

BOYS & GIRLS C O U N T R Y A Home for Children

HE Lord WILL FIGHT FOR YOU: YOU NEED Only TO BE STILL

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM OUR LEADERS

We entered 2020 with high hopes and great expectations. As we all know, the year was far from perfect and, at times, it seemed confusing and chaotic. The things that we valued one year ago all of a sudden were no longer a priority. The looming uncertainty was probably the biggest fear for many of us, but our faith in God grew stronger.

Winston Churchill once said, "Never let a good crisis go to waste." The global pandemic brought many changes to our lives and to Boys and Girls Country, but our staff and students embraced the challenge by finding new ways to be creative and adapt to the new life of 2020. We adhered (and still adhere) to all the necessary precautions in an effort to ensure the safety of our children and our staff at Boys and Girls Country.

We streamlined some of our practices and procedures to become more efficient. Our organizational structure has been modified in some areas, but I can assure you our mission has not changed! We still have children to raise and the high calling to provide excellence in our program services and delivery.

This school year has challenged our program in every aspect, but blessings came out of it as well. Our program staff and kids had to adjust overnight to remote schooling, which required a whole new kind of organizational skills, as well as different resources and tools. Our teaching parents had to get used to the idea of becoming "homeschool teachers" to an entire cottage of kids, all with different classes and needs. One of the hardest things to see was the cancellation of a traditional graduation for our 10 seniors and one college student. The seniors showed amazing resilience and an example of courage and flexibility. They have now moved on to the next chapter of their lives, and most of them entered our College and Career program where they will graduate debt free.

Our fundraising efforts required new strategies in the midst of a global financial crisis. The cancellation of our three annual events was unprecedented for a private organization that does not receive federal funding. It is only by God's provision that despite a worldwide pandemic we were able to serve our faith-based mission.

Your gifts and support are making miracles happen every day for the children in our care. Good seed in good soil can grow a hundred-fold (Matthew 13:8). The children and mission of BGC have been good soil since 1971. As we begin the year of our 50th anniversary, we are proud of how much we have grown as an organization and as a family in 2020. We are stepping into 2021 fully trusting God and following the path He set before us. Thank you for helping us provide a loving home for the most vulnerable children in our community.

MISSION

To change the lives of children from families in crisis by loving and nurturing them in a Christian home environment, raising them to become self-sustaining and contributing adults.

VISION

That every child has a place to grow up and a sense of being home.

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Vincent Duran Chief Executive Officer

for fall

H. Scott Gálloway Chairman of the Board

HISTORICAL MILESTONES

Boys and Girls Country reached a milestone this year by receiving a national accreditation through Council on Accreditation (COA). COA accredits community-based behavioral healthcare and social service organizations in the United States and Canada. The 18-month journey to meet their standards of excellence was rigorous and demanding. COA measured our program delivery model, interviewed our staff and children and toured our facilities. We received above-average ratings in fiscal stewardship, employee and client satisfaction and state-of-the-art facilities. We never doubted the quality and success of our ministry, but this endorsement is an inspiration to continue exceeding expectations.

The newly built Woodforest Cottage was dedicated in September, and we could not be more excited! The cottage is a home to boys from the former Cottage 11 and their teaching parents, Cody and Angela Noble and daughter Lily. Some of the boys have their own rooms and bathrooms for the first time. This is the fourth completed cottage on campus as part of our campaign to replace the original cottages due to weathering and energy inefficiency. We are so grateful for the generous investment from the Woodforest Charitable Foundation which made this new home possible. Partners in this cottage rebuild also included Woodforest National Bank, HomeAid Houston, Empire Communities, Ziegler Cooper, Greater Houston Builders Association (GHBA) and a number of other vendors who donated materials, labor and services.

ON ACCRED

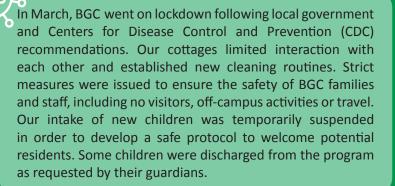
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I AM THANKFUL FOR MY BGC FAMILY

2020 IN REVIEW

The global pandemic has challenged aspects of our program and changed the routines of our kids and families. These are notable highlights of the year with all its ups and downs, showcasing both the measures BGC leadership took to ensure our mission continues thriving sustainably and the major milestones that occurred on campus. God's hand can be seen at work here, and we are so grateful that He continues to bless this home! With your support, we were able to continue helping children, one of the most vulnerable populations affected by the pandemic. Every milestone of 2020 was made possible by our amazing friends who prayed, called, Zoomed and sent donations, encouraging messages and needed supplies. Thank you for keeping our mission alive for 49 years!



Under guidelines from the CDC to cancel or postpone in-person events of 50 people or more, we canceled our 2020 events. The health and safety of our guests, volunteers, staff and community are of the utmost importance.



Thanks to donations of computers, our kids were able to successfully switch to virtual school, attend counseling sessions and receive help from mentors and tutors. Real-life interactions can never be replaced, but we were touched by the many volunteers who organized virtual dancing sessions, taught our kids new skills and called when our kids needed them most. Our kids received 1,340 hours of tutoring this year.

239

doctor visits

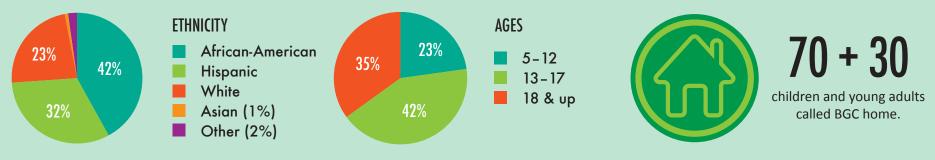
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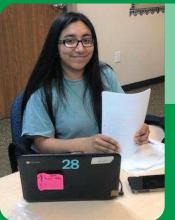
counseling sessions

To cheer up our kids and BGC supporters, we launched a video campaign in late spring called "The Many Faces of Family". Our kids shared various daily experiences from brushing teeth to creating a butterfly garden with our online community. It helped them be creative, do fun things outside and forget for a moment about the uncertainty in the world. We are blessed that our kids have their own "little country" to explore while living at BGC.

WHOM WE SERVED

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY 4.4 YEARS





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New Drivers

on Campus

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Kids Worked Part-time Jobs

10 students graduated from high school despite the unprecedented challenges. 1 student graduated from college with a Bachelor's degree.



Many factors affected our expenses this year, including the need for extra supplies, meals and services. Our campus had an overall lower census due to the pandemic - our average number of students on the main campus decreased to 65 - which led to a higher cost of service per child, \$172 per child per day.



Boys and Girls Country was certified by the Council on Accreditation.

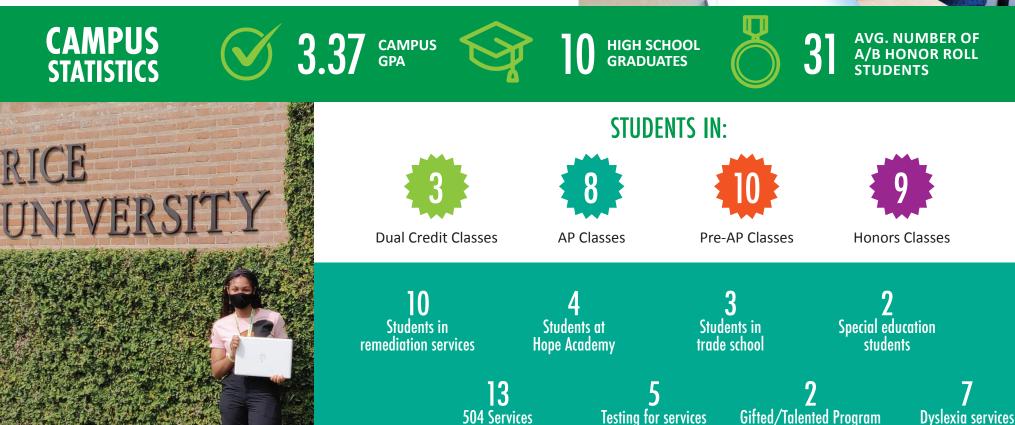
BGC reorganized our cottage structure under licensing guidelines and with our children's best interest in mind. Part of the organizational restructure involved moving our college-aged students onto the main campus. BGC continues to operate 11 cottages at the Roberts Road campus, with three designated for our College and Career students. Our class of 2021 was honored in the Heritage Campaign video series. Our seniors shared powerful testimonials about how BGC changed their life.

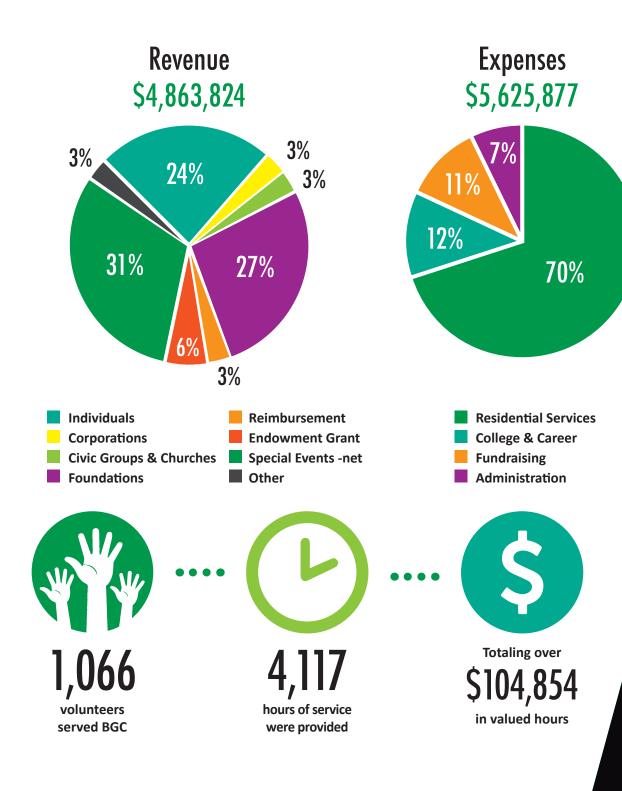


HELPING BGC KIDS EXCEL

According to Children at Risk's 2017 report, nearly a third of Houston children live in homes where the household head did not graduate from high school, and another 42% live with a household head who holds only a high school diploma or GED. Education is key to breaking the cycles of poverty and helping our children have a successful future. Children who come to Boys and Girls Country are often several grade levels behind their peers. Every child at BGC is assessed by the Director of Education to determine appropriate grade level and identify any needed educational services. It takes tremendous effort and resources to ensure our students catch up to their peers. We are very proud of all of our kids!







FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Endowment Fund \$22.9 Million

in assets in the Endowment

chairs at the children's table

scholarship funds

CLASS OF 2020



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A Home fo<u>r Children</u>