



SEPTEMBER UPDATE

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE TWIN CITIES



Literacy Program

PARENT TESTIMONIALS

"Moises is reading faster since being in the reading program. He is reading for fun and even asked me to buy him a Captain Underpants book, which is something he wouldn't have asked for before."

"Sylvia is much more confident since starting the reading program. She was behind in reading. Now, she uses the touch spelling skill to sound out words and read at a faster pace. I love seeing her use that skill! I have two kids in the program and they both display more confidence when it comes to reading."

"Our son Eli is a member of the Boys & Girls Club who transferred out of the Spanish immersion school and into mainstream English in 1st grade. This transition is not always easy, but the reading program helped accelerate him to be one of the top readers in his class by year end. He has learned to enjoy reading and really looks forward to participating in the program every week!"

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities are working hard to help close the achievement gap through our new Literacy Program!

The Literacy Program, as part of our commitment to Academic Success - a key focus of a High-Quality Club Experience, was launched last summer with help from Groves Academy. Groves Academy assisted the Clubs for the first year of the program with staff training, coaching, and implementation of Wilson Learning's Sondag System

The Sondag System utilizes a multi-sensory reading instruction and intervention curriculum aimed at helping youth in grades K-3 learn to read proficiently. By teaching skills-based concepts that increase reading and writing fluency, and improve vocabulary and comprehension, we are preparing students for academic success.

In our Literacy Program's first year, **97% of youth saw increased growth in their reading proficiency** and **first-graders**, who attended at least 75% of the sessions, **saw an average of 95.3 words per minute growth!**

We have partnered with Wilder Research to measure literacy and social-emotional levels and growth for all members involved in the program, over the next three years. Through comprehensive assessments, we can ensure that youth are on track to make improvements in reading and our staff receives the necessary training to ensure fidelity to the literacy instruction model.



OVER \$68,000 RAISED!

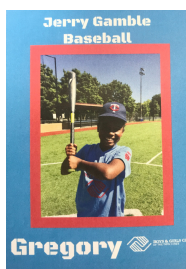
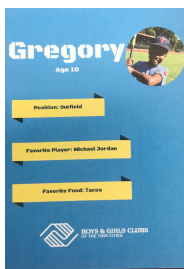
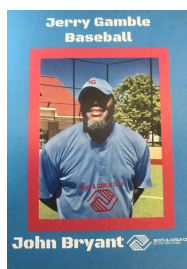
GRAND SLAM DINNER

This year, sponsorships for the Grand Slam Dinner increased by \$38,000 with the addition of three new corporate sponsors, including Cub Foods at the presenting sponsor at the \$15,000 level.

The Jerry Gamble Boys & Girls Club baseball team attended the event in their baseball uniforms. The players on the team also sold their personal baseball cards and did an amazing job--raising \$2,250! The Capital Grille staff was so impressed with the Club baseball team that they donated a backpack full of supplies for each player!

The Live Auction was full of unique items and raised \$11,600. The donation appeal raised \$17,640 this year, which was \$9,260 more than last year!

The Minnesota Twins celebrity waiters had a great connection with our kids and the dinner guests! Twins who participated this year included Brian Dozier, Joe Mauer, Jason Castro, Eduardo Escobar, Chris Gimenez, Robbie Grossman, Buddy Boshers, Taylor Rogers, Ryan O'Rourke, and T.C. the Bear!



KNICKER OPEN

Knicker Open was an exciting event this year filled with fashionable outfits, club kids on the course, new sponsors and lots of fun activities! ***This year, 100% of the proceeds from Knicker Open went to benefiting the Literacy Program at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities.***

There was an opportunity for participants to donate books at registration and from this the Clubs received over 200 new books and coloring books for the kids to enjoy! The event kicked off with a performance by the West Side Notes for Notes group singing "Waving Flag" on the 1st tee box. It was a great start to the golf tournament!

Throughout the day, golfers had opportunities to participate in on-course games with Southside and West Side Club kids and raised nearly \$4,500! Following the round of golf there was a silent auction raising \$7,000 with a short program including a speech by our Youth of the Year, Anaa Jibicho. Overall, the event was a huge success raising \$70,000 for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities!



\$80,000 RAISED!

Jerry Gamble baseball cards



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities was a great success!

Each Club had large crowds that consisted of Club parents, families, and local community members. The Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club had visitors from the police and fire departments, and police officers brought over two horses for Club members to meet! The Twin Cities Mobile Market sponsored by the Wilder Foundation, made an appearance at the Mt. Airy Club event, offering a great resource for community members!

The Boys & Girls Club "Digital Van", funded by Best Buy Foundation, was open for demonstrations at the East Side Boys & Girls Club, with music from Jean-Paul Bigirindavyi. Our West Side Club celebrated with a performance by the Rafael Rivera band. The band consists of three Club members, and the crowd loved them!

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017

Teen Pathways

Teen Pathways enables youth to envision what career opportunities are available to them after high school or post-secondary education.

Teens have been enjoying the opportunity to get out of the Clubs this summer and learn about a wide variety of career experiences, from various industries, including finance, manufacturing, restaurant, retail, agricultural, food, and printing. Thanks to all of the wonderful businesses who donated their time to offer a career opportunity day for our teens!

"I really enjoy visiting large corporate environments as it allows me to envision what it would be like if I worked there one day."

Manny, age 15, Al Lenzmeier West Side Club

"I understand the importance of the Teen Pathways program. I really like the experience of meeting people doing so many different jobs that I might apply for in the future."

Kevin, age 16, Southside Village Club



DEED YOUTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

With our increased concentration on additional data collection during the SFY17 cycle, we now have results that speak to the effectiveness of the programs, not just to the number of youth served.

As of June 30th, the end of our last grant cycle, we are happy to report that as an Alliance, 4,169 youth were served, with 1,164 completing Career Launch or Job Ready! Of those, 565 or 49% were offered an internship, a volunteer position, a Club position or an outside job; 19% of the total 4,169 youth served found placement. Lack of job opportunity and transportation were expressed as the highest reported barriers to success.

Volunteers

WILLIS TOWERS WATSON

We would like to thank Willis Towers Watson employees for volunteering with us at the East Side Club on July 26, 2017 and at the Mt. Airy Club on August 8-9, 2017. They did a great job on a grounds maintenance project, clearing out the weeds and mulching the front and back of the facility.



UNITED STATES MILITARY

The kids had great time learning about the United States Military and cool career options on July 19, 2017. They demonstrated a parachute dive which was a big hit!



LAND O' LAKES

A large group of future and current employees from Land O'Lakes joined forces to provide volunteer services and discuss issues in regards to the economy, food supply and production, and local employment issues on June 23, 2017. They also provided 500 snack packs as a result of their contribution of time!

