

AUGUST 2012

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire enriches and develops the lives of children, youth and families in the Sioux Empire through comprehensive and educational services necessary to meet evolving needs. BGCSE offers fee-based childcare and early education programs through its Youth Enrichment Services brand and runs a drop-in Boys & Girls Club.

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE SIOUX EMPIRE

Community youth benefit from Annual Campaign's success

The Annual Campaign supporting Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire (BGCSE) again is delivering on its promise to families, raising \$397,484 toward programs for children from infants to age 18. Thanks to campaign leaders and donors, area youth have access to safe, engaging activities six days a week.

"The concept and the word 'Club' are very important. It's a place where kids belong," said volunteer Campaign Chair Bill L. Baker. He was especially touched by a donor whose unexpected gift in the last stage helped put BGCSE within reach of its goal. "So many people feel a debt of gratitude to the separate Boys and Girls Clubs that existed here," he said. "My hope and belief is that the community will step forward and continue to support the Club."

The message is spreading: 180 new donors gave to the campaign, with strong support from the returning corporate base as well. Individuals and families accounted for 26% of all pledges, including nearly



Annual Campaign Chairman Bill L. Baker celebrated with Eastside Boys & Girls Club members during a thank-you event for volunteers and donors, who raised nearly \$400,000. (Photo reprinted with permission of Argus Leader Media. Emily Spartz, April 14, 2012.)

\$19,000 committed by BGCSE staff members through the agency's first-ever employee campaign.

The campaign supports BGCSE agency-wide, including its Youth Enrichment Services programs. But the campaign's success is critical to operations at the Eastside Boys & Girls Club. While it costs a member just \$25 a year to belong, it costs BGCSE closer to \$1,200 to provide that student's programming, meals and activities.

For some youth, the Eastside Club has played an even bigger role. Earlier this year, Club staff learned that one family had lost a young sibling. Staff reached out, listening when members wanted to talk about their feelings. Staff drew in part upon grief-counseling resources developed by Boys & Girls Clubs of America. But it's personal relationships and trust built over time that enable the Eastside Club to become a true source of strength for families when they need it most.



BNSF Railway gives local youth the ride of a lifetime on restored train cars

Ever wonder what's inside a train car? Ask one of the 350 children, parents and friends of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire who boarded the BNSF Railway Special for a three-hour ride in early June. Sioux Falls was one of just nine cities visited this year, and the only community whose Boys & Girls Club got its own trip.

The train left a lasting impression with youth, and a \$10,000 unrestricted gift from the BNSF Foundation assures that the company's impact will be felt long after the final whistle bid farewell to Sioux Falls.

"It takes a lot of organizations working to help build and support a community," said Amy McBeth, Director of Public Affairs for BNSF Railway Company. "The Foundation places a priority on youth development and preparing youth for the future. Certainly, Boys & Girls Clubs fit perfectly. It's a pleasure to recognize groups that understand what their communities need, and to provide funding to help them do what they do best."

Guests of the Club and Youth Enrichment Services programs departed from the BNSF Downtown Depot and rode in style: inside one of 15 restored vintage railcars from the 1950s-1960s, powered by two of BNSF's newest locomotives.



Youth and family members from YES and the Eastside Boys & Girls Club boarded passenger cars on June 10 for a ride on the BNSF Railway Special. Volunteer leaders, donors and other friends of BGCSE lunched aboard the train during a three-hour round trip.

The Railway Special was designed to honor employees and their families for their contributions to the company's success. Since 1997, the program has grown to partner with regional youth-serving groups, traveling nearly 7,000 miles each summer along 32,000 route miles of track in 28 states and two Canadian provinces.

SMART Girls gets boost from Woman's Alliance

A local group that's served women and girls for more than a century has chosen the Eastside Boys & Girls Club's SMART Girls program to receive a 2012 ALENE DELBRIDGE AWARD. The Sioux Falls Woman's Alliance makes annual, competitive grants to initiatives that uplift socially disadvantaged women and/or girls.

The Alliance's \$5,000 gift will enable the Eastside Boys & Girls Club to enhance opportunities for and teach healthy behaviors to girls ages 8-17. Developed and nationally tested

by Boys & Girls Clubs of America, SMART Girls involves Club staff, peer leaders and community volunteers to help girls and young women address issues such as cliques and societal pressures, body changes, self-esteem and relationships – all in a safe environment. Sessions take place in a mentor-led, small-group atmosphere.

BGCSE thanks the Woman's Alliance for its continued leadership in the community and its generous support of SMART Girls!

BGCSE Programs & Locations

Three Learning Centers
824 E. 14th St., 700 S. Sneve Ave.
and 506 N. Kiwanis Ave. –
Infant & Toddler, Preschool,
Pre-K and School Age

Eastside Boys & Girls Club
700 S. Sneve Ave. –
First grade through age 18

57th St. Childcare Center
5105 S. Crossing Pl. –
Infant & Toddler, Preschool,
and Pre-K

Afterschool Enrichment
Sioux Falls, Brandon, and
Harrisburg – Kindergarten
through fifth grade

Your gift helps youth start on the path to Great Futures!

- I want to support programs and activities at the Eastside Boys & Girls Club.
- Please put my gift toward programs offered through Youth Enrichment Services.

Here is my gift of: \$500 \$250
 \$100 \$500 \$_____ Other

My gift is:

- In memory of _____
- In honor of _____

(Print memorial name or honoree)

Donor name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

- I'd like to volunteer at BGCSE.
- I wish to learn more about including BGCSE in my estate plans.
- I've provided for BGCSE in my will.

Please reply to: BGCSE, 824 E.
14th Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57104

A case of “identity confusion”: Everyone has it at some point in their lives!

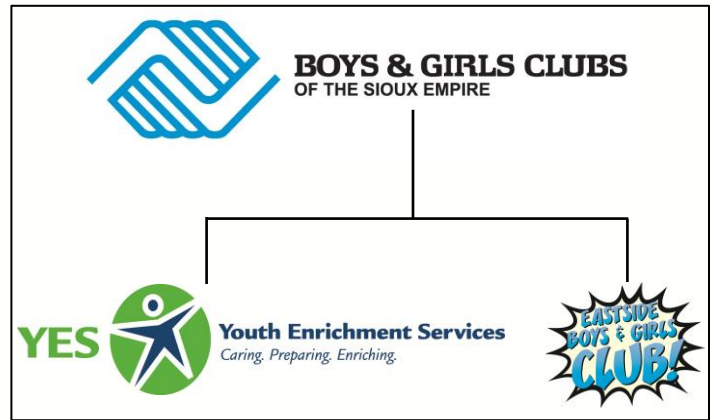
Our organization is in transition, creating a bit of confusion along the way. Are we Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire, Youth Enrichment Services, the Eastside Boys & Girls Clubs – or all of the above?!

In 2010, the YES Board of Directors voted to become a chartered member of Boys & Girls Clubs of America – Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire. Rather than create a new entity, the Board chose to rename Youth Enrichment Services, Inc. Therefore, the organization’s corporate/legal entity is Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire.

This came in conjunction with opening the first of what we hope will be several Club locations in the area. Located in our Eastside Learning Center, our Eastside Boys & Girls Club is a Boys & Girls Clubs of America site in every sense it implies: drop-in center, low annual membership, and high-quality programming that Boys & Girls Clubs of America has become known for – serving youth ages 6-18.

And therein lies the problem. Boys & Girls Clubs serve older kids, while YES childcare serves children 4 weeks to age 12, and a lot of them!

Because BGCSE does not fit the template, until we have educated the public on this organization and all it



Youth Enrichment Services and the Eastside Boys & Girls Club now are entities under the umbrella of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire. BGCSE serves children and their families through high-quality, developmentally appropriate youth programs.

offers, we will continue to offer services under the YES brand. Case in point: If YES had disappeared, would our Local Best voters – at this point in time – have known to vote for BGCSE instead?

So for now, we’re hoping the public will understand the ambiguity and know that we continue to offer the same great services and more!

– Karen Fogas, CEO

New YES site expands learning programs within city

Through its Youth Enrichment Services (YES) brand, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire is making it easier for families in northwest Sioux Falls to access quality childcare and education programs: The Kiwanis Avenue Learning Center opens this summer in the former Sertoma Bingo building, at 506 N. Kiwanis Ave. To reach new families, YES partnered with The Point Is To Serve, a five-year-old church group that owns and remodeled the property.

“We’re looking not only for a long-term partnership, but a relationship,” Pastor Allen Kjesbo said. His group knew an on-site learning center would help fulfill its mission in the community. “We did our research and we were really impressed with YES. It would take us at least 10 years to do what YES can do on day one.”

The new site includes space for about 100 youth, infants through age 12. The facility features controlled-access entry, outdoor and indoor play



YES soon will offer programs for infants through school age children in northwest Sioux Falls, as part of a collaborative agreement with The Point Is To Serve.

spaces, and large classrooms to share with the church’s youth ministry on Sundays, when YES is closed.

“We believe we can help transform our community and support families by providing them with a healthy environment,” Kjesbo said.

To schedule a tour or enroll a child at the Kiwanis site, call 338-8061.

Golf events support BGCSE

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sioux Empire thanks all who sponsored or golfed in two summer tournaments!

Sioux Falls Specialty Hospital chose BGCSE as the beneficiary of all proceeds from its 15th annual tourney, held June 28 at Westward Ho Country Club. The 18-hole event raised more than \$7,000.

In addition, BGCSE on July 20 hosted Club friends, alumni and golf enthusiasts for its first-ever agency event, at the Brandon Golf Course.

The Eastside Boys & Girls Club offers a nurturing environment focused on fun, character-building activities that enable youth to achieve their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

The Club could not exist without community donors and volunteers. We thank them for helping advance BGCSE’s work to provide young people with a safe, supervised place to learn and grow!



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SIOUX FALLS, SD

YES is Local Best – again !

Area families recently voted Youth Enrichment Services (YES) the Local Best for childcare services – for the fifth year in a row!

YES also ranked as “loved by the locals” for quality preschools. With more than 80 nominees in each category, YES thanks all who voted.

Read inside to learn more about the programs, people and community supporters who help set YES apart.

Afterschool sessions offer safe, educational fun

With mere weeks before the start of the new school year, Youth Enrichment Services is ready to help parents cross an important item off their lists: Enroll in Afterschool Enrichment (ASE).

“We offer a safe, fun and enriching place for kids,” said Blake Craig, an ASE lead teacher, staff coach and curriculum writer. Programs are designed for students who will be in kindergarten through fifth grade during the coming school year. Children enjoy educational and recreational activities that tie into weekly and monthly themes. Parents appreciate the reassurance of a state-licensed afterschool program and the convenience of multiple sites:

- Both 14th Street and Eastside Learning Centers in Sioux Falls;
- Brandon Elementary, Robert Bennis Elementary and Fred Assam Elementary Schools in Brandon; and
- Explorer and Journey Elementary Schools in the Harrisburg District.

Each site’s schedule includes homework or study time, plus a focus on activities in the areas of math, literature, science and art. “Safety is the biggest priority, but we always make it a point to get involved with what the kids like to do,” Craig said. “We have engaged and experienced staff members who bring in activities based on interests they share with students. We meet kids at their level and set a positive example. Kids here can grow and mature and learn from uplifting adults.”

ASE starts August 20 in Sioux Falls and Brandon, and August 23 in Harrisburg. Program fees vary but are as low as \$23.00 weekly per child, with multi-child family discounts. Affordable busing and/or Before-school Enrichment are available at selected sites. Call 338-8061 to learn more today!

Upcoming Events

Month	Date	Event	Location
August	14	Early Childhood Education and Afterschool Enrichment (ASE)	Open House, 5:30pm, 14 th St.
	14	Street Learning Center	Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.
	14	Street Childcare Center	ASE starts, 14 th St. and Eastside Learning Centers, Brandon
	23	ASE starts, Harrisburg	Head Start Open House, 6:30pm, 14 th St.
	28	Head Start Open House	
September	20	Family Event, 5pm, Eastside	20 Family Event, 5pm, Eastside
	25	Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.	25 Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.
	28	Family Event, 5:30pm, 14 th St.	28 Family Event, 5:30pm, 14 th St.
October	18	Family Event, 5pm, Eastside	18 Family Event, 5pm, Eastside
	23	Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.	23 Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.
	25	Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.	25 Family Event, 6:30pm, 57 th St.
	28	Family Event, 5:30pm, 14 th St.	28 Family Event, 5:30pm, 14 th St.

All YES programs will be closed November 22-23