

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua Update for Donors and Friends

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Teen Initiative Gaining Momentum

Inspired by a very generous gift from **Richard and Ellen Stahl**, we have launched a teen project. We now serve 2,000 teen members and the project will create new ways to attract and provide even more teens with positive programs and alternatives to low achievement and gangs.

We surveyed the community, and volunteer PhD candidate **Daniel Korschun** is helping us complete focus groups with 150 teen members and non-members to learn the challenges they face and the programs and services teens require for social competence and a successful transition to adulthood.

David Brassard, Rob Cummings, Andy Dillman, Gary Gahan, Joe Gaukstern, Dave Heath, Mike Jeans, Jay Leonard, Dr. Robert Moheban, Lynne Simonfy & Don Winn are on the Teen Project committee. See page 2 for more info.

Change a child's life and double your gift.

Our annual campaign "It Just Takes One" has a \$220,000 goal to serve our 4,000 children. If you haven't yet donated to support core programs for kids, [now is the time](#). If you are a new donor, your gift will be matched. See page 2 for details.



At the **June Scholarship Lunch**, donors awarded \$34,000 in college scholarships to 25 members and alumni.



Dennis Nesbitt (top left) presents Club President **Don Winn** a \$10,000 check from **Anheuser-Busch Foundation** for the Nutrition Fund.

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Our Youth of the Year, **Martina Devlin** (L), at the State House with N.H. Youth of the Year, **Heidi Rodriguez** and **Gov. Lynch**.

Newsletter Spotlights

BGCA honors our staff: Boys & Girls Clubs of America national conference highlights on p.2

Merrimack County Savings Bank volunteers make a difference. Meet them on page 2

Oracle, SmithBarney, TDBanknorth, United Way - Thank you for helping our kids!

Oracle awarded us a 2-year grant to help us deepen our impact on members. The grant comes at a time when street crime and gang activity are challenging Nashua. To mitigate these, after school we keep children safe, off the streets, and in activities that provide skills, and build character. Read about national research on the effect of frequent Club participation on youngsters on reverse side.

SmithBarney has provided a grant to help us show youngsters a path to a better life. The grant supports our programs that help members complete homework and improve academic skills.

TDBanknorth has made a grant to help prepare members for college. For many of our teens, the Bank's support means the difference between going to college or not. You may remember **Adolfo Ramirez**, 2003 Youth of the Year. He stopped by the Club in June to tell us he made Dean's List at Keene State College. He says it was the Club that made him realize college was an option.

United Way has awarded us support for fiscal year 07/08 to provide programs for at risk children and for community outreach.

To be removed from distribution, for questions or comments, contact [Leslie Sanderson](#), 603-883-0523.

Teen Initiative (continued)

In addition to what we will learn from the teen focus groups, we have contracted with a research firm to study the issues and concerns of our community's teenagers and to recommend the environment, programs, and services that will engage teenagers and prepare them for successful lives.

"Expanding our teen services and enhancing

the quality of teen programs has been one of our strategic goals," says **Norm Bouthillette**, Club CEO, "and it seems that our organization is now ready for this kind of challenge."

"Preliminary data shows our teens are looking for employment skills and placement, higher education mentoring, drug avoidance skills and conflict resolution skills. These have been and will continue to be priorities going forward."



Annual Giving Campaign Update

At our Club we dream of a world where **every** child is given the opportunity to succeed in life and experience a brighter future. Our 2007 Annual Campaign's goal is \$220,000 to help provide programs and services essential for a successful and effective club. Your generous in-

vestment will help kids develop character and learn skills for a better life.

A local couple has challenged us to raise 50 new donors. **If we meet the challenge, they will donate \$10,000.** Help us meet this challenge. [Donate now](#) or mail your check to the address below. Thank you.

Deepening impact & changing children's lives—What the research shows.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America researched the key elements of youth development. They surveyed knowledge and attitudes about use of alcohol and drugs; avoidance of peer pressure; attitudes toward school; and conflict resolution.

Throughout the country and in New Hampshire, the children surveyed who attended one or more of the Club's youth development programs were statistically more likely to give "pro-social" responses about attitudes toward, and use of, drugs than non-Club members. They were also more likely to give socially desirable

responses about attitudes toward themselves, adult and peer relationships, and school.

The study found that a Club's impact on behaviors depends on the frequency of members' Club participation and the degree to which a Club implements a safe, positive environment, supportive relationships, opportunities, and recognition of members' accomplishments.

To help us assess, modify, and create programs that will deepen our impact on members, **Oracle** has awarded us a \$30,000 Community Impact Grant over two years.



Thank you! **Philip Russo**, **Yan Liao** (above), and **Jennifer Noviello**, staff at **Merri-mack County Savings Bank** at 101 Broad Street volunteer to help us distribute newsletters, event information, annual reports, etc. to keep you informed of our Club's progress and chal-

The Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Conference "Keeping our Promise" (to America's youth) was in May in Orlando. The BGCA Professional Association honored **Barbara Cooper**, our Social Recreation Director, for her distinguished level of achievement in the BGCA Professional Academy.



Barbara was BGCA's guest and officiated in the "Games Room." **Norm Bouthillette**, **Kurt Norris**, **Denise King**, **Mario Pena**, **Leslie Sanderson** and President **Don Winn** also attended.

Dear Friends,

I hope you like the new format for our newsletter. We appreciate your receiving our news electronically because it reduces our publishing expenses. [Let me know](#) if you like this new style and if there are features you want included or left out. Thank you.



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