Our mission is to provide a fun, safe, positive place for all children of the North Country, under the guidance of caring adults.

“Little Kids, Big Imaginations” - BGCNC on the Air!

Last year, the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country partnered with North Country Community Radio to learn about being a DJ and working in a radio station. The kids hosted their own radio show from 4-5pm, covering current events, weather, news, and played music picked entirely by them! Thank you, North Country Community Radio, for teaching us about broadcast journalism and providing this incredible opportunity to our members.

Your investment provides a child the gift of security, friendship, adventures, and fun!

Your generous donation of $120 will send a child to BGCNC for one week during school vacation camp. You’ll help to ensure that a child spends school vacation week playing, meeting friends, going on a cool field trip and best of all, enjoying being a kid. All in a safe and positive environment.

Donating is easy, just visit www.BGCNorthCountry.org!

BGCNC Kids Corner

We are now offering a journalism program at the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country, which has produced the first ever BGCNC newsletter, written entirely by the kids. Kids Corner is published on a seasonal basis and covers Club news, stories chosen by members, interviews, polls, and fun facts. Prior editions of the Kids Corner newsletter can be found on the BGCNC website under the “News” drop-down section.

*MARK YOUR CALENDAR*

7th Annual Casino Night

January 26th

at the Maplewood

Same great event, brand new location!

♣ Blackjack
♣ Craps
♣ Texas Hold ‘em
♣ Wheel of Fortune
♣ Roulette
♣ Music & Dancing
♣ Great Prizes
♣ Buffet Dinner
♣ Cash Bar
♣ and more...
A Message From the Executive Director, Sara Shovlin

The last eight months have flown by... summer has come and gone and the days are getting shorter. Winter will be upon us soon and unlike the bears, we have no time to hibernate at the Boys and Girls Club! At the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country (BGCNC), we are helping individuals increase their potential through diverse and inclusive programming, supporting all stages of growth and development.

This year, we experienced record breaking growth in registered members and attendance. Summer camp yielded a staggering 40% increase in average daily attendance from 2017. Similarly, the afterschool program is booming with 108 registered members and an average daily attendance of 71 children, a 37% increase from last year in just one month!

Of course to keep up with all of these kids, we needed to grow our staff and volunteer base. Our team of Youth Development Professionals operates more like a family than staff unit. They are caring, responsible, empathetic, and most importantly FUN individuals, who are serving as excellent role models for the next generation of leaders. Everyday when I walk through the Club, I am motivated and inspired by their tireless effort, working hard to help our members realize their full potential.

Unlike other organizations, whose deficit decreases as attendance grows, because of our mission to serve the children who need us most and offer affordable rates, our deficit grows about $1,500 with each additional child. In an effort to be a solution and not a burden for our families, we have kept our pricing consistent, largely thanks to the tremendous support of our community. Your contributions allow us to keep fantastic staff, offer new programs, and to continue providing financial aid and scholarships for those who need us most. An investment in the North Country’s youth and BGCNC will ensure our community’s success today and into the future.

Your dedication and generous spirit enables us to provide Club members with the tools they need to achieve bright futures and to become caring, responsible, productive citizens of the North Country. On behalf of the children, thank you for your inspiring support of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country.

2018 Tee-It-Up For Kids

The 6th Annual Tee-It-Up For Kids Golf Tournament was held on a beautiful sunny spring day with a great turn out! Thanks to everyone who came out for the event to support BGCNC!

1st place winners, “The A Team”

Special thanks to all of the Corporate Sponsors for making this event so successful, especially the Platinum Sponsors!

Save the date for next year’s Golf Tournament: Sunday June 2nd!

Boys & Girls Club of the North Country

A Year by the Numbers

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27% Increase in total registrants from 2017
40% Increase in average daily attendance

17 towns served

Afterschool Breakdown - Growing by leaps and bounds!

122 Registered members
47 New members
52 Members qualify as needy
70 Members - Average daily attendance (2017 ADA 43 members)
84 Members - Record daily attendance!

Staff Blooming

Our small but mighty staff has supported a season of growth at the club. We are lucky to have 18 dedicated team members who have made field trips fantastic and rainy afternoons memorable. Our staff is diverse: three are in college, five are working two jobs, two are in the military, and two are former BGCNC members! Thanks to each and every one of them who make a difference in our members’ lives.
Boys & Girls Club Celebrates the 12th Annual H.O.C. Breakfast

Bethlehem, NH – On October 4, 2018, the Boys and Girls Club of the North Country welcomed guests to Maplewood Country Club for their 12th annual Heart of the Community Breakfast. This is an annual event in which the BGCNC’s Board members take the opportunity to thank supporters of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country. The Club could not exist without the support of the community and the generosity of the donors. Guests enjoyed a buffet of Pete & Gerry’s Organic eggs, pancakes with syrup, courtesy of Fadden’s General Store, donuts from Les Fauves and pastries from Littleton Food Coop. The event was sponsored by Mascoma Saving Bank, The Rowley Agency, Union Bank, Garrison Law Firm and Peabody & Smith Realty.

This year’s Keynote Speaker, Christopher Emond, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Central New Hampshire, spoke about his 18 years of experience as a Club Director. Chris made the trip up to the North Country in early January to meet Sara, the new Director of BGCNC. Chris said, “leadership is the difference between a good organization and a great organization.” As Chris explained, all Clubs need to provide three basic things: a safe place, positive role models, and novel opportunities. From his experience with our Club, Chris said that the “buzz” in the air is energizing and that he can “see the basics that make for a strong Club.”

Guest speaker, Lindsay Clark, a single mother and parent of a new BGCNC member, spoke about her struggles to find a program that her son enjoyed and that also fit the budget. Lindsay said, “Sara and her team offered more than I could’ve ever expected for my family. I grew such an appreciation for the support they offered me and my son on a daily basis. This is the first time my son has been excited to join a program again! It means so much to me as a parent.”

Aidan Kimball, BGCNC alumni and counselor in training, also spoke at the breakfast about his experiences at the Club and moving up the ranks toward counselor. In his speech, Aidan said, “I loved my job. It was an awesome experience and I learned so much ... The most important thing I learned was to know who you are talking to. All kids come from different backgrounds, different homes and different lives. If you know each kid and their individual needs you can understand them better – and help them.” Aidan also said that, “The Club is a great place for kids of all ages. Adults and the community should continue to support the club so kids will always have a safe place to go.”

Our 2018 Community Partner Award was given to Moe Mulkigian and Andrea Way of 99 Restaurants and Pub. The 99 supports BGCNC throughout the year, raising money during BGC Month every October, donating food and goods for events, providing prizes for Youth of the Year, and various raffles for events. Thank you, 99, for your continuous support of the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country!

Who Supports Us...

Why do we support the Boys & Girls Club?

“The Ninety Nine Restaurants has ‘A Passion to Serve’ in the communities in which it does business. Our longstanding partnership began with the Boys & Girls Clubs 21 years ago. During this time, each of our restaurants has built a relationship at the local level with 66 Chapters throughout New England and NY.

Ninety Nine Restaurants believes in the Boys & Girls Club’s mission to enable and prepare youth to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens in their communities.

Additionally, the Boys & Girls Club vision of keeping members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, living healthy, promoting volunteer work and demonstrating good character are virtues the Ninety Nine feels strongly about. We look forward to supporting and partnering with our local Boys & Girls Club chapters for many years to come.”

– Charlie Noyes, President, Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub

New Spaces at BGCNC

We are constantly re-evaluating the needs of our community and our Club members and adapting our Program spaces to fit these needs. This past year, we were able to create a technology center, library, 2 quiet rooms, a drama area, new art room, an accessible entrance, and stairs to our field.
At the Boys & Girls Club, we love to learn! In the spring, we started a seminar series welcoming local heroes and organizations to teach us about different professions, ways of life, and skills. We learned about astronomy, adaptive sports, living with a disability, broadcast journalism, identifying animal tracks, dog agility training, woodworking, drama, and working in law enforcement. Learning about different ways of life helps us expand our world beyond our own and keeps us reaching for the stars. If you or someone you know has an interesting skill, hobby, or profession that you would like to share with our members, please contact us! We would love to learn about gardening, nutrition, wrestling, being a veteran, a pilot, a nurse, an Olympian, a fish and game officer, ...

Recently, we have had an increased focus on safety and accessibility. When Lowe’s heard that our crushed gravel entrance made it difficult for some of our members and staff to enter the Club, they partnered with A&P Landscaping & Building to create a paved entrance. It wasn’t long after, Lowe’s returned to work on another project, this time with Littleton DirtWorks. Within weeks, we had a beautiful new set of stairs that lead from the upper lot into our athletic fields. We are so lucky to have the support of such wonderful community organizations that go above and beyond to ensure the safety and accessibility of our Club and its surroundings for our members.

In an effort to continually re-evaluate the safety of our building and needs of our community, we are preparing to update two spaces within our Club: the athletic court and a commercial kitchen. Improving the safety and aesthetic of our athletic court will allow us to offer more diverse programs for our members and a space for the community to utilize. Similarly, the creation of a commercial kitchen will allow us to teach more vocational programming about cooking and nutrition. Please consider donating to one of these projects!

**WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN DO**
- $120—Sends a child to camp for a week
- $800—Provides healthy snacks for a month
- $1,500—Covers cost of a child in the Afterschool Program
- $3,000—Provides field trip transportation for a year

**Building Great Futures**

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**Commercial Kitchen**
- $8,830 of $50,000 raised

**Athletic Court Renovation**
- $10,000 of $30,000 raised

**How You Can Help**

There are several ways you can support the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country. We are always looking for VOLUNTEERS—positive role models, who want to mentor, tutor, or run a program. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, contact the Club, admin@bgcnorthcountry.org.

**INVEST IN BGCNC.** We pride ourselves on being able to offer a no-turnaway policy, which allows us to serve all children of the North Country, especially those who need us most. In an effort to keep our rates affordable, we have continued to offer consistent pricing, even while membership is growing. By donating to the Boys & Girls Club, you can invest in our scholarship program and help us keep up with the cost of our growing numbers.

**SPREAD THE WORD.** In our community, word of mouth can make all the difference. Help us grow by advocating for us at town meetings, sharing social media posts, and recommending us to friends and family.

We thrive off of DONATIONS. Please keep an eye out for: sports equipment, bookshelves, game tables, pool cue sticks, office & school supplies, arts & crafts, kitchen appliances, tables, chairs, winter jackets, gloves, games, dolls, and toys.
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2018 Highlights

NEW PROGRAMS
Not only do we have new staff with awesome interests, we also have new and improved program space, allowing us to offer new programs such as journalism, woodworking, outdoor survival, book club, library time, cheer, engineering, and 40K—a tabletop strategy game. We have a wicked lecture series that has brought in local business owners, entrepreneurs, and organizations to teach us about astronomy, adaptive sports, radio programming, fire safety, wilderness training, and nutrition. We’re setting our sights on bright futures, thanks to local role models and heroes.

SPECIALTY PROGRAMS
Boys and Girls Club members get the opportunity to participate in novel specialty programs such as rock climbing, swimming, sewing, acting, and jewelry making. Grant funding allows us to collaborate with Evergreen Sports to offer discounted swim lessons to members. This past summer, 71 children participated in swim lessons, a 39% increase from 2017 and 42% of those swimmers improved at least one level. Our members also have the opportunity to learn how to rock climb with North Country Climbing Center throughout the year. From 2017-2018, an average of 23 members bouldered their way to increased confidence on the rock wall. Littleton Studio School and our incredible volunteers devote their time to teaching us how to sew, make jewelry, and learn about mixed media art.

FIELD TRIPS
This summer, BGCNC campers went on nine field trips to various exciting and educational locations. Every Wednesday, we had the opportunity to broaden our horizons and soak in new experiences, thanks to gifts from community supporters. We explored the Polar Caves, ate ice cream at Santa’s Village, got hands on at Montshire Museum, cruised on the Conway Scenic Railroad, tamed bears at Clark’s Trading Post, experimented at Squam Lakes Science Center, played at Attitash, and we soaked in the sun at Whale’s Tale...twice!
What do you like best about the Boys & Girls Club of the North Country?

♥ “BGC is the best place in the world. From the second I walk in to when I leave, I love it. There’s always a dance party and I’m always having fun!”
♥ “When I’m at BGC, I know people care about me. I like it because of my friends but I love it because of my counselors.”
♥ “My favorite thing about the Club is the library. Sometimes when I’m having a bad day, I can go to the library, where it’s quiet, and read a book that helps me feel better.”
♥ “I love playing dress up! Have you ever seen a princess, unicorn, fireman? Because I have!”
♥ “I like art with Susan because she lets us make slime!”
♥ “I like that no one makes fun of me at the BGC. Sometimes at school I get picked on but I know that when I get to the Club, everyone will be nice to me.”
♥ “Trying new things! This summer I learned how to ride a bike at BGC and now I’m learning how to play a new game called 40K with my friends. It’s so much fun!”
♥ “I like that during the summer we get to go swimming. This year, I finally passed my deep water test!”
♥ “The computer lab is my favorite. I’m learning how to take apart an old computer and put it back together! One day I’ll make my own!”
I/We agree, the best investment we can make is in our children.

Name: ____________________________________________

Business Contact Name (if applicable): ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________ Town:_________________________

State: _______ Zip: _______ Phone: ____________________________

Email*: __________________________________________

Donation enclosed: $__________ I will repeat this gift: Monthly ______ Quarterly ______ Semi-Annually ______

To make donations by credit card, please visit our website BGCNorthCountry.org and click on the Donate Now button to donate via PayPal. You may also call Tina Bedor at 823-9889 with your credit card information.

*We won’t share your email address. Occasionally, we like to send electronic updates regarding our program.

I would like the donation to be Anonymous to the public: Yes or No

Donations are deductible to the full extent by the IRS 501(c)(3) tax code. Our FEI 27-3653199

Please complete & enclose the Donation Slip if paying by check.

Make checks payable to: BGCNC  Mail to: PO Box 111 Littleton, NH 03561

Please contact me about:

[ ] Sponsorship opportunities

[ ] Volunteer opportunities

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