



DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

Showing Gratitude at our St. Paul Clubs

After-school hours at our East Side Club in St. Paul are fun and full of energy! These smiling faces enjoyed a friend's birthday celebration, complete with snacks, game time, and staff-supervised activities before starting the day's literacy and art activities.

At our Clubs, kids have a place to play, learn, and make new friends when the school day is done. The support of our communities, partners, and donors helps us keep our Clubs, programs, and families strong!



Some truly impressive basketball skills can be found in the gymnasium of our Al Lenzmeier West Side Club! Almost every weekday afternoon, these talented youth head straight to the Club after school for a few vigorous games of 5-on-5.

Thanks to the Clubs, our kids have a safe and supportive place to hang out, do homework, and shoot hoops with friends. With the help of our supporters, we are able to provide our youth with opportunities to thrive!



Give in Gratitude

to help our children thrive this holiday season!



This holiday season, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities is bringing together youth, families, staff, and community members to reflect on what we are grateful for and to **Give in Gratitude**. Our organization is fortunate to have many wonderful supporters who make our programs possible and truly care about helping our kids succeed – *we are so grateful for you!*

We ask that you **Give in Gratitude** in support of healthy, bright futures this holiday

season. **Al & Kathy Lenzmeier** believe so strongly in BGCTC's impact that they are generously offering a **\$50,000** dollar-for-dollar match on contributions through **December 31st!**

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities provides caring mentors and holistic programs to ensure each of our kids has the resources they need to succeed. Club youth are guided from kindergarten through high school by encouraging adults who focus on the unique needs and skills of each child and teen. Each year, our K-12 Pathways to Success programs impact thousands of youth in under-served communities and empower them to thrive.

As you think about the impact of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities this holiday season and reflect on your own relationship with our organization and mission, please join us by **Giving in Gratitude**. Your donation has the potential to transform young lives for generations to come.

Remember, thanks to Al & Kathy Lenzmeier, donations received by December 31st will be matched dollar-for-dollar for the first \$50,000 in donations, so your gift will go twice as far for the kids!

Thank you for your continued support of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities. Happy Holidays!

**Donate
Now!**

A Thanksgiving Visit at Jerry Gamble

Xavier Rhodes of the Minnesota Vikings had a welcome surprise for families at our Jerry Gamble Club! During the community Thanksgiving meal held on November 21, Xavier arrived at the Club with 100 turkeys delivered from the Robbinsdale Hy-Vee. Club staff, kids, and families were excited to have Xavier in attendance at the holiday get-together, and we are very appreciative of this generosity!



Paris Yarbrough Sworn In at East Side Club

On November 20, BGCTC alumnus Paris Yarbrough was sworn in as a judicial law clerk at our East Side Club in St. Paul. A former East Side volunteer and graduate of St. Thomas

University, Paris recently passed the bar exam. Rather than attending a traditional courthouse ceremony, Paris chose to receive this honor in front of friends, family, and staff at East Side. We are very fortunate to have participated in this important event. Congratulations, Paris!



Photo credit: [Adja Gildersleve](#)

My Cause My Cleats

[My Cause My Cleats](#) is an NFL-wide initiative which allows players to showcase causes that are important to them with custom cleats during the Week 14 game. Five Minnesota Vikings players have selected the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities as their charity of choice: Kirk Cousins, Xavier Rhodes, Laquon Treadwell, Bisi Johnson, and Shamar Stephen.



As part of the My Cause My Cleats celebration, ten Jerry Gamble Club members will attend the game on Sunday, December 8 vs. the Detroit Lions and will take part in the halftime program on the field. The players' cleats will then be donated to the Clubs and auctioned off to raise funds for the organization.

Skate the Star Opens Soon!

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities are the beneficiaries of Mall of America's [Skate the Star](#) again this winter! Last year, more than 26,000 people skated the oval ice rink at the Mall's North entrance, helping to raise over \$86,000 for the Clubs. Skate the Star provides a unique setting for all levels of skaters to create holiday memories with one of winter's most popular pastimes!



This year's Skate the Star will run from **December 14 through February 2**. Skaters will once again have the option to bring their own skates or rent a pair for a \$5 donation to the Boys & Girls Clubs. Volunteers are needed to help with skate rentals and merchandise sales.

For more information, please contact Tim Schober at tschober@bgc-tc.org or 651-200-4108.

Kids Can Give!

Are you looking for a way to make a difference this holiday season? Participate in our annual [Kids Can Give](#) holiday gift drive!

For over 25 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs and our community partners have been collecting donated gifts during the holiday season to distribute to the thousands of kids we serve each year. Through **Kids**

Can Give, each Club member has the opportunity to shop at the holiday “store” set up at their local Boys & Girls Club in December, where they can buy donated gifts for \$2-\$5 to bring home to their families. Donations from the kids will support a youth-driven holiday celebration at each Club.

Please consider donating to the **Kids Can Give** program to help a child fulfill their holiday wish! You can help by collecting gifts at your place of business, or by volunteering at our Club holiday stores in December to help distribute gifts to families. 100% of gifts donated will be given to our Club members and their families! [Financial donations](#) are also accepted and will be used to purchase additional gifts and wrapping paper.

For more information on volunteering with Kids Can Give, please contact Molly Hemes at mhemes@bgc-tc.org or 651-200-4102.



Join Our Team

Are you looking for a career where you can make a big difference in the lives of kids and our communities? Our Clubs are in need of Education Specialists, Teen Specialists, program staff, facility staff, and more! Check out our current job listings to see how YOU can get involved!



Apply Now!

SAVE THE DATE

Spring Thaw

Saturday, March 7, 2020
Quincy Hall

Join us at the 8th Annual Spring Thaw on Saturday, March 7, 2020 at Quincy Hall in Northeast Minneapolis! Spring Thaw is hosted by BGC-TC's Associate Board and is a fun and affordable gala for young professionals in the Twin Cities. The event includes an auction, games, youth performances, a DJ, and more.



Tickets will be available soon! For more event information, [please visit our website](#).

For questions regarding sponsorship, please contact Director of Special Events Amy Kuehn at akuehn@bgc-tc.org or 651-200-4107.

You Can Change a Child's Life

With your support, we can continue to provide life-changing academic, leadership, and healthy lifestyles programming to youth across the Twin Cities.



[Donate Today!](#)

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities | 651-726-2582 | info@bgc-tc.org | boysandgirls.org

STAY CONNECTED

