

BELIEVE

achieve. &
succeed



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF COLLIER COUNTY

2022-2023

Impact
Report





BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF COLLIER COUNTY

our mission

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

our vision

To provide a world-class Club experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.



our leadership

Megan McCarthy Beauvais
PRESIDENT & CEO

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Max Press
Ashley Smith
Charles E. Weinrich

a letter from the President

What is the Boys & Girls Club?

I get asked this a lot and I have found I give a slightly different answer every time. When I realized this, I thought it strange. So, I started to think about this question from the point of view of all our stakeholders. Ask a parent or guardian and you will hear the Club is a safe, affordable place for their kids to be while they work and provide for their families. Ask one of our Youth Development Professionals and they will say it is a place to work where they feel they are making an impact on a kid's life. Ask a community partner and you might hear how they are able to provide their programs to a population they are not able to easily contact. Ask a donor and you hear how they **believe** access to enrichment programs should be equal to all. Ask a Club member and they will share that it is a place to be with friends, eat good food, and have fun. Ask former Club kids—no matter what Club they belonged to however long ago—and they will say the Club changed their lives.

This is what I understand to be the beauty of a Boys & Girls Club.

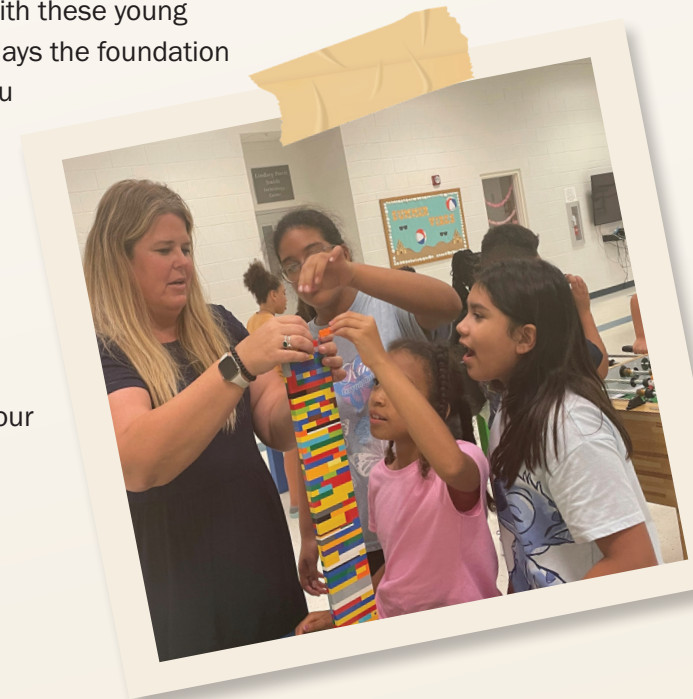
We are a second home, an extended family. The bonds formed within our walls are powerful, creating a profound sense of belonging and support that empowers our youth to thrive. It's not one thing we do, it's *all* the things we do, day in and day out, through the good days and the bad, through many adverse situations that our kids face, working to create an environment where all young people can **succeed** and be their very best.

I am deeply honored to witness the incredible work being done with these young individuals, as it not only elevates our community today but also lays the foundation for a brighter tomorrow. Within the pages of this annual report you will find the collective **achievements**, stories, and shared aspirations that have shaped our journey over the past year. It is my sincerest hope that you will be inspired and invested in the work we are doing, with the help *you* provide, in empowering a brighter future for the children and teens of Collier County.

Thank you for your unwavering support and belief in our mission. Together, we are creating a lasting positive impact in the lives of our Club members and the entire community we proudly serve.

With gratitude,

Megan McCarthy Beauvais
President & CEO



WHY



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF COLLIER COUNTY



Why does our community need a Boys & Girls Club?

Educational Achievement

Boys & Girl Club supports academic excellence by providing vital educational mentorship, enrichment programs focusing on literacy, mathematics, and STEM that opens doors to a world of learning.

Community Synergy

Through strong partnerships with families, schools, and local organizations, Boys & Girls Club weaves a supportive network that maximizes the collective impact of our efforts, leading to a holistic community.

Artistic Expression

Fostering creativity is at our core, as we offer a platform for youth to engage in dance, music, and visual arts, connecting them with local and national artists to inspire dreams.

Empowering Environment

We create a safe haven at Boys & Girls Club where members flourish emotionally and socially, fostering a strong sense of belonging that empowers them to believe in their potential.

Exciting Exploration

From sports leagues to table tennis, camps, and more, we provide numerous avenues for youth to explore their interests, helping them discover new passions.

Leadership Amplified

Boys & Girls Club is committed to cultivating leaders of tomorrow by offering diverse leadership development opportunities that ignite ambition.

Pathways to Success

We are dedicated to equipping our members with career and college readiness tools, motivating them to chart their own courses towards a fulfilling future.

Transformative Connections

Our organization thrives on nurturing positive relationships between caring adults and our members, ensuring an environment where growth and achievement are celebrated together.

Volunteer & Advocate Karen Pulte Receives 2023 Giving is Living Award



Karen Pulte received the 2023 Giving is Living Award during the annual Boys & Girls Club of Collier County Youth of the Year Awards Dinner. The Giving is Living Award honors an individual or family with a proven record of exceptional generosity, who demonstrates outstanding civic and charitable responsibility and whose generosity encourages others to take philanthropic leadership roles in our Collier community.

According to Karen,

"I continue to support the Boys & Girls Club because I believe in the work they do and how it impacts the young people it serves."

As she presented the annual award, Susan Bass Bolch, Board Chair for the Boys & Girls Club of Collier County, said, "As we look at our Boys & Girls Club supporters, a name quickly emerged that epitomizes all that the Giving is Living award symbolizes. Karen's involvement with our Club began more than 10 years ago. Guided by the belief in the inherent dignity of all persons, with a strong focus on socioeconomically disadvantaged youth, Karen stands tall for our Club members year after year."

"Karen has focused her philanthropy on economically and socially disadvantaged children and families – the same individuals we serve at Boys & Girls Club," said Megan McCarthy Beauvais, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Club of Collier County. "She is single-handedly helping us achieve our mission of empowering all young people to reach their full potential and certainly a deserving recipient of this year's Giving is Living Award."

Karen has earned a reputation as a connector who proactively shares news about our Club and its critical role in the community to friends, family, everyone in her vast network.

It is clear to all that Karen firmly believes in what the Club is doing and how its programs help change the lives of the kids who walk through our doors. In fact, middle and high school students at our Club in Immokalee literally walk through the doors of the Pulte Teen Center to participate in programs such as Youth of the Year, receive academic support, participate in arts and STEM programming.

Year after year, Karen has also graciously served as the presenting sponsor of Fore the Kids Golf Tournament, benefiting Boys & Girls Club. She clearly understands that although the Club is a 'non-profit,' we do have to raise money to succeed in moving our mission forward. We are most grateful to Karen for supporting those efforts at the highest levels over her many years of involvement.

Boys & Girls Club of Collier County is grateful to Karen Pulte for her dedication to philanthropy in our community and beyond, and deeply appreciates her passion for education and helping children pursue their dreams and achieve their goals.



Core Program: **Academics**

At Boys & Girls Club of Collier County, our goal is to elevate our community's high school graduation rates by unlocking the potential of every young mind and ensuring they are on track for graduation.



CLUB MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
Brianna

86%

of Club members **succeeded** in maintaining or increasing their benchmark scores in the areas of English Language Arts, Reading, or Mathematics.

IMPACT FACT

A shining star among our extraordinary members, Brianna truly was a standout this year. A remarkable second grader at Manatee Elementary School, she has been a part of the Boys & Girls Club for nearly three years. Surrounded by positive role models, Brianna and other members enter our safe and welcoming Clubs and receive academic support that complements and extends the school curriculum.

Brianna's Club experiences have been filled with moments of celebration and recognition. Her exceptional **achievements** include securing a well-deserved second place in the Spelling Bee and earning a string of A's and B's on her last report card. Her frequent presence in the Club's library, where she explores diverse books, exemplifies her passion for reading. Throughout the school year, Brianna takes on the "Reading Counts" tests, receiving consistently high scores that reflect her exceptional comprehension skills, setting her on a path for academic excellence.

When asked to name a favorite book, Brianna said, "I love them all! I don't have a favorite. I like to read about pets, wildlife and princesses."

In addition to reading programs, Boys & Girls Club demonstrates its commitment to academics with a variety of programs, including the transformative initiative "Project Learn." Power Hour, our lead academic enrichment program, encourages and supports Club members aged 6-18 to **achieve** and **succeed** academically through homework support, tutoring, and engaging activities. Under the supervision of qualified staff and tutors, young minds cultivate a daily commitment to school and learning in a safe and encouraging environment.

Other opportunities for members to explore their various interests include the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) team. Two Club members on last

year's STEM team participated in the Cal Ripken STEM challenge for a second time. Collaboration and teamwork are elements of this program and, according to Ariana, one of the STEM team members,

"The collaboration gave me a boost in my confidence."

The group thrived on collaborating with peers who shared similar interests. They also enjoyed showcasing their creativity. Team member Develyn shared, "Brainstorming was a blast!"

In addition, Jiasheng and Alexander, who have been involved with the team for two years, have benefited in other ways. Jiasheng recalled, "Being in STEM has given me a way to relax and calm down." Alexander, on the other hand, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to participate in a national competition. The STEM team is looking forward to recruiting other Club members to join them in future competitions.

From early literacy to career planning and college success programs, every member can **believe** in and **achieve** his or her path to academic excellence and a career through Boys & Girls Club of Collier County.



100%

of senior Club members graduated from high school on time.

Core Program: College & Career Readiness



Our comprehensive College & Career Readiness Program for teens combines career exploration camps, college tours, and entrepreneurial and financial literacy skills through partnerships with local institutions including Florida SouthWestern State College, Florida Gulf Coast University, and Taste the Impact. By participating in this program, teens gain a competitive edge in the job market as they acquire essential skills, practical experiences, and career insights. Networking opportunities with business professionals provide valuable inspiration, guidance, mentorship, and potential job prospects. Overall, our College & Career Readiness program prepares teens to **succeed** in the dynamic workforce by providing them with the necessary tools, knowledge, and opportunities to excel.

One shining example of the Club's transformative impact is the story of Isabella, a remarkable member who found her true calling through the College & Career Readiness program. A junior at Golden Gate High School and a member of Boys & Girls Club for 12 years, Isabella's journey began with a passion for baking, which the Club nurtured and supported. An adept communicator and outspoken leader in her work and around the youth, she often seeks out new members to the Club and helps them acclimate. Isabella also participated in Junior Women of Initiative and Youth of the Year, where she was one of the final four candidates.

Boys & Girls Club Culinary Director Larry Liuzzi shared, "I have had the pleasure of having Isabella, also known

as Chef Bella, as one of our most talented Junior Culinary Chefs. When she is not feeding our members, Chef Bella also works. In her free time, you can catch her whipping up some sweet treats at her own creative custom dessert company called Red's Sweet Shop. Her drive to **achieve** and work ethic are what set her apart from her peers."

With the Club's guidance, she fearlessly pursued her dreams, obtaining a business license and launching her very own business.

Fueled by ambition and unwavering determination, Isabella is now on the path to her dream, achieving her first \$1 million by the time she turns 18.

—an incredible testament to the Club's commitment to fostering entrepreneurship and **belief** in young talent.

"Without a doubt, Chef Bella will **succeed** as a productive, caring, and responsible citizen and member of our community," said Liuzzi.

"Boys & Girls Club has opened many opportunities for me and taught me how to not only be myself but to encourage others to be themselves," said Isabella. "Boys & Girls Club not only has shown me the real meaning of family but also that no matter who you are or what you are, you will always be accepted for being you. I have always been able to have someone to confide in at the Club."

IMPACT FACT

99%

of middle and high school-aged Club members **believe** they will attend college or some other career readiness program after high school.

CLUB MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
Isabella

Core Program:

Character & Leadership Development

A junior at Lely High School, Elijah is considered an innovative writer and critical thinker among his peers. He has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club of Collier County for nearly 10 years. Elijah is an exceptional Club member who exemplifies the transformative power of the Character & Leadership initiative.



CLUB MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
Elijah

Character & Leadership, one of six core program areas at Boys & Girls Club, is a cornerstone of the mission to empower youth and make a lasting impact in their lives. Under this initiative, a range of programs are offered that are designed to instill strong character traits, foster leadership skills, and cultivate a sense of civic responsibility among our members. Within Character & Leadership, we provide various programs such as Torch Club, Keystone Club, and the Youth of the Year program. Each is tailored to different age groups and interests to offer our members the tools they need to develop into confident, responsible individuals with a deep understanding of their potential to effect positive change.

Through active participation in the Character & Leadership programs, Club members gain essential life skills such as teamwork, effective communication, problem-solving, and decision-making. They learn the value of civic engagement and discover how they can contribute meaningfully to their communities. As they progress through the programs, Club members become equipped with the confidence, resilience, and leadership abilities necessary to **succeed** in school, work, and life.

Over the past decade, Elijah has been actively involved in Junior Men of Initiative and has consistently worked on the Junior Culinary staff. A demonstration of his success, he was a two-time



participant in our esteemed Youth of the Year program. His dedication to personal growth and community involvement extends beyond Youth of the Year. Elijah has also excelled in UPS Road Code, a program that works to educate the youth on road safety rules and procedures, earning the **achievement** of being named this year's Ambassador. Additionally, he has taken advantage of opportunities in College & Career Readiness and Culinary Club, further expanding his skill set and exploring his passions.

Elijah's commitment to maximizing his membership experience has not gone unnoticed. This year, Elijah was nominated to represent Boys & Girls Club of Collier County at the national Summit for American's Youth in Washington, D.C. This prestigious nomination recognizes his exceptional leadership potential and the impact the Character & Leadership initiative has had on his personal growth and development.

"It (Boys & Girls Club) is a place where I can laugh and be safe with all those who care about me," said Elijah. "This Club has offered me scholarship opportunities, relationships, and peace within myself that is rare to most. Throughout my years of laughs, field trips, programs and all, this Club was a sanctum. It was through those grand blue doors I went to live the best years of my life, and through those grand blue doors I **believe** I will leave my mark on the Club and the world."

Elijah added,

"These people (the Club staff and volunteers) refuse to let me fail and will not let go until I am the best version of myself and until all members attending this Club are the leaders of tomorrow."



IMPACT FACT

65% of Club members participated in Leadership and Self-improvement programs that are helping them **believe, achieve, and succeed.**



Core Program: The Arts

Encouraging creative expression and building self-confidence through the Arts is vitally important in a youth's life. Movement, creativity, and artistry are all encouraged through one form of Art—the dance program—as most youth naturally crave to move their bodies. Remember rolling down the hill as a child, playing tag or hide-and-go-seek, and experiencing the freedom of movement? Boys & Girls Club offers those opportunities through the various dance classes offered.

The dance program at Boys & Girls Club has been growing every year since it began 22 years ago. Classes are offered to all ages, from kindergarten to high school students, and include Creative Dance, Ballet (levels 1 and 2), Progressive Ballet, Jazz Hip Hop, Contemporary Dance and a variety of cultural dances.

Inarhy, who is in fourth grade, is petite for her age and had very little confidence in herself. She came to dance timid and reluctant. She joined a dance class while in first grade and as time went on, she began to gain confidence.

"When I dance," she said, "I believe I can conquer the world."

Dance is more than the fundamentals of technique, it also instills life skills: team-building, conflict resolution, endurance, responsibility, cognitive thinking and right-left

brain development. Statistics show that children who dance **succeed** better in school and are able to express themselves openly and without fear. Beyond developing skills, dancing provides a way for youth to express and **believe** in themselves without judgment in a safe and protected environment.

As her confidence grew, Inarhy decided she wanted to be a part of the group that performs in several community activities. She joined the Dance Ensemble three years ago and has participated in our Youth of the Year performance, community dance exhibits and at the Club during various showcase events. As she continues to take every class offered, her skills have flourished and so has her ability to retain the choreography and other

artistry tools and techniques.

Inarhy has expressed how performing has given her the confidence to speak in public and has given her an opportunity to make long-lasting friends at the Club with other members. Although small, she shared, "When I'm on stage, I feel big and strong and I'm not afraid anymore."

Dance is just one of the many Arts opportunities available at Boys & Girls Club.



CLUB MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
Inarhy

IMPACT FACT

87%

of Club members report an optimal experience in Opportunities and Expectations, which confirms we are exposing young people to new ideas, experiences, and skills while encouraging them to do their best and to **believe** in themselves.

Core Program: Health & Life Skills



Through Healthy Lifestyles and Wellness programs, Boys & Girls Club of Collier County is helping young people develop healthy habits, build strong relationships, manage their emotions, and learn the skills needed to be resilient in today's world.

Through our rich program offerings that promote social-emotional well-being, we are committed to nurturing mental health as a critical element of overall health and quality of life. These resources are passionately embraced by our members, as evidenced by the examples of Lawence and Diaman, who have courageously lent their voices to advocate for mental health access. As former Youth of the Year program participants—with Lawence winning the honor this year—these two remarkable teen members recently graduated after attending Boys & Girls Club for seven years, and are continuing their journeys to post-high school education and careers.

Diaman has mapped out her future, with plans to attain a doctorate in Clinical Psychology so she can become a social worker.

"I **believe** I can help change the lives of youth within my community, just as others helped change mine," said Diaman.

"I plan on using my education to provide a training facility that prioritizes female athletes in Immokalee,

while also providing residents within the community access to affordable mental health resources. I hope to use my knowledge and experience to make a difference in the lives of our future generation, just as others did for me. The list of successful individuals who are from Immokalee is growing, and I'm next."

Lawence shared a very personal story. "As a person who has experienced mental health trials and tribulations, I understand how little help is made available to those at risk of succumbing to the world's negatives," said Lawence. "Although mental health awareness is very important for both men and women, it is crucial that society recognizes the decline in focus and resources aimed towards improving mental health amongst men. I **believe** it is important to have the conversation on prioritizing and normalizing mental health resources for men. Educating others of this growing issue may help create a world where everyone is given the thought and consideration that they rightfully deserve."

Their impassioned messages have resonated deeply, propelling them to represent our Boys & Girls Club at the esteemed Mental Health Summit in Sarasota, where they shared their poignant messages with a broader audience.

Inspired by their advocacy, Boys & Girls Club remains resolute in seeking out new opportunities to bolster social-emotional learning opportunities. One significant

step in that direction is our new partnership with Counseling for Community Wellness, granting families regular and ongoing support facilitated by a licensed mental health professional, entirely cost-free.

Beyond mental health, our well-rounded Healthy Lifestyles and Wellness programs help young people **succeed** at making better choices, developing healthy eating habits, and learning about the importance of physical activity.

Specific programs include:

- **SMART Moves** programs to empower youth to make mindful and informed decisions in challenging situations.
- **Fitness classes** to educate youth about different types of exercise and how to stay active, and improve self-esteem and body image.
- **The Foodie Club** which combines nutrition education and culinary arts to promote healthier snacking choices.



Our commitment to Healthy Lifestyles and Wellness programs will continue to help the youth of our community become productive members of society as they develop healthy habits, build strong relationships, manage emotions, become more resilient and **achieve** the goals they set for themselves.

IMPACT FACT

97%

of Club members report they have actively avoided risky behaviors (smoking, alcohol, marijuana, and fighting) due to education received at our Clubs.



Core Program: Sports, Fitness & Recreation



As footballs spiral in the air, baseballs make contact with bats and the bounce of a basketball echoes throughout the gym, sports made a welcomed return to Boys & Girls Club of Collier County.

After several challenging years of trying to safely play sports during the pandemic, members were eager to participate again in their favorite sporting activities. It brought smiles, laughter and excitement to members at the Club.

One of the biggest draws was the return of leagues to the Club, as members were able to play together on teams and compete against other members. For one member, having sports leagues was an especially satisfying activity to round out his experiences.

“Being able to play sports with my friends and compete against other members was a very fun thing for me to do every week,” said fourth grade member Josey.

“This was the first time I got to be part of a league team and I felt like it has taught me so much about teamwork, confidence, working hard, handling tough situations and sportsmanship. I’ve never had so much fun.”



The featured league sport this year was 3-on-3 basketball. Members from third to fifth grade competed against each other in regular season competition and playoffs. This year’s winner was Team Heat, which went undefeated during the season.

“Seeing the 3-on-3 basketball league **succeed** created a domino effect, where members of all ages have shown their interest to get involved in leagues,” said Athletic Director Nigel Smith.

“A key strategy that I wanted to implement is to get all of the members to attend the game,” Smith said. “This way, we were able to market one of our leagues to the members and it sparked interest in them to participate in the future. So far, we’ve had a lot of female members express interest in playing in leagues, which in turn creates a more active lifestyle for them while at the Club.”

Another part of the Athletic Department’s strategy was to create a pathway for members who were interested in sports leagues to attend the summer sports camps, which were held daily for the duration of the summer. With over 120 signups, the camps focused on teaching the rules and fundamentals of Club sports. Smith **believes** these summer camps will prepare members for fall, when leagues will resume with volleyball and soccer.

“We want to continuously push for improvement in our members when it comes to sports because the ultimate goal is to prepare them as best as possible to represent their schools in middle school or high school competition should they wish to go that route,” Smith said. “Some members just need that push to **believe** that they can **succeed** at a higher level, and our sports leagues and camps do just that. But for the members who just want to have fun and make new friends, we’re pleased that our leagues afford them the opportunity to do so.”

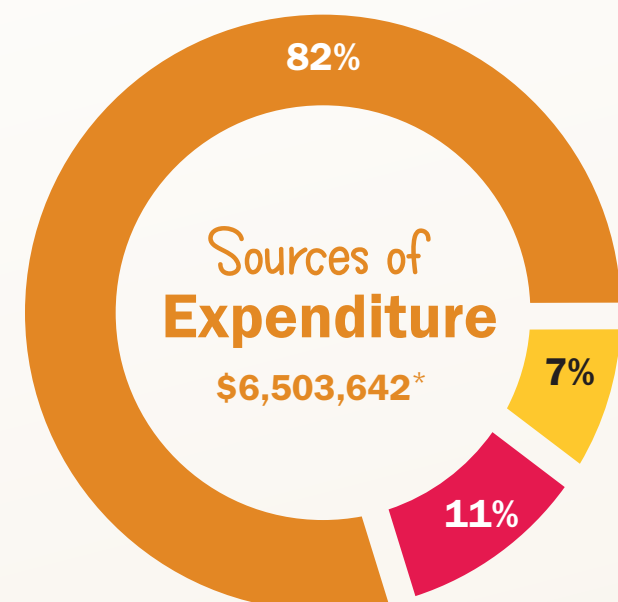


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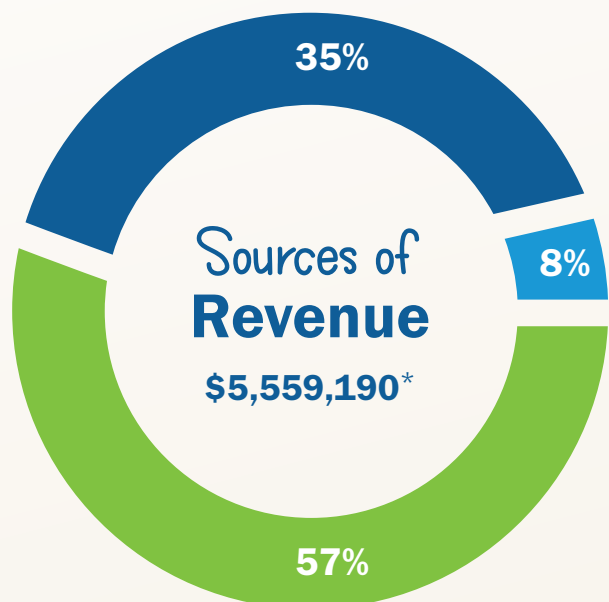
Club members
participate in at
least one sports
activity.

IMPACT FACT

Revenue, Expenses & Other Numbers



- Program Costs..... 82%
- Administration.....11%
- Fundraising.....7%



- Grants & Government Funding..... 35%
- Philanthropic Support 57%
- Other**8%

* Unaudited Financials
**Enrollment Fees, Leagues & Food Truck Sales

3,500
Club members

9
Program Locations

111,112
Meals Provided

1.2 million
Hours of Academic Instruction

100%
Graduation Rate

80
Schools Served

Thank you.

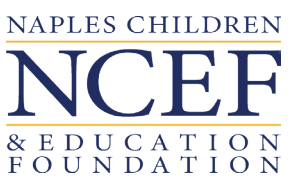
We could not succeed without our generous donors and community partners who believe in our mission and help us achieve our goals.

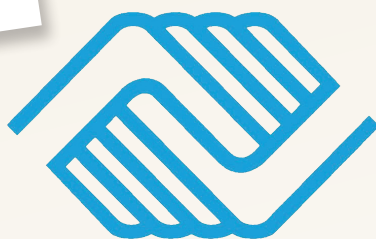


Your Donation Changes Lives.

Please join us in ensuring that our youth can receive the educational support and tools they need to help them thrive academically, socially and personally. Every life changed is made possible by donations from caring individuals, like you, who believe in our mission.

Your generous gifts will ensure future generations have the programs, resources, and guidance to help them achieve academic success, make healthy life choices, and foster the skills they need to reach their full potential.





BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF COLLIER COUNTY

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

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