



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF WHATCOM COUNTY

Whatever It Takes

**2020
Community
Impact Report**



Whatever It Takes to Support Our Mission



We thought our decision to acquire Kids' World licensed care centers and retain 532 affordable childcare spots in Whatcom County was going to be our *Whatever It Takes* project in 2020. On March 1 we began operating the centers while continuing to build the plan for a sustainable operating model that would serve all children in our community for many years to come.



Two weeks later, COVID-19 changed everything and we realized that we were going to have many *Whatever It Takes* projects in 2020. With the support of our community, we identified new ways to reach our members; we launched an innovative Virtual Club to keep our members engaged in stimulating activities and connected to caring Club staff. We initiated a massive, county-wide Grab & Go meal program to make sure children had nutritious meals.



When schools closed, our four licensed care centers remained open and served the kids of essential workers. When schools offered remote learning, we created an in-person, all-day learning program for kids in grades K – 8 to ensure our community's most at-risk youth had access to healthy meals, high-speed internet and a supportive staff team.

All of this important work was made possible because of community members like you. Thank you for doing *Whatever It Takes* this past year to provide essential services to some of the most vulnerable young people in our community.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF WHATCOM COUNTY

We've Done Whatever It Takes

Daily Health Screenings

Youth of the Year Competition

Virtual STEM



Project Connect



Activity Kits

High-Yield Learning Activities



All-Day Learning

Community Care Closets

Club-to-Club Pen Pals

The Kids Who Need Us Most

Healthy Meals & Snacks

Virtual Club

Backpacks & School Supplies



Grab & Go Meals

Literacy Support

Summer Camp



Licensed Daycares

Art



Virtual Learning Support

To Meet The Needs of Our Community.

2020 Year In Review

JANUARY



Youth of the Year dinner at the Ferndale Clubhouse

MARCH



Acquired Kids' World Daycares

MAY



Began distributing weekly Grab & Go meals county-wide

FEBRUARY



6th Annual Bourbon Street Bingeaux Fundraiser

APRIL



Virtual Club launches to keep kids connected to caring adults

JUNE



Reimagine Higher Dreams Gala goes virtual

JULY



Clubs offer all-day summer camp

SEPTEMBER



Project Connect launches
in Ferndale

NOVEMBER



Virtual All County Breakfast
fundraiser has record success

AUGUST



Members focus on STEM

OCTOBER



Middle school program opened at
the Bellingham Clubhouse

DECEMBER



Teens attend Virtual Keystone
Summit after school

Thank You For Building Great Futures.

Project Connect

Up to **200** kids a day

6 hours per
day doing
school work

3
hours per day
doing BGCA
programming

600
meals and
snacks served
per day

K-8th grades

Clubhouse and Grab & Go Meals

32,200
cups of fruits & vegetables

4,489
gallons of
milk

2,641
pounds
of protein
served

35,912
servings of whole grains

2020 Community Impact

Licensed Daycares

70,000 meals served

10,000

total hours open

Over

200

kids per day

Ages served:

Infant - Age 12

Event Revenue

\$43,319

raised at Bourbon Street Bingeaux

\$302,882

raised at the Virtual Gala

\$78,538

raised at the Virtual All County Breakfast

\$51,413

raised during the Days of Giving

Academic Success

Academic Success is a cornerstone of Boys & Girls Clubs. When schools closed to in-person instruction in the spring, we knew the resulting learning loss could be devastating. Immediately, our dedicated team created a Virtual Club to stay connected to members and mitigate this academic backslide. Virtual Club offered critical thinking opportunities and educational challenges to keep members' brains active during the shutdown.

When schools remained virtual in the fall, we instated Project Connect: an all-day program that provides a safe, supervised space for virtual classes with high-speed internet access, back-up computers, and healthy meals & snacks. After school, we provided traditional Club programs including a focus on STEM. At our Bellingham Clubhouse, we focused on children at risk of academic failure in the crucial middle-school years. In just one month, we reduced missing or incomplete classroom assignments by 78%. Project Connect will continue to support children as they transition to a hybrid of virtual and in-person learning.

Literacy & Virtual Learning Support



STEM & High-Speed Internet Access



Grab & Go Meals & Healthy Snacks

Healthy Lifestyles

With food insecurity reaching ever deeper into our communities, access to healthy foods went from a priority to an absolute necessity. Whatcom County youth who relied on school meals were now at home, often without access to consistent nutrition. With many parents out of work, even more children were at-risk for food insecurity.

In April, we initiated a free, community-wide Grab & Go meal program at three locations in the county. Bags contained nutritionally balanced breakfasts and lunches that were simple for children to assemble and heat themselves. This has been a life-saving service to many kids who may have been at home alone all day without access to healthy food.

Well-being & Fitness

Good Character & Citizenship

With the unprecedented strain on so many aspects of our lives right now, community is more important than ever. And, while our youth may have many needs, they also have so much to give. During the summer, members of the teen program participated in community service through preparing and packaging the Grab & Go meals that were distributed weekly.

We were proud to name Faythe Rick as our Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County 2020 Senior Youth of the Year and Iannah Llanos as our 2020 Junior Youth of the Year. Faythe and Iannah are exceptional Club members and great ambassadors for Whatcom County. They exemplify the Boys & Girls Club mission and are proof of the impact Clubs make in transforming and changing kids' lives.

Community Service & Leadership



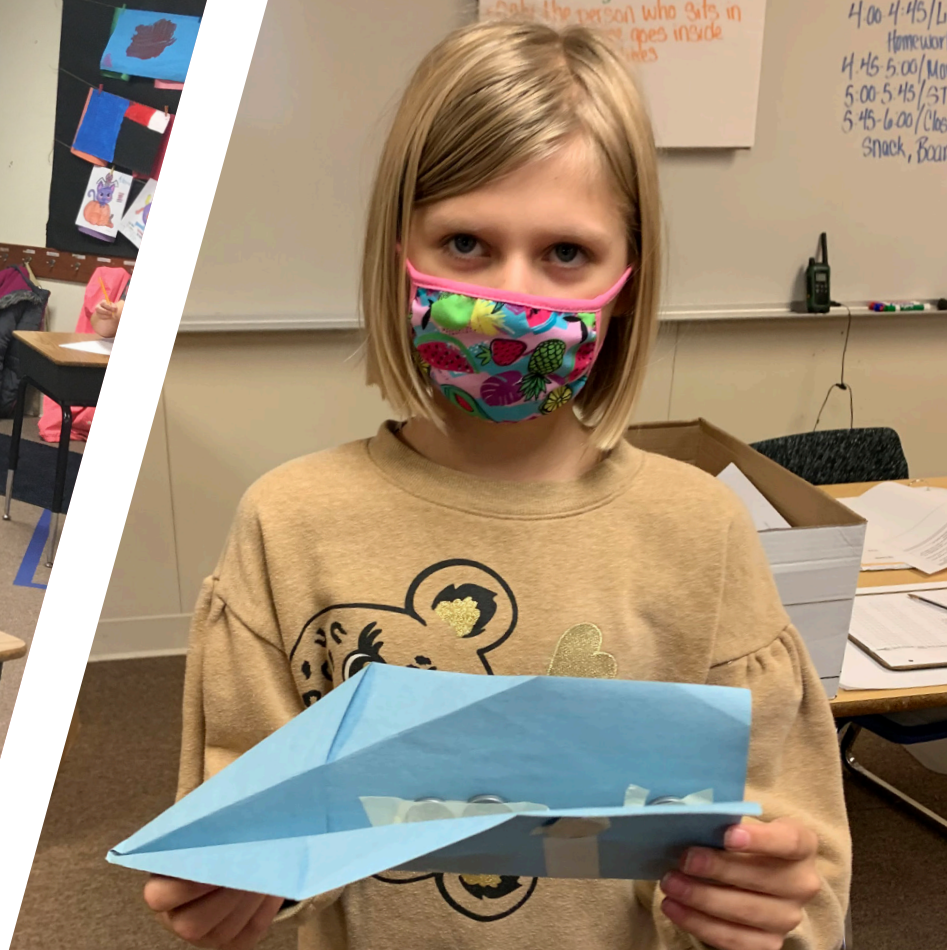
Life Skills & Career Prep

21st Century Community Learning Centers

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County partners with the Mount Baker School District to provide 21st Century Community Learning Centers at Kendall Elementary and Mount Baker Junior High. This federally funded, after-school, academic enrichment program provides students with a daily focus on STEM, literacy, art, and healthy lifestyles activities.

The summer program followed recommended safety guidelines and hosted cohorts of students in grades 3 - 8, with activities focused on STEM and healthy lifestyles. In the fall, the program continued to support students through in-person and virtual learning.

Problem Solving & Confidence



Creative Writing & Safe Places

Licensed Care Centers

As a part of our strategic plan, Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County had been studying operating licensed care for two years; meeting with organizations who run licensed care along with traditional Clubs, learning about the requirements to obtain a license and become accredited. We wanted to increase service to youth who need us most and knew that Whatcom County had a shortage of licensed care. When the opportunity to preserve over 530 licensed spots presented itself, we knew we had to do whatever we could to serve our community.

Armed with a brief business plan and a lot of determination, we signed a lease agreement with the owners and began operating the centers on March 1, 2020. Our mission to serve those who need us most is carried out in these centers. We do not limit the enrollment of children who receive childcare subsidy and we are carrying Club programming into these centers.

All-day Care & Adult Role Models



Virtual Learning Help & Healthy Meals

Staff Awards

2020 Staff Highlights

Licensed care centers remained open through the entire year for parents who were frontline workers.

Our Clubhouse Staff transitioned to being available for all-day care, and the healthy meal program adapted to a community-wide free Grab & Go meal service.

Our Resource Development team successfully transitioned from in-person fundraising events to a virtual platform.



2020 Staff Recognition

In January 2020, we recognized two staff members for their long-standing years of service to Boys & Girls Clubs.

Celebrating 10 Years:
Dena Kindred
Director of Clubhouse Programs

Celebrating 20 Years:
Kim Grams
Chief Operating Officer

Advocates & Mentors

Community Awards

2020 Community Awards

Our Champion of Youth and Volunteer of the Year Awards recognize three outstanding community members who have gone above and beyond to support our Clubs in 2020.

These special awards were presented during the Virtual Annual All County Breakfast.



**Champion of Youth
Award:**
Dick & Sharon Skeers

**Champion of Youth
Award:**
*Erin Baker's Wholesome
Baked Goods*

**Volunteer of the Year
Award:**
Brad Brown

Commitment & Dedication

Giving Societies



The Jeremiah Milbank Society was initiated 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.

Jeremiah Milbank, the namesake of this society, exemplified a spirit of volunteerism, generosity, and compassion for those in need.

We are deeply grateful for our 2020 society members.



*The Jeremiah Milbank Society
2020 Members*

Anonymous (3)

Brad & Lori Brown

Dave & Mary Lynne Courtney

Pete & Kristi Coy

Greg & Elizabeth Grant

Lynda Hinton

Patricia Kust

Joan Matz

Dave Mauro

Tim & Marcia McEvoy

Stan & Terri Salstrom

Dick & Sharon Skeers

Jerry & Michelle VanDellen

Jeff & Diane Waldner

Bob & Kim Warshawer

Nick & Chantee Ziemkowski

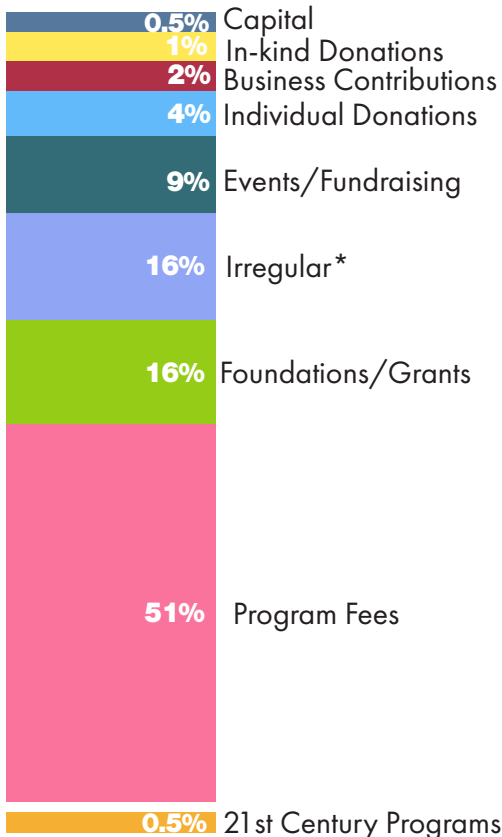
Endowment Fund

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 2020:
\$2,370,920

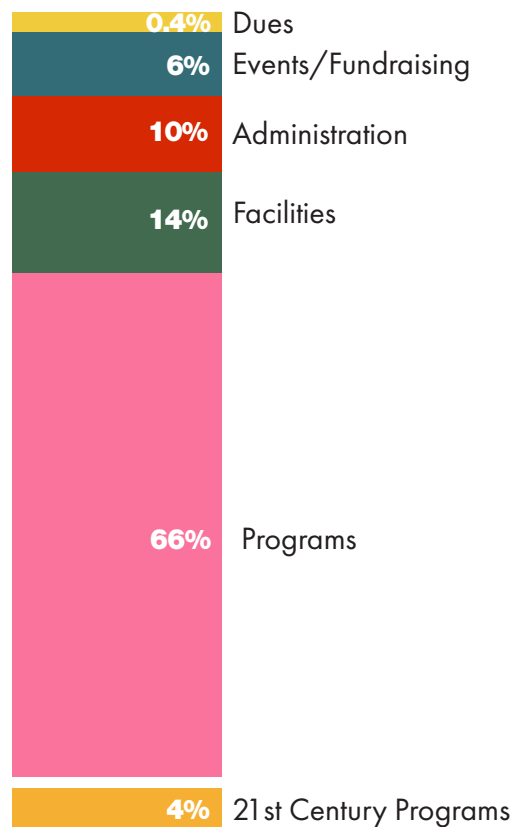
* All figures are estimated year-end and unaudited

Income & Expense Summary



Total Income: \$5,766,131

*Irregular income includes several one-time COVID response/daycare acquisition grants.



Total Expense: \$5,127,944



Board of Directors 2020

Executive Board

Carlos Centurion, Board President
Rob Lee, Vice President
Kristi Coy, Secretary
Michelle VanDellen, Treasurer
Caroline Winfrey, Past President

Board Members

Rob Brandland
Lori Brown
Josh Cantor
Danny Day

2021 Dates to Know

January - June

*Your Week to
Give From the Heart
- February 14 - 19*

*Inspire Higher Dreams
Virtual Gala
- Friday, April 23*

Boys & Girls Clubs of Whatcom County
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