



Helping Kids & Families Impacted by COVID-19

Filling the Food Gap in the Areas of Greatest Need

This week, we continued to fill the food gap in areas showing the greatest need at 6 of our Club sites, handing out 2,500 meals to our members, their families, and other local community partners. In addition to our prepackaged meals, staff at several of our Clubs offered families fresh produce from our Club gardens including herbs and vegetables. We love seeing the hard work that our kids put into gardening reap rewards for their community! Souper Jenny also stepped up giving out an additional 100 quarts of fresh soup this week (500 quarts total since the shutdown). NCAA donated hundreds of toiletry items to distribute, including deodorant and body spray. Next week, along with our BGCMA food distribution, we will be partnering again with Willy's Mexicana Grill to distribute an additional 200 burritos (600 in total).



Bridging the Digital Divide

We are thrilled to announce that Bennett Thrasher has pledged to donate 30 laptops and Intelligent Transportation Society of Georgia (ITS Georgia) will provide 20 new laptops to support our kids and teens. Along with the generous donations from Aaron's, Inc., Restoration Presbyterian Church, and several Board members, we have secured more than 170 devices to date. This technology is helping to bridge the massive digital divide that our kids are facing. The need is still huge...we have 230 members on a waitlist to receive devices.

Assessing Challenges of Families & Connecting Them with Resources

Using the data that we gathered during our first few rounds of calls to families, we have divided our team into Taskforces focused on: Homework Help, Technology, Food Insecurity, and Youth Engagement. These teams will be reconnecting with families to gather additional information on the hurdles they are facing, as well as linking them up with BGCMA and other community resources that may help.





Keeping our Members Educated, Active, and Engaged

Last Friday, we turned our BGCMA van into a party bus! We made surprise visits to the homes of more than 10 members...social distance style...celebrating their birthdays, honoring our seniors, and just saying “hi!” We played their favorites songs, hosted impromptu dance parties, and handed out free pizzas (thanks Papa Johns!). Ongoing, we are continuing our partnership with AmeriCorps to deliver online tutoring and homework help to our kids and teens. We started with 6 Club sites and

have expanded sign ups to the whole organization. Next week? We are back with our educational, interactive series on GooseChase. We are launching a new challenge “Pass, Shoot, GOAL!” supported by the U.S. Soccer Foundation with a focus on soccer skills and drills to keep kids active, learning, and having fun. Check out more at www.bgcma.org/stayengaged.



Equipping our Parents and/or Guardians with Youth Development Skills

With over 80 years’ experience in youth development, we are stepping up to serve as guides for parents/guardians as they serve as coaches, mentors, and teachers during this time. We are launching videos each Monday (Mindful Monday) and Thursday (Thoughtful Thursday) to guide parents on the best youth development practices. Check out our latest releases - “Creating a Family Schedule” and “Academic Performance in the Online World” at www.bgcma.org/stayengaged.

Supporting Teens & Celebrating Seniors

This week, we held several workshops with graduating seniors focused on a variety of topics including “Overcoming Adversity”. We are continuing to research scholarship opportunities for our teens and making sure all seniors know about what is available and how to apply. We held virtual college tours at local schools, including University of Georgia and Georgia Tech. This Friday, Christopher Campbell, a leading financial advisor, will be joining our virtual Speaker Series to talk with teens about his career path and offer them tips and advice. Next up? We are excited to announce that will be hosting a BGCMA Senior Celebration in late May/early June highlighting the achievements of our graduates. During this 30-minute virtual event, we’ll announce scholarship recipients, hand out special awards, and hear speeches from parents, Club staff, alumni, and the graduates themselves. We’ll be sending out details soon. Hope you can join us!



To find out how you can support Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta, visit www.bgcma.org.