



BOYS & GIRLS
COUNTRY

50
YEARS

OF GOD'S PROVISION

Mia wins "Reserve Champion"
showing her rabbit at the
2021 Waller County Fair

BOYS & GIRLS COUNTRY
news
fall 2021

in this issue:

- 2 VINCE'S VIEW
- 3 FRIDAY NIGHT CHEERS FOR #22
- 4 50TH ANNIVERSARY
- 5 SUMMER IN REVIEW
- 6 HERITAGE AWARD DINNER
- 7 IN MEMORY OF AND HONORARIUM
- 8 PRAY WITH US



VINCE'S VIEW

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

This has been a year of reflection and celebration in doing God's work for 50 years! We have heard many stories and testimonials from longtime supporters and donors, from humble beginnings to state of the art facilities and new cottages. The work has not been easy, but we have kept our hand to the plow.

I tell people all the time that taking care of God's children is about kingdom business, and His business gets done with a labor of love and discipline.

Change is here, but not all things have changed. The world we left before the pandemic is not the world we see today. The mission of BGC has not changed. We cannot raise children through a Zoom meeting or cooking a virtual dinner. Our high-touch model has always been "hands on" as we teach daily life skills. Our teaching parents and support staff are on the front lines of this pandemic. Several staff and children have tested positive for COVID-19 during the past year, but we are grateful that they have all recovered. We feel your prayers and support during this season of uncertainty and constant change.

Does our ministry really matter with everything that is happening in this world? It matters more than ever when we see all the needs in the Greater Houston area. There are many great ministries and nonprofits in our community, but BGC is special and unique in every way. Our organization is nationally-accredited, privately-funded, Christ-centered and has a 50-year track record of raising up high school and college graduates. This year we have seven more seniors stepping into their final year at Waller High School. Our hope is that they will join the other 22 students in our College & Career program after graduation. Results matter and our leadership is strategically preparing for the next 50 years.

We have put our complete faith and hope in Christ as we prepare for the future. We have so much work left to do, but we will not do it with our own strength. The Old Testament reminds us that it is "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty" (Zechariah 4:6). The future is brighter than ever at BGC because the sun and THE SON are still shining on us.

Vincent Duran
Chief Executive Officer



FRIDAY NIGHT CHEERS FOR #22

Texas High School football is a big deal, and our kids take pride in being on a team. Just like other young men in high schools all around the state, our kids dream and prepare for their opportunity to shine in front of family, friends and the school they represent. There is a sense of pride in representing your school and coaches. It takes years of hard work in the weight room, on the practice field and off-season to get to play on Friday.

At Boys and Girls Country, there is a promising young man whom everybody calls "Gee." Gee is a 7th grader playing football for the first time at the school level. His Teaching Parents describe him as a young man obsessed with football and sports in general. Sometimes he is really hard on himself about sports as he strives to be the best!

In his home opener, Gee had several tackles, an interception and a smile as big as Texas over his team's victory against a strong Magnolia team. Even though he started the game with butterflies in his stomach, Gee got more confident the more he played. When asked what he liked about football, he could not help but mention his favorite team, the Kansas City Chiefs.

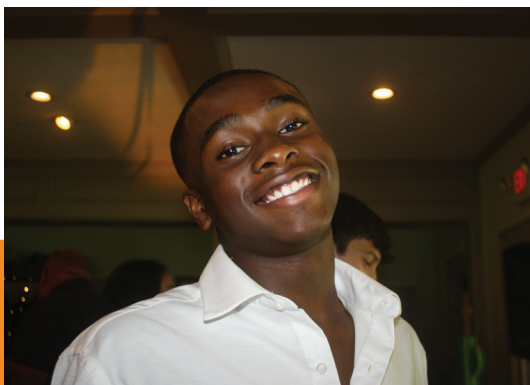
"Tyreek Hill is my favorite player, and I like to watch him catch and run the ball." Gee also said, "I liked tackling and catching my first interception."

Gee said that the coach was encouraging the team to "play to win." We know that in 1 Corinthians 9:24 Paul says: "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize." Gee understands that the lesson of this verse is to give 100% and not give up; not just in sports but also in life. Gee will be one of the boys to watch for in the years to come as he works toward being a Waller Bulldog playing under Friday night lights. Ultimately, he strives to be a leader off the field as well.

Gee wears the #22 in honor of his family. His dad wore the number in soccer, and his older brother also wore the special number. He does not think much about the crowd during the game but said it was nice to have people cheering and supporting him.

Keep up the hard work, stick to the values you are instilled with and always continue smiling because it brings so much joy to those around you, Gee! Go Bulldogs!

by Richard Proctor, BGC Director of Campus Ministries



"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize."

1 Corinthians 9:24





BGC ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating 50 Years of God's Provision

Continued from Summer 2021 Newsletter

In 1993, Boys Country and Girls Country programs were combined, and the organization was renamed Boys and Girls Country of Houston, Inc. During that time, the cottages became limited to eight children per cottage according to state-licensing requirements. Some exciting additions to campus included a 12-station computer lab and a 4-H program.



What is now known as the College & Career Program began in 1996 as the Independent Living Skills Program. This program was created to provide support for high school graduates of Boys and Girls Country as they chose to go through trade school or college.

As the College & Career Program expanded, housing for Boys and Girls Country's high school graduates began on the 2920 campus in 2001. This allowed every graduate to have "a bed to come home to" as they transitioned into self-supporting adulthood.

Thanks to the success of the capital and endowment campaign that started in 1998, updates and additions to campus were made in the early 2000's. The 11 cottages were renovated, and the Community Life Building was updated. A new education building, the Kelly Gene Cook Sr. Administration and Admissions building and the Alexander Operations Center were added.

Staff training was enhanced and new models embraced, including the Family Teaching Model, Therapeutic Crisis Intervention and Normative Culture. These tools helped the direct care staff meet

the growing needs of residents while maintaining the family atmosphere in a Christian environment.

In 2007, a new swimming pool was completed thanks to the generosity of two anonymous donors. At the end of 2007, planning was underway for infrastructure rehabilitation, security, lighting and a new student life center, which was possible through the Growing for the Future capital campaign.

The Penny Loyd Student Life Center, an educational and recreational facility, replaced the 30-year-old gym in August 2009. The following year the old gym was demolished, and the land became a park in the center of campus.

From 2012 to 2014, the remainder of the Growing for the Future projects were completed: the exercise tracks, soccer field, bike and game storage, night lighting, storage units, Staff House 4, the Sim-Tex baseball field and a new water well. The Joe H. and Sue S. Reynolds Foundation Chapel was completed and dedicated in 2012.

The rebuild of the 11 cottages began in 2015 with Watford cottage being completed in 2016, Pool Cottage in 2017, Hamill Cottage in 2018 and Woodforest Cottage in 2020. The new cottages are energy efficient and feature larger living quarters for the teaching parents as well as a private room, a bathroom and a closet for each child.

As Boys and Girls Country enters the next 50 years, we pray to continue to help children of families in crisis by providing them a loving, stable and secure Christian home. We look forward to growing as a community and helping even more children, which is only possible with God, our generous donors and our faithful supporters. It has truly been a blessed first 50 years, and we look forward to celebrating many more milestones at Boys and Girls Country!



Summer IN REVIEW

Summer is always a special and fun time at BGC, and summer 2021 was one for the books. Thanks to the support of individuals, businesses and organizations, the kids at BGC had opportunities to participate in fun and educational activities and field trips along with service projects. The photos below illustrate some of the great fun had by all this summer.



Our awesome tutors helped the kids build a volcano as an educational and fun activity in our BGC summer program.



We are blessed at BGC to have a pool on campus where our kids can splash, swim and enjoy the summer sun!



Our kids visited the Ocean Star Offshore Drilling Rig Museum and Education Center, where they saw and learned about a retired drilling rig and offshore energy.



Science experiments are even more fun when they are tasty! Our kids did a peanut butter and jelly excavation experiment that taught them how ancient items end up buried and how archaeologists excavate them.



Our cottages went to Galveston as one big family and had a blast swimming in the ocean and playing football on the beach.



Our kids had an amazing experience at soccer camp with Sports Quest Ministry. They learned new skills while exercising and growing in fellowship. On the last day of the camp, our friends at Sports Quest treated our kids to Kona shaved ice, and everyone enjoyed it!



The field trip to NASA Johnson Space Center was an absolute "blast" where kids learned about space exploration and completed astronaut training.



BGC held an Amazing Race this summer to help kids prepare for becoming self-sustaining and contributing adults. The challenges helped the kids to learn life skills including changing a tire, locating important places like urgent care, grocery shopping and learning how to make basic home improvements.



Our kids had the opportunity to visit the Waller Volunteer Fire Department, where they learned all about firefighting, including how to wash a fire truck.



Thanks to our partnership with StageCraft Studios, our kids were blessed with the opportunity to show their talents in a play titled "I Won't Grow Up."

Thank You to Our Heritage Award Dinner Sponsors

CAMPUS

Herr Family

Steve and Anne-Laure Stephens

COTTAGE

American First National Bank /
Hugesen Polymers USA, L.P.
Katherine and Scott Galloway
Gatewood Family Foundation
Reuhl Family Foundation

Paul and Staci Sorensen
Sim-Tex, L.P.
Southwestern Energy
Woodforest Charitable Foundation

EDUCATION LAB

A Friend of Boys and Girls Country
Andras Foundation
Jill and Russell Inserra
Terry and Marcy Malloy
PJS of Houston, Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew P. Rotan

Rushing River Foundation
Silver Eagle Beverages - San Antonio
Smith & Associates
Watford Family Foundation
Whalley Family Foundation

COMMUNITY LIFE BUILDING

Hockleywood Business Park
The Howard Family
Karen and Wade Jones
Carolyn and Jack Little
Crossley and Parker Mears
Larry and Kelli Oaks

Schulte Charitable Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Saunders
Zach and Audrey Springer
J.R. and Susan Sult
Watford Family Foundation

CHAPEL

A Friend of Boys and Girls Country
A Friend of Steve and Anne-Laure Stephens
Aldecoa Coffee
Les Allison Family
Janet and Michael Bennett
Richard and Toni Bergmark
David and Nancy Bishop Family Foundation
Brookfield Properties
Polly and Murry Bowden
The Carnrite Group, LLC
Lisa and John Dalton
James C. and Teresa K. Day Foundation
The Duckworth Family
Vincent and Ashley Duran and Friends
NaDean and Rodney Eads
Grant Thornton, LLP
Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC
Ann and Johnny Johnson/J Squared
Family Foundation

Libby and Matt Kafka
Herb and Cheryl Listen
Betsey and Ronnie Martin
Kim and Scott D. Martin
Brenda and Larry Petru
Ranger Steel Services, LP
Dawn and Richard Rawson
SWE Homes, LP
Dodie and Dick Scott
Joan Skipper
Aimee and Wynne Snoots
Transocean
Ken and Janie Valach
Lorraine and Scott Wegmann
Williams
Reed and Janet Wood
Woodforest National Bank
Freddie and Debra Yaggi

COLLEGE *and* CAREER

Avalon Advisors
Ernst & Young LLP (EY)
Halliburton Charitable Foundation
Paula and Mark Mey

Patterson + Sheridan, LLP
The Pisklak Family
Schulte Building Systems



JUNE 1—SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

Thank you for remembering someone special with a gift to our children at Boys and Girls Country.

In Memory of

Abby

Mr. and Mrs. Dale Seyler

Olan Adams

June Avary
Jake and Rose Jacobson

Gail Adcock

Mr. Sidney Dale Adcock

Bruce Barkley

Ms. Alma Lacefield
Nancy Merritt

Clint Bateman

Reed G. and Janet Wood

Marjorie Nell Bolling

Reed G. and Janet Wood

Thomas N. Capers

Mr. and Mrs. Otice Parker

Larry Casey

Ann B. and C.R. Dale

Reverend F. Graham Cliff

Kenneth C. Evans and Kristina L. Cliff-Evans
Mr. and Mrs. James J. Lyons

Joshua "Joshy" Dashkovitz

Mr. and Mrs. John Phillip Baldez*

Betty Joiner

Jake and Rose Jacobson

May Krause

Harold R. and Patricia Krause

James Larkin

Lakewood United Methodist Church
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Twichell
Ms. Toni Whitaker
Darryl York

Dana MacFarland

Jody W. and Willie Chalker Jordan

Sara Nabors McDill

Mr. George Behr
Mr. and Mrs. David Bell
Mr. and Mrs. Earl C. Calkins, Jr.
Rhonda Douglas
Ms. Debra Ramos

Wil W. Nefkens

John W. and Patsy A. Pemberton

Plato Pappas

John B. and Sharyn Sporar

Eleanor Schwab

Charles E. and Esther K. Best*

Ronald W. Sholtz

Mr. Lee Sanford

T.J. Smock

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Smith

Gloria Stansky

Houston Aldine Lions Club

Bonnie Thorne

Eleanor Evans

Bernice Underwood

Charlotte U. Martin

Bernice and Gladys Underwood

Charlotte U. Martin

Virginia M. Wallace

Eleanor Evans

Willard A. Wentzel Sr.

Noel T. and Betty Jean Jones

Ina Jean White

Ms. Jane Chesterman
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew N. Childers
Charles D. Fenn
Sandra and Sorab Soli Irani
Mr. and Mrs. Eric C. Jernigan

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Zemanek

Larry S. and Frances Z. Neahusan
Charitable Fund

Honorarium

Florence Abercia

Mr. Blake Jehle*

John "Rocco" Armao

Jan Armao

Lily Cosse

Ms. Kathy Parks

Roy Cosse

Ms. Kathy Parks

Robin and Steve Emmott

E.R. and Vivian M. Steinsiek

Katherine Galloway

Patty P. and A.J. Hurt, Jr.

Mike Gatewood

Ms. Janice Van Sickle*

Ashley and Ross Goolsby

Ms. Robin Segesta

Chuck Grehn

Dorothy Griffin

Jack Little

Jack E. and Jill Little

Janette McDonald

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard A. Bedell*

Crossley and Parker Mears

Ms. Katie Montgomery Mears

Parker Mears

Denise D. and William A. Monteleone, Jr.

We regret any errors or omissions and would appreciate notifications of corrections.

*Includes gift(s) made to the Boys and Girls Country Endowment Fund



18806 Roberts Road
Hockley, Texas 77447

Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
N. HOUSTON, TX
PERMIT #11163

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair
H. Scott Galloway

Chair-Elect
Chuck Scianna

William F. Aimone, III
David Bishop
Donna Boyer
Georgene Britz
Carlos De Aldecoa Bueno
John W. Dalton, Sr.
Barton Duckworth
Mike Gatewood
Kathryn Gibson
Randall B. Hale
Will Harper
Bryan Herr
Charles H. Listen
Terrence Malloy
Brad Marks
Scott D. Martin
Matthew Mealey
Parker Mears
Mark L. Mey
James A. Miller
Travis Overall
Ben Pisklak
Sally Ramsay
Ryan A. Rodgers
Matthew P. Rotan
Dick Scott
Paul C. Sorensen
Zach Springer
Kristen Stedham
Steve Stephens
John R. (J.R.) Sult
Kristie Trice
Michael D. Watford
William J. Way
Scott Wegmann
Michael White
James Wu

Chief Executive Officer:
Vincent Duran

Advisory Council:
James Bloodworth
Craig A. Bunk
Jan P. Cameron
Hulda Coskey
Ronnie Deyo
Rodney W. Eads
Lessa P. Elsenbrook
Steve H. Emmott
Bradley R. Freels
Sten L. Gustafson
Robert L. Howard
A. J. Knapp
Robert B. Kneppler
Robert E. Kurtz
Carolyn Little
Michael M. Lowther
Penny R. Loyd
Stephen McEachern
Robert "Bo" Pierce
Karen Rosales
Mark Taylor
James W. Tomforde
Howard L. Wagner
Peter Wardenburg
T. Michael Young

Honorary Lifetime:
Leonard A. Bedell
Bennis G. Butler
H. Douglas Church
H.L. Gardner
Philip L. Leggett, M.D.
Janette McDonald
Charles M. Rampacek
R. Allen Schubert
Jack I. Tompkins
C. Kenneth Wall
Reed G. Wood

PRAY WITH US

Friends, as we enter this holiday season, many of our kids experience the "holiday blues." What is expected to be a joyous time can also come with a variety of challenges and sadness for our kids. We trust in God to remind us that the reason for Christmas is to celebrate the birth of His son, Jesus Christ. We ask that you join us in prayer for the following:

- That our kids experience joy and know they are loved this holiday season;
- That we provide care for even more vulnerable children and our BGC family grows;
- That our cottage families and staff remain healthy and safe;
- That our kids remain steadfast in their studies and succeed academically.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- ♥ To give securely online, visit www.boysandgirlscountry.org/donate
- ♥ Text "BGC" to 22999 to donate and receive exciting updates about our kids.
- ♥ Purchase supplies from our BGC Amazon list: www.bit.ly/wishlistbgc
- ♥ Choose "Boys and Girls Country of Houston" as the charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases through Amazon Smile.
- ♥ If you know a family who may need a placement for their child at BGC, please share our information with them. We hope BGC can serve families that are hurting in so many ways right now.

Your gift today will ensure children from families in crisis have a safe home, a loving family and a successful future as contributing adults. Thank you for loving our kids!

FIND US ONLINE



@boysandgirlscountry

For questions or address changes, contact us at:
supportkids@boysandgirlscountry.org | Phone: 281.351.4976

Some names have been changed to protect the privacy of our children and their families.