



**Donate Now** 

#### Igniting the Future: One Club Kid at a Time





#### Letter from the CEO

My journey within the Boys & Girls Club movement has been a fulfilling and purposeful mission that has provided me with many opportunities to change the lives of not just our Club Kids, but the communities we serve. It has created a fire within me to push the limits and motivate others to expand beyond their comfort levels, ensuring we create a lasting impact on those who need us

most...our Club Kids. Each day, I wake up and reflect on what we can do better and how we, as an organization, can be the change this world so desperately needs... and the answer is always in the work we do with within the Boys & Girls Club movement.

I am truly grateful to serve in this capacity and for the amazing support from staff, sponsors, donors and the community...without you, the powerful impact of our work would not be possible. This month, it was an honor to be recognized and awarded with CEO of the Year at the 2025 Hall of Fame. It was a pleasant surprise and one I hold to the highest

regard. Thank you to everyone who is a part of pushing the movement forward in a positive direction.

As we move into the final quarter of the year, I ask you to remember why we do what we do and that the upcoming holiday season can be a struggle for many mentally and financially. Club Kids need you in these uncertain times to let them know that someone cares and that they are not alone. Help us in meeting our goals to provide a safe, motivating and educational environment. Your support matters and helps us to ignite the future for a better world and ensures we continue saving lives through academic support, healthy lifestyles, character development and life and work-readiness skills.

Donate, volunteer or sponsor to support our mission today.

Steven Miker

#### 2025 Area Council & Hall of Fame Awards

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier had the honor of hosting this year's Georgia Boys & Girls Clubs Area Council and Hall of Fame Dinner, held September 10–12 at the Legacy Lodge Conference Center in Buford.

Every fall, this three-day gathering brings Clubs from all across Georgia together to connect, share ideas, and learn from one another—all with the same goal in mind: doing the best for the kids who need us most.

One of the highlights of the conference is the Hall of Fame Dinner, where we celebrate the incredible people—youth, staff, and supporters—who have made a lasting impact on the Boys & Girls Club movement. Their dedication continues to inspire all of us to raise the bar and keep making a difference.

This year was especially exciting for BGCL! Our very own CEO, Steve Mickens, was named CEO of the Year in recognition of his outstanding leadership and commitment to youth. "It was truly a surprising honor to be recognized in this way," Steve shared. "The Hall of Fame ensures that the incredible contributions of our members, leaders, and supporters are remembered and celebrated, while also motivating the next generation to continue this vital work."

We were also thrilled to see some of our own Club champions honored:

- Abb Hayes, Co-Chair of the Resource Development Committee, was inducted into the Hall of Fame for his career achievements and leadership.
- Duane Hinshaw, Trustee Board Member, was inducted for his work both locally and nationally with Boys & Girls Clubs of America.
- Nancy Wesley, BGCL Board Member, received the Beverly Burton New Board Member of the Year award.

The Hall of Fame inductions are always a special moment, shining a light on the

remarkable individuals who shape our Clubs and inspire future generations. We couldn't be prouder of our BGCL family and the role they play in moving the mission forward!







### **2025 YOUTH OF THE YEAR**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF LANIER** 

# YOUTH OF THE YEAR IGNITE THE FUTURE CELEBRATION

Join us for dinner and a celebration featuring outstanding youth from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier.

OCT | 16 | 2025

Ramsey Conference Center Lanier Technical College Doors open at 5:30 PM Cocktail Attire

HTTPS://BGCLYOY.CBO.IO



Be part of the Movement that shapes tomorrow's leaders.

IGNITE THE FUTURE.



# Habersham Clubs Receive T-Mobile Technology Grant

We're excited to share that the Tim Lee Boys & Girls Club has been awarded a \$50,000 technology grant from T-Mobile!



This incredible gift will bring cutting-edge digital tools and resources to hundreds of young people in Habersham County.

The grant is part of T-Mobile's nationwide effort to expand educational opportunities and workforce development in communities that need it most. As our CEO, Steve Mickens, put it, "We want to stay up to date." He emphasized how important it is to prepare kids for the future by making sure they have access to the

latest technology.

So, what's coming? The new technology lounge will feature laptops, gaming systems, and digital tools to support both schoolwork and career exploration. And here's something to brag about—our Club was one of only 25 communities in the entire country selected for this highly competitive grant!

"T-Mobile believes every young person deserves access to the tools that prepare them for success in school, in their careers, and in life," shared Donte Perry of T-Mobile. "Partnering with Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier is one way we can help close the digital divide, especially in rural areas like Habersham County."

This upgraded space will be more than just a room with cool gadgets—it will be a place where kids can learn, explore, and grow. From tutoring and homework help to hands-on projects, the new lounge will open doors for our members to shine academically, discover new passions, and build leadership skills.

#### Thank You Sprouts!

Research shows that healthy habits start at a young age and when we teach children how to make healthy food choices, through nutrition education, they will carry those habits with them throughout their lifetime. Thank you to the Sprouts Healthy Communities Foundation for its support of our Positive Sprouts initiative!



### Bert and Mary Emma Scholarship Youth of the Month - September

The Bert & Mary Emma Scholarship Fund was created on November 1, 2021, with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier. The purpose of creating this scholarship fund was to recognize club members for their



achievements and for being positive role models in and out the clubs. The scholarship is now \$250.00. This amount can increase based on the interest earned on the planned gift annually and determined by the Clubs CEO and the Emma's.

## Laney G. Cornelia Elementary Success Academy

The Youth of the Month for September 2025 is Laney S. Laney was nominated on the area of outstanding behavior:

"I am nominating Laney because she comes to the club every day excited to spend time with her friends and ready to participate in whatever activities are planned. Although Laney is new to the club this year, she has adjusted wonderfully. She is a sweet girl and a good friend to everyone."

-Judy Copeland

**Click Here to Watch Laney Receive Her Award** 

#### JOIN US at the 2025 TIM LEE CLUB CAR SHOW



**Investing in the Futures of Lanier** 

## **GREATER FUTURES**

## **PARTNER**



Is your business looking to partner and make Greater Impact for a Greater Future?

You could gain significant exposure and exclusive partner benefits for your company by becoming a GREATER FUTURES Partner with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier and reach thousands of potential customers across multiple online platforms and special events!

Learn More About Being a Greater Futures Partner.

#### Thank You

Your generosity allows us to provide vital programs and services to hundreds of underserved kids and teens at minimal cost to families, making Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier accessible to those who need us most.

You help to create bright futures every time you give. Instead of heading home after school unsupervised, hundreds of children walk through our doors and feel safe, connect with others, and build the skills and confidence they need to reach their full potential both in school and in life.

Thank you for giving so generously and being a part of our team!

#### **Donate Now**

Learn more at our website today by visiting <u>boysgirlsclubs.com</u> or by connecting with us online via <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>LinkedIn!</u>









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