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## BOYS & GIRLS CLUB Making a SPLASH!

This summer the Shelly Glover Foundation, Boys & Girls Club of Dane County, Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Foundation and Madison Parks Goodman Pool launched a program to provide swim lessons to participants in the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County summer program, approximately 200 youth. Through the program youth participated in swim lessons that focused on teaching them how to swim and the lifetime skill of being safe and confident around water.

### BOYS & GIRLS CLUB LAKE EXPLORERS AT LAKE WINGRA

## A Look Beyond the Lake

Lake Explorer Camp is a partnership program between the Clean Lakes Alliance, the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County, Wingra Boats, and the generous support of Downtown Madison Rotary and the Wingra Boats' Duck Dash. The program was designed to increase understanding and appreciation of our lakes, and teach valuable lake recreation and investigation skills. As part of the camp, Boys & Girls Club students learned about and played on Lake Wingra with professional staff, including a bilingual instructor. Students investigated fish biology, read topography maps, and identified lake macroinvertebrates with a microscope, and gained paddling, boating, and fishing skills.

"The camp exposes kids to local lakes, teaches them how to navigate our waters safely, and fosters excitement in kids who would not normally have these opportunities," says AJ Kriha, Senior Director of Programs at Boys & Girls Club of Dane County. "Once they've participated in the lake explorer day, they're always excited to go back or share what they've learned."





**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

**Exploring Careers Behind Closed Doors**

Through our partnerships with Madison Public Schools, The City of Madison and the Mayor's Office, The Dane County Executive's office and over 30 businesses, over 150 high school teens and college enrolled students had the opportunity to earn wages and experience through summer internships and career exposure within our community. We are thankful for companies and organizations such as, American Girl, Culvers, CUNA Mutual Group, Fiskars, City of Madison, Saris Cycling, Wipfli, the Overture Center for the Arts, United Way of Dane County and UW Hospitals and Clinics. These kinds of partnerships have opened more doors than ever before for our teens.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

**Members Exercise their Green Thumbs**

In early November our members in partnership with the Dane County Bar Association were given the opportunity to plant an urban orchard at our Boys & Girls Club Allied Family Center location. Thanks to a generous grant from the State Bar of Wisconsin, fellow attorneys, paralegals and community members spent time learning how to plant and care for pear and apple trees. In addition, our members were able to meet professional arborist and national tree-climbing champion, Colin Bugg, who showed the kids how to climb trees, tie knots, and what it takes to make a living climbing trees.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

**Hip-Hop Legend DMC of "Run DMC" Collaborates with BGC Teen Hip-Hop Artist to Shoot Video**

Hip-Hop legend CEM (of group Run-DMC) and local BGC teen dynamo Sam Wright "Pretty Boy Hefner" collaborated on a new song called "What it feels like" and shot the video at the Boys & Girls Club Allied Family Center location in late October as a project for the Boys & Girls Club Celebrity Music Mentors Program. Wright, age 18, caught the attention of the legendary Hip-Hop artist while performing as the opening act at the 2013 Taste of Madison event. After their initial meeting, DMC found out that Wright was a member of the Boys & Girls Club and had recently been named the National winner of the 12th Annual Digital Arts Festival competition for music. It wasn't long before DMC decided to take Wright under his wing as a mentee. The song will be released in early 2015 as an initiative to promote the Boys & Girls Club's Celebrity Music Mentors Program.

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Swing Batter Batter... Badges for Baseball

Badges for Baseball was created in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Justice as a juvenile crime prevention initiative. It's a simple concept: pair cops and kids together to play and learn. Boys & Girls Club of Dane County has worked to enhance the relationship between law enforcement and kids in Dane County, using baseball as the hook. Law enforcement officers become guest coaches/instructors, using team sports and our Healthy Choices Healthy Children curriculum to teach important lessons about teamwork, communication, respect, and leadership that can be used both on and off the field. The season culminates with a final game played at the Duck Pond at Warner Park and four youth are chosen to fly to Maryland to participate in the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation's Summer Baseball Camp.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Hole in One! Exploring Our First Tee Partnership

This activity-based golf program has been specifically designed for youth serving organizations such as the Boys & Girls Clubs. By using a golf platform, the goal is to extend the life skills and Nine Core Values of The First Tee to kids and teens who may not previously have been exposed to the game of golf.

This summer Boys & Girls Club members enjoyed weekly trips to Monona Golf Course, as well as a special visit to Vitense Golf and. Over 200 members participated in this program and even got a chance to participate in events at golf outings benefiting the Club put on by 100 Black Men and Buffalo Wild Wings.

For the second year in a row BGC received the National Boys & Girls Clubs of America Gateway Award for Program Innovation

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## 2014 Fall Girls on the Run Dane County 5K

This fall a group of our BGC girls participated in the 6th Annual Fall Girls on the Run 5k event. Every year in partnership with the Girls on the Run Dane County our BGC girls team up to take on both the Fall and Spring 5k run. Girls on the Run is a transformational physical activity based positive youth development program for girls in 3rd-8th grade. The program teaches life skills through dynamic interactive lessons and running games. The program culminates with the girls being physically and emotionally prepared to complete a celebratory 5k running event. The goal of the program is to unleash confidence through accomplishment while establishing a lifetime appreciation of health and fitness. We are grateful that our girls get the opportunity to participate in this partnership.

**BGC**  
Teen Hip-Hop Artist  
"Pretty Boy Hefner" won the 2014 National BGCA Digital Media Arts Award for his song "On Top of the World"



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Boys & Girls Club Kids Take Home 2 Awards at the 2014 Madison Hip Hop Awards

Congratulations to our very own "Trilogy" who took home honors for Group of the Year and Rookie of the Year at the 2014 Madison Hip Hop Awards (MHHA)! MHHA is a vehicle to showcase and celebrate the local Hip-Hop scene's talent, continuity and teamwork. The event also featured an amazing live performance from our BGC Dance Crew!

In 2014 BGC expanded from 2,400 members, to over 4,400 members served which is a 55% increase over the previous year. This is largely due to the expansion of services to Verona and Monona Grove High School.

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Breaking the Barriers: Preventing Summer Learning Loss

Your support enabled our Boys & Girls Club members to love reading & beat the summer slump!

At our BGC summer camps members read over 50,000 pages in our Seven Book Summer Challenge. By reading at least seven books each summer, our students are overcoming the achievement gap and eliminating summer learning loss! The Boys & Girls Club at Allied also partnered with Fitchburg Library's Library School Age Program and together we read 8,638 hours! We also gave away over 1000 books. This summer reading challenge ensures our students are ready to begin the school year & keeps them excited about reading.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Provides Hundreds of Backpack for Dane County Youth

Each year BGC hosts its Annual Ready, Set, Go Back to School Event. This year's event was a great success. BGC in partnership with The Alliance, American Family Insurance, 115th Fighter Wing, Team Pocan, Aberdeen, UW Wisconsin Foundation and Alumni Association, and Old Navy helped stuff hundreds of backpacks to distribute to our members. We would like to especially thank Fiskars, Walgreens, Hiebing and many other community supporters who helped provide backpacks and supplies to BGC members to ensure they were excited and ready to go back to school equipped for a successful school year.



**BGC**  
was able to serve over  
40,000 meals to over 4,000  
kids in 2014

98% of seniors in our  
college-prep program graduated  
and 94% are in college  
this semester

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

## Serves over 650 Children and Adults for its Annual Give Thanks Dinner & Basket Giveaway

Each year, Boys & Girls Club partners with organizations within the community to host its Annual Give Thanks Event. This year the Madison Mallards so graciously sponsored a dinner for over 650 kids and adults in our community. In addition, Blackhawk Church Fitchburg, The QTI Group and many others in the community held food drives to help us solicit donations for our Thanksgiving Basket Giveaway. Because of their support we were able to give over 200 families Thanksgiving baskets which included a turkey and more!



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF DANE COUNTY

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