card games, enjoyed treats, shared laughs, exchanged gifts and received awards for attendance, positive behavior, and academic achievements (reading). Mentees are flourishing in all areas with the continuous help and support of their mentors.

Member Moments

Ferguson Club member, Danielle K., has been selected by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) and Manufacturing Institute as the first place winner of the 2018-2019 STEP Ahead competition. The program exposes
Club girls to the exciting careers available in modern manufacturing. With the honor comes an all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC compliments of The Manufacturing Institute! To view her winning essay video click here.

Danielle also won a $1,750 Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream award from BGCA to be used for expenses related to furthering her STEM projects!

Herbert Hoover Club member, Kahalia A., has been selected by Delux Magazine as 1 of 25 youth to receive the “Phenomenal Kid” award at a ceremony in March!

Ferguson Club member, Troy S., who has been selected to be a performer at the 2019 Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Conference, May 1-4 in Houston, Texas! Our Club’s entry was one of only ten entries selected from over 110 audition videos. As part of the honor, Boys & Girls Clubs of America will cover all transportation, meals and logistic planning for Troy and a chaperone. In addition, Troy will have the opportunity to participate in a series of virtual coaching sessions with
BGCA expert vocal, movement and performance coaches in preparation for his performance.

Grants Recognition

We appreciate the following grant partners for their gifts that strengthen our programs, click here for a full list.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis (BGCSTL) is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. For over 50 years, BGCSTL has been providing after-school, teen, sports and summer programs to youth in the St. Louis area while also providing a safe place for them to learn and grow. The Clubs now serve St. Louis youth at ten locations (Adams Park Club, Ferguson Middle School Club, Grannemann Elementary School Club, Herbert Hoover Club, Lee Hamilton Elementary School Club, O'Fallon Park Club, Riverview Gardens Club and Hazelwood Southeast Middle School Club), within two High Schools (Normandy and Roosevelt High School) and four additional elementary schools through our Mentor St. Louis Program.

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United Way