



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF THE TRI-COUNTY AREA

**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**

Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area  
344 Broadway Street  
PO Box 254  
Berlin, WI 54923-0254

## MISSION

To improve the lives of children and families.

## VISION

The Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area 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.

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### BOARD OFFICERS:

**PRESIDENT:** Matt Chier

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Mary Lyke

**TREASURER:** Peter Kujawa

**SECRETARY:** Bob Murkley

Alex Kohlenberg

Angie Fralish

Beth Hiatt

Bob Eidahl

Cathy Hargrave

Craig Johnson

Drew Diedrich

Eric Cerbins

Lee Baird

Lisa Nelson

Nick Bartol

Steve Sondalle

Tammy Bending

## CONTACT US!

Phone: (920) 361-2717 | Fax: (920) 361-1629 | E-mail: [info@bgctric.org](mailto:info@bgctric.org)

Please visit our website [www.bgctric.org](http://www.bgctric.org) and stay connected with us! 

**WWW.BGCTRIC.ORG**  
**CALL US 920.361.2717**

NEWSLETTER

SPRING

2019



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF THE TRI-COUNTY AREA





JUNE  
3

Drivin' Fore the Club

JULY  
18

Kings of the Court

NOV  
2

The Duel

# THE BLUE DOOR

Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area News



## WHAT'S UP INSIDE?

- A note from Jason
- Kids Say: The Best Thing About Summer
- Member Spotlight
- Kings of the Court Returns
- Summer is coming!
- Club's Mentoring Program
- See what our kids have been up to



## A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

The Boys & Girls Club is founded on a mission of improving the lives of children and their families in our community. As part of that, we think it is important to focus on the child's future after they graduate school.

As part of Career Launch, Club members gain access to jobs in different fields in our own community. From owning your own business to operating large machinery, the Club partners with local businesses to offer an inside look at what it takes to make it in that job field and provides a firsthand account. This opportunity enables youth to see what jobs are available in their community.

The Club has also partnered with Moraine Park Technical College to participate in their Dream Big project. This project exposes teens to more than 100 careers available through MPTC. This unique partnership sparks interest in teens, broadening their horizons and enabling them to get excited about career choices.

Most recently, we've established a Teens 2 Work program. After receiving a grant from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, we partnered with Green Lake Area Conference Center to offer summer jobs to 10 youth ages 14-17 in the hospitality industry. This program will support teens as they navigate the working world and help break down barriers that may exist in our rural community, including transportation to jobs.

Whether our youth plan on attending a 4 year college, technical school, or immediately entering the workforce, our teen programs are geared toward providing youth with the tools needed to be successful.







## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

### GREETINGS,

We looked to 2019 to be a pivotal year where we could expand our reach even further and impact the lives of children and their families and it surely has not disappointed. We've been reaching, on average, a daily attendance

of 138 children every day after school in March. This speaks volumes to the various ways our staff is growing programs for our kids. On March 16th, we held our 16th anniversary of Wearin' & Sharin' the Green and had a record year in our appeal, which means we can continue to further our reach and enable kids to be kids. In June, we will hold our golf outing, and are excited to meet even more needs of our youth.

On April, 23, we held our Great Futures Celebration event at Royal Ridges in Ripon. This event combined our Annual Meeting and Youth of the Year Dinner into one event where we were able to highlight the accomplishments of our Club, speak to our Club's strength, and celebrate some amazing kids who have excelled throughout 2018. We heard from not only our Youth of the Year, Olivia Garcia, but our first ever Junior Youth of the Year, Olivia Faulkner. We also handed out many deserving community awards like Partner in Excellence recipient, Moraine Park Technical College, and Kids & the Community recipient, Diedrich Agency. It was a fun and energetic night for all of our guests!

This summer we will be offering 10 kids a full time job with Green Lake Conference Center through a generous grant we received from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation. This grant will fund a unique program called Teens 2 Work. This program enables kids to work full time during the summer and covers any expenses needed to be successful in the workplace including transportation, uniforms, and food. We are privileged to be able to offer this to our youth and excited to walk through this experience with them. For many, this will be their first job!

As we look to the summer, I encourage you to check out our summer program guide. We are thrilled to offer some returning programs like Little Cadets, and many new ones like Bike Berlin. This is sure to be our best summer yet!

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family well. Happy Spring!

Many thanks,

Jason Presto, CEO



Club member working on sand art in the Zen Den.



Sparks Club member participates in Coding Club.



Club teens attending The Lion King at the PAC in Appleton.



Club members taking care of their "adopted" pets.



As part of the Dream Big program, Club members learned how to fingerprint.



### KINGS OF THE COURT RETURNS

Kings of the Court is an energetic kickball tournament where community and Club come together in an effort to collect back to school items for area kids. Kings of the Court is part of a larger program called Operation Backpack which serves over 300 kids, providing them with the necessary school supplies and clothing to start a successful school year. Kings of the Court will be held at the North Baseball Diamonds at Riverside Park in Berlin on July 18th.

To register a team, contact Ashley Bartol at [abartol@bgctric.org](mailto:abartol@bgctric.org). Teams are limited!



### CLUB'S MENTORING PROGRAM EXPANDS TO GREEN LAKE

The Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area has partnered with Green Lake School District to bring its mentoring program to their school system.

The mentoring program initiative was started in March of 2017 by members of the Community Health Action Team (CHAT) which includes businesses and organizations like the Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area, ThedaCare, Berlin Area School District, Green Lake County Health & Human Services, Green Lake County Sheriff's department, local churches, and concerned community advocates. When the need for a program of this caliber was recognized, the Club was chosen to spearhead it. The program which initially started with a waiting list of 7 children, has now expanded to 28 mentee/mentor matches and is growing.

Briana Harmon, the Club's mentoring coordinator, attributes the success of the mentoring program to a supportive community. "There are so many young people who need that positive role model in their lives and our community has responded in such an amazing way. Our program's mentors not only enjoy spending time with our kids, but are fun and kind. They are meeting the need head on and we are hoping to do the same in Green Lake."

The Club is now accepting mentor applications from caring adults 18 years of age or older who are willing to make the 1 hour a week commitment of being a mentor. If you would like more information on the mentoring program, want to refer a child you feel could benefit, or would like to be a mentor, please contact Briana Harmon at [atbharmon@bgctric.org](mailto:atbharmon@bgctric.org) or call the Club at 920-361-2717 extension 301.



KIDS SAY:  
THE BEST THING  
ABOUT SUMMER IS...

*I get to play whatever I want!* – Case, 8

*Riding your bike.* – Greyson, 8

*Swimming and spending time with family.* – Jahaira, 9

*Playing outside.* – Andre, 7

*Going to the Berlin pool!* – Rosalie, 7

*I get to go to Texas.* – Gisselle, 9



**ROSALIE, 7**

**IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY SUPERPOWER, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**  
To run super fast!

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?**  
Pizza

**WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?**  
A Mom.

**WHAT IS YOUR SPECIAL TALENT?**  
I can bake cakes. I love cooking!

**IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY ANIMAL, WHAT WOULD IT BE?**  
A kitten.

**WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE STAFF MEMBER AND WHY?**  
Ms. Jen; she is so fun!