



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA

Great Futures

A Case for Support

Our mission is to enable
**all young people of the
Mississippi Delta**, especially
those who need us most,
to reach their full potential as
PRODUCTIVE,
CARING, and
RESPONSIBLE citizens.



CLUB LOCATIONS

Cleveland Club

725 Martin Luther King Jr Dr.
Cleveland, MS 38732
(662) 588-1987

Coahoma County - Youth Outreach Center

1150 Wildcat Dr.
Clarksdale, MS 38614
(662) 627-1105

Coahoma County - Jonestown Club

330 Matagorda Rd.
Jonestown, MS 38639
(662) 590-5775

Greenwood Club

1740 Carrollton Ave.
Greenwood, MS 38930
(662) 453-5678

Grenada Club

357 South Line St.
Grenada, MS 38901
(662) 226-0132

Itta Bena/MVSU Club

14000 Hwy 82 West
Itta Bena, MS 38941
(662) 253-8388

Lexington Club

9479 Bronzville Rd.
Lexington, MS 39095
(662) 571-7944

Yazoo City Club

516 Eat Canal St.
Yazoo City, MS 39194
(662) 746-2322

Dear Friends of our Delta Boys & Girls Clubs,

Our Delta communities are only as healthy and safe as the opportunities we provide our children, particularly those children who need us most. Your continued support for your local Boys & Girls Club helps to inspire our children to **dream big, create, and build a better future for themselves** and this unique part of the world, our Mississippi Delta.

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta enables communities to develop caring, responsible, and productive citizens. Our Club children have been able to thrive as part of their Club membership. They gain confidence among their peers, do better in the classroom, continue their education after high school, and find gainful employment.

For some children, it can be **the best place to grow and develop**. Too many families in our communities are beset by a myriad of economic and societal problems. Our Clubs create safe spaces and provide a sense of belonging for every child. Club members build healthy relationships with adult mentors and make lasting friendships with one another.

As always, the safety and protection of young people is the number one priority for the Boys & Girls Club Movement and our Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta. We continue to enhance our safety protocols, doing whatever it takes to keep Club members physically and emotionally safe. With the help of Boys & Girls Clubs of America and our local partners in education, law enforcement, fire departments, and healthcare professionals, we remain **committed to protecting the health and well-being of our Club members and families**.

Partnerships remain an essential part of our success. Thanks to the excellent work of our professional staff, Club directors, and local community volunteers, we are able to build support among local governments, school districts, and churches in many of our communities. As we expand services and reach more children throughout the Delta, we hope you will be mindful of our excellent work and **consider offering your time, talent, and resources** to your local Club and our Clubs throughout the Delta.

Thank you,

David Dallas, CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta

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Iesha Roberson; Robert Spiller, Past Treasurer; Burns Strider; Shelley Walker

THE NEED IN MISSISSIPPI

Demand for afterschool programs in Mississippi have surged as parents realize the benefits, including keeping children safe, helping them learn, and providing peace of mind for working families. For every child in an afterschool program, three are waiting for available space. That number is even higher in the Delta.

Parents and guardians overwhelmingly agree **afterschool, and summer programs provide critical support**. Our Boys & Girls Clubs programs inspire kids to learn. They support our children's social and emotional well-being with opportunities to learn life skills, including communicating and working in teams.

Parents are overwhelmingly satisfied with the structured experience we provide for children. Our summer and afterschool programs provide a safe, structured environment with access to programs that keep them active, involved with peers, and prevent summer learning loss.

Five Key Elements for Positive Youth Development

1. Create a safe, positive environment
2. Generate fun and foster a sense of belonging
3. Encourage supportive relationships with peers and adults
4. Provide opportunities and set expectations
5. Offer recognition

These five elements are fundamental to our success. They enable youth to participate meaningfully in their Club experience and help boost positive outcomes.

The five critical elements for positive youth development lay the foundation for implementing effectively targeted programs and high-yield learning activities. These elements help young people build core physical, cognitive, social, and emotional skills when used intentionally and consistently.

The **primary goal** is to provide an outcome-driven Club experience focused on creating fun and enriching programs within safe environments where adults and youth work in partnership. By creating supportive, nurturing relationships that connect children to their local Club, we can ensure they participate and stay engaged throughout high school.

Attendance is voluntary, and experience shows us that kids “vote with their feet” - if they are not having fun, they will not attend the Club regularly. Regular attendance (a minimum of 3 days per week) is critical for Club members to get all the Club’s benefits. **All of our third-grade members, who attended their Club a minimum of three days per week, tested on par or above their grade level in reading.**

Targeted Programs: What are they, and what do they tell us?

Targeted programs are another critical component of the outcome-driven Club experience. They have sequenced learning experiences with specific objectives for building skills and knowledge. They help youth acquire useful knowledge and build new skills. They also help youth avoid, cope with, or overcome risks and challenges prevalent in our society. These challenges include dropping out of school, engaging in violence, and delinquency.

These programs are vital in measuring and evaluating our efficacy and how participants achieve goals and objectives. These measurements allow us to constantly assess how well we are doing and, more importantly, how well our youth are progressing.



“This past year proved the saying: **it always seems impossible, until it is done.** I am proud of our Club members, employees, and volunteers for ‘doing the impossible’ and going above and beyond no matter what the year threw at them.

“We exceeded expectations in fundraising and outreach, and we cannot wait to expand our outreach!”

*Bethany Tarpley, Attorney
Board Chair*



THREE AREAS OF FOCUS

1 | ACADEMIC SUPPORT & ENRICHMENT

BGC MS Delta equips members with the skills, training and education they need to pursue their goals and interests. Whether through tutoring and homework help, access to technology, college and career readiness programs, or skills development, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta have an outstanding track record of helping young people make academic advancements.

2019-2020 BGC MS Delta Results*

- 92% of Club members are on track to graduate from high school
- 82% of teens average a B grade or better in school.





2 | CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

BGC MS Delta members build character while being taught to be productive, caring, responsible citizens through our high quality programs and a supportive staff who model good behavior. In addition to fostering accountability, we also help young people develop leadership skills, a sense of civic duty, and an understanding of the value of giving back to their communities.

2019-2020 BGC MS Delta Results*

- 80% of youth have avoided getting into fights
- 75% of youth feel they have good leadership skills

3 | HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

BGC MS Delta teaches members to make and model healthy physical, social, and emotional choices. We do this by providing safe spaces for members to practice healthy decision making, participate in physical activities, and engage in programming designed to promote social and emotional well-being.

2019-2020 BGC MS Delta Results*

- 50% of youth are physically active for five or more days per week
- 100% of youth abstain from drinking, smoking cigarettes, and using marijuana
- Zero teen pregnancies among Club members



POST-PANDEMIC PRIORITIES

This five-part plan includes researching stakeholders' top priorities, trends in youth development, and professional development training. It will guide us to meet the changing needs of our youth. This plan creates a timely and flexible framework by which we will present time-tested BGCA programming, supplemented with additional programs designed to meet these changes.

We plan to increase STEM programs, trauma-informed care, learning loss experienced during the pandemic, and organic inclusion for diversity. This five-part plan fully supports BGCA's three priority outcomes: healthy lifestyles, academic success, and good character and citizenship.



“When I committed to work with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to double the number of Clubs in Mississippi, I knew we had to focus our efforts in the Mississippi Delta.

“I am proud that over 20 years later, **the organization we created is stronger than ever** with 9 chartered sites serving 1,000+ kids every day.”

*Mike Moore, Attorney
Former Board Chair
Honorary Director*



STRATEGIC GOALS

Part I: Workforce Development

Programs introduce youth to local business and industry leaders. We focus on identifying career interests and helping youth refine their interview skills.

Parents have access to the Clubs' computer labs for job searches. We offer assistance in resume building, improving computer skills, and various entrepreneurial skills.

Part II: CPR and Trauma

Clubs hold CPR training and certification for youth and adults twice per year. Training is open to the community.

A counselor or licensed social worker is on staff and visits each Club. The counselor addresses traumatic experiences, teaches healthy coping skills, and provides counseling through individual and group discussions.

Part III: Social and Emotional Learning

We develop foundations for success in school and life by building life skills. We teach kids to achieve their goals through perseverance. Youth learn to make responsible and healthy decisions and reduce harmful and risky behaviors. They develop a sense of self-worth and, in turn, show compassion and empathy for others.

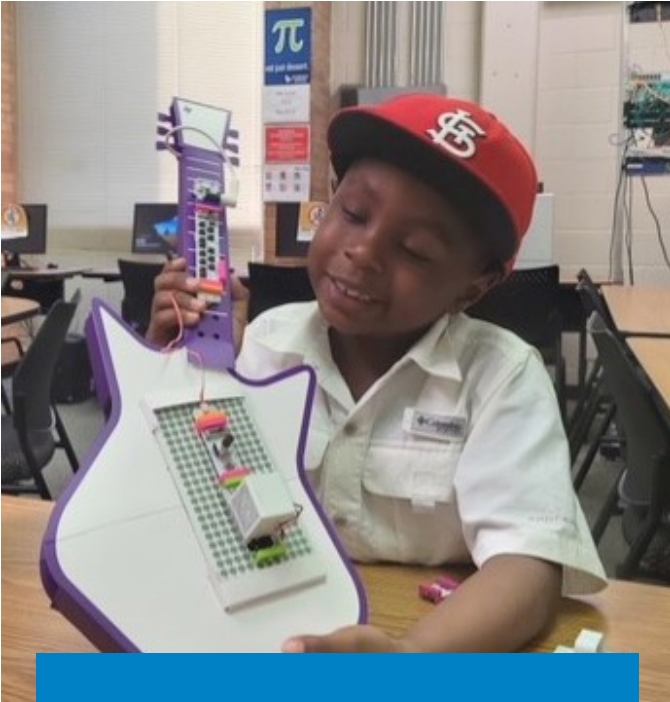
Part IV: Community Service

Youth-led projects promote a sense of civic responsibility while positively addressing community needs. Youth gain exposure to those running the local and state government while building excitement about civic involvement.

Part V: Writing and Communication

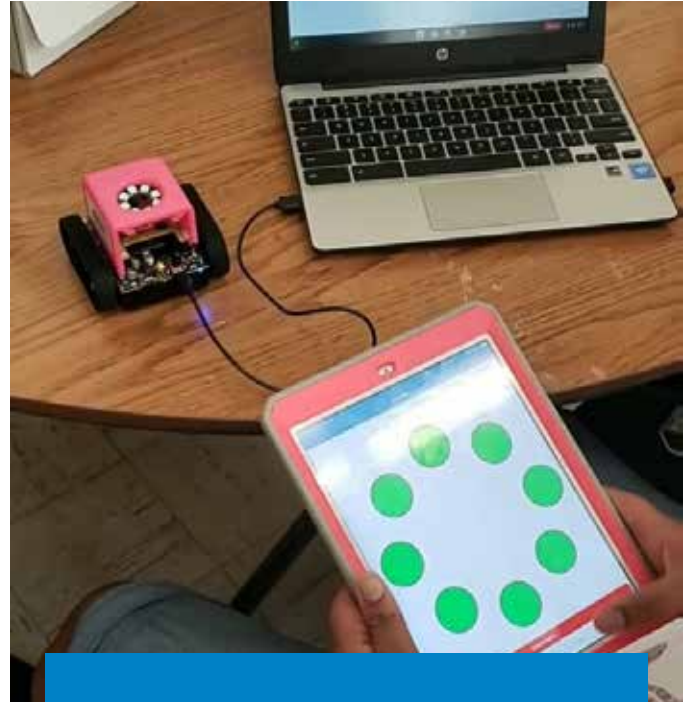
We provide programs that promote literacy and develop critical thinking skills. Youth learn to exchange ideas and expand their awareness of global issues. They can build their own voice through storytelling while generating excitement about reading and writing.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, & MATH (STEM) PROGRAMS



ELECTRONIC MUSIC INVENTOR KITS

STEM activities that focus on music, including how to build a guitar



SPACE ROVER INVENTOR KITS

STEM activities that teach youth, aged 8-18, to design space rovers

“I’ve found that most children are inquisitive by nature about the functionality of objects they observe and use daily. The implementation of STEM programs, and the hands-on approach they provide, have sparked an even greater interest among students. It is refreshing to witness their ‘Aha! moments’ whenever they make the connections.”

*Ed Johnson, Jr., VP Operations Atmos Energy,
BGC MS Delta Vice Chair*



DIY STEM

A curriculum that connects youth ages 9-12 to science themes they encounter regularly. It includes five modules:

- Energy and Electricity
- Engineering Design
- Food Chemistry
- Aeronautics
- Science of Sports: Football



SNAP CIRCUITS JUNIOR AND LIGHTS KITS

A STEM kit with activities that connect youths aged 8-18 to electronics.

These kits include more than 100 projects for members to engage their minds and interest in engineering.

3D PRINTERS

A growing fundamental technology, the 3D printer has lesson plans for all ages designed to ignite STEM education in the 21st Century information age.

Students can build learning skills and absorb more through hands-on activities, resulting in the development of new knowledge. Each Club has its own 3D Dremel printer.



CLUB SITE FEATURES

For the past three years, the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta have **committed to closing the opportunity gap in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)** with creative programs, activities, and resources. Afterschool and summer learning environments provide opportunities to advance STEM knowledge and increase interest in careers in math and science.

STEM curriculum connects youth to science themes they encounter regularly. Special attention is paid to connections of theory and application, and the everyday interactions that members have with these scientific principles. We have implemented the DIY (Do It Yourself) hands-on STEM curriculum provided by Boys & Girls Clubs of America through partnerships with leading companies and foundations.

- STEM Labs: Fully functioning STEM exploration stations and activities for all members.
- Creativity Centers: Visual, musical, dramatic, and literary arts areas.
- Computer Labs: Wifi-enabled computers and printers for members and their families.
- Club Kitchens: Culinary learning, meal and snack prep, and dining areas.
- Teen Centers: Offer teens an area for games, programming, discussions, and project planning.
- Community Areas: Communal spaces within each Club are available for a variety of activities.
- Gymnasiums: Dedicated indoor recreational space allows for organized physical activities.
- Outdoor Areas: Outdoor space for organized activities of all types.

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**



“When STEM activities are involved, we see high engagement from both boys and girls.

“By creating fun activities for them where they can work and explore at their own pace in social Club environments, the children are more responsive and eager to test themselves. Our staff is also able to connect these activities to real-life situations.”

David Dallas, BGC MS Delta CEO



CORDARIUS D.

2018-2019

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Cordarius was named the 2018 State of Mississippi's Youth of the Year at the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Youth of the Year Competition in Jackson, Mississippi.

Cordarius received several scholarships associated with his Youth of the Year award, **including a \$5,000 scholarship** provided by Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the Disney Corporation.

Cordarius credits his Club experience in helping deal with problems of bullying and obesity.

"I was made fun of when I was little because of my weight. **But the staff and kids at the Club were welcoming and accepting.** They also helped me to understand more about eating right."

Cordarius developed a fitness program for primary school children in his community. He attends Mississippi State University.



KALIETRE W.

2020-2021

MISSISSIPPI YOUTH OF THE YEAR

"I was fatherless, a former homeless kid from up north. Contrary to my initial thoughts of how things would be, **I felt love and security** as soon as my little brother and I walked through the door. We knew we would be exposed to new opportunities and that our counselors had our backs.

"The Club became my second home. Every day was a challenge, and I still face many challenges. Without the support of my immediate family and the Club, I wouldn't be half the young man I am today.

"I am determined to break the generational cycle of poverty. I am committed to being the most outstanding leader I can be."

Kalietre is now a member of the U.S. Armed Forces and will later be attending college.



PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITIES TO SERVE MORE YOUTH

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta consists of nine-chartered locations and seven active clubs in five Delta counties. We have plans to expand into three new Delta Communities by 2025.

The organization actively seeks partnerships with new communities and school districts to open more Boys & Girls Clubs. With a proven formula for success, we know our nationally recognized programs and curricula help make a real difference in the lives of children and families.

Establishing new Club sites requires earnest commitment on the part of local governments, schools, and community leaders to ensure the effectiveness and longevity of the Club.

With a mission-driven spirit and the will to provide safe and inclusive experiences for all of our Delta area youth, we want to work with communities to ensure that every child becomes a caring, productive, and responsible citizen, and that every child's dream can become a reality.

If your community is interested in working with us to support children, particularly those who need us most, please contact us.

“As a former school principal, my motto has always been: **Reach One, Teach One.**”

“The Clubs give our Delta communities the chance to reach children and help teach them how to be caring, productive, and responsible citizens.”

*John Wallace,
Retired Education Administrator
Co-Treasurer & Past Board Chair*



GET INVOLVED

MAKE A RECURRING GIFT

Donate online to support our Clubs. Consider a recurring monthly gift, an in-kind donation, a planned gift, or matching gift to support our work with youth.

ATTEND AN EVENT

Advocate for our Clubs by increasing awareness of our work among your personal network. Get involved with our many exciting events throughout the year.

BE A CORPORATE LEADER

We offer many corporate giving opportunities, from event and program sponsorships, to volunteer experiences that boost employee morale, to workplace giving and corporate matching programs. Show your company's support for the community.

VOLUNTEER

There are many great volunteer opportunities that allow us to better meet our mission to serve young people.

CONSIDER PLANNED GIVING

You can make a planned gift to Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta and become a member of the Legacy Club. We have easy and mutually beneficial ways to make a planned gift.

Ready to donate? Contact Sarah Ryan at sryan@bgcmsdelta.org.

Scan the QR code with
your phone's camera to
donate online.



LEADING PHILANTHROPIST MACKENZIE SCOTT HAS GIVEN TO THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE THE MISSISSIPPI DELTA. WILL YOU JOIN HER?

“Each of the organizations on the list [The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Mississippi Delta] was selected through a rigorous process, and has a strong track record of serving under-supported needs. If you are looking for a way to serve humanity's common cause, every one of them is a great candidate. Helping any of us can help us all.”

*Mackenzie Scott,
Boys & Girls Clubs
of the Mississippi Delta Donor*

