

#### A NOTE FROM OUR CEO

Happy New Year! We hope each of you had time with family over the holidays. 2021 was another tough year for all of us, but it allowed us to start working towards serving more youth. Now that 2022 has arrived, we continue to offer our afterschool program and are already starting discussions and planning our summer program. In this update, we will shine light on the awe-inspiring impact made in our programs. I am grateful for your incredible contributions to our mission and look forward to sharing our successes quarterly with you because you are part of the BGCSK family.

Thank you for your continued engagement and support of our mission. We have some exciting things to share with you.

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# **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

## **COMMUNITY PARTNER SPOTLIGHT**



We celebrated Aviation History Month with our friends at *Textron Aviation*. All Club members had the opportunity to learn about aviation and aerodynamics by making a catapult and paper airplane!



Our neighbor, Wichita State University, stopped by our Chautauqua site at Holy Savior Catholic Academy to assist members with reading, writing, and math during Power Hour.







*McConnell* dedicated their afternoon to our Oaklawn Club. The Airmen shared cyber security awareness, demonstrated computer cyber skills and common intelligence collection tactics using a drone.

## **ENCOURAGING GROWTH**



Mr. Willis challenged our members to use snap circuits to build a flying saucer. Members learned the basics of electronics and circuitry concepts.



All of our sites participated in the Heartland Coca-Cola rain barrel competition. Our Chautauqua site was declared 3rd place winner and received \$750.



# YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Youth of the Year (YOY) recognizes Club teens for their outstanding leadership, service, academic excellence, and commitment to living a healthy lifestyle. Winners of the National Youth of the Year embark on an exciting year-long journey of representing Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the 4.6 million youth they serve.

Candidates begin competing at the local level. Each teen will write an essay, complete an interview, submit letters of recommendation and deliver their inspiring personal speech to a panel of judges. Their Club will select the best member to advance to the state competition in Topeka. If declared a winner, they will compete against five regions, including National Military Youth of the Year, at a regional competition. Six teens will move ahead to the National Youth of the Year competition, where one individual will be named Boys & Girls Clubs of America's national teen spokesperson.

MEET OUR CANDIDATES



Jam Elkins is a compassionate and impactful member at the Boys & Girls Club, often reinforcing his actions-forward leadership style as he mentors his three younger siblings who also attend BGCSCK. While competing for Youth of the Year, Jam also enjoys playing basketball at the Club, spending time in the gym and Teen Center, and has a persistent interest in entrepreneurship. When he graduates high school, Jam hopes to study to become a mechanic with the goal of opening his own mechanic and car detailing business.



Khaai Wilson embodies leadership and inclusivity in his work ethic and passion for leadership. While running for Youth of the Year, Boys & Girls Club's premier leadership competition, Khaai also plays soccer at his school, is an active AVID participant, and enjoys studying, eventually wanting to go to college to become a Financial Advisor. When not working on academics and athletics, Khaai enjoys spending time watching movies with his family.

> Khaai W., Freshman Future Financial Advisor



### **BECAUSE YOU CARED**



93% of Club members reported that adults at the Club believe that I will be successful.



70% of our members have an increase in self-esteem.



82% of Club members believe they can make a difference in their community.

## COMMITTED TO FUN, GROWTH, AND SAFETY

BGCSCK has been invited by Boys & Girls Clubs of America to grow in our ability to implement trauma-informed practices. Throughout the 8-month training series, we will receive monthly professional development, support with goals, peer consultation, and 1-1 coaching with subject matter experts.

Trauma-informed practice is an organizational development process that aims to improve our Club's ability to effectively support both the young people impacted by trauma, and all people that our organization serves. Becoming a trauma-informed organization means making a commitment to changing the practices, policies, and culture of our entire organization.



A special thank you to the Monarch, Chicken N Pickle,

Flint Hills National, Target – West & East, BWW -Derby, and our generous Wichita Community! Because of your caring heart, we fulfilled 145 Club members' wishes. Each wish consisted of a want, a need, and a read. A group of helpful elves made each gift extra special by wrapping every present. Thank you again to all those who brought cheer to our families during the holiday season!





Enterprise



Julie Trout



The Watson Family



Flint Hills National

