



BOYS & GIRLS  
COUNTRY  
A Home for Children

BOYS & GIRLS COUNTRY  
**news**  
spring 2024

**in this issue:**

- 2 VINCE'S VIEW
- 3 TBRI CAMP
- 4 NEW BEGINNINGS
- 5 SPRING FESTIVAL
- 6 IN MEMORY
- 7 HONORARIUM
- 8 PRAYERS



## VINCE'S VIEW

### Message from the Chief Executive Officer

The annual Spring Festival at Boys and Girls Country is my favorite event of the year. It also marks my seven-year anniversary with this wonderful family. I met so many people on my first day that it is hard to recall everything that happened. But, I do remember a beautiful day filled with energetic activity, happy faces and the best barbecue plate on this side of Houston (by the way, the barbecue plate is still just \$8).

Since then, we have seen some significant changes on our campus: new cottages, more graduates, an increase in specialized services and a community impact that continues to grow. Five new cottages have been completed and the next two are fully funded. New construction will continue until the cottage rebuild campaign is complete. There are too many donors to thank them all here, but the Houston community has stepped up for the kids who call Boys and Girls Country their home.

Our national recognition with the Council on Accreditation (COA) is one thing that continues to separate us from our peers. This distinction was earned in 2020 and will be renewed this year. **We continue to hold ourselves to rigorous oversight, financial and evidence-based standards.** Our staff utilizes quantitative assessment tools, such as the CAFAS Youth Assessment—the gold standard for evaluating a youth's daily functioning—to measure the behaviors and emotional health of our children. We aim to ensure that our donors' investments consistently uphold the highest standards.

Despite our growth, our core values have not changed. Faith, education and hard work are timeless principles that we model for our children every day. Our private funding and generous donors give us the opportunity to go above and beyond to meet the needs of our kids. We have had fifty-three high school graduates in the last seven years, and our alumni continue to tell our story through their achievements and successes in various fields, demonstrating the lasting impact of our program.

While I was in graduate school in New Mexico, I specialized in serving Hispanic and Native American populations. During my time there, I learned the unique significance indigenous tribes place on certain numbers, especially the number seven. The Seventh Generation Principle is based on the idea that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future. While my seven years at Boys and Girls Country seems like a brief moment in time, your investment in our mission will impact our children for generations to come.

Thank you for your faithful support and commitment to the children of Boys and Girls Country.

**Vincent Duran**  
Chief Executive Officer

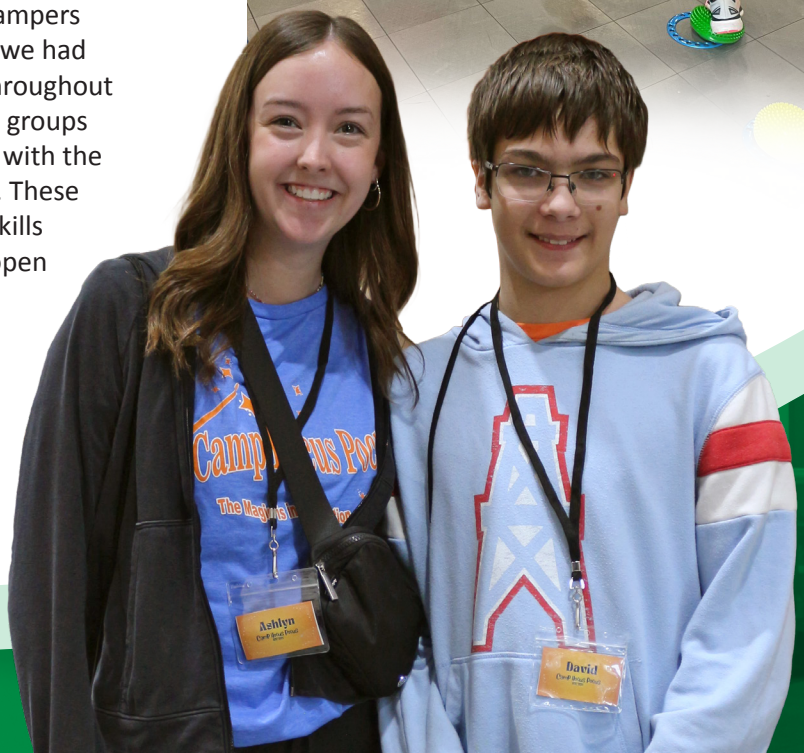




## TBRI CAMP

In February, we hosted our second Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI®) camp for eight students, led by our Director of Trauma Competency & Implementation, Dr. Angie Proctor. These innovative camps are specifically designed to meet the needs of children who have experienced early-childhood trauma, aiming to foster meaningful connections between children and their peers. During the camp, each child was paired with a carefully selected mentor who guided them through the camp's curriculum. Together, they engaged in trust-building games and activities, helping to nurture a positive and supportive relationship through shared experiences.

For the first time, we invited parents to join our camp, focusing on enhancing the experience for both campers and their families. We are grateful to report that we had 100% attendance from all the families invited! Throughout the camp, we provided TBRI training and nurture groups to the parents and guardians, empowering them with the same skills we use to support their children daily. These trainings allow our families to implement these skills not just at camp but also at home, encouraging open communication and relationship growth. Our ultimate goal is to effect positive, lasting changes in the lives of the families we serve.





# NEW BEGINNINGS

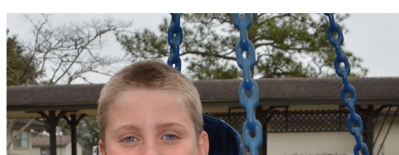
## Twin Sisters Join BGC

We recently had the pleasure of welcoming two 5th-grade girls to our campus. These twin sisters have quickly captured the hearts of our staff with their infectious smiles and unwavering optimism. They perfectly embody the resilience of the children we serve and were excited to share how they have adjusted to life at BGC.

### What was your first week like at BGC?

K: There were lots of kids around, and I wasn't used to that. It was pretty loud my first week, but I like having so many friends to play with. There is always something to do.

S: I was scared having my own room for the first time. I have always shared a room with my sister so it was hard learning to be on my own at night, but I'm starting to like it now.



S



K

### What was it like starting a new school?

K: I was a little scared at first, but all of the adults have been really nice and made sure I felt comfortable in my new class. I have started to make new friends and that has helped a lot.

S: It was hard starting over because I missed my old teacher and friends, but I'm starting to adjust and it's not so bad.

### What is your favorite thing about BGC?

K: We are on the same team for softball, and it is both of our first times playing it so I'm excited to get to do that with my sister. I think I'm going to try and play as many sports as possible.

S: There is so much to do!

### Have you learned anything new since being at BGC?

K: I have learned that it's OK to be scared and that adults are there to help you. I have also learned that we can do hard things.

S: I have learned that sometimes you need someone to talk to and that it's OK to ask for help.

### What would you say to a kid who might be coming to live at BGC?

K: I would let them know that it can be fun because you can try new things that you have never done before, and there will always be someone your age to hang out with.

S: I would tell them that it might be scary at first, but there is always someone to talk to and you don't ever have to feel alone.

### What do you want to be when you grow up?

K: I want to be a nurse or firefighter because they get to help people who need it.

S: I want to be an architect because I want to make sure that everyone who wants a home can have one.





Boys and Girls Country

# SPRING FESTIVAL 2024

Saturday, May 4th: 11 a.m.—4 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

- Games & Prizes
- Bucket Raffle
- Petting Zoo
- Basket Sale
- Giant Inflatables
- Live Music



## Activity Day Passes

- \$20 for ages 5 and up
- \$5 for 4 and under

## Individual Food & Activity Tickets

- \$1 each

*Food and activity booths range from 2 to 10 tickets each*

## FOOD

- BBQ
- Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
- Chicken Tacos
- Classic Carnival Food

18806 Roberts Road, Hockley, TX 77447 | [www.boysandgirlscountry.org](http://www.boysandgirlscountry.org)

# OCTOBER 1—JANUARY 31, 2024

## In Memory

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

- Abby**  
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Seyler
- Florence Abercia**  
Mr. and Mrs. George Moses  
Mrs. Delores Rock  
Janice and William Sleeper
- Jack and Carolyn Brewer**  
Barry and Sharon Campbell  
Mrs. Sarah B. Smith
- Stanley Brown**  
June Brown
- Jessica A. Buchar**  
Tracy Macha and Jeff Deehring
- Burley Cantrell**  
Mrs. Shirley A. Cantrell
- Lelia Carr**  
Ms. Elizabeth Stephens
- Mary Ellen Cassoni**  
Mr. and Mrs. David Lee
- Faye M. Christian**  
Mr. T. Michael Young
- Rev. F. Graham Cliff**  
Mrs. Mary Jo Cliff
- Dr. David Clyde**  
William and Linda Harkness
- Steven Key Compton**  
Mr. Blake Allen  
Mr. and Mrs. William Brown  
Victoria Blanks and Paul Pryzant  
Tri-C Resources, Inc.
- Thomas Connell**  
William and Linda Harkness
- Juli Ann Davies Mayfield**  
Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Cox  
Ms. Beth Lankford  
Ms. June Walker  
Mr. and Mrs. Goree Waugh
- Margy Davis**  
Ms. Elizabeth Stephens
- Sparky**  
Mr. and Mrs. John Phillip Baldez
- Bob and John Marcus Dugan**  
William and Linda Harkness
- Les and Jewel Dunn**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Sturm
- Milton and Naomi Ellisor**  
Ms. Susan Long
- Kevin Fagg**  
Ms. Ann L. Lyon
- Cindy Ferguson**  
Noel and Betty Jones
- Bryan Gallatin**  
Mrs. Shirley A. Cantrell  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Patterson  
Mr. and Mrs. Al Weaver
- Kelly Garza**  
Ms. Paula McHam
- Nancy Glace**  
William and Linda Harkness
- Tyler Warwick Hamilton**  
Mr. Tommy Warwick
- Ruth Hardeman**  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Patterson
- JoAnn Harris**  
Ms. Phyllis Hengst
- David Hendricks II**  
Mr. David Hendricks
- Willie and Mildred Hill**  
Ms. Nancy Sims
- Roy and Arleah Hillegeist**  
Mr. Bruce E. Hillegeist
- Howard Hoover, Jr.**  
Mrs. Janet Hoover
- Sherry Howell**  
Norinne Stumph
- Harold G. and Rose F. Jacobson**  
Laura Hicks  
Mr. and Mrs. Gregg A. Jacobson
- Jacob Knowles**  
Mr. and Mrs. Randy Zator
- Richard Pat Knox**  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Knox, Jr.
- Travis Lovett**  
Ms. Elizabeth Stephens
- Jennifer Lee Malota**  
Mr. and Mrs. Kerry L. Sims
- Randal McDonald**  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Perry
- Don McLaughlin**  
Mrs. Karen McLaughlin
- Christian Mohn**  
Dennis and Nelda Carlile
- Patricia Joan Moseley**  
Ms. Charlotte Dunn  
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hubbard  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Moseley  
Mrs. Tommye Prince
- Mishael (Mitch) Etheredge Norris, Jr.**  
Ms. Kathy Abouhalkah  
Ms. Beverly Mitchell  
Mr. and Mrs. George Murray  
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Shock  
Tomomi Tessandori
- Bud Patterson**  
Michelle M. Sivadon
- Carolyn Patterson**  
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Chenoweth  
Ms. Lea Ann Ciavarra  
Ms. Noehmi Corona  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Fish  
Mr. and Mrs. Trey Gregory  
Ms. Ann Hicks  
Mr. Clayton Holy  
Mr. Doug McNamee  
Ms. Kay Mike  
Mr. Milan Patel  
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Pool  
Mr. and Mrs. John Rau  
Ms. Margarette Herrin  
and Ms. Betty Herrin Stephens  
Ms. Christie Thomas  
Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Tueting  
Mr. Dang Vo  
Ms. Victoria Vogt  
Audrey Whittington
- Marilyn Paul**  
Ms. Ellen Thompson
- Mother of Paula Harolds**  
William and Linda Harkness
- LeRoy Poteet**  
Reba Poteet
- Allen Powell**  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Forristal
- George Rampacek**  
Mr. Charles M. Rampacek
- Edgar Reeves**  
Mrs. Carolyn L. Reeves
- Lisa Rickerson**  
William and Linda Harkness
- Frank Roberts**  
Mr. and Mrs. W.H. Sentesi
- Ruby Jean and Bobbie Schiel**  
Schiel B-R-C-P-B-B-L Foundation
- Don Schmenk**  
William and Linda Harkness
- Ben Scholl**  
A.A. Brautigam
- Hal Senkel**  
Mrs. Carolyn N. Senkel



**John Sharp**

Mr. Max Nakano

**Carrie Skiba**

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Perry

**Alan Smith**

Weldon and Barbara E. Willis

**Wayne and Joan Smith**

Thomas & Associates Inc.

**Nancy Laura Snyder**

Mary Lou Kirves

**Lauren and Rita Spleth**

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald H. Howard

**Jim Spurlock**

William and Linda Harkness

**Dwayne Thomas Stenson**

Ms. Lydia Gibson

**Carolyn A. Stroud**

Tejas Research & Engineering, LLC

Dr. Stephen Glass DDS

Ms. Patricia Godin

**Sandra Thames**

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Brannon

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Britton

Drake Cameron

Candace Peterson

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Terry

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Theesfeld

**Bill Tidwell**

Ms. Susan Tidwell

**Gladys Underwood**

Ms. Charlotte U. Martin

**Bernice and Gladys Underwood**

Ms. Charlotte U. Martin

**Mildred Vennitucci**

William and Linda Harkness

**Yvonne Rodgers Victory**

Malcolm G. Baker, Jr.

Ms. Rosalie Schermerhorn

The Brass Maiden

**Barbara Warwick**

Mr. Tommy Warwick

**Steve Warwick**

Mr. Tommy Warwick

**Peggy Weldon**

Mickey Wayne Frazier

**Ron Williams**

Noel and Betty Jones

**Sam and Edna Williams**

Judith Vicknair

**Kim Wilson**

Mr. Ben F. Wilson

**Kenneth Max Ziober**

Nita Bales

Craig and Stephanie Dhonau

Ms. Gayle Emerson

Ms. Paige Grumulaitis

Ms. Kirsten Haight

Lucy Jurek

Ms. Gail McClure

Cynthia Mire

Suzanne Reynolds

Riveron

Riveron - TS Houston Team

Samuel Shaw

Ms. Betty Shoppa

Ms. Sheila Young

Visser's Boys

## Honorarium

**Susannah and Justin Abbott**

Matt and Melissa N. Melnar

**Axel and Jeri Baehren**

Mr. and Mrs. Scott Baehren

**David Bishop**

Brad and Denise Williams

**Lucy and Bob Blome**

Pamela Lemoine and Robert A. Blome

**Juli Ann Davies Mayfield**

Mr. and Mrs. Goree Waugh

**Katherine and Scott Galloway**

Ann Neyland and Jack Hurt

**Mike Gatewood**

Taylor and Paige Kelly

**Newcomers and Neighbors of Greater Houston**

Mrs. Marjorie Barclay

**Malcolm and Darla Guerra**

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Nicoli

**Will Harper**

Mr. Brian Miller

**JoAnne Kelly and Jeanne Gordon**

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Kelly, Jr.

**Dennis Johnson**

Ms. Dianne Johnson

**Marilyn Kent**

Ms. Decie Autin

**Tod and Nanette Law**

Mr. Eric Law

**Jack and Carolyn Little**

Jim and Pam Little

**Janette McDonald**

Mrs. LaJuan Pessarra

**Parker Mears**

Mr. Lloyd French, III

**Madeline Mulvey**

Dr. and Mrs. Enrique VanSanten

**Elizabeth and Bob Phillips**

Anne A. and John M. Suman

**Ben Pisklak**

Ronald and Cisi Pisklak

**John Quast III**

Scott and Paige Dunlap

**Ginny Robertson**

Scott and Stacey Maurice

**Matt Rotan**

Mr. Gil Baumgarten

**Regina Ruot**

Ms. Stephanie Pruit

**Brigitte Schmidt**

Dana Cook

**Steve and Anne-Laure Stephens**

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Glesby

Ms. Joan Skipper

**John R. (J.R.) Sult**

Sara and Phil Hawk

**Jody Swift**

Mr. Rich Brittan

**Gayle and Ken Thurman**

William and Linda Harkness

**Marilyn Vandergriff**

Mr. Jack Vandergriff

**Pete Wardenburg**

George and Lynn Castro

**Carol and Mike Watford**

Steven Herzog

**Loraine and Scott Wegmann**

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Callender

Mr. and Mrs. Jon Clarkson

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Cleary, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ethun

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Holmes II

Chrissy Hunnicutt

Mr. and Mrs. Will Huthnance

Walter E. and Yvonne A. Johnson

Mr. John W. Lang, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nelson

Mr. and Mrs. James Reckling

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Savery

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Thompson

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph W. Thomson

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Waheed

Ms. Susan Williamson



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**  
Georgene Britz

Bill Aimone III  
Brian Austin  
David Bishop  
Craig Bunk  
John W. Dalton, Sr  
Carlos De Aldecoa Bueno  
Barton L. Duckworth  
Scott Galloway  
Linsy Goodson  
Randall B. Hale  
Will Harper  
Bryan Herr  
Raleigh Jenkins  
Robert Kneppler Jr  
Charles H. Listen II  
Brad Marks  
Scott D. Martin  
Matthew Mealey  
Parker Mears  
James A. Miller  
Travis Overall  
Ben Pisklak  
Ryan Rodgers  
Matthew P. Rotan  
Chuck Scianna  
Dick Scott  
Paul Sorensen  
Zach Springer  
Kristen Stedham  
Steve Stephens  
Jim Tomforde  
Scott Wegmann  
Michael White  
James Wu

**Chief Executive Officer:**  
Vincent Duran

**Advisory Council:**  
James Bloodworth  
Donna Boyer  
Jan Cameron  
Hulda Coskey  
Ronnie Deyo  
Rodney W. Eads  
Leshia P. Elsenbrook  
Stephen H. Emmott  
Bradley R. Freels  
Mike Gatewood  
Sten L. Gustafson  
A.J. Knapp  
Robert E. Kurtz  
Carolyn Little  
Michael M. Lowther  
Penny R. Loyd  
Terrence Malloy  
Stephen McEachern  
Mark L. Mey  
Robert O. Pierce  
Sally Ramsay  
Karen Rosales  
John R. (J.R.) Sult  
Mark Taylor  
Kristie Trice  
Howard L. Wagner  
Peter S. Wardenburg  
William J. Way  
T. Michael Young

**Honorary Lifetime:**  
Leonard Bedell  
Bennis G. Butler  
H. Douglas Church  
H. Larry Gardner  
Philip L. Leggett, MD  
L. Janette McDonald  
Charles M. Rampacek  
R. Allen Schubert  
Jack I. Tompkins  
Reed G. Wood

## PRAY WITH US

We are profoundly grateful for your support, which has been instrumental in sustaining our programs and initiatives. Your unwavering belief in our cause has not only inspired our team but also significantly impacted the lives of the children we serve. To all our 2023 donors, please accept our deepest gratitude for your commitment and for being such a vital part of our community's strength and resilience. We look forward to continuing our mission in 2024! In the meantime, we ask that you join us in prayer for the following:

- Emotional and physical well-being of the children who call BGC home
- Safe and uplifting conclusion to the school year
- Continued prayers and blessings for our staff
- Success of Spring Festival on May 4th

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- ♥ Donate by mail – please use the envelope enclosed
  - ♥ Donate online – [boysandgirlscountry.org/donate](https://boysandgirlscountry.org/donate)
  - ♥ Purchase cottage needs via Amazon – [bit.ly/wishlistbgc](https://bit.ly/wishlistbgc)
  - ♥ If you know a family who may need a placement for their child, please share our information with them.
- 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

supportkids@boysandgirlscountry.org

Phone: 281.351.4976

*Boys and Girls Country adheres to the Donor Bill of Rights as published by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP)*