# 2024 IMPACT REPORT





Whatever It Takes to Build Great Futures.

# A **NOTE** from the **Executive Director**

#### **Board of Directors**

**President**Kathi Jensen

Vice President Ken Griest

**Secretary** Valerie Rudd

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Jeff Tillman\*

Terri Arnold
Taylor Cole
Larry Green
Gabrielle Haug
Greg Kiskinen
Karen Kurtzman
Steve Morales
Matt Palacio
Mike Peron
Jennifer Peterson
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Daniela Sulier
Phil Weidinger

#### **Advisory Board**

Randy Fox Brian Hogan\*\* Michael Hambsch\*\* Steve Rude\*\* Meg Sandman

\*\*Past President



#### 2024 WAS ANOTHER BANNER YEAR

for the Boys & Girls Club of Lake Tahoe. Despite facing significant reductions to our state grant, we persevered and expanded our Tahoe Valley afterschool site to include all grades from TK to 5th. With four fully operational sites, we increased the number of children and families we serve, achieving an average daily attendance of over 400 for the first time in the Club's history.

The Club was also instrumental in supporting the successful campaign and passage of Measure U, which will greatly enhance facilities and infrastructure at our local schools, including spaces that the Club uses daily.

We also made some facility changes of our own. Thanks to very generous donors, we were able to complete our Let the Kids Play capital campaign, and a new playground will be installed next spring. The playground will be inclusive, featuring ropes, platforms, and swings to create a dynamic experience accessible to all ages and abilities.

The focus for 2024 was to increase the variety, quantity, and quality of programs we provide our members. Kids are constantly evolving and maturing, so it is important that as an organization, we also adapt and grow in order to meet their changing needs.

In 2024, we started four competitive soccer teams, introduced the Teen Winter Recreation Program, continued our summer sleep-away camp and Thanksgiving flag football, and established new partnerships offering equine therapy, support group sessions, and anti-drug and tobacco programs. Our staff specialists have taken art, STEM, and recreation on the road, ensuring that all our members can participate in their fun and educational programs.

Looking ahead, we have obtained funding to incorporate Esports into our programs and will launch Lego Robotics this winter. We will keep evaluating what new programs and activities are needed to retain the interests and elevate the education of our members. Funding remains a challenge, and I will dedicate considerable time advocating for the continuation and increase of state grants that support our daily operations and keep costs low for families.

We remain committed to serving our members, families and community in the ways they need us most. Thank you for your continued support and engagement with the Club; we look forward to an incredible year ahead.

**Jude Wood** 

Our Mission

To empower all young people to reach their full potential.

Our Vision

To be the place in our community where all young people are welcome. To have all of our members advance each grade level on time and be prepared for the next school year. To be a second home for our members where they get to participate in programs and have experiences that they might not otherwise have had.



# Club REACH in 2024

- The Tahoe Valley Elementary Club site expanded from serving TK and Kindergarten students in 2023 to now offering membership for students from TK through 5th grade.
- In the NYOI survey, 83% of our Club members are on track to graduate, and 84% are planning to attend college.
- 96% of parents identified the Club as "very important" or "important" in the Parent Survey.

#### Did YOU Know?

The daily cost per child is \$28, but families pay a maximum of \$15.

ALL members receive a Club subsidy between \$155 and \$1,955 per year.



33

years in the community

60

staff members

4

#### sites

Angel of Tahoe Bijou Community School Meyers Elementary Tahoe Valley Elementary

**238** 

days of operation per year



**72**9

kids served after school

385

kids served in the summer

313

kids attended for FREE

372

average daily attendance

100%

members who participated in **STEM** and **Art** programs





163

donors

118

volunteers



### **Programming** Highlights

20 Camps | 15 Specialty Programs

Ali Eller, Program Director



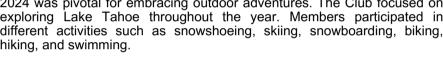
"2024 has been an incredible year of growth for our specialty programs. We've had the opportunity to provide AWESOME programs to all our Club members across every afterschool site, including Health & Wellness, Art, and STEM. We've delivered programs like winter recreation, trips to sporting events, overnight camps, EPIC days, and boating on the lake, giving members exciting experiences beyond the Club setting."



Merick Rickman



2024 was pivotal for embracing outdoor adventures. The Club focused on exploring Lake Tahoe throughout the year. Members participated in different activities such as snowshoeing, skiing, snowboarding, biking, hiking, and swimming.







The Club partnered with First Tee Northern Nevada and the City of South Lake Tahoe Parks and Recreation to launch a summer and fall golf program at Bijou Municipal Golf Course for Club members. Members learned the fundamentals of golf while enhancing their life, teamwork, and leadership skills.

The Club launched a competitive soccer program to engage older elementary and middle school members in a fun, positive after-school activity.

Over 60 boys and girls, aged 9 to 13, played on one of the four Alianza teams. They participated in four tournaments, two leagues, and weekly training focused on skill development and team building.

An additional 60 members joined the Club's 'Four Fields Soccer Tournament in the fall, where each Club site competed against each other, with every site winning at least one age bracket.

#### **Notable Achievements**

2014 Girls won the Comstock Tournament **2012 Boys** reached the Davis World Cup semi-final 2015 Boys reached the Ghosts and Ghouls Tournament semi-final

Several players advanced to South Tahoe Futbol Club teams or earned AYSO All Star spots, fulfilling the mission to help every child reach their full potential.

#### SPECIALTIES AT ALL SITES

Each week, the specialists - Gina Stowell in art, Maddie Bowman in STEM, and Luke Borchers in health, wellness, and recreation - visit every site to facilitate projects. This effort fosters inclusivity, ensuring that all members have the opportunity to participate in the Club's specialty programs. These programs are designed to engage every age group, with activities tailored to the varying interests and skill levels of each group.





#### **Development** & **Main Events**



Aimi Xistra-Rich, Development Director

"Our fundraising efforts doubled in 2024 and we are extremely blessed with wonderful donors and community members. Our Tahoe youth love Club and through fundraising efforts we have been able to expand program opportunities and make these available to more kids. With tactful expansion we've been able to provide more events throughout our four sites, resulting in more youth involvement."

#### **Donor** Recognition



#### **HERC**

The Boys & Girls Club of Lake Tahoe proudly recognizes Caesars Entertainment as the Donor of the Year. This remarkable organization is committed to supporting Tahoe youth through more than \$40,000 in cash donations. They serve as the title sponsor for Tahoe Brewfest, provide arcade gift cards for over 100 Youth of the Month honorees, and contribute over 800 prizes for the Club's Power Hour store. Additionally, we are grateful for the countless volunteer hours contributed by the staff at Harrah's Lake Tahoe and Harveys Lake Tahoe Hotel & Casino in support of Club events.





2nd Annual

#### **Bright Futures Awards** Ceremony

May 1, 2024 Angel of Tahoe

\$25k Matching Donation by Untethered Workspace for the Let the Kids Play Campaign

\$51k+ Raised 100 Attendees 14 Awards



#### Bright Futures Award Recipients

Angel of Tahoe Award - Desolation's Chet Pipkin

Impact Award - Teresa Bravo

Community Program Partner Award - LTUSD

Teen Volunteer of the Year - Randy C.

Jeff Tillman Award - Valerie & Jerry Rudd

10 Years of Being AWESOME - Jude Wood

A.W.E.S.O.M.E. Kids on the following page

Next date... April 30, 2025

#### **Enfield Overlands CARE Challenge**

February 1 - April 1, 2024

\$25k Matching Donation for the 'Let the Kids Play Campaign

\$50k+ Raised







7th Annual

**Tahoe Brewfest** 

August 24, 2024

Ski Run Blvd

**\$125k+** Raised 1,500+ Attendees

100+ Volunteers **40** Breweries 20 Vendors





32nd Annual

**Golf Classic** 

October 13, 2024

Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course

\$100k+ Raised 148 Golfers

20+ Volunteers



Next date... August 23, 2025

Next date... October 12, 2025

#### A.W.E.S.O.M.E. Kids



All members are empowered to live by the Club's AWESOME values. At the Bright Futures Awards Ceremony, seven Club members are recognized who exemplify a letter of the acronym.





#### **Accountable for my Actions**

"You should be accountable for your actions because you can help your siblings, parents, and friends."



#### **Welcoming to All**

"It is good to be welcoming to all because it makes people happy."



#### **Everyone is Valued**

"I think everyone is important and should be treated the same. We should treat others like how we wanted to be treated because everyone is special."



#### **Safe and Supportive**

"When someone shows that they are safe and supportive, it means they really care about you. It's nice to know there's someone who has your back and you can count on always."



#### **Open and Honest**

"It's really important to be open and honest because it helps people trust each other. It is good to listen to new ideas and try different things."



#### **Make Smart Choices**

"It is important to make smart choices so you can stay safe and not get into any trouble."



#### **Excited for Fun**

"I am excited to be at the Club because I like doing programs and spending time with friends. The Boys & Girls Club is a great community for having a fun time together."

#### Giving Back to the Kids

# WHAT IS TEAM AWESOME

Team AWESOME represents not just the values and principles that the staff and members uphold at the Club, but also serves as the individual giving initiative, allowing anyone to make an unrestricted contribution to the Club.

#### **How to Join**

Anyone can become a part of Team AWESOME by making a donation of a specified amount and will receive exclusive Team AWESOME memorabilia in return. These funds are distributed throughout the Club, providing scholarships and meals, and improving the overall Club experiences, programs, and events.

#### **Benefits**

Members of Team AWESOME experience the rewarding feeling of supporting Tahoe youth! Additionally, each member receives a monthly newsletter, exclusive memorabilia (minimum donation required), event invitations, and the opportunity to volunteer at events.

#### Team AWESOME 2024 Events Napa Valley Cozy Cinema **April Foolery Getaway Night** Tap Takeover Tahoe Brewfest December 8 December 18 April 1 August 24 Lake Tahoe 31st Annual Holiday Sausage **Golf Classic Party** Getaway July 1 December 8 October 13 Team AWESOME 2025 Events 32nd Annual April Foolery Bright Futures **Golf Classic** Tap Takeover Awards Ceremony April 30 October 12 April 1 Go Local Tahoe **Holiday Sausage Business Expo Brewfest Party** April 3 August 23 December 7



#### **Team AWESOME Community Partners**

Alex Ramon Magic, Artemis Lakefront Café, Athletex Gym, Bare Roots Coffee, Barton Health, Big 5, Boeger Winery, Botanical Arts Company, Cakes by Grace, Caesars' Volunteer Groups & Arcade, Cannablue, Casey's, Charter Communications, Chicken in a Barrel, Cold Water Brewery, Desolation Hotel, The Divided Sky, Dragonfly Bagel Co., Durkin Tree Service, Edgewood Tahoe, Embarc, Emerald Bay Bar & Grill, Epic Promise, Forest Inn Suites, Freebird Ski Run, GearLab, Gnu Snowboards, GoBoHo, Great Basin Brewery, Grocery Outlet, Haen Construction, Heavenly Ski Resort, Hilton, Hotel Azure, Innovative Imprints, Lauren Lindley Photography, Lib Tech Snowboards, Liberty Utilities, MacDuff's Public House, Margaritaville Lake Tahoe, Maggie's, McP's Taphouse & Grill, Novus, OnCourse Events, Onus Art Projects, QuikSpace, Rip N Willies Ski & Snowboard, Riva Grill, Rise Designs, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Ranch, Shoreline of Tahoe, Ski Run Boat Co., Sidellis, Sierra-at-Tahoe, Sierra Nevada Credit Union, South Lake Tahoe Brewing, South Tahoe Association of Realtors, South Tahoe Optimists, South Tahoe Refuse, Southwest Gas, Spoon & Spring Studio, Starbucks, Stateline Brewery, Station House Inn, Steamers, Tahoe Bagel Co., Tahoe Basin Container, Tahoe Beach Retreat, Tahoe Blue Vodka, Tahoe Clinical Massage, Tahoe Green, Tahoe Knight Monsters, Tahoe Production House, Tahoe Rentals, Tahoe Sports Fishing, Tahoe Tap, Tahoe Wellness, Teez, The Friends of Ski Run, The Hangar, The Sweet Party, The Village Board Shop, Treefort Designs, Turn 3, Toyota, Untethered Workspace, US Bank, Weidinger PR, Western Nevada Supply, Whole Foods, Will Eichenberger, Yellow Submarine Sandwich Shop, YES Snowboards.

In 2024, supporters raised > \$61,181 < for the Club through Team AWESOME

## **MAKE A DONATION TODAY!**

Visit our website at **bgclt.org/team-awesome** or scan the QR Code

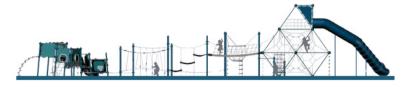




# Investing in the Community & the Club's Team

#### "Let the Kids Play!" Playground Campaign Update

The Boys & Girls Club of Lake Tahoe raised \$500K for the "Let the Kids Play!" Community Playground Campaign, enabling the construction of an accessible playground at the Angel of Tahoe clubhouse. This initiative unites the community for local youth and will provide a safe play area for thousands. The playground committee designed and purchased custom Berliner structures, swings, a sensory wall, rope courses, and two racing zip lines. Excitement is high for the 2025 unveiling; thanks to Design Workshop, Berliner, and Haen Construction for their support.



#### Meals for the Holiday Season

Thanks to the generous support of donors and community volunteers, the Club provided meals to families in the community.

**Thanksgiving Meals** 

\$8.3K | 35 Meals & Gift Cards\*

\*Gift Cards donated by Embarc Tahoe

**Holiday Meals** 

\$10K DONATED\* 65 Meals & Gift Cards

\*Donated by Desolation Hotel





#### 'Elevating' Specialized Programs

The Club partnered with LTUSD and Elevated, the online learning school, to bring middle school students to the Club, offering them specialized programs in outdoor recreation, art, and STEM. These opportunities are crucial for kids who might not otherwise have access to such experiences, engages more teens in the community.

#### **Professional Development & Networking**

The Club invests in professional development for the staff and board of directors by participating in conferences and advocacy events. Staff gain insights, network with BGCA leaders, and foster innovation, enabling them to bring fresh ideas back to the Club. This enhances the Club's effectiveness in serving youth and promotes a culture of continuous learning and growth.



February 2024

MyClubHub User Conference

California After-School Network

♥ Fresno, CA

April 2024 Advocacy Day

Sacramento, CA

September 2024

BGCA

Pacific Conference

Phoenix, AZ

#### Club **Achievements**



#### **HERO** for **Youth**

The Club received the Hero for Youth Award in April 2024 from the Boys & Girls Clubs of America for being in the top 40% of Clubs in Advocacy engagement. This recognition highlights the Club's commitment to advocating for children and their needs, enhancing support for their programs, and fostering relationships with representatives at all levels.



#### Be Great Scholarship

#### Nicole Huerta Youth Development Leader

Nicole was awarded the Be Great Scholarship in April 2024 for her recent active participation and significant impact to the Club. She began her journey as a Club member, progressed to a Junior Volunteer and Junior Staff, and now serves as a Youth Development Leader. The scholarship is available is for individuals planning to attend Lake Tahoe Community College and who have also been involved with the Club as either staff or members. It is funded by Jeff Tillman, current Club Board Member and former Board President.

#### Safety Super Hero Award



# Ashley Hall Operations & Safety Director

Ashley received the Safety Super Hero Award at the BGCA National Conference in May 2024 for her commitment to safety initiatives and certification as a praesidium guardian. She successfully completed both the Safety Improvement Network and the Safety Peer Consultation. Out of 5,200 Clubs, Ashley was one of only 21 award recipients. Currently, she leads a Safety Committee Meeting to discuss strategies for enhancing safety and developing safety plans for the Club.

## 10 Years of Being AWESOME



Jude Wood

Executive Director

Jude became the Executive Director of the Club in July 2014, and in the years since, she has made an invaluable impact on the community. Over the past decade, she has been a passionate local advocate, an inspiring public speaker, and has earned several awards for her outstanding contributions. Under her leadership, the Club has experienced remarkable growth, including her key role in designing and opening the new clubhouse in April 2022.

## League of Eagles Award



**Board of Directors** 

The Club's Board of Directors was awarded the League of Eagles Award at the BGCA Pacific Leadership Conference in Phoenix, AZ in September 2024. This award highlights that over 85% of board members are fully engaged with the Club and frequently serve as presenters of best practices at conferences and meetings. The Club's Area Directors accepted the award on behalf of the Board of Directors.

# COMMUNITY H H Z CLUB







**10** of 12

























#### **Gratitude**

#### A NOTE from the Board President

I couldn't be more honored and proud to write this letter on behalf of the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Club of Lake Tahoe. I believe our board is one of the most dedicated and hard-working you will find within the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Our board is involved in everything from strategic planning and policy development to volunteering and fundraising for the Club. I want to thank each and every one of the members of our board for their dedication to our Club.

It takes more than a great board to have a successful Club, and we have what it takes in that area as well. The community support of our Club is unmatched, and we couldn't provide the exciting opportunities for our kids without the many passionate volunteers and supporters who are always willing to help when asked.

I want to thank the South Lake Tahoe community for their continued generosity and support of our Club. We are a success because of you!



Kathi Jensen

#### What Parents Have to Say

"The Club has provided an opportunity for my kids to have a safe and reliable place to be with classmates and peers for most of their lives. They have had the chance to play and practice many skills while having fun and benefiting from the familiarity and comfort of a place they know. It's been an invaluable resource for our family."

"Club has become a second home for my child. She has been going since Kindergarten and now she is in fourth grade. I am so grateful for the Club and all the positive effects on my kid. She really loves going there everyday."

"I love knowing my kids have a safe place to go after school, where they will use their minds and their bodies in healthy ways. I can focus on my work knowing they are in a good place."

"My children have made so many friends from other schools (during the summer) and it will be awesome when they get to middle school and already know many of the other kids. I think mixing kids from different schools is so valuable. We love the sports programs that you put on and always join in."

#### Major Businesses & Foundations











































#### **Partners**



























The new playground will be open to all & enjoyed by over 2,000 children and teens per year. It will be the first all accessible playground in the Tahoe Basin and will serve as a focal point for the Al Tahoe neighborhood and surrounding programs.

