



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF NASSAU COUNTY FOUNDATION

December 1, 2009

Dear [RECIPIENT],

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Speakers Forum, featuring Ms. Carla Harris, was a resounding success. Patrons of the signature fundraising event were welcomed into the newly completed Talbot Ballroom at the Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island.

Introduced by mentor Steve Pajcic, Ms. Harris enlightened the audience with her perspective as Harvard graduate, Wall Street investment banker, author, and accomplished singer.

A native of Jacksonville, Ms. Harris believes strongly in giving back. "I had a lot of encouragement in my life from people who invested in me. So anytime I get an opportunity to invest in a child, and I can make it work, I will do it," Ms. Harris told the audience during her talk advocating community service. She then closed her presentation with a moving rendition of "America the Beautiful."



In other news, the Miller Freedom Center Club was named "Club of the Year" by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northeast Florida. An affiliate of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the nation's most effective youth development organization, the BGC of NE Florida serves over 8,000 young people annually at 15 facilities. Each club is strategically placed to serve boys and girls who are rising above daunting circumstances to build a brighter future for

themselves and their communities in Duval, Nassau, and St. Johns counties.

Here in Nassau County, this club year (July 2008 through June 2009) was challenging but gratifying for both the Miller Freedom Center Club on Old Nassauville Road and the Fernandina Beach Club at Indigo and 11<sup>th</sup> Streets.

Other achievements throughout the year include:

- Ms. Yvonne Thompson, Unit Director for Miller Club, named NE Florida "Employee of the Year"
- Over 500 children served in two local Clubs—Miller Freedom Center and Fernandina Beach
- 32% of club members achieved county Honor Roll (All A's and B'S) in final semester of 2009 school year
- Strengthened on-going partnership with The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island
- Continued improvement in the participation and quality of the Summer Program

- Expanded the ***Our Guardians*** program to 89 families who pledged to sponsor at least one child per year for multiple years at \$1,000 annually
  - Over 30% of families sponsor 2 or more children
  - 13 families are Golden Guardians sponsoring 5 children annually
- Enhanced the Volunteer Program significantly with over 40 volunteers actively engaged at both clubs
  - Implemented special instructional programs in Read Across, Horticulture, Leadership, Healthy Diets and Knitting
  - These programs were in addition to standard national BGC curriculums on Self- Esteem, Drug/Alcohol/Tobacco Prevention, Technology, and Community Service
- Continued planning and land procurement efforts in order to establish a larger and full-service club in Fernandina Beach
- Implemented a new database system to increase efficiency
- Launched a new website for the two local clubs: [www.bgc Nassau.org](http://www.bgc Nassau.org)

We continue to grow and expect to serve over 700 children this year. With our child/staff ratio of 20:1, our operation budget is over \$600,000 (see chart below). **Please consider a tax-deductible gift to support this great work for our local youth.** If you are interested in sponsoring a child for multiple years, please consider becoming a **Guardian**.

And now, it is easier than ever to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Nassau County. Simply go to our website to a make convenient, safe credit card donation: [www.bgc Nassau.org](http://www.bgc Nassau.org)

Thank you for your support of the greatest assets of our community and America – our youth!

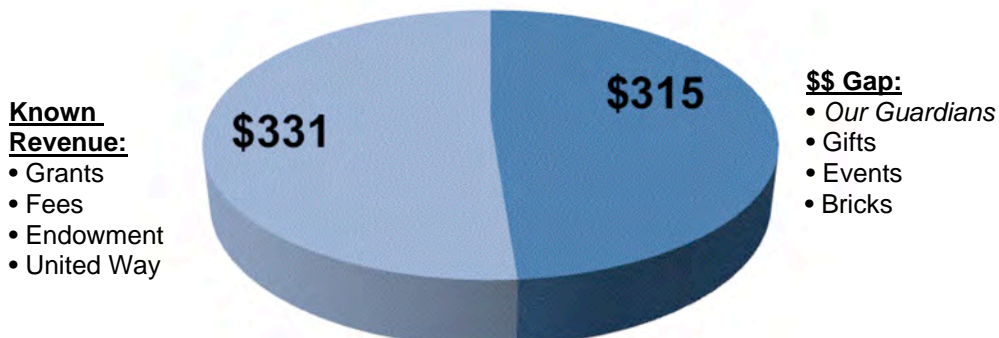
Appreciatively,

William Gower  
President, Boys & Girls Clubs of Nassau County Foundation

## ANNUAL BUDGET

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
July 2009 – June 2010

**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$646,000**



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