

ClubNotes

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF TRENTON & MERCER COUNTY

SUMMER 2007



Enrollment Up 800% Over 3 Years!

Demand Soars For After-School Program

Club seeks broad support for struggling kids who want to be successful in school

More kids than ever are turning to the Boys & Girls Club to be safe, have fun, and get help with their schoolwork. These students come from Trenton elementary schools, and almost all of them attend Club programs every day.

The good news

In 2003, there were just 80 kids (ages 5 to 12) attending after-school programs at the Boys & Girls Club. Two years later, that number jumped to 450. Today, there are

650 inner-city kids getting homework help at the Centre Street Club or at one of our school-based programs.

Kids Club members devote an hour each afternoon to homework. Most stay for two more hours of

At the Club I learned how to work the computer. I like the teachers and games.

– Destiny, age 7

enrichment activities. Some kids qualify and receive No Child Left Behind tutoring from certified teachers. Others get extra help (and motivation!) using state-of-the-art, computer-based instruction that makes learning fun.

More Club members than ever are on the honor roll! We reward these students with an honor roll banquet at a local restaurant and with achievement awards each June.

The less-than-good news

Available slots for our after-school program at Centre Street are waiting-list only! It now costs the Club \$1,500 per child to provide our quality after-school services for one year.

Dramatic results require increased investments.

Donors save the day

Thanks to growing donor support, the Club was able to raise the additional \$855,000 in funding that the after-school program requires to serve these kids. At the same time, back-office operations were kept bare-boned to ensure no kids were turn away.

Individual gifts make a huge difference. Our ability to serve more kids is directly related to our donors' generosity. Your support lets kids know that we'll be here when they need us most – after school.

A day at the Club for me is the best day ever. If I wasn't at the Club I would try to get in!

– Emilio, age 8

Open Year-Round: 300 Kids in Camp

Just because school is out doesn't mean that the Boys & Girls Club is closed. In fact, more than 300 youths will be participating in the Club's summer programs.

New camps this year are a performing arts academy and a career camp for teens. Gregory Elementary School and 212 Centre Street will house the Club's summer activities. Day trips will include the Philadelphia Zoo, the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, and the Funtown Pier in Seaside Park.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

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MISSION STATEMENT

To inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Tyco Volunteers Go All Out

Senior managers lead teams to mentor Job Ready graduates, spruce up the Club, and furnish new offices

Ever wonder how you can make a difference helping disadvantaged inner-city kids? Tyco volunteers know the answer to that question, and they're happy to share it!

Over the past few months Tyco employees have focused on how they can share their professional skills with the Boys & Girls Club, particularly its teen members.

In March, Tyco IT Manager Kevin Washington listened to our teens tell how they had overcome obstacles to become candidates for the Club's Youth of the Year. He served on a panel of five judges who had the difficult job of selecting a winner.

In April, Laurie Siegel and Shelley Stewart, both senior vice presidents at Tyco, led their staffs on a Day of Caring at the Club. Some 20 volunteers cleaned, painted, and planted. During the visit, Tyco employees and Club staff members brainstormed on specific ways in which Tyco employees could get involved with the Club.

These conversations led Ms. Siegel to

invite a group of Job Ready teens to Tyco headquarters for an all-day career workshop. (See photo caption for more details.)

Among the volunteers from Mr. Stewart's team was Bill Alexander, director of global real estate. When Bill realized that the Club was in need of new office furniture, he jumped into action. Now, thanks to Tyco, the Club is getting just what it needs to set up its new administrative offices.

Last year, Tyco contributed \$10,000 to the Boys & Girls Club in behalf of Mr. Stewart, a board member, who won the

They really made our kids feel welcome!

Chairman's Award and chose the Boys & Girls Club to receive the donation. Tyco also provided major support to the Club to open its family and fitness center in 2006.

"It's inspiring to Club staff to partner with area businesses, both on a corporate and individual level," says Dave Anderson, executive director. "This is the kind of enthusiasm that generates momentum and produces impact," he adds.

TRIP TO TYCO – Career Launch teens experience professional training with volunteers at Tyco headquarters in Princeton. HR staff members offered advice and conducted mock interviews with the teens. Highlight of the day was a visit with Edward D. Breen, chairman and CEO. "They really made our kids feel welcome," says Evonne Williams, teen counselor. From left to right are Brandon Carter (kneeling), Quierra Crawford, Andrew Whitmore, teen services director; Ms. Williams, Greg Crumbley, Candice Kelley, Bentrice Jush, Dominique Everett, Ashley Harris, and Shakila McKoy.



Career Launch Is BIG Hit

Graduates of pilot program heading off to college
84 Sophomores and Juniors Ready to Plan Future



Imagine if you were a good kid with decent grades and no one ever asked what you planned to do after high school?

The Boys & Girls Club is the only place in the City of Trenton that I know of besides school that gives me a network of people that I can rely on for help. – Rico Bell

Chances are you wouldn't be where you are today. And, you probably would never have gone to college.

This is what we found last year when we asked our teen members about their career plans: Most of them had not given the question much thought, and several were not even committed to graduating from high



Because of the Boys & Girls Club, I know who I am and who I want to be.

– Andrea Howard

school. (Currently only 9 percent of Trenton residents attain degrees from four-year colleges.)

Recognizing the need of Trenton teens for guidance, the Club rushed to implement Career Launch – a nationally-developed Boys & Girls Club initiative that points teens in the right direction.

Our first year of running Job Ready – one of the program's components for high school students – pro-

duced these results:

- 100 Trenton High School students completed a 12-week job preparation course
- 45 youths performed paid internships at the Boys & Girls Club
- More than 60 participants were placed in part-time employment.

More good news is that all 10 of our



Before I became involved with the Boys & Girls Club, I did not care much about school. Nor did I anticipate attending college.

– Jovin Fernandez

Career Launch program seniors are planning to attend college.

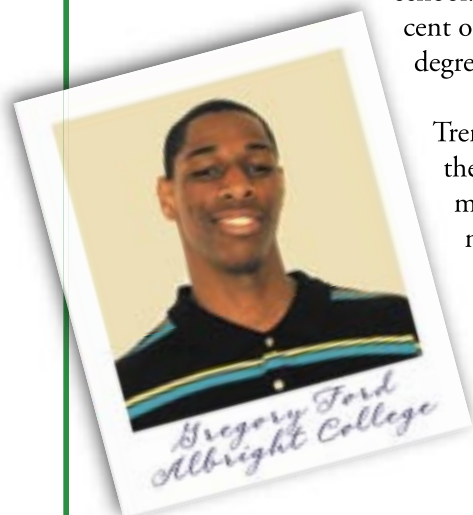
This fall, we anticipate the demand for Job Ready to at least double!

We already have 84 high school sophomores and juniors ready to start planning for a positive future. These kids are looking to the Boys & Girls Club to offer them guidance with:

- Tutoring, SAT preparation, writing, and public speaking
- College tours, interviews, applications and scholarships
- Personal coaching
- Jobs and internships

With your support, the Club will not leave these teens on their own to make life-changing decisions. Generous gifts are making Career Launch possible by supporting the program's operating costs, mentors, paid internships, and transportation. Most importantly, our teens feel that we truly care about them, and that's pretty hard to beat!

The Club taught me the importance of being prepared for interviews, how to write a resume, and how to present myself. – Greg Ford



Trenton Club Earns National Recognition

The Boys & Girls Club of Trenton has been named a 2007 Gold Centennial Partner for demonstrating growth, impact, and dedication to the Boys & Girls Club Movement.

Presentation was made in May during the Boys & Girls Clubs of America convention in Orlando. The Trenton Club is one of only 20 Boys & Girls Clubs from among 4,000 nationally to earn the award.

Centennial Partner recognition was determined by increases in membership and average daily attendance. Winning organizations conducted successful "It Just Takes One" campaigns to increase individual giving, observed National Boys & Girls Club Week in March, and celebrated America's Day for Kids in September.

Boys & Girls Club staff and board members also attended workshops at which they recommitted themselves to the BGCA Core Promise of Impact and Integrity:

- To provide a safe, positive place and have a positive impact on kids' lives.
- To uphold high ethical standards in all areas, especially in overseeing finances, collecting membership and participation data, being good stewards of the donor dollar, and representing ourselves to the public.



it just takes | one.

Annual Campaign Sustains Opportunities for Youths

One opportunity

can make a lasting difference in the life of a child.

One dream

can give a sense of purpose for a lifetime.

One voice

can relay wisdom that resonates for generations.

One Boys & Girls Club

can give hope to an entire neighborhood.

One person

like you can help fulfill the dream of a brighter tomorrow for more children in our community.



To donate, visit
www.bgctrenton.org

Celebrate...

Boys & Girls Clubs Day for Kids
Saturday, September 15
Boys & Girls Club, Trenton

You're Invited...

President's Reception
Tuesday, September 18
Jasna Polana, Princeton

Save the Date...

Candlelight Ball
Saturday, November 17
Princeton Marriott Hotel