2021 BGCL YEAR IN REVIEW

Happy New Year from the BGCL! As we embark into 2022, we have so much to reflect upon from this past year. We did some HUGE things in 2021! Let’s recap...

**Members**

- **562 Members**
  Newly enrolled for 2021

- **33,000 Meals**
  Free Breakfast, Lunch & Snacks served daily

- **264 Campers**
  Attended Camp Creighton

- **112 Virtual Learners**
  K-8 completed their grade level virtually within the BGCL facility

- **New College Fund**
  Established a college fund for our Youth of the Year recipients

**Events**

- **Boxing returned to the BGCL**
- **Hosted our first FREE STEM event**
- **Our annual Raffle & Gala returned in person**
- **The BGCL fed over 250 families a Thanksgiving Dinner**
- **Distributed over 500 gifts to our members for the 2021 holiday season**

**Our Club**

- **Our Board of Directors helped raise over $300k**
- **Acquired a full day EEC licensing for virtual learning**
- **Kids Club was awarded their first dept. of education grant**
- **Retained staff, increased wages, promoted within our facility**
- **5 New Programs implemented: Rowing, Read 2 ME, Floor Hockey, Cheerleading, Teen Basketball Summer Nights**
HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE BGCL

December was indeed a festive month at the BGCL! Our members were busy and engaged with so many hands-on crafts, others learned some new dance moves, while many worked on their holiday wish lists. Every year we hold our annual adopt a child for the holidays. This year was a huge success! Over 250 children were adopted and their holiday wish lists were fulfilled. Nothing is more rewarding than seeing our members express so much joy and happiness during this season. We are truly fortunate to have so many wonderful and generous donors who helped make a child's Christmas a little brighter for them.

In addition to our adopt a child, we held our annual holiday party. The gymnasium was transformed into a magical Polar Express extravaganza. Our members enjoyed a catered meal, along with decorating cookies and also got to choose a gift under the tree. Some of our lucky children were winners in our bike raffle. The evening was then wrapped up with fun games and some hot cocoa to warm the hearts of our members. This party was definitely a hit and we are looking forward to topping it for next year!
Meet our Board Member of the Month, Bob Conlon. Bob has been on our Board of Directors for the past 36 years. During this time, he has truly experienced some significant benchmarks with the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn. Being one of our longest standing Board Members, Bob was able to share with us many memories of the club. Back in the 80’s, Bob was elected as Board President in which he served for 3 years supporting what was then called The Boys Club. During his Presidency, he had the honor of attending the Boys & Girls Club of America National Conference in which he represented the Lynn club. This ironically was the year that the organization voted to change their name from The Boys Club to the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn. He fondly remembers this historical moment as one of his favorite memories serving as the Board President. Another one of his favorite memories is when he helped organize the annual fundraising events. He was one of our founding members that formed the Steak and Burger event as well as the Annual Sweepstakes event, which we still proudly host each year to help raise money for helping our members attend camp. In addition to serving as the Board President, he was also nominated as the club Treasurer. Presently, he still serves as our Treasurer for the BGCL. Furthermore, Bob was inducted into the club’s Hall of Fame as part of the 2nd class that was ever inducted at that time.

Professionally, Bob has been the owner of RFC Financial Services for the past 41 years in which he helps many of our community members in the city of Lynn. During his younger days, Bob actually used to attend the club and fondly recalls enjoying swimming and playing basketball with many of his childhood friends. For him being a member and then later being able to give back his time and dedication to what meant the most to him as a kid was a rewarding moment for him. To this day, he is still giving back to the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn on a daily basis ensuring the financial operations run smooth for the club.

On a personal level, Bob is the proud grandfather of 5 grandchildren which are all boys! One of his grandkids spent a good amount of time at the club as a volunteer helping our members achieve the best experience within our organization. This truly made him proud to pass along the reins of helping our members and community. When Bob isn't working, he enjoys much of his summer in Maine. Him and his family gather together at their summer home and enjoy traditions as well as creating new memories for all to enjoy! Bob, we can't thank you enough for all of the years of dedication you have provided to the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn! Thank you for your service to our organization and its members.
Meet our January Employee of the Month, Erica Sousa. Erica is our Director of Marketing & Communications. She has been with the BGCL since March 2021. While she has only been here for a short period of time, Erica has been involved in many new and exciting projects for the club! Her most recent project of our new and improved website has been a significant one and will be sure to engage and enlighten anyone who visits our website. Besides all of the fun aspects of her job, what truly motivates Erica is knowing in her heart that she is attributing in making a difference in a child's life. She is 100 percent dedicated to her job and finds it so rewarding to see the happiness a child is experiencing while in our facility. For these children, this is their safe haven and a place for them to grow, learn and succeed under our leadership. Outside of work, Erica enjoys spending time with her husband, son and the family dog. Some of her leisure activities include traveling, shopping, trying out new restaurants, interior design, working-out and teaching dance. A little fun fact about Erica is she has been dancing for over 40 yrs & teaching for 30 years! She is a certified Dance Teacher, Zumba Instructor and Personal Trainer. Thank you Erica for your dedication to the Boys & Girls Club of Lynn.
Winter Sports Leagues!

Call 781.593.1772 to sign up today!

**Must be a BGCL member to join our programs***

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

### BASKETBALL
- **Instructional Basketball**
  - Grades: 1st-3rd
  - Saturday Mornings
  - Begins January 8th

- **Minor League CO-ED**
  - Grades: 4th-6th
  - Evaluations: 12/4-12pm-1pm
  - 1st game: 12/11

- **Major League CO-ED**
  - Grades: 7th-8th
  - Evaluations: 12/2-6pm-7pm
  - 1st game: 12/9

### FLOOR HOCKEY
- **Major League CO-ED**
  - Grades: 4th-6th
  - Evaluations: 12/1-6pm-7pm
  - 1st game: 12/8

- **Minor League CO-ED**
  - Grades: 1st-3rd
  - Evaluations: 12/3-6pm-7pm
  - 1st game: 12/10

**DANCE**
- **Dance Team**
  - Grades: 4th-8th
  - 1st practice: 12/9

- **Sign-up today!**

Both Dance & Cheerleading will perform at Basketball games!

### CHEERLEADING
- **Cheerleading Squad**
  - Grades: 4th-6th
  - 1st practice: 12/11

- **Cheerleading Squad**
  - Grades: 6th-8th
  - 1st practice: 12/9
OUR MISSION

*To inspire and enable all young people, especially those that need us the most, to realize their full potential as productive responsible and caring citizens.*

Connect With Us: 📣 😄 🎥

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