BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF WHATCOM COUNTY

Strengthen

2022 Community Impact Report

We Continue to Strengthen Our Organization.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County strives to be a pillar of strength and hope in our community. When you triple in size overnight there are going to be growing pains so in 2022, we focused on becoming stronger. Our strategic plan called for us to be sure we were meeting the needs of all children in our programs.

The implementation of the HighScope curriculum and enhancement of our robust suite of academic success programs for school-age children reinforced our commitment to education. Our healthy lifestyles programs focused on physical and mental health, equipping children from infancy to high school graduation with critical life skills to become successful leaders of tomorrow.

Because of you, our Clubs and early learning centers are much more than just a place to go – they are a community that empowers youth to build a Great Future for themselves and us all.

This annual report provides a glimpse of the ways we strengthened ourselves and the *kids who need us most.* None of the important work we were able to do this year would have been possible without you – our Club family.

Thank you for your willingness to continue to stand alongside us as we work together to ensure *every* child in our community has a safe, nurturing place to learn, play and grow.

Impacting Our Local Youth Through...

A safe place

Life skills

Healthy meals

Confidence

STEM sessions

All-day care

Athletics

Adult mentors

Career Prep

Teamwork

Friendship

Literacy

Summer camp

Confidence

2022 Year In Review

JANUARY

Co-ed basketball finishes a strong season

FEBRUARY

Celebrating International Day of Women & Girls In Science

MARCH

Read Across America Week engages emerging readers

APRIL

Third virtual Gala met with outstanding support

MAY

Ferndale Kids' World re-opens with a remodeled site

JUNE

Clubs offer all-day summer camp for a fun-filled nine weeks

JULY

Project L.A.N.E. celebrates its one year anniversary

AUGUST

Kids become authors with 21st Century Write Brain program

SEPTEMBER

Paella Party is a welcome return to in-person events

OCTOBER

Athletes' skills grow during fall volleyball

NOVEMBER

Art & Music program launches at the early learning centers

DECEMBER

County-wide Teen Night fosters new friendships with peers

2022 Community Impact

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF WHATCOM COUNTY

Clubhouse Highlights

Up to **318** kids served per day

40,409 meals and snacks served

739 sessions of Project L.A.N.E. programming

4 sites county-wide

Early Learning Center Highlights

562 available spots

94,985 meals and snacks served

4 sites county-wide

Ages served:

Infant - Age 12

Athletic Highlights

570 kids participated in Athletics

114 volunteer coaches served as mentors

200 games played on the fields/courts

4 sports offered this year

Revenue Highlights

Campaign for Great Futures raised:
$364,450

Virtual Gala raised:
$373,516

All County Breakfast raised:
$101,594

Capital Campaign Phase 2 raised:
$1.8 million

Academic Success

Boys & Girls Clubs understand that education is a primary pillar of youth development, and that providing out-of-school academic support strengthens the opportunities for young people to build their Great Future.

This year, we expanded the reach of our Academic Success program through the introduction of a structured literacy program, named Read & Dream. We created cozy reading corners at each Clubhouse and increased access to a variety of educational materials. Our new digital library complements our collection of tactile books and also includes multi-sensory immersive, interactive games that encourage literacy while also reinforcing STEM content and honing fine motor skills.

In response to a growing community need for quality afterschool care for five year olds, we strengthened our commitment to families through the inclusion of kindergarteners in three of our afterschool programs. To ensure our youngest members are not overwhelmed in our large Clubhouses, our kindergarteners are provided a separate space and staff person to help them become ready to successfully enter first grade.

Healthy Lifestyles

Boys & Girls Clubs are committed to embedding a trauma-informed and responsive approach to youth development throughout our Clubhouses. To help strengthen the social-emotional care we provide for young people, we received a grant that allowed us to hire a Mental Health & Behavioral Support Specialist who engages with youth in small groups, collaborates with staff to increase skills and engages with families to assist with accessing additional services.

To further support the social-emotional well-being of our members, we have provided all of our Club staff training in the use of PAX Tools for Human Services. This training helps our staff take a trauma-informed approach to working with youth and provides them with tools that are research based to use in the implementation of all programs.

Project L.A.N.E. (Lifestyle, Attitude, Nutrition, and Exercise), provides a solid foundation to help young people understand the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Through a variety of interactive games and thought-provoking activities, Project L.A.N.E. encourages healthy habits, good nutrition, and physical fitness every day. At the core of this important program are the nutritious meals and snacks that are served daily.

Good Character & Leadership

Our dynamic, county-wide Teen Program provides creative and expansive activities that connect with the many new experiences, responsibilities, and transitions that come with the teenage years. Our new TRANSFRVR headsets provide virtual reality work experiences to promote the exploration of a variety of career paths.

Back in actual reality, our teens work together to organize and spearhead community service projects, engage in the junior and senior level Youth of the Year competition, and learn valuable life skills such as financial literacy. They also receive daily homework support, participate in twice-weekly STEM sessions and engage in opportunities to strengthen their workforce readiness skills such as job seeking, resume creation and interview techniques.

In 2023, we plan to further expand opportunities to help prepare teens for adulthood by implementing the Road Code program which offers hands-on driving simulation to teach safe driving techniques.

Early Learning Centers

This year, we completed extensive remodels on the interiors of all four of our early learning centers. Each site has new flooring, paint, bathrooms, kitchens, and cabinetry. As part of the remodel at our Yew Street center we were able to increase the capacity of children served by 30% and for the first time, we are able to serve school-aged children at this site, allowing families the convenience of serving their children of different ages at the same center.

Through the implementation of the HighScope curriculum, which incrementally develops and prepares children for kindergarten, we have deepened our commitment to ensuring our childrens' success in all six areas of development and learning toward kindergarten readiness: math, literacy, physical, language, cognitive and social-emotional.

To ensure our staff are well-versed in behavior management strategies, the implementation of the HighScope curriculum as well as current licensing requirements, we utilize one early release day each month to provide valuable staff training opportunities and establish best practices that are consistently applied organization-wide.

In 2023, we plan to purchase two vans to improve transportation options and to make a significant investment to enhance our outdoor playground equipment to expand learning, development and growth opportunities outside of the classroom.

Capital Campaign to Purchase Our Four Early Learning Centers County-wide to Benefit Whatcom County Youth

The Need

In March 2020, we acquired the operations of four early learning centers, preventing the loss of 532 licensed care spots in Whatcom County.

In January 2021, we launched a four-phase capital campaign to purchase all four centers. In 2021, we completed phase one and purchased the Ferndale center. In 2022, we completed the fundraising for phase two - the purchase of the center located on Yew Street, Bellingham. In 2023, we will launch the fundraising for phase three which relates to the centers located at Home Road, Bellingham.

The completion of fundraising for this four-phase campaign will allow us to invest further in improvements to increase capacity as well as build equity for future investments.

Phase 1: Complete	Phase 2: Complete	Phase 3: 2023	Phase 4: Future
Purchase Property 1635 Main Street, Ferndale	Purchase Property 2320 Yew Street, Bellingham	Purchase Property 4085 & 4090 Home Road, Bellingham	Purchase Property 1906 Sunset Drive, Bellingham
Purchase Price $1,462,600	Purchase Price $1,807,032	Purchase Price $2,291,750	Purchase Price $1,978,825

Total Amount Raised in 2021: $1,462,600

Total Amount Raised in 2022: $1,807,032

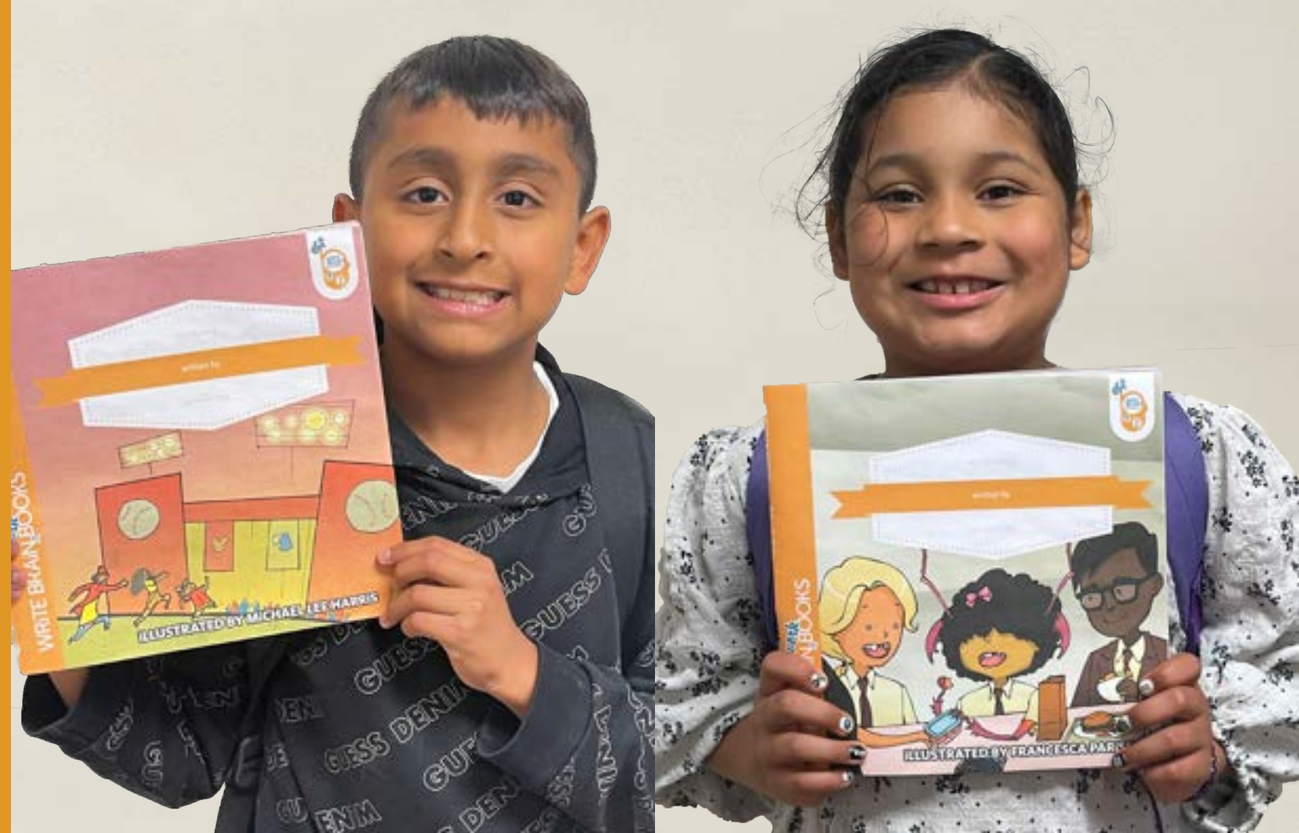
To learn more about the Building Blocks for the Future capital campaign, visit our website at *whatcomclubs.org*

21st Century Community Learning Centers

Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County partnered with the Mount Baker School District to provide 21st Century Community Learning Centers at Kendall Elementary and Mount Baker Junior High through federal funding. This five year grant concluded at the end of August.

This afterschool enrichment program provided literacy and math support, engaging STEM projects and a variety of life-enhancing programs that have an intentional focus on strengthening the physical, social and emotional well-being of students.

This year, we utilized the innovative, project-based learning literacy program, Write Brain, to encourage our children to develop their writing and creativity skills. Students worked collaboratively and independently to develop written stories. In addition to learning to problem solve, generate original ideas, as well as draft and revise narratives, every student became a published author when they received their custom, richly illustrated, professionally printed book. This unique opportunity helped every student to discover, develop, and share their voice.



Athletic Programs

At the Boys & Girls Club, we believe that youth sports play a valuable role in the social, emotional and physical growth of our children.

Through our year-round athletic program young people have the opportunity to play basketball, baseball, volleyball and flag football. This year, we expanded programming to include mini-basketball for children in kindergarten and first grade, and volleyball for athletes in the third and fourth grade.

Our staff and volunteer coaches teach participants the importance of good sportsmanship, teamwork, communication and discipline. We have increased resources for our dedicated coaches, including new skill-building drills while also deepening our already robust volunteer screening to strengthen the safe, supportive, and enriching environment we provide.

Community Awards

2022 Community Awards

Our Champion of Youth Awards recognize two outstanding community members who have gone above and beyond to support our Clubs in 2022.

We also recognized one volunteer coach who has been vital in the success of athletics this year.

These special awards were presented during the Annual All County Breakfast on Thursday, November 3rd.

Congratulations to our winners!

Individual Champion of Youth Award:
Karen Richards

Business Champion of Youth Award:
Windermere Real Estate

Coach of the Year Award:
Joey Robles

Giving Societies

The Jeremiah Milbank Society was initated by the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in 2004.

The society offers national recognition for individuals who demonstrate deep commitment to the children of their community with an unrestricted gift of $10,000 or more in a year.

We are deeply grateful for our 2022 society members.

Anonymous (3)
Maureen & Rick Braun
Dave & Mary Lynne Courtney
Pete & Kristi Coy
Echo Bay Foundation
The Family of Marjie Nistad
Greg & Elizabeth Grant
Lynda Hinton
Patricia Kust
Joan Matz
Tim & Marcia McEvoy
Andre & Julie Molnar, Hotel Bellwether
DC Morse & Jan Marchbanks
Brett & Tara Nebeker
Karen Richards
Stan & Terri Salstrom
Dick & Sharon Skeers
Jerry & Michelle VanDellen
Jeff & Diane Waldner
Bob & Kim Warshawer
Nick & Chantee Ziemkowski

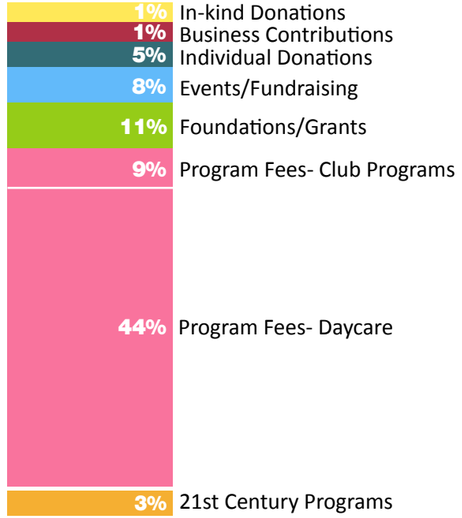
Endowment Fund

This legacy fund was established in 2002. It continues to support Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County special projects, including capital improvements and maintenance, program capacity building, and staff development.

Value in 2022: $2,057,865

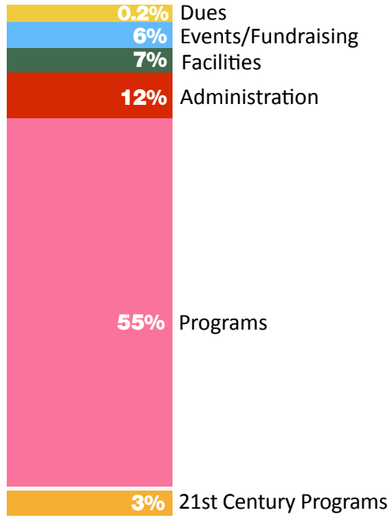
* All figures are estimated year-end and unaudited

Income & Expense Summary



Regular Income: $5,746,098

Total Income: $7,146,588



Regular Expense: $5,377,615

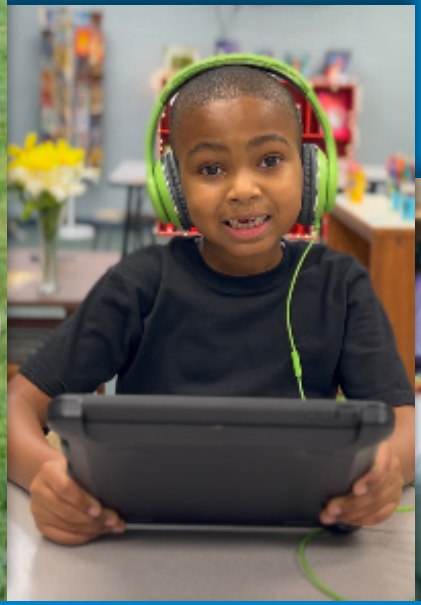
Total Expense: $6,466,930

* Phase two capital campaign fundraising

Board of Directors 2022

Executive Board
Rob Lee, Board President
Kevin Cooley, Vice President
Kristi Coy, Secretary
Michelle VanDellen, Treasurer

Board Members
Ali Brassfield
Josh Fish
Jenny Low
Jim McKenna
Charly Myers
Brett Nebeker
Cassie Robles
Angela Yates



Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County

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