

# The Positive Connection



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF THE NORTH VALLEY  
Serving Butte & Glenn Counties  
Local Kids • Great Futures

## Inside:

**YOUR GIFTS CHANGE LIVES**

**Taking the Field Again**

**Gala Re-Imagined**

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"Before the Club and their Journaling program, I struggled to express myself and held everything in; Journaling along with other programs helped me overcome that. They helped me discover who I am!" - Marcus S. Age 18





## TAKING THE FIELD AGAIN

We are transitioning back to normal programming and started a soccer league! For the past two months more than 40 teen and junior high Club members have been taking the field to practice and compete against other Club sites in our inaugural season. Our teams have not only provided the opportunity for kids to make friends, but also find a place where they can belong, build self-esteem, create a safe space and experience the joy of childhood.

Youth from sites in Chico, Hamilton City, Oroville and Paradise all took part in representing their site on the pitch; traveling to other Club sites to play games. This gave the players a sense of community within their Clubs as they got to visit surrounding areas and meet fellow Club members, often times traveling to these places for the first time while playing with kids from our other Clubs.

What was so unique about this league is that many Club youth are unable to play for their local sports and travel teams or would not have been brave enough to take a chance and try out. Giving our kids the opportunity to learn and grow through sports, while also building lasting relationships with their peers and coaches is an experience they will never forget.

To cap off the first season, we held a round-robin tournament at DeGarmo Park in Chico. Families came out to watch their kids have fun and play, enjoy an outdoor BBQ and celebrate their kids accomplishments. The championship game went all the way to a penalty shoot-out with the Chico Teen Center defeating Hamilton Elementary School in a close match! A special thank you to Everybody Healthy Bodies and Raley's for contributing the resources to make all of this possible!



## GALA RE-IMAGINED

We re-imagined our annual Valentine's Gala event this year thanks to Dan and Dawn Gonzales' gift of the Barn at Meriam Park! Taking our 22-year-old tradition and making it an exciting new experience for Club supporters. Nearly 200 guests came together in February to celebrate all we have done these last couple of years, heard from Marcus our Youth of the Year (he is on the cover), directly supported Club memberships for more than 360 local youth, participated in an exciting dessert auction and danced the night away with music from Decades.

The dessert auction included handmade desserts from local youth entrepreneurs who were able to be at the event and see the bidding take place! It was incredible to be able to once again gather the community together, thank you to everyone who joined us, hosted, sponsored, volunteered and helped fill local kids' hearts with hope!

**Mark Your Calendar for Next Year - February 11, 2023!**



**When Schools Are Out, Clubs Are In**





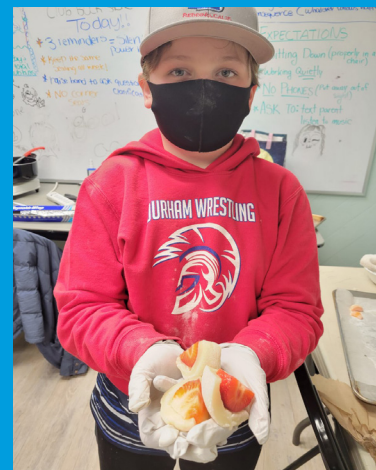
## CREATING FUTURE FOODIES

Kids have been taking over the kitchen with our “Kids in the Kitchen” program! This is one of the members favorite and longest standing programs that runs at all our sites. “Kids in the Kitchen” gives members the opportunity to learn about how making healthy choices can affect them mentally, emotionally and physically. They learn basic cooking skills that will be useful now and essential for the rest of their lives. Members also get to experience cuisine and food from other cultures, which broadens their horizons and encourages them to try new foods, spices, and flavors in creative and nutritious ways.

*“I like the program because I used to be able to cook with my grandma, but now I can’t, so now I can cook through the program. I also like making sweets, it’s the best!” – Riley W., Chico Phoenix Club*

Youth on the Ridge have been getting creative by using different cooking techniques such as making air-fried pickles, mixing up delicious sauces using hot plates and making fresh crepes from scratch. Phoenix Club members have been enjoying specialty dishes celebrated in other parts of the world by making Loco Moco, a traditional Hawaiian recipe.

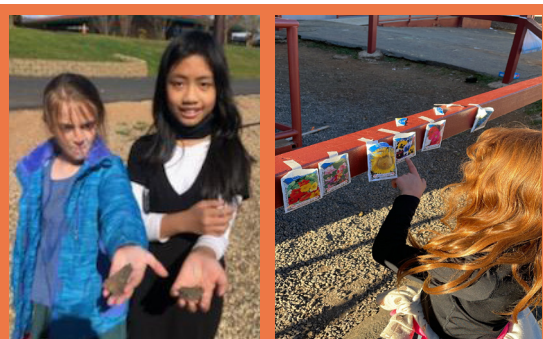
Chico State’s Nutrition and Food Science Association have been utilizing curriculum that is geared specifically towards helping our members learn about the nutritional value of each recipe they make. Learning more about their food encourages members to see it is easy to make delicious and healthy food at home as an alternative to store bought or fast food. In addition to the confidence members have shown working with a variety of recipes, many have expressed they are helping out in the kitchen more at home.



## ALL ABOUT NATURE

With the loss of our garden at our Pine Ridge Elementary site in Magalia, it was time to revitalize the Eco Team and start a garden from scratch! Members are picking out seeds from a variety of flowers, learning how to sprout them, and regularly caring for the garden. Members came together and decided to rename their new program “Devon’s Dandelions” after the staff member who taught them how to garden. Next up for the Eco Team is learning about how watering affects plant growth, new tools to use, food waste education and other sustainability practices.

While members in Magalia focused on plants, members at Paradise Ridge were learning about geology and how fascinating it can be to collect rocks! First up was a rock hunt also known as rockhounding to identify rocks in their natural environment and local geology. Once the dust settles, members will learn about floods, earthquakes, composting, recycling and how to be sustainable at home.



**! Donate Today at [bgcnv.org/donate](https://bgcnv.org/donate)**



# SEND A KID TO CAMP JAMOA THIS SUMMER!



## Why support Camp Jamoa & Summer Services?

Local youth will experience exciting adventures as they travel through weekly themes such as Animal Planet, Extreme Sports, Imagination Station, Splish Slash Water Week, Creative Campers and more. By supporting Summer Services, you will be giving youth that need it the most a summer filled with fun, laughter, learning, and lasting memories. To get involved please scan the QR code, return the included envelope or give us a call today to make a donation!

## Summer Services provides critical resources for local youth:

- 3 meals and a snack each day
- Fun and engaging programming with positive mentors
- Weekly field trips around their community
- Career Readiness programs at two Teen Center locations
- Themed weeks for youth to explore all of their interests
- A safe place to just be a kid



SCAN HERE &  
SUPPORT SUMMER SERVICES



## SAVE THE DATE - 2022 EVENTS



**Growing Great Futures**  
Saturday, May 14 | The Carriere Home

Join us at the home of Dick and Nina Carriere for a beautiful backyard dinner. Guests will enjoy live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, and a family style meal complete with beer and wine.

**BARRELS  
BITES &  
BOUNTY**

**Barrels Bites & Bounty**  
Friday, June 10 | Historic Oroville Inn  
Presented by A.M. King Industries

This fun event features tastings from local vendors, breweries, live music, and a raffle. Support our three Teen Centers in Oroville!



**Pasta on the Plaza**  
Thursday, Sept. 15 | Rotary Plaza

Join us for the best all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner around! Enjoy live entertainment, kid games, bake sale & a raffle. Help give local kids the tools they need to be successful in school.

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

Do you want to spend your time making a difference in the lives of local youth and their families? Reach out to us today to learn about all of our volunteer opportunities! Whether you enjoy arts & crafts, sports, STEM, cooking or anything in-between, we can find a place for you to share your passion with Club members. Call us today!



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The mission of the BGCNV is to inspire and enable all youth to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.