



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF SOUTHEAST GEORGIA**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SOUTHEAST GEORGIA
GETTING TEENS EXCITED ABOUT READING**

*\$10,000 Grant from the Walmart Foundation Offers Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Georgia a
"Bright Spot"*

Brunswick, GA – Thanks to a new partnership between Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) and the Walmart Foundation, Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia has received a \$10,000 grant to launch a new reading initiative that promotes both educational and leisure reading for adolescents. The Walmart Foundation's Bright Spot for Reading Initiative for Adolescent Readers will help create a Reading Center, provide training for staff and encourage inter-community relationships to ensure the success of young members.

Nationally, the Walmart Foundation awarded Boys & Girls Clubs of America with \$1.5 million to help establish reading Bright Spots at 100 Clubs throughout the U.S.

Beginning September 2010, the Bright Spot Reading Center in the Terrill Thomas Unit will feature books geared at youth ages 11 to 15 and will include programming to encourage adolescents to read more and develop a more positive attitude toward reading. Programming will include activities in drama, art and technology; field trips and service learning projects in order to create reading opportunities in every area of the Club.

"The Walmart Foundation's Bright Spot for Reading Initiative is essential in preparing youth for academic and life success," continued Brian Dolan, Chief Professional Officers, Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia, "We are grateful to The Walmart Foundation for the opportunity to create an environment that will encourage and allow our youth to enjoy and develop an affinity for reading."

In addition to the Club's new Bright Spot Reading Center, Boys & Girls Clubs of America's teen web site www.myclubmylife.com will serve as a resource for the Club to promote the reading initiative; highlight age-appropriate books and book reviews; and encourage teens and tweens to read more and share their reading experiences with others. Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia will also strengthen existing and develop new relationships with local libraries to enhance its programs and services.

The Clubs of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeast Georgia provides program opportunities for over 3500 boys and girls each year. Youngsters interested in joining the Club, learning more about The Walmart Foundation Bright Spot for Reading Initiative or other youth programs can contact can visit our website at www.apositiveplace.net or call Hayley Dawson at 912-265-1455

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.

About The Walmart Foundation

The Walmart Foundation utilizes financial contributions, in-kind donations and volunteerism to provide opportunities for individuals in the community. Their four main areas of focus include: education; workforce development/economic opportunity; environmental sustainability; and health and wellness. For more information, please visit www.walmartstores.com .

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