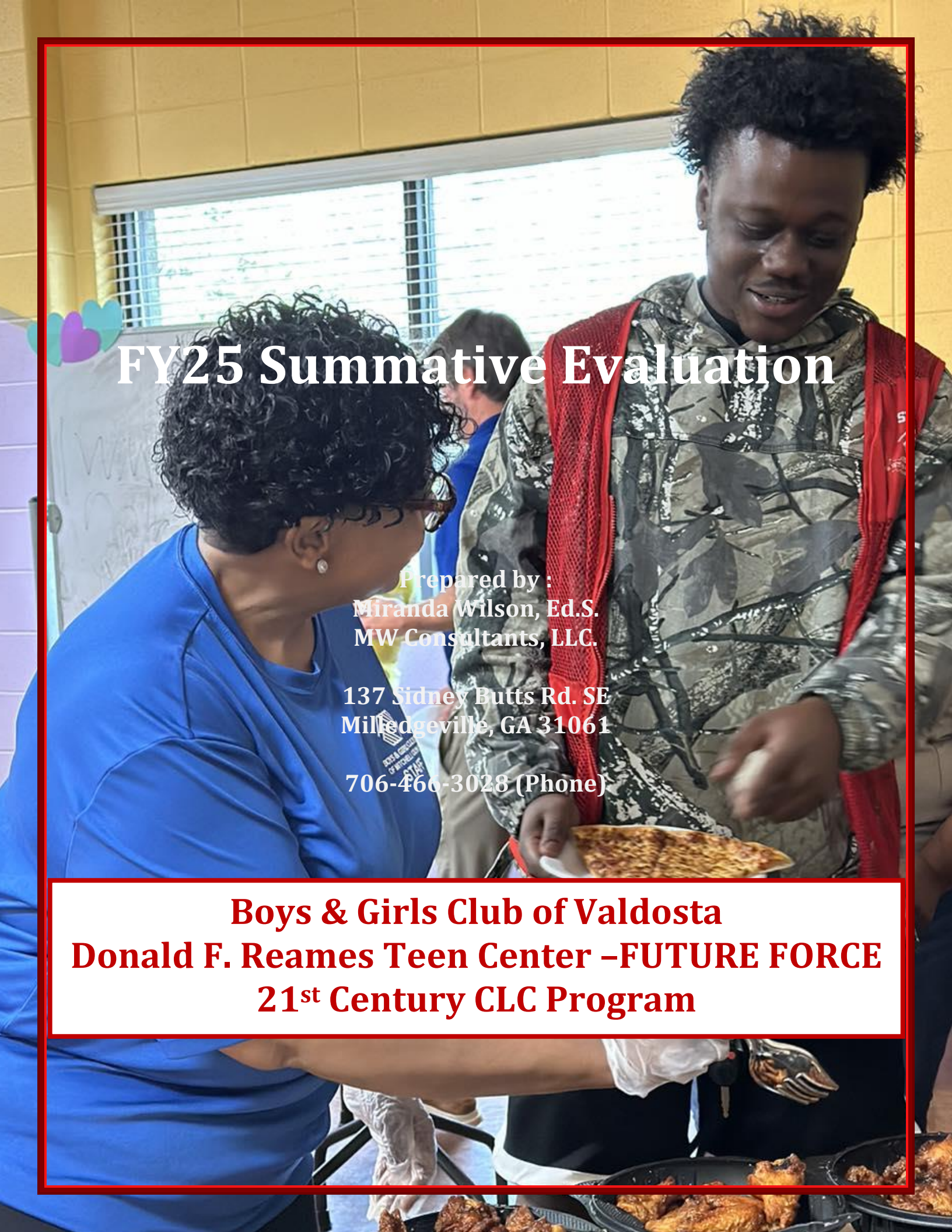




FY25 Summative Evaluation

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**Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta
Donald F. Reames Teen Center –FUTURE FORCE
21st Century CLC Program**

**FY25 SUMMATIVE EVALUATION
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF VALDOSTA DONALD F. REAMES TEEN CENTER
FUTURE FORCE 21ST CENTURY COMMUNITY LEARNING CENTERS PROGRAM**

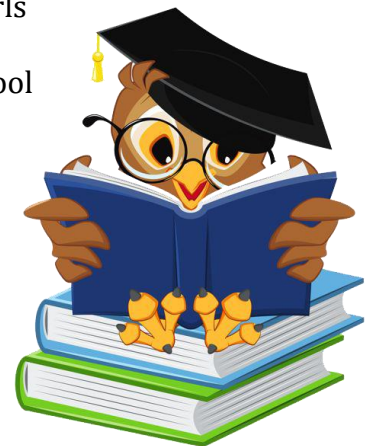
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I. OVERVIEW AND HISTORY OF PROGRAM:

The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta was initially awarded the 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant in July 2011 on behalf of the Donald F. Reames Teen Center. With the program culminating its second five-year grant cycle during FY24, a new request for funding was submitted and awarded for the 2024-2025 school year with the Future Force Program. With the prior level of success demonstrated by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta (BGCV) and its partnership with the Valdosta City School District, it is not surprising that the Donald F. Reames Teen Center was successful in renewing its 21st Century Community Learning Centers award. The BGCV's Executive Director credits the Reames Teen Center's history of success to the organization's alignment of philosophy and goals with that of the Valdosta City School District as well as the continuous implementation of evidence-based best practices.



According to the BGCV administration, Valdosta City Schools has a vision of “preparing students to pursue infinite possibilities for the future,” which closely aligns with the BGCV mission to “inspire and enable all young people to realize their full potential as more responsible, caring, and productive citizens.” Because of these similar missions, the two entities have a long-standing record of accomplishment of serving high poverty students who typically enroll in the Donald F. Reames Teen Center’s 21st Century Community Learning Center’s afterschool program. Of equal importance to its record of prior success is the Boys & Girls Club’s mission to enhance the academic, social and workforce performance of Valdosta City’s youth by consistently implementing high quality interventions and practices that yield consistent results. To this end, the program has a

strong emphasis on improving literacy and comprehension skills by using high interest texts that appeal to the students' interests in music, sports, and technology. Students from the following feeder schools within the Valdosta City School District are eligible to enroll in the Donald F. Reames Teen Center: J.L. Newbern Middle School and Valdosta Middle School.

With a targeted population of 150 youth in grades 6-12, the program registered 264 students and consistently served an average of 103 students each day. The first session for the regular school year was held on Friday, August 2, 2024, and the last session was held on Friday, May 23, 2025, for a total of 163 program days.

This report was generated to satisfy the Georgia Department of Education's 21st Century CLC grant requirement of an Annual Summative Evaluation of the site's 21st Century Program. This evaluation will describe the subgrantee's progress towards meeting the approved program goals/objectives and offer recommendations for improving the program in subsequent program years. Additionally, this report will highlight some of the students whose lives have been touched by his/her participation in the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program.



II. STUDENT ATTENDANCE AND ENROLLMENT:

Although 264 students were registered, there was a total of 181 regularly participating students who attended the Donald F. Reames Teen Center's Future Force Program for 30 days or more throughout the 2024-2025 school year. Of the 264 students registered, 191 were female and 145 were male. In addition, 96.2% of those served were African American (254), 1.1% identified as White

(3), 2.2% identified as Hispanic (6), and less than 1% failed to disclose their ethnicity.

Twenty-one students were identified as Special Needs, and 100% of students qualified for Free/Reduced Meals. See Table I below for the grade levels of all students served.

Enrollment	Grade Level Served
81	6 th Grade
77	7 th Grade
48	8 th Grade
41	9 th Grade
11	10 th Grade
3	11 th Grade
3	12 th Grade
264	TOTAL SERVED

LEVEL-UP ETHNIC BACKGROUNDS -Table 2.2	
Race/Ethnicity	Participant Enrollment
Black of African American	254
White	3
Hispanic	6
Undisclosed	1
	264

21st CCLC Program Site	Youth Registered	Number of Days in Attendance				Total	Average Daily Attendance
		0-29 Days	30-59 Days	60-89 Days	90 Days or More		
Donald F. Reames Teen Ctr.	264	83	37	37	107	264	103

III. PROGRAM OPERATION:

The Donald F. Reames Teen Center operated Monday through Friday from 3:30PM to 6:30PM for 163 days during the 2024-2025 school year. Unlike many 21st Century Community Learning Centers, the Donald F. Reames Teen Center operates each day that the local school district is in session but is not open during Christmas or Spring Breaks. This is important because it provide a safe learning environment for youth who might otherwise be involved in other unproductive, negative behaviors. The Donald F. Reames Teen Center also sponsored a summer program, which was held Monday, June 3, 2024, through Friday, July 26, 2024 for a total of 34 summer program days.

The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program implemented a variety of activities designed to provide expanded learning opportunities that would complement students' regular academic program. The primary purpose of these activities was to increase students' learning capacity while supporting the opportunity for socialization, exposure to varied interests, and increase academic achievement. Among the activities provided on a weekly basis were tutorial services, mentoring, physical activity, homework assistance, and character development. The Donald F. Reames Center has always found success with its student enrollment due to the program's commitment to offer high- quality programming. The Future Force Program also engages its participants by providing engaging technology to support the participants' learning. The program also boasts a tendency to focus on student choice and enrichment, use various fieldtrips, and provides snacks, nutritious meals, and transportation.



In today's age, students typically respond to modern technology and consistent reinforcement. To aid in meeting this need for its youth, the Donald F. Reames Teen Center provided the 21st CCLC program participants with exposure to a host of enriching activities to include:

- **Academy for Success:** This course is designed for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta 21st Century participants to explore different employment opportunities by preparing scholars for the work force. Local business owners teach program participants soft skills and expose students to various job opportunities that are currently available in their respective communities. As an added benefit to the program, speakers from varied backgrounds visit the class each week to answer questions, provide feedback, and help students make well-informed decisions about future job and/or career opportunities. This course also teaches students the importance of personal finance skills.
- **Game room:** Students participating in the Big or Small Game room are able to engage in team games or activities using the X-Box or PlayStation. Student activities may range from participating in sports activities such as football, basketball, soccer, or basketball. During this class, students also participate in rock climbing and other related activities. Game room time gives students an opportunity to learn team building, socialize with peers, and develop character. Because the schedule allows for participation in either the big or small game room, class sizes may range from 5-30 students with varying numbers of supervising adults to ensure that the proposed Teacher-to-Student ratio is maintained.
- **Technology/ Audio Visual/ Digital Media:** This Digital Media/ Technology/ Audio Visual course is designed to educate students on the ever-changing digital world, as well as to provide hands-on experience with industry standard software and equipment. The curriculum covers a wide range of areas, so it appeals to a diverse group of students. Topics covered include graphic design, animation, audio production, video production, and web design.
- **Club Day:** Each Friday, the Boys' and Girls' Club of Valdosta designates the entire program day to participate in varying clubs that cater to the interests of participating students and/or instructors. Among the clubs that students have had the opportunity to participate in are Chess, Culinary Arts, Chorus, Art, Nail Design, Foreign Language (Spanish and/or French), Fitness, and Hip-Hop Dance. The clubs offered at the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta alternate each semester giving students an opportunity to participate in a variety of clubs throughout the year.

- **Academic Enrichment:** The academic enrichment program uses the Project Learn curriculum to reinforce school-day learning and improve academic performance. The key components of this evidence-based learning framework are high-yield learning activities/ projects, homework help, tutoring, parent involvement, collaboration with school professionals and student incentives developed through community partnerships. Students receive enrichment in English Language Arts/ Literacy, Science, Writing, Social Studies, and Mathematics.
- **Power Hour: Homework Assistance/ Tutoring:** Power Hour is an engaging homework help and tutoring program that encourages participants at every age to become self-directed learners. Power Hour helps participants develop academic, behavioral and social skills through homework completion, high-yield learning activities, and tutoring. Power Hour offers extended learning opportunities and educational enrichment programming in a fun, engaging out of school time setting and ultimately helps improve youths' academic performance and encourage them to graduate from high school, pursue a post-secondary education and develop a lifelong love of learning. Homework completion is a critical component of the 21st Century participants' academic success.
- **Healthy Meal/ Nutrition:** All students participating in the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta 21st CCLC Program receive a hot, healthy meal at the culmination of the program each day.
- **Guitar Lessons:** This class is designed for beginners on the guitar or players who would like to fill in the gaps in their basic overall knowledge of the instrument. This course teaches youth cover fingerboard knowledge, basic techniques, chords, strumming, basic improvisation, basics of finger-style technique, reading music (standard notation/tablature), and basic concepts in music theory that can be used to read & write music and figure out songs by ear. Most of the music played in this class will be drawn from the American popular and folk styles. Through listening, this class will provide an overview of the many different styles of music written for this instrument including classical, jazz, blues, folk, rock and pop.
- **Fine Arts at the local Arts Center:** Students participating in the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta 21st CCLC Fine Arts Program at the Donald F. Reames Teen Center have the opportunity to explore creativity in all aspects of art. Students re-create real-life and abstract art through drawings, paintings, sketching, and drafting. This course enables students to understand and value art expressions through life. Students are encouraged to respect each other's uniqueness and creativity and recognize many correlations between the arts and daily life.
- **S.T.E.A.M** STEAM Education is an approach to teaching and learning that combines science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math to guide student inquiry, discussion, and problem solving. STEAM focuses on sparking imagination and creativity through the arts in ways that naturally align with STEM learning.

- **Physical Fitness/Gym/Playground/Field:** During this time, students engage in physical fitness activities to promote healthy living. Each day, students participate in age-appropriate individual, small group, and/or whole group activities that promoting activity, teambuilding, positive behaviors, social recreation, or teaching students the foundations of popular sports such as football, basketball, soccer, volleyball, golf, or pickle ball.
- **Outdoor Adventure Club:** This course serves to offer outdoor education to enhance students' outdoorsman ship. Students explore kayaking and provide excellent group development experiences, leadership training, and outdoor trips.



IV. QUALITY OF STAFFING:

Ms. Pam Sherman, 21st CCLC Program Director, came onboard in the role of an administrator after serving as a classroom instructor for the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta for 4 years and serving as a teacher and Media Specialist in the Valdosta Public School District for over 9 years. Now serving in her 9th year as 21st CCLC Program Director, Sherman is familiar with the students, staff, and goals of the 21st Century Learning Centers Programs. Responsible for ensuring the program's success, Sherman works 12 months and attends all 21st Century CLC trainings sponsored by the Georgia Department of Education.

In addition to Sherman, the program's Site Coordinator, Mr. Charles Williams initially began working with the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta as an YDP before transitioning to his current role. Williams brings a bonus to the program, as he is also a youth minister and is accustomed to finding ways to relate to children who are experiencing difficulties fitting in with peers. Moreover, the students look to Williams for instruction, advisement, and guidance as they maneuver their matriculation through high school. In addition to Sherman and Williams, the program is also staffed with nine certified teachers, 14 Youth Development Professionals, and several other supportive staff members. One of the program's greatest strengths was its use of certified teachers from local schools to provide academic instruction during the program's Power Hour. Each teacher must hold a current professional certificate issued by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and obtain the endorsement of their school principals to ensure their effectiveness in the classroom setting.

The program administrators consistently work to maintain a student-to-staff ratio of 10:1 for academic courses and 15:1 for enrichment courses. This ensures that students are provided with more time for small-group interaction with a responsible adult and allow

time for one-on-one discussions when deemed appropriate. The small student-to-staff ratios also enable instructors to provide one-on-one assistance for students requiring remediation and individualized instruction when needed.

Among the professional development, training provided to improve the capacity of the 21st Century CLC staff was Weekly Staff Meetings with Site Coordinators and Program Administrators, with a focus on various topics including program implementation, program logistics, and planning for student fieldtrips.

- New Staff Orientation was also held in the Fall, Spring, and Summer as new staff members were hired.
- Other topics addressed during PL included Classroom Management, Safety/Cleaning, Mental Health & Trauma, and Marketing & Social Media.



V. ASSESSMENT OF OBJECTIVES:

As described in the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st Century Community Learning Center Future Force grant proposal, the objective assessment section is designed to evaluate the program's progress towards achieving each of the identified objectives.

The program goals are:

OBJECTIVE 1.1: A minimum of 65% of regularly attending students (**who have attended 90 hours or more**) participating in Future Force Program will improve their English/Language Arts class grades or maintain an A, B, or C in these classes. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program MET Objective 1.1.**

The program's success towards meeting this objective was determined by comparing English Language Arts report card grades for Semester I with those from Semester II. There was a total of 181 regularly attending students during the 2024-2025 school year. Of these, 43 students did not have both a first and second semester grade in English Language Arts. Of the 138 students with grades from both Semester I and Semester II, 114 students maintained an "A," "B," or "C" average in his/her corresponding English Language Arts course throughout the school year. An additional four students had an increase of at least one letter grade when comparing the first and second semester grades. Thus, a total of 115/138 or 83% of the students participating in the program for 90 hours or more improved his/her ELA grade or maintained an A, B, or C for the school year. **Objective 1.1 was MET.**

OBJECTIVE 1.2: A minimum of 65% of regularly attending students (**who have attended 90 hours or more**) participating in the Future Force Program will improve their mathematics grades or maintain an A, B, or C in these classes. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program MET Objective 1.2.**

The program's success towards meeting this objective was determined by comparing Mathematics report card grades for Semester I with those from Semester II. There was 181 regularly attending students during the 2024-2025 school year. Of these, 41 students did not have both a first and second semester grade in Mathematics. Of the 140 students with grades from both Semester I and Semester II, 106 students maintained an "A," "B," or "C"

average in his/her corresponding Mathematics course throughout the school year. An additional 12 students had an increase of at least one letter grade when comparing the first and second semester grades. Thus, a total of 118/140 or 84% of the students participating in the program for 90 hours or more improved his/her mathematics grade or maintained an A, B, or C for the 2024-2025 school year. **Objective 1.2 was MET.**

OBJECTIVE 2.1: A minimum of 90% of regularly attending students **(who have attended 90 hours or more)** participating in the Future Force Program will be absent for 15 days or less based on school attendance reports. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program MET Objective 2.1.**

To determine whether Objective 2.1 was met, the External Evaluator reviewed the 2024-2025 Attendance Records provided by the Valdosta City School District for all students currently enrolled in the Donald F. Reames Teen Center. Of the 181 regularly attending students, 13 students had 16 or more unexcused absences from school during the 2024-2025 school term. Thus, 168/181 or 92.8% of regularly participating students were absent for 15 days or less based on school attendance reports. This is certainly commendable.

Objective 2.1 was MET.

OBJECTIVE 2.2: A minimum of 65% of regularly attending students **(who have attended 90 hours or more)** participating in the Future Force Program will demonstrate improvement in homework completion based on teacher surveys. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program MET Objective 2.2.**

With a total of 181 regularly attending participants, the BGCV program administrators were able to collect 126 teacher survey responses. Of the 126 teacher surveys completed,

teachers indicated that 44 students did not need to improve in his/her completion of homework assignments. Teacher surveys also reported that 76 students demonstrated significant or slight improvements in the completion of homework assignments since their active participation in the Future Force Program. Thus, 120/126 or 95.2% of students participating in the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta 21st Century CLC Future Force Program demonstrated improvement in homework completion. **Objective 2.2 was MET.**

OBJECTIVE 2.3: A minimum of 85% of regularly attending students (**90 hours or more**) participating in the Future Force Program will attend a career exploration activity, job skills training class, and/or college and technical school visits during the year. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program MET Objective 2.3.**

To determine whether Objective 2.3 was met, the External Evaluator reviewed students' participation in various career exploration activities and college visits throughout the 2024-2025 school year. A total of 180 students have attended a career exploration activity, job skills training course, and/or technical school visit throughout the 2024-2025 school year. A total of 142 students participated in a Financial Fundamentals class offered by First Commerce Credit Union, teaching students financial literacy for job and personal success. Six students also attended the Academy for Success Program, which aid its participants in completing job applications, college applications, and job skills. Finally, 30 students have applied to be part of a yearlong career exploration class at Wiregrass Technical School. The selected students began attending the explorations classes in June 2025. To this end, two students have been chosen as youth summer workers at the Boys & Girls Club this year. One student was also voted as the BGCV Youth of the Year and will represent the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta. **Objective 2.3 was NOT MET.**

OBJECTIVE 3.1: The Future Force Program will have a minimum of 100 family members visit at our parent education and involvement activities. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program DID NOT MEET Objective 3.1.**

To determine whether Objective 3.1 was met, the External Evaluator reviewed the agendas and sign-in sheets for all parent education/involvement opportunities offered by the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Future Force Program for the 2024-2025 school year. The following parent events were held:

NAME OF EVENT	DATE	# of PARENTS ATTENDING
Family Literacy Night/ Christmas Tour	12/13/24	4
Raising Highly Capable Kids I	02/04/25	5
Raising Highly Capable Kids II	02/11/25	5
Raising Highly Capable Kids III	03/04/25	2
Raising Highly Capable Kids IV	03/11/25	3
Raising Highly Capable Kids V	03/18/25	3
Raising Highly Capable Kids VI	03/25/25	2
Raising Highly Capable Kids VII	04/08/25	3
Raising Highly Capable Kids VIII	04/15/25	3
Raising Highly Capable Kids IX	04/22/25	2
Raising Highly Capable Kids Graduation	04/29/25	6
TOTAL PARENT ATTENDANCE		38

To meet Objective 3.1, the collective total of all parents participating in the FY25 Parent events must be at least 100 parents/ family members/ caregivers. However, the sign-in sheets indicate that only 38 parents attended 11 parent events. Thus, only 6% of parents attended at least one of the parent events. **Objective 3.1 was NOT MET.**

OBJECTIVE 3.2: A minimum of 65% of parents/guardians who have attended at least one family related session will indicate on surveys that they are satisfied with their child's 21st CCLC Future Force Program. **The Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's 21st CCLC Donald F. Reames Program MET Objective 3.2.**

The External Evaluator reviewed the 2024-2025 21st CCLC Parent Survey results to determine the parent's satisfaction with their child's 21st CCLC program. Fifty-five parent

surveys were returned. Of these, 52/55 or 94.5% of the parents attending any parental events held by the Donald F. Reames Program staff were satisfied with the 21st CCLC Program. In spite of the outcome of the survey results, the External Evaluator noted that the survey responses accounted for less than 30% of the total population of parents. Since the survey results would not yield a significant sampling of the total population, caution should be used as to whether we can use the data provided to generalize to the total population. **Objective 3.2 was MET.**

VI. OTHER OBSERVATIONS (OPTIONAL): NONE NOTED.



VII. PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABILITY:

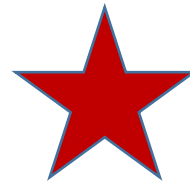
The Donald F. Reames Teen Center has made great strides towards establishing greater sustainability for future programs by securing ongoing partnerships with local businesses, agencies, and through the ongoing support provided by the Boys & Girls Club of Valdosta's



oversight. With eight recorded partners, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta Donald F.

Reames Teen Center collected a total of \$77,775.00 by collaborating with:

- a. AmeriCorps/VISTA
- b. Boys & Girls Clubs of America/ Triple Play
- c. Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta
- d. The Michael Phelps Foundation
- e. Second Harvest of South Georgia
- f. United Way
- g. Valdosta City Schools
- h. Valdosta State University



Moreover, the partnerships that the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta have created act as a supportive interagency collaborative network that provides the 21st Century CLC program participants with a variety of educational opportunities, enhanced learning experiences, and a wealth of access to community resources that they would otherwise not have access to outside of the Donald F. Reames Future Force Program. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta are to be commended for forging numerous partnerships in the business community. These partners have been long-term supporters of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta 21st Century CLC Programs and have provided both financial and in-kind donations to sustain afterschool programming. In addition, the Boys & Girls Club employs a fulltime employee whose primary focus is development and marketing. This individual works closely with the BGCV Board of Directors to raise the operating costs necessary to sustain the Future Force Program beyond the grant's award years.

VIII. OVERALL RECOMMENDATIONS:

The External Evaluator is pleased to offer the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta 21st Century CLC Program the following recommendations to further improve its current Future Force Program:

- A prior recommendation included increasing parent nights and parent activities to meet the needs of all parents. Although the External Evaluator realizes the limitations placed on the Future Force Program administration because of the difficulty in getting parents of adolescent students to participate, the program should work to increase its parental participation. It is recommended that the program administration partners with other programs already scheduled to take place within the Valdosta City School District to broaden parents' awareness of the Boys & Girls Clubs 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program.

- This is a prior recommendation. The External Evaluator recommends that the Donald F. Reames Teen Center develop a schedule of parent events for the FY26



school year. By scheduling monthly events prior to the start of the school year and informing parents of the events in advance, parents would have more time to plan. Consider a Spring Skit or musical. It might prove beneficial to hire 1-2 staff members for the primary purpose of planning, promoting, and executing parent events. Since they are located in the same building, the Donald F. Reames Teen Center and David S. Waller Unit should collaborate to host these parent events.

Reames Future Force Success Story

Brianna has been one of the Boys & Girls Club's brightest students during her time here! She decided to take the challenge of applying for the BGCV Youth of the Year Award. This would be a big step for her, as she did not typically stand before crowds to speak and most people, including the staff, didn't know her story. Brianna spoke about how she dealt with depression and often seemed lost, but discovered a sense of purpose with the help of staff and friends. Brianna eventually was selected to represent the Boys & Girls Clubs of Valdosta for the Youth of the Year and even met Kirk Franklin, a famous gospel-recording artist. Brianna is now also working as a youth worker for our summer program. Brianna is an example of the tremendous work at our club to develop the next generation of productive citizens.