



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL MISSISSIPPI

Our Mission

To enable all young people, especially those who need us the most, to realize their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. “To be the Positive Place for Kids”

Our Accomplishments

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi, Inc. provides educational, athletic, and social activities for disadvantaged youth who live in the most undesirable areas in our communities. Our goal is to provide a safe environment for these youth while offering programs that improve academic achievement. We operate six clubs in Central Mississippi and a camp facility near Hazlehurst that serve over 3200 youth ages 6-18 a year. With programs like “Goals for Graduation”, 92% of the youth who attend one of our clubs will graduate high school.

Our Programs

Most of our programs fall within our **5 Core Areas of Youth Development**: Education & Career Development; Character & Leadership; Health & Life Skills; The Arts; and Sports, Fitness, & Recreation. Here’s a description of some of our most successful programs:



- **Torch Clubs** are chartered small group leadership development clubs for young people ages 14 to 18. Members elect officers, choose their own activities and plan and implement community service projects.



- **Power Hour: Making Minutes Count** is a comprehensive homework help and tutoring program. POWER HOUR is designed to raise the academic proficiency of Club members ages 6 to 12.



- **Career Launch** is a career exploration and mentoring program for teens ages 13-18.



- **Goals for Graduation** introduces Club members ages 6 to

15 to the concept of academic goal setting. In one-on-one sessions with Club professionals, members set achievable goals, then create action plans.

Other programs include: **Skill Tech** (computer skills), **Triple Play** (healthy living), **SMART Moves** (Skills Mastery and Resistance Training), **Cal Ripken Baseball Camp** (life skills through sports), **Money Matters** (financial literacy), **Project Learn** (academic performance), **Passport to Manhood** (male responsibility), **Smart Girls** (healthy attitudes and lifestyles for females), and many more.

BGCCM Awarded Top Honors

The 2010 Mississippi Area Council meeting was held in Gulfport, MS on April 23rd and 24th. Clubs from all over the state were represented along with the chosen contestants for the Mississippi Youth of the Year. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America and the Mississippi Area Council presented the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi with four of the top five awards. Billy Redd, CEO was presented the Professional of the Year award, The BCCM Board of Directors received the Highest Performance Board Team Award, Micajah Sturdivant received the New Board Member of the Year in recognition for his contribution and club movement through generous support of BGCCM, and the Capitol Unit / Camp John I Hay received the 2010 Mississippi Program Award. We nominated three supporters of the BGCCM for the C.A.R.E. (Children Are Reason for Excellence) awards for Outstanding Leadership & Dedicated Service. The three recipients are H.R.I. Properties/Watkins Development/King Edward/Hilton Garden Inn Downtown, The Junior Auxiliary of Madison/Ridgeland, and Frances Smith of Comcast. While our Youth of the Year did not receive top honors, Donovan Washington represented us proudly. His speech brought laughter, tears, and a standing ovation. Billy Redd, CEO said, "This is a great year for Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi and I am honored to have been chosen the Professional of the Year".

Our Fundraising Methods

The organization is supported primarily through government grants, private contributions, and fundraisers. Our largest fundraiser event of the year is "Blues by Starlight". We are hosting our 3rd Annual Blues by Starlight October 21, 2010 at Highland Village. In 2008 we averaged 900 attendees, and 2009 averaged over 1200. Among our key contributors are Phoenix Club of Jackson, Cal Ripken Foundation (Badges for Baseball), Nissan, Regal Cinema, Trustmark Bank, Yates Construction, Cellular South, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Brentwood Behavioral Health, MadGenius, BankPlus, Jr. League of Jackson, Jr. Auxiliary of Madison/Ridgeland, Richard Schwartz & Associates, Kinetic Staffing, Ergon, Tower Loans, Ergon, and many more.

Our Board of Directors

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