

# BE GREAT ARCHIVES



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF BURBANK AND GREATER  
EAST VALLEY

January 2010

## Help Kids BE GREAT

Thank you for supporting us in helping the youth of Burbank and the Greater East Valley **BE GREAT**. Through the challenging times families face, our Boys & Girls Club continues to be the *positive place* for children who need it most.

Our **BE GREAT** Archives are just a few stories to share the impact your donations provided. There are many children in our programs through which your support greatly makes a difference.

Please visit our website at [www.bgcburbank.org](http://www.bgcburbank.org) for updated events and ways to continue your support. Thank you for helping our youth **BE GREAT**.



## Celebrating the Holidays!

With your help, we were able to host our annual Holiday party and our annual Thanksgiving Feast. At the Holiday Party, children were able to get their picture taken with Santa, receive wrapped gifts, and enjoy fun activities. Ken Marinace of Comprehensive Financial Services donated over \$4,000 of toys and gift cards. Over 1,000 children received Christmas gifts, who may not have otherwise. Radio Disney also hosted a holiday party at our Main Club. Radio Disney brought Mickey and Minnie Mouse and lead activities with our members. At our Thanksgiving Feast, Sheraton Universal donated catered food and the National Charity League helped serve over 150 children and parents. Thank you to all of our supporters in making the holidays brighter for children in the Burbank and Greater East Valley areas.



*Shanna Warren*  
Shanna Warren  
Executive Director



Thank You Louise  
"Weezy" Palanker !

## Donor Spotlight



Thank You  
CFS & Ken  
Marinace!



Our Creative Arts members showcased their work at the Bob Hope Airport

## BE INVOLVED!

With over 60% of our members in need of financial assistance, your support provides the learning opportunities and experiences to children who need it most! **BE INVOLVED** and make a donation today at [www.bgcburbank.org](http://www.bgcburbank.org)



Students are excited for Power Hour, where they get help with their homework from their friends and staff.



Tech Lab provides computer privileges to hundreds of students all year.

## The Club - Teen Night

Your support provided the teen program with many exciting opportunities! Teen Night was expanded and is now open three nights a week. Service projects were completed with many participants. Teens are not only fulfilling their mandatory service hours, but commit to long term volunteering. Teens are cultivated in ethical standards, adapt to negative peer pressure, and become empowered to **BE GREAT** role models.



In November, the Teen Club leadership attended our first Boys & Girls Club Regional Conference in San Francisco.

The Teen program not only provides great learning experiences, but also life changing experiences. Teens created and hosted their own haunted house, listened to career professionals share about the business world, and attended a national conference with over 5,500 other teens in San Francisco. For teens like David, the Boys & Girls Club provided not only a place to volunteer, but also a lifestyle impact. After David's first visit, he met new friends and great role models. David had a passion and talent for art. Our Teen Director, Julio, created a positive outlet for David's artistic expression. David started to use his artistic talents on projects like the haunted house and teen club flyers.

Supporters like you make it possible to offer opportunities to teens to **BE GREAT**. From the Teens of Burbank and Greater East Valley, "THANK YOU!"

“ Thank You for providing me the chance to make a difference in my community ”  
-Asher, Teen Club Participant

## Career Days

Thank you to all of our business supporters in providing our kids the opportunity to learn about different careers.



Tom Whelan, Board Member and General Manager of Hotel Amaranco gave our kids a tour of the hotel.



Tim Donovan of Hangar 25 showed the kids around the first aviation hangar to achieve the highest LEED rating.



IHOP talked to the kids and showed them the work involved for every food order.



## Triple Play Athletics Firass Halawi, Athletic Coordinator

Triple Play is a fundamental program at the Boys and Girls Club, which not only promote physical fitness and health, but also provides children the confidence to excel academically and in social situations. Triple Play attempts to counter the challenge of childhood obesity.

Your support help kids like Joseph increase their self esteem. In the beginning of the program, Joseph felt uncomfortable because of his weight. Joseph was the last one to be chosen on the team and watched as the more athletic kids dominated the play fields. Discouragement and embarrassment are common feelings for many kids.

However, Joseph was determined to play. Everyday I saw great improvements in Joseph's motivation, health, and most importantly his confidence. Joseph's attitude dramatically changed from being the shy kid picked last, to the one chosen to be the team captain.

Now Joseph is always striving to be the best in every sport and aims to have the best records. Although he may not be in first place all the time, he still remains persistent and determined. Joseph never once missed an opportunity to participate in any sports. Joseph epitomizes the principles of the Triple Play program. Joseph shares his story to motivate other children when they say "I cant." Joseph continues to strive among the top athletes in the program, but his confidence, motivation, character, and heart ranks above all.

Visit us at [www.bgcburbank.org](http://www.bgcburbank.org) for monthly events and newsletters.