

# OUR MISSION

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



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA**

## Florida Representatives Deliver Much-Needed Hurricane Relief Supplies to the Boys & Girls Club



REPRESENTATIVE  
ANNA ESKAMANI



REPRESENTATIVE JASON SHOAF



DONATE NOW!



In the wake of Hurricane Helene, the Boys & Girls Club of North Central Florida has been overwhelmed with support from community leaders across the state. Representative Jason Shoaf personally delivered hurricane relief supplies to the club, providing much-needed items for families and children who were affected by the storm. His hands-on approach demonstrated his deep commitment to helping the local community recover from the devastation. Representative Anna V. Eskamani, who represents Orlando, also reached out to offer her assistance. After learning about the specific needs of the Boys & Girls Club, she ensured that her contribution was tailored to fill those gaps by delivering a carefully selected set of supplies. Her support, alongside that of Representative Shoaf, showcases a remarkable effort by Florida's leaders to come together and provide relief during a time of great need. The Boys & Girls Club is incredibly grateful for the swift and generous actions of both Representative Shoaf and Representative Eskamani. Their contributions are making a tangible difference in the recovery process, helping children and families get back on their feet after the storm. You can scan the QR code to make a donation to assist with hurricane relief.



## BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA'S NEWSLETTER

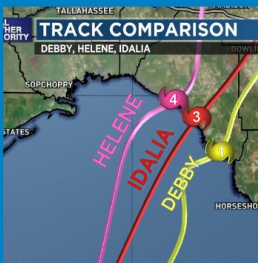
**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF NORTH  
CENTRAL FLORIDA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



*Chris Clark      Jamie Cruse  
Denny Knight      Penny Staffney  
Taylor McGrew      Cathy Hagberg  
Linda Nutter      Tabitha Fishgrab  
Danny Collins      Alishia Beshears  
Lauren Faison-Clark  
Carley Beck*



## BGC Hurricane Damage



Taylor County, Florida, has faced an unprecedented and rare event in recent history, being directly hit by the last two major hurricanes to strike the state. A major hurricane is classified as a Category 3 or higher, and to put this into perspective, Florida has only experienced 13 such direct hits in the past 50 years. Remarkably, Taylor County was the target of the two: Hurricane Idalia in 2023 and Hurricane Helene in 2024.

Both storms brought immense power and devastation to the region. Hurricane Idalia, which was initially a Category 4 storm, weakened slightly to a Category 3 just before making landfall in Taylor County in August 2023. Despite this downgrade, it caused widespread damage, highlighting the severe impact that even a Category 3 hurricane can have on a community.

The occurrence of two major hurricanes hitting the same location in such a short time frame is extremely rare. Historically, hurricanes of this magnitude have impacted different areas along Florida's coastline. The fact that Taylor County has endured back-to-back storms within just 13 months, following Hurricane Debby in August 2024, emphasizes the unusual and severe nature of these weather events.

Hurricane Helene, striking later in 2024 with wind speeds of 140 mph, became the 10th strongest landfalling tropical cyclone in Florida's history. Its intensity further compounded the challenges for Taylor County, as the community was still in the midst of recovering from Hurricane Idalia's destruction when Helene struck. The recurrence of such powerful hurricanes in the same severe nature of these weather events. Hurricane Helene, which struck later in 2024 with wind speeds reaching 140 mph, ranks as the 10th strongest landfalling tropical cyclone in Florida's history. The back-to-back hits from Hurricane Idalia and Hurricane Helene compounded the devastation, making recovery efforts even more challenging for the Taylor County community.

# STINGRAY

## Stingray Club Reopens After Hurricane Helene: A Story of Resilience

*After Hurricane Helene's devastating impact, the Stingray Club opened its doors to welcome back club kids whose lives were upended by the storm. Many of our children lost their homes or experienced severe damage, yet their resilience has shone brightly in the face of these hardships.*

*The storm may have left its mark on our community, but it has also revealed the strength and courage of our young members. At the Stingray Club, we've focused on creating a safe, supportive environment where kids can regain a sense of normalcy, express their feelings, and rebuild. Their unwavering spirit inspires us all, showing that even in the toughest times, our club kids are resilient, and together, we can overcome any challenge.*



**GREAT FUTURES START [HERE.](#)**

## Mayo Unit Makes Math Fun with Math Twister!

**At the Mayo Unit, we believe learning should be fun—and Math Twister is proving that! Our club kids are enjoying this creative twist on the classic game, using their math skills to guide their moves. Instead of just colors, they spin for math problems, solving addition, subtraction, or multiplication equations to determine their next move on the mat.**

**This engaging activity brings math to life, helping kids sharpen their skills while staying active and having fun. It's a great way to combine learning and play, and the smiles on their faces say it all!**



# Mayo Drumline



## 3rd Graders Create a Math Corn Maze at Veterans Park!

Our 3rd graders at Veterans Park recently got creative with a fun and educational activity—building a Math Corn Maze! The kids worked in two groups: one group collaborated to come up with math problems, while the other designed and set up a maze using chairs. To complete the activity, students navigated through the maze, solving math problems along the way to reach the end.

This engaging project combined teamwork, problem-solving, and math skills, proving that learning can be an adventure. It was wonderful to see the kids having fun while reinforcing their math knowledge!



**GREAT FUTURES START HERE.**

## Teen-Kos Workforce Development: Creating Custom Shirts



As part of our workforce development program, the Teen-Kos are learning valuable skills by designing and creating custom shirts. This hands-on project teaches them everything from basic design principles to practical skills like screen printing, digital printing, and quality control. The teens take charge of the entire process—brainstorming ideas, creating designs, and learning how to bring their concepts to life on fabric.

Through this initiative, participants gain experience in creativity, teamwork, and entrepreneurship, all while developing skills that can be applied in future job opportunities. By managing everything from design to production, they also learn the essentials of running a small business, including marketing, budgeting, and customer service. It's a fantastic way for the Teen-Kos to express themselves creatively while preparing for success in the workforce.

# Whatever *no matter what* It Takes

After Hurricane Helene, Boys & Girls Club staff and AmeriCorps members came together to clear storm debris and get our facilities back in shape. Every staff member—from the CEO to the CFO, and even the Human Resource Manager—rolled up their sleeves to help. This collective effort highlights our commitment to doing whatever it takes to serve our kids and provide them with a safe, welcoming space. It's a reminder that at the Boys & Girls Club, we're more than a team—we're a family, united in our mission to support the children in our community.



## Head Start Learning



Sensory

Finger Painting

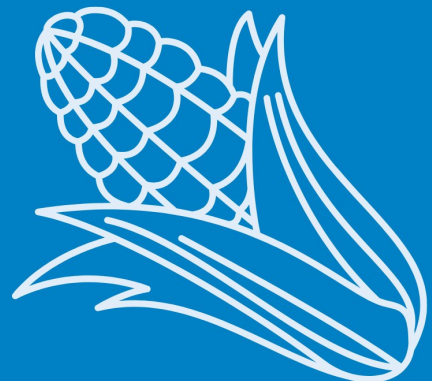


Exploration



Music

## CORNY KIDS



# Teen Center

Cooking Together: A Special Parent Event at the Teen Center



There's something truly special about cooking with your parent—especially in your own Club kitchen! The Teen Center recently hosted a parent event where families participated in our culinary program, working side by side to prepare delicious meals. Parents and teens had the chance to bond, learn new cooking skills, and share a unique experience together. The event was filled with laughter, teamwork, and some tasty creations, making it a memorable day for everyone involved. It's moments like these that strengthen the connections between our members, their families, and the Club!

## BE GREAT

WHAT DO OUR KIDS TELL US?



Pulse Checks

Each week, we survey a sample of kids about their club experience. We ask them what they like and dislike about the club. Here are a few responses:

Like:

“Everything!”

“The People who work here.”

Dislike:

“Homework all the time.”

“Coach because he is strict”

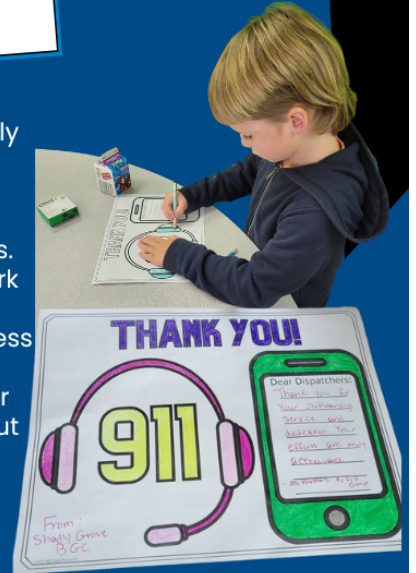
enjoy every moment.



# Shady Grove

## THANK 911 FIRST RESPONDERS

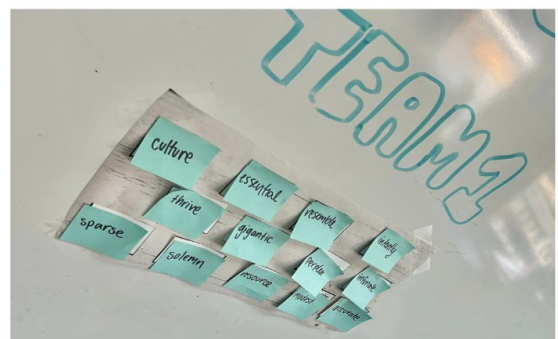
Our Shady Grove Club kids recently took a moment to show their appreciation for the local 911 first responders by creating and sending heartfelt thank-you cards. These brave men and women work tirelessly to keep our community safe, and the kids wanted to express their gratitude for everything they do. It was a special opportunity for our young members to learn about the importance of showing appreciation and giving back to those who protect and serve us every day.



# I CARE.

## Vocabulary Relay: Learning Meets Fun at the Club!

Our Club kids recently took part in an exciting game of Vocabulary Relay, where physical activity and academics came together for a fun learning experience. In this fast-paced game, teams raced to match words with their definitions, combining quick thinking with a burst of energy. It's a perfect way to reinforce vocabulary skills while keeping kids active and engaged. Watching them cheer each other on and celebrate their victories showed just how powerful learning through play can be!



## Shady Grove

### Shady Grove

AC Member	Mentee Contacts
KT Dorman	8
Gabriel Langford	6



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA



AmeriCorps  
Florida



volunteerflorida

# BGC Mentoring Report Mentor & Mentee Sessions Completed Last Month



## Mayo

### Mayo

AC Member	Mentee Contacts
Jaylah James	11

## Teen Center

### Teen Center

AC Member	Mentee Contacts
Morgan Whetsel	3
Assyria Lewis	6
Ja'Kecia Williams	12
Variah Dunnell	7
Nakadea King	14
JaKobe Faulk	6

## Veteran's Park

### Veterans Park

AC Member	Mentee Contacts- Completed
Rehanna Faulk	7
Destiny Garrison	10
Alexis Johnson	12
Jaaron Williams	6
Simon Jackson	2
Aliyah Britt	13
Hannah Slaughter	12
Arianna Spencer	12

# THE GRIND

The work culture at Boys & Girls Club of North Central Florida is grounded in five core principles that promote commitment, leadership, continuous improvement, teamwork, and professionalism. Known as "The Grind," it emphasizes goal-setting, ownership by all team members, and ongoing growth. The culture also fosters a strong sense of family, where respect and collaboration are key. Professionalism and integrity are paramount, ensuring accountability in all actions. This environment enables every team member to thrive and contribute to the success of the organization.

The work culture at Boys & Girls Club of North Central Florida is shaped by five key principles:

**The work culture at Boys & Girls Club of North Central Florida is shaped by five key principles:**

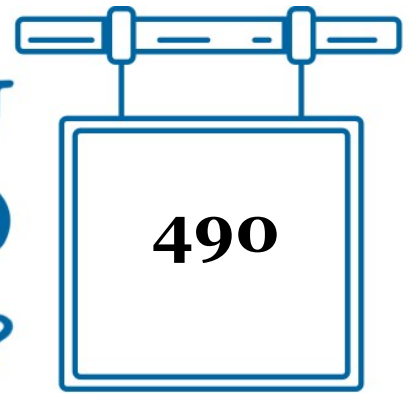
- 1. The Grind – Commitment, discipline, and work ethic are at the core of everything, with a focus on setting and achieving goals.**
- 2. Everyone is the C.E.O. – Leadership is a shared responsibility, and every team member is expected to take ownership and lead by example.**
- 3. Practice Makes Progress – Continuous improvement is valued, with an emphasis on growth, learning, and pushing beyond comfort zones.**
- 4. We Are Family – The organization fosters a supportive, inclusive environment built on respect, teamwork, and collaboration.**
- 5. S.O.B. (Stand on Business) – Professionalism, accountability, and integrity are essential, with a focus on meeting commitments and handling business with respect.**



PROGRAM PERFORMANCE  
MEASURES  
THE AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE  
(ADA)  
PARENT PARTICIPATION  
INDICATES THE NUMBER OF  
PARENTS THAT PARTICIPATED IN  
PARENT EVENTS.



# HOW MANY DIFFERENT KIDS ATTENDED ONE OR MORE DAYS?



## HOW MANY MEALS DID THE BOYS & GIRLS SERVE LAST MONTH?



### CLASS Scores

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) is an observation instrument that assesses the quality of teacher-child interactions in center-based preschool classrooms.

### BGC CLASS Score

Emotional Support	Classroom Organization	Instructional Support
4.85	4.6	3.8



#### CLASS Quality Standard

Emotional Support	Classroom Organization	Instructional Support
6.00	6.00	3.00

#### Scores Below Acceptable

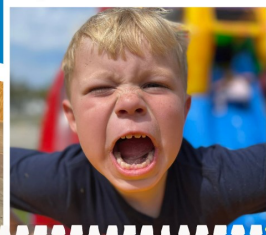
Emotional Support	Classroom Organization	Instructional Support
5.00	5.00	2.30

The BGC CLASS score is the average score of the latest round of CLASS observations. The office of Head Start expects all grantees to be at or above quality in each domain. The below acceptable scores trigger a Grant re-competition. If the grantee scores in this range when the office of Head Start observes the grantee.



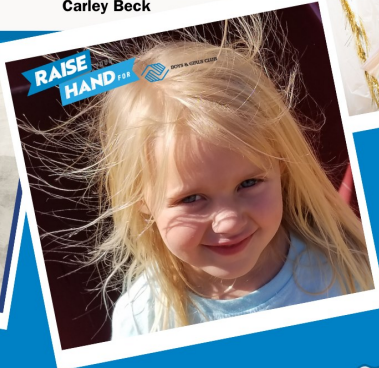
*Working Together to Build Great Futures*

# Happy Birthday!



### Board of Directors

- Chris Clark
- Penny Staffney
- Jamie Cruse
- Tabitha Fishgrab
- Denny Knight
- Taylor McGrew
- Linda Nutter
- Danny Collins
- Alicia Beshears
- Lauren Fison-Clark
- Cathy Hagberg
- Carley Beck



- Angela Jones**
- Brittany Towles-Stanley**
- Sharon Jones**
- Keria Gibson**



In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, we have seen the strength and resilience of our community, and I want to assure you that the Boys & Girls Club of North Central Florida is here to support you every step of the way. We are committed to helping with cleanup efforts and working tirelessly to restore our Club, ensuring it remains a safe and welcoming space for all our kids. We know the road to recovery will take time, but together, we can rebuild and come back stronger than ever. Our team is dedicated to doing whatever it takes to support our families and ensure that our children continue to have the opportunities, guidance, and care they deserve.

