



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS

# OPPORTUNITIES

Winter 2009

2400 N. Opportunity Drive • Wichita, KS 67219 • Phone: 316.201.1890 • Fax: 316.687.5459 • [www.bgcsck.org](http://www.bgcsck.org)

To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

## Targeted OutReach Program TORP

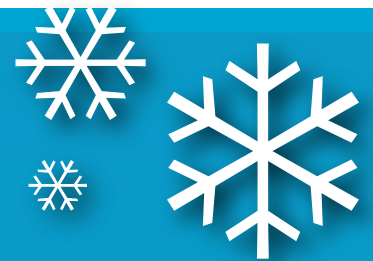
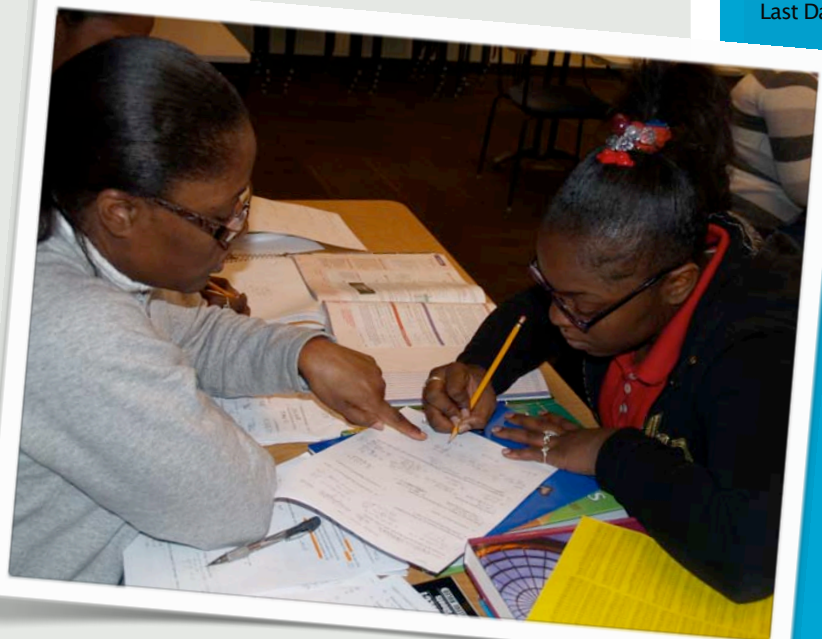
The Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Kansas saw a need in Sedgwick County for an outreach program targeting youth ages 12-18, who are expelled from USD 259 District and surrounding areas. The Targeted OutReach Program (TORP) began in 1997. TORP was designed to provide an alternative educational resource aid for students to continue learning during their expulsion period. The participants receive academic curriculum courses (Math, Social Studies, Science and Language Arts) in accordance with USD 259 at grade level standards. Mandatory participation is required for various activities which may include: career planning, health services, life skills and community service projects. While involved in these activities, our goal is to capitalize on academic strengths and improve weaknesses through our five core areas: Character & Leadership Development, Education & Career Development, Health & Life

Skills, The Arts and Sports, Fitness & Recreation. TORP participants will learn the four Youth Development Strategies: a sense of belonging, a sense of competence, a sense of usefulness and a sense of power or influence. When these strategies are fully implemented, self esteem is enhanced and an environment is created which helps boys and girls achieve their full potential.

The TORP objective is to help redirect youth into positive, productive educational and behavioral activities. TORP is the only alternative educational resource available for expelled students, other than private schools where a large percentage of parents cannot afford the enrollment fees.

TORP served over 70 students (in-house and follow-up) July 2008 thru June 2009 with five staff members, who consisted of: director, case manager and 3 teachers.

**Donna Dennis Roberts, TORP Director**



### Upcoming Events

- Youth of the Year Local Competition 2/15
- Smiles for Kids Gala 2/25
- Youth of the Year State Competition (Topeka, KS) 3/9 - 3/10
- Spring Break 3/15 - 3/19
- Club Launch Job Preparedness Workshop 4/10
- Club Launch Teen Job Fair 4/17 10am - 12pm
- Last Day of Afterschool Program 5/26

### Spring Break Program

Enrollment for the Spring Break program is now open! The 21st & Opportunity Club will be open March 15th through March 19th from 8am - 5pm and will feature enriching activities and a fieldtrip. For more information call 201-1890.



## 21st & Opportunity

During the Christmas season, the 8th - 12th grade members chose to demonstrate the December character word of the month, caring, by adopting a Boys & Girls Club family. The members' donated money and bought gifts for a single parent home with four children. The family was delighted to receive the gifts and the young children were happy to see that the big kids really do care! For the second semester, the members are going to display the character words in the community.



## Oaklawn

Over 60 kids are now enrolled at the Oaklawn Club and there is open enrollment for middle school students. The Club recently updated their computer lab with 14 new computers!

## Haysville

The Haysville Branch located at the Haysville Middle School opened its doors in the fall for the after-school program and currently has 32 members and is still recruiting for more! The Branch is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 2:45 until 5:45 for 6th - 8th graders.

# Hot Off the Desk of Jeff Jacobs, CPO



**Jeff Jacobs, CPO**

I spent part of Christmas break in California visiting my family who will finally be moving to Wichita after this school year. I had the privilege of watching via computer through our club's cameras Santa and Mrs. Claus arriving on a City of Wichita fire truck and hundreds of club kids receiving their gifts. What a site and what a privilege it was to speak to the kids via remote computer over the intercom. This type of technology is exactly what our kids from kindergarten through 18-years-of-age are learning at the club.

We have changed our focus in the technology center to technology and science. It is amazing what Mr. Willis is teaching our kids. I have

visitors and board members peer through the windows of the technology/science center and look in wonder at how attentive the kids are as Mr. Willis demonstrates the wonders of science and technology. We also use the center to teach our kids economic education 2 times a week. We are able to provide this through the generosity of Koch Industries. Our entire community supports the club through time, talent and treasure.



## Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA

The Jr. NBA/ Jr. WNBA basketball league was a major success this year and a huge hit with the members and families of the club. The league came to a close December 17th on a night filled with close games and an upset victory that made the crowd go wild. An awards ceremony was held December 19th where kids

were given awards for participating in the league, most improved players for each team, and All-Star teams were announced for each age division. We had an amazing time coaching each and every one of the kids and are excited for next season. Our goal for next year is to generate over 20 teams and have more than 200 kids participating in the league.

*Jordan Wiens, Athletic Director*

# Remembering Oren Alonzo Johnson

## February 24, 1995 – December 20, 2009



The Boys & Girls Club family lost a very special member, Oren Johnson, on December 20th due to pneumonia complications. Oren was born February 24, 1995 in Wichita, KS to LaTana Y. Tucker and Austin Johnson. He attended Minneha Elementary School, Stucky Middle School and Southeast High School where he was a freshman. He has been an honor student for the last 3 years and in the top 25 percent in the nation. He was a member of the Boys & Girls Club, Muscular Dystrophy Association and D.A.R.E Program. Oren loved music and played the trombone and steel drums. He also played in the Samba Band at the Club. Oren touched everyone he met. His smile was infectious and always present. He was always enjoyable and had a pleasing and peaceful personality. His disability did not hamper or discourage him from living his life to the fullest. He was a blessing and role model to the young and old and he will be missed dearly.



## Gridley Family Foundation

The Boys & Girls Clubs would like to thank the Gridley Family Foundation for their generous donation of thirteen Dell Vostro 1000 laptop computers, including two extra batteries, and two EddPC 901 netbook computers. Thank you Gridley Family Foundation!

## 2009 Jeremiah Milbank Society Members

The Jeremiah Milbank Society is a national recognition society for individuals who give \$10,000 or more to a local Club. This year Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Kansas would like to recognize the following 2009 members: Bob & Martha Buford, George & Dee



Anne Fahnestock, Larry & Dana Fugate, Dr. Sam & Jacque Kouri, Shawn & Shawna Lancelot and Russ & Helen Meyer. We sincerely appreciate all you do for the Club and the Kids!

# BE GREAT

## SAVE THE DATE!

### The 2010 Smiles for Kids Gala

February 25, 2010 at 6pm at  
The Boys & Girls Club on 21st & Opportunity Dr.

The sixteenth annual Smiles for Kids Gala will be held on Thursday, February 25th at 6:00 PM. We are planning a fantastic evening including dinner and a live and silent auction in addition to performances from the kids showcasing the talents and skills they have learned at the club.

This year our fundraising goal of \$75,000 will provide our members with opportunities in education, technology, music, athletics and

most importantly, friendships. The programs we provide not only keep the kids safe, but also help make the community a safer place.

Please call 201-1890 ext. 107 for more information including a listing of sponsorship opportunities and ticket information. On behalf of the Board of Directors, Smiles for Kids Gala Committee, and the youth of our community, thank you in advance for your support!

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# Holiday Wrap-Up!

*Students in the Haysville after-school program try to unwrap presents with oven mitts during their holiday party.*



*Children say hello to Santa and Mrs. Claus and receive gifts from Police Officers and Firemen at the holiday party.*



*Santa and Mrs. Claus hop off of the fire truck to greet the children cheering outside of the 21st & Opportunity Club.*



*Teens at the 21st & Opportunity Club made ginger bread houses to display throughout the club.*



*The Boys & Girls Clubs of South Central Kansas staff gathers for a photo at the holiday party on Monday, December 14th.*