



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF SOUTHEAST GEORGIA**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SOUTHEAST GEORGIA BOARD RECEIVES AWARD
SOUTHEAST REGION'S HIGH POWER BOARD**

Brunswick, GA – The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia have been awarded the “High Power Board” in the Southeast Region of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. This award is given to the Board of Directors who demonstrate the highest level of commitment in providing the community with high quality programming, facilities and services at their local Boys & Girls Clubs.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia's Corporate Board represents a cross-section of dedicated individuals in Glynn County. Their focus is enhancing the future of our next generation and providing them exceptional after-school programming in a safe and fun environment. In August 2009 the Board along with the Capital Campaign Committee opened the Elizabeth F. Correll Teen Center facility specifically designed to provide services to teenagers. It has been open over a year now and the membership and influence within our young people is growing. The teen center idea started when there was a survey done of the area and the report indicated that there was a great need for a positive and safe place for teens to go outside of school. The board put forth countless hours and substantial funds to start a Capital Campaign for the teen center. The end result is a beautiful, state-of -the-art facility provided by the community for teens.

The Corporate Board also spent two full days this past summer beautifying the grounds at the McIntyre Court Unit. They helped lay concrete, landscape, construct a new playground, football field and basketball courts. The two days were known as the “Day of Caring” and it truly was a day of caring for our community's youth.

"I am honored to be part of a Board that cares so much about the children in our Community. The people that serve on this Board truly are selfless people that give generously of their time and financial support. There is always a fund raiser either happening or being planned to benefit the children in our community and the events always center around community involvement. The Board is structured in such a way that there is someone on the Board that touches most aspects of any child's life and they are able to bring that prospective to the Board. I think the Boys and Girls Club reached a whole new level with the opening of the teen center. I personally feel like it takes a village to raise a child, a child cannot have too much love and support. This is what the Boys and Girls Clubs provides for their kids each day."

Angela Lemmond-Strickland, Executive Director, Brunswick Housing Authority

"The Boys and Girls Clubs promotes positive change in youth that may be going down the wrong path. The Clubs serves youth from various backgrounds and is open to all youth that want to be in a positive place. My drive comes from knowing that their are youth in our community that are one mentor away from being productive citizens. The future of the Boys and Girls Club will be to continue to set the standard for other organizations on how to promote change in youth and provide a positive place for kids & teens!"

Antwan Walker, Boys & Girls Clubs of SE GA Board Member

" I serve because I believe totally in the mission of Boys and Girls Clubs. Enriching the lives of young people through education and positive engagement is the key to a better tomorrow. This Club makes a difference – for the kids and for the community. To some extent, the sky is the limit. We have great staff, who are visionary and totally committed. We have an engaged and supportive community. And, somewhat regrettably, we have great need. So, our challenge is to make the wisest decisions about how we match our resources with community need to have the greatest impact."

Dr. Valerie Hepburn, President, College of Coastal Georgia

"I have always thought the Boys and Girls Club movement was unique in the clarity of its mission and the quality of the professionals and volunteer leadership that is exhibited from the national level down to the individual community boards. There is nothing quite like being associated with an organization that has a clear mission and assembles a group of volunteers who are passionate about the cause and enjoy working together.

At our last board meeting, we heard from Asia Haulbrook, Youth of the Year for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia and her testimony was truly inspiring and rewarding. She is now pursuing a career in early childhood education and is working her way through college as a staff member at a Boys and Girls Club. As a Club member since she was six years old, she was instructed and inspired to become dedicated to helping young people find their way in a sometimes confusing and threatening world. I'm sure all of our board members joined me in seconding the comments of our board president, Jeff Bennett, when he said after Asia's talk: *This is what it's all about.*"

Ben Slade, Past President, Boys & Girls Clubs of SE GA

“Serving on the Board of Southeast Boys & Girls Club is a wonderful & rewarding experience. I really believe that the Boys & Girls Club is the most relevant organization serving our youth today. The members of our Board serve with enthusiasm and dedication. Our objective is to be the best in the nation and we are working toward that challenge. It is a pure pleasure to serve.”

Gene Rackley III, Past President, Boys & Girls Clubs of SE GA

About Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia

Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia consists of six clubs serving over 3500 youth on an annual basis. Known as “The Positive Place for Kids,” the Clubs provide guidance-oriented character development programs on a daily basis for children 5-19 years old, conducted by a full-time professional staff. Key Boys & Girls Club programs emphasize character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation.

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