



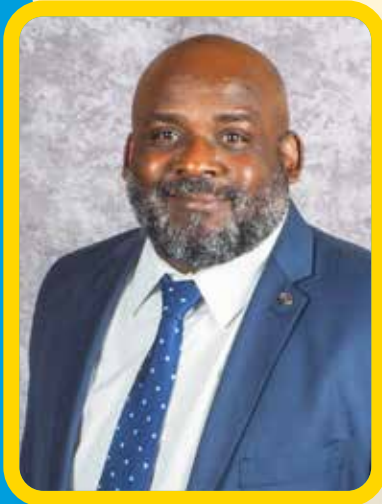
Building Great Futures



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY



Dear Friend,



Will Armsted, CEO

This is probably the most important letter I've ever written because it's about something you and I believe in: Building Great Futures for youth—especially those who need us most.

You may not personally know the children who need us most, but you can imagine how the pandemic upended their lives - loss of an entire year in school, separation from friends and family, illness and even death all around them. Teachers, parents, and our Boys & Girls Club staff are now dealing with the serious post-pandemic effects on our children and teens.

In addition to post-pandemic challenges, our community is experiencing explosive growth. As you know, St. Lucie County is one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. Boys & Girls Clubs must be ready to offer all children and teens safe, fun places to learn and grow.

To meet these needs—helping kids recover from pandemic set-backs and welcoming thousands of new Club members - we're building the Lighthouse Teen Development Center in Lincoln Park and purchasing the Westside Club in Fort Pierce - one of the largest Clubs in the state.

Together, you and I can open doors of opportunity for thousands of young people. We can give them World Class Clubs, Life-Enriching experiences, and Workforce Readiness training. Your support now will make a huge difference in the futures of our youth and our community. Please take a few minutes to read through this presentation - and contact me if you would like further information or a Clubhouse tour.

On behalf of the young people who need us most - thank you!

Sincerely,

Will Armstead, CEO • Cell: (772) 577-8630 • warmstead@bgcofslc.org

Our Mission

To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

Our Vision

Provide a world-class Club Experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.

Our Commitment to Inclusion

We believe every child has what it takes to be successful. The mission and core beliefs of Boys & Girls Clubs fuel our commitment to promoting safe, positive, and inclusive environments for all youth and teens of every race, ethnicity, ability, socio-economic status, and religion.

A Mission Worthy of Your Support

8 neighborhood clubhouses

school-based clubs: **15**

4,700 club members

youth served annually:

17,000

More than: **150** youth development staff members

“The visions we offer our children shape the future”

—**Carl Sagan**

About Us

In 1994, a group of community leaders had a vision to open a Boys & Girls Club in St. Lucie County. “Children and teens were wandering the streets after school. They needed somewhere safe to go,” said De Bowman, one of the Club Founders. Since then, Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County has shaped the future for thousands of children. Today, we are the largest youth development organization on the Treasure Coast with 23 locations serving more than 17,000 youth K-12 every year.



Our Dedicated Staff

From long-time **professional career staff**, to certified **teachers** and part-time **summer camp counselors**, our employees reflect the diverse youth population we serve. All staff participate in year-around professional training in safety, youth development programs, Social Emotional Learning, and more. **Staff members build meaningful relationships with Club members** and serve as mentors, teachers, and coaches.

Our Programs

Boys & Girls Club's **innovative programs** are designed to **empower youth** to excel in school, become good citizens, and lead healthy, productive lives. Programs are age-appropriate and evidence-based with measurable outcomes.

Our Future is Growing!

In 2021, St. Lucie County is the **3rd fastest growing county in the nation**. 20%, or nearly 69,000 of our current population, are children ages 6-18. We currently serve approximately 17,000 children throughout the year and plan to serve thousands more by expanding our World Class Clubs, Life-Enriching Programs, and Workforce Readiness training opportunities for our growing youth population.

Our Leadership



Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County:

Board of Directors

Chief Deputy Brian Hester, Board Chair

St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office

Leslie Kristof, Immediate Past Chair

President, Keiser University

Dr. Kevin Perry, Chair Elect

St. Lucie County Public Schools

Taylor Hoskins, Vice Chair

Attorney, Hoskins, Turco, Lloyd & Lloyd

Jay McBee, CPA, Treasurer

DiBartolomeo, McBee, Hartley & Barnes P.A.

Mike Lafreniere, Secretary

Retired Business Owner

Jack Barrett

First Tee

Brian Bauer, CEO

Career Source Research Coast

Linda Bartz, Commissioner

St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners

Charles Cuomo

Retired Educator

Richard Del Toro, Assistant Chief of Police

Port St. Lucie Police Department

Matthew Guettler

Guettler Brothers Construction

Diane Hobley-Burney, Chief of Police

Fort Pierce Police Department

Cecilia Jaimes, VP Commercial Lending

CenterState Bank

Alphonso Jefferson, Deputy County Administrator

St. Lucie County

Genia Leonard, Owner

A&G Concrete Pools, Inc.

Dr. Martin Lessin

Retired Business Owner

Angelique Lyons

Attorney, Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP

David Pickett, City Council Member

City of Port St. Lucie

Mike Piazza, AAMS

Lum Wealth Management Group

Sarah Pride

Pride Electrical Services

Nate Spera, Fire Chief

St. Lucie County Fire District

Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. EIN #65-0505369

The Need

THE NEED FOR WORLD CLASS BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS. As you know, St. Lucie County has one of the fastest growing populations in the nation. The demand for affordable, quality youth development programs like ours is growing along with the number of families moving here. We are meeting this need by adding two World Class Clubs to serve more children and teens with Life-Enriching programs and Workforce Readiness skills.

THE NEED FOR LIFE-ENRICHING PROGRAMS. The future is uncertain for youth experiencing disadvantages, even more so as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Boys & Girls Club programs are designed to empower youth to excel in school, become good citizens and lead healthy, productive lives. Our Life-Enriching programs engage, inspire, and empower kids and teens of all ages and interests.

THE NEED FOR WORKFORCE READINESS. The workforce landscape is undergoing drastic change with technological innovations, the demand for new skills, and the impact of a global pandemic. To help young people meet the workforce challenges of tomorrow, they need safe spaces, positive mentorship and work experiences today. At Boys & Girls Clubs, we guide kids and teens to explore their interests and passions, develop their employability skills and apply their knowledge to real-world work experiences.



Pandemic Learning Loss

In 2020-21, 31% of all students were chronically absent.

Percent scoring below grade level:

Subject	2018-19	2020-21
Math	48%	60%
Science	29%	38%
Reading & Writing	47%	52%

Lighthouse Teen Development

PROJECT 1

12,000 sq. ft. clubhouse
with a 6-hole golf course
and two soccer fields



“This project will jumpstart the revitalization of Lincoln Park and give hope and opportunities to hundreds of underserved teens.”
Larry Lee, Jr., former Florida House Representative, District 84

The Lincoln Park Community is one of the oldest communities in Fort Pierce. Today, the area is experiencing revitalization, celebrating its rich cultural history and making progress to again become the center of pride for the community.

Even as physical renovations and revitalization efforts change the outward appearance of Lincoln Park and the community begins to recognize the area’s valuable history, the neighborhood remains home to a population of young people who live in disadvantaged economic and social circumstances.

A group of local Lincoln Park residents have teamed with Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County, First Tee, and the Lighthouse Foundation to create an innovative youth center and program—the Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County Lighthouse Teen Development Center (LTDC)—designed to impact, direct and change the lives of economically disadvantaged young people living in the Lincoln Park neighborhood and surrounding communities.



“Boys & Girls Clubs’ Workforce Readiness program keeps teens in school, off the streets, and prepares them to enter the workforce.”
Leslie Kristof, President, Keiser University, Tradition



Lighthouse Teen Development Center front entrance facing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

ment Center

THE CENTER WILL INCLUDE:

12,000 sq. foot Clubhouse including a state-of-the-art Education Center, multi-purpose banquet room, fully-outfitted kitchen, a Game Room and versatile spaces to accommodate specialized programs for teens, families and the community.

6-Hole Golf Course consisting of two par-4 and four par-3 holes.

The complex will also include two soccer fields.

The LTDC will be strategically located in the Lincoln Park community and be constructed on vacant land with frontage on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., the community's primary thoroughfare.

first tee

First Tee youth golf organization, is a primary partner with Boys & Girls Clubs for this innovative center. More than a youth sports program, First Tee is an international youth development organization introducing the game of golf and its inherent values to kids and teens. Through after-school and in-school programs, the program helps shape the lives of young people from all walks of life by reinforcing values like integrity, respect, and perseverance through the game of golf.

“There is no better investment of time and money than in the life of a child. They are the future.”

—Alma Powell



A PLACE TO BELONG For teens, especially those who need us most, the new Lighthouse Teen Development Center will be a place to belong where they can feel good about their future. Located in the Lincoln Park area of Fort Pierce, FL, this World Class Club will serve up to 800 Club teens ages 13-18.

Teens will engage in programs focusing on Workforce Readiness, Life-Enriching Programs, and Healthy Life Choices while preparing to graduate from high school. And, they will have fun! Field trips, college tours, visits to local businesses, golf, and e-game time will attract teens and keep them coming to the Center.

YOUR RETURN ON INVESTMENT Your investment will give teens, especially those who need us most, opportunities to engage in positive behaviors, to nurture their well-being, set personal goals and grow into self-sufficient adults.

- Teens have a safe space to chill with friends, explore careers, prep for college and learn beyond the classroom;
- Teens have positive adult mentors and role models who foster accountability and help them navigate tough decisions;
- And, teens have fun, engaging experiences, access to helpful resources, and healthy meals.



Rear of the Lighthouse Teen Development Center.

Westside Club Complex

PROJECT 2

55,000 total sq. ft. of indoor space and 25-acres outdoors



“St. Lucie County is growing so fast! The sheer amount of space at Westside Club gives thousands of children and teens a safe place to be when not in school.”

**Brian Hester, Chief Deputy,
St. Lucie County Sheriff’s Office**

“Workforce Readiness is key training for teens to be successful when they enter the workforce and it’s something employers need—employees ready to work.”

**Brian Bauer, CEO, Career Source
Research Coast**



Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County’s first Club opened in 1994. Currently, the Club has 15 school-based sites and eight neighborhood Clubhouses. In January 2021, the next big step in their journey was opening the Boys & Girls Westside Club - one of the largest Boys & Girls Clubs Clubhouses in the state of Florida and one of the top five in size in the United States.

In partnership with Westside Church in Fort Pierce, Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County will purchase three Westside Club buildings totaling nearly 55,000 square feet, and 25 acres of outdoor recreational area.

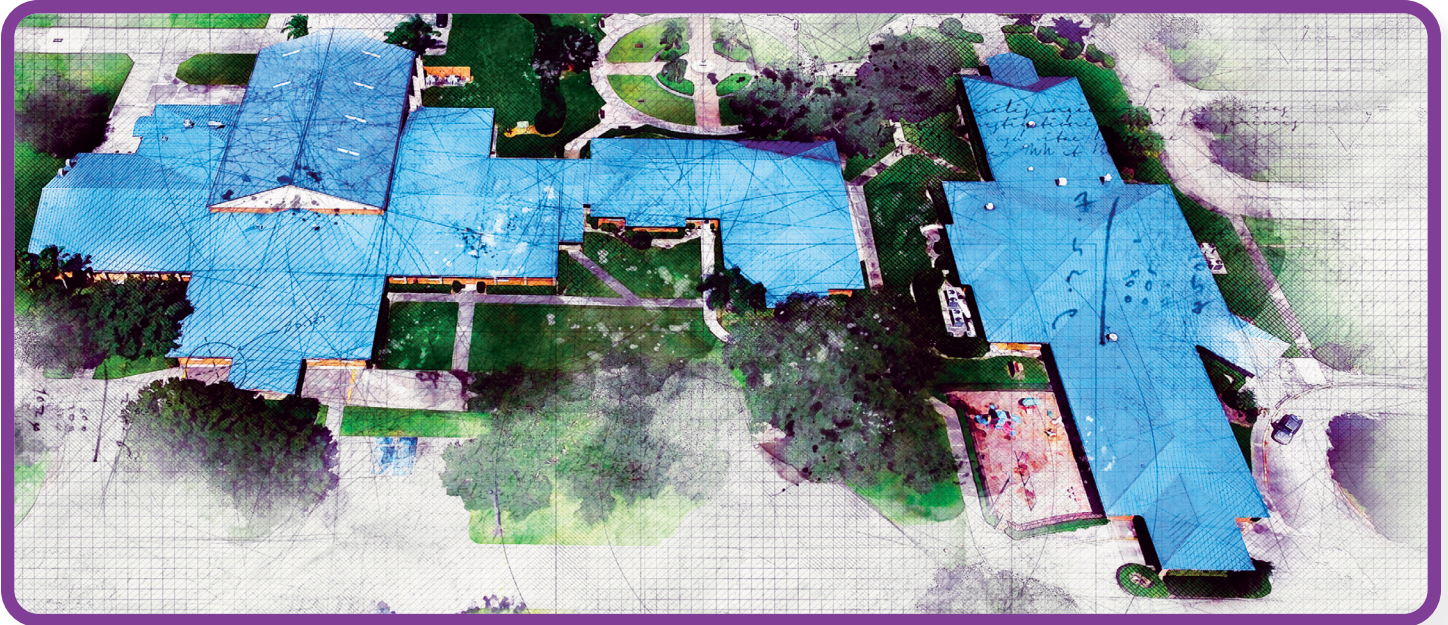
Younger Club Kids will have access to more play area and multiple rooms for various programming already inherent in the Club’s curriculum of education while teens will have more opportunity for workforce readiness programs and industry certifications all in one location.

Students attending school in the St. Lucie Public School District’s Green Zone area are eligible for bus transportation to the new Westside Club after school lets out. Having a Club in this location is a win-win for families and parents and to have a club on a campus this size opens the door to do so much more in our mission to serve St. Lucie County families.

The opportunities are endless in ways we can support more teens than ever before.

Recently, Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County acquired the ‘Learn & Earn’ 32-foot food trailer to prepare teens for several avenues of workforce preparedness with culinary skills, maintenance, budgeting, inventory control, customer service and more. The new Westside Club gives teens access to a full-sized, commercial kitchen to complement the ‘Learn & Earn’ program.

The new Westside Club will also feature the Community Village Partner Center, home to the administrative offices for Boys and Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County and up to 18 other offices for partnering non-profit agencies.



WHY WESTSIDE CLUB?

Families need safe, affordable after-school and summer programs for their children. The new Boys & Girls Westside Club is located in an area densely populated by families. In fact, the Westside Club serves 16 public and private schools with a population of more than 12,000 students K-12 - and every child is a potential Club member. Having a Club in this location is a win-win for families and parents. It's also a win-win for teens interested in learning workforce readiness skills and earning valuable industry certifications.

The Westside Club is one of the Largest Boys & Girls Clubs Clubhouse in the State of Florida:

Three Buildings:

Youth Center for children Kindergarten to age 11

Community Village Partner Center—offices and conference room

Leadership & Entrepreneur Center for teens ages 12–18 includes Boys & Girls Clubs Administrative offices

Outdoor Space:

Chip & Putt Golf Complex

Tennis Courts

Fishing Pond

Playground

Open fields

Programs for Club Members

Kindergarten to Age 11 Include:

PowerHour homework help and individual tutoring

The Arts, music, dance, games and outdoor activities

Social Emotional Learning and Trauma Informed Care

Triple Play: teaching children to make healthy food choices, exercise everyday, and how to be a good friend, Club member, and family member
Dinner every day after school and lunch every day during Summer Camp

Indoor programs take place in more than 17,000 sq ft of space that includes a take-a-book-home library, multiple rooms for small group activities, and an auditorium with state-of-the-art sound and lighting and theater seating

Outdoors, children have access to 50 acres of land including the Chip & Putt Golf Complex, tennis courts, fishing pond, playground and lots of room to run and play.

Programs for Teens Ages 12–18 Include:

Into the Future Workforce Readiness prepares teens to be successfully employed.

Financial Literacy teaches teens about banking, investing, and credit

Triple Play: teens identify Healthy Habits, participate in Daily Physical Activities, and practice social skills through Social Recreation.

The Arts: Cheer, dance, drama, drumline, music, choir, drawing, painting and graphic design

College Readiness: SAT, ACT, PERT prep, college tours, STEAM programs, small group learning, one-on-one tutorial

Athletics: Flag football, basketball, volleyball, cross country, pickleball, golf

Youth Complex

17,293 square feet of educational and activity space

Serving elementary and middle school-aged children

Multiple program rooms for small groups

Community Village Partner Complex

7,581 square feet Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County Administrative Offices

Multiple office and classroom spaces for community partner agencies

Conference and storage space

Leadership & Entrepreneurship Complex

28,994 square feet

Full service gymnasium and workout room

Event hall for programming and rental use

Commercial kitchen for workforce readiness, culinary and food service program.

Multiple program and activity rooms
Boys & Girls Clubs Workforce Readiness programs offering industry certifications

Building Great

2022 Youth of the Year

Mia Morrison

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

Mia Morrison has the prestigious honor of serving as the 2022 Youth of the Year for Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County. Morrison was abused as a child and suffered from PTSD, depression, and nightmares. She was unwilling to talk about her experiences until she joined Boys & Girls Clubs. “When I joined the Clubs, I finally began to trust others,” said the 17-year-old. Boys & Girls Club staff protected and mentored her and helped her recover her mental health. As Youth of the Year, Morrison is now ready to help others like Boys & Girls Clubs helped her. “Mental health is a crucial issue in America, anyone can be affected by it, and everyone can make a change for the better,” Morrison said. An honor student, she is dual enrolled in Lincoln Park Academy and Indian River State College. Her goal is to become an engineer.



Youth

Workforce Readiness Initiatives

Kyle Greene | Jherry



Through our workforce readiness initiatives, we equip teens with skills and opportunities that will help them succeed. With support from local businesses, we are able to cultivate future generations of innovators and leaders.

Owner & Operator of Kyle G's Prime Seafood & Steaks, Kyle Greene, is a long-time supporter of Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County, and was more than willing to take Percy Peek Teen Club member, Jherry, under his wing.

"In my opinion, it's really helpful to open the eyes of people to see what the possibilities are as well as provide them with the means along the way to accomplish the goals that they want to accomplish," said Greene.

Through programs that encourage career exploration and envelop Club members in the workforce, teens like Jherry can be fully prepared when opportunities like these come around.

"Boys & Girls Clubs, for me, was an outlet," Jherry said. "They really put me out there in the working field and got me ready to work with people."

Jherry is just one of many successes we've seen partnering with local businesses and entrepreneurs. To business owners who may be considering getting involved, Greene said, "Give them the opportunity. There is really no harm in doing that, and if you're in business for the right reasons, I think it pays for itself."

Ways You Can Give

How can you help?. By giving. Your support is crucial to the success of our mission to Build Great Futures for our youth - especially those who need us most. And, great futures for youth means great futures for families and our community. You, and everyone who is part of this community, play an important part in this immense life-changing campaign.

Selecting the best gift plan depends on your personal financial situation. As tax laws are always changing and each individual's situation is unique, you are encouraged to consult with financial or tax advisors to determine the most beneficial contribution method.



Travis and Genia Leonard

Pledges

Pledges are commitments made in good faith, but not legally binding. You may want to consider stretching your pledge over three years to maximize the total amount of your support. This commitment can be fulfilled through monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual installments. However, we encourage you to consider a 10% initial gift to provide immediate assistance to meet near-term costs associated with the initial construction.

Cash, Securities & Online Giving

Gifts of cash by check or gifts of appreciated securities are the most common and allow the campaign to address immediate needs. Securities include stocks, bonds and mutual funds and can often be a tax-advantaged form of giving. Gifts of cash can also be made by giving online through bank direct withdrawal, credit card or debit card. To make your gift online, please visit www.bgcofslc.org.

Gifts of Stock

You can use your own broker/agent to transfer stock. If the stock has been held long term (over one year), you do not have to pay capital gains tax on the stock, and is allowed a tax deduction for the full value of the stock. You may also choose to sell stock in order to claim a loss, which may be beneficial for tax circumstances. In either case, the stock must first be transferred to Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County before being liquidated. Please contact Susanne Patterson, CFO, at (772) 460-9918, for more information.

Planned Gifts & Bequests

Planned giving is the process of selecting the best method and assets for making a legacy gift. Such a gift enables you to take full advantage of the tax laws to accomplish your financial and charitable goals. Again, please consult with your financial advisor.

IRA Charitable Rollover

Those who are 70 1/2 years of age or older may donate a very generous and tax free direct distribution of up to \$100,000 (married couples can give \$200,000) from their IRA account, avoiding taxes that would otherwise have to be paid on the required annual distribution.

Retirement Plans

Naming Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County as a primary or contingent beneficiary of a retirement plan (i.e. IRA, 401(k)) benefits both the organization and your estate.

Corporate Matching Gifts

A matching gift program provided through your employer may allow you to increase the value of your gift. Many companies match charitable gifts of employees, retirees or board members.

The FAQs

(Frequently Asked Questions)

Why are we embarking on this capital campaign now?

Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Adding these assets will not only impact lives in the Lincoln Park community, but will allow Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County to expand and serve our entire county through greater capacity and unfettered access to shared resources.

Why should I consider contributing to the campaign?

We are truly blessed to have the community of faithful supporters that we do. As you no doubt have heard and seen, support for these projects is already overwhelmingly positive. It seems that this community does not need much convincing about how the addition of these assets will build better and stronger youth, families, and communities. When you think about the legacy you want to leave in our community, it seems only right that you would be inspired to give sacrificially for the next generation.

Why do we need a capital campaign?

Obviously, we are not able to expand our capacity to serve more youth from our operating budget alone and it would be irresponsible for the organization to incur debt in the amount needed to accomplish this. As many of you have already expressed, this is really the only way to accomplish our goals.

If I can't make a large donation, will my contribution still help?

Absolutely! We cannot expect every individual to give at the same financial level. However, what we do need is for everyone to give with the same commitment.



Building Great Futures





BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY



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