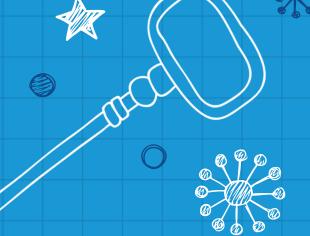


# Unlocking CREATINESS

A 5-year, annual, major, and planned gift strategy to provide Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana staff and leadership with every resource needed to UNLOCK GREATNESS in every child who walks through our doors.

Mind, Body, & Spirit
Innovative Experiences
Safe Access
Generational Change









Dreaming big starts with a simple question: "What do you want to be when you grow up?" For many kids, this question can be overwhelming, especially if their world feels limited. At Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana, we're all about expanding horizons and igniting young minds. We don't just ask this question; we empower young individuals to dream bigger, explore diverse paths, and chart their course forward.

With our vibrant community, we cultivate an environment of exploration and discovery through engaging programs, mentorship, access, and exposure to diverse experiences; we unlock doors to a world brimming with potential. Whether it's discovering a passion for technology, discovering artistic talents, or honing leadership skills, every Club member is encouraged to embrace their unique journey.

By opening doors to new opportunities, we give our youth the tools they need to shape their futures. Every dream matters, and together, we're inspiring tomorrow's leaders and innovators to step confidently into their futures.

We help ignite the spark of possibility and guide young minds toward a future full of promise and purpose.



As someone who was fortunate enough to attend the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana during my formative years, I am acutely aware of the profound impact that such programs can have. The Club provided me with not only a safe and supportive environment but also with invaluable opportunities to grow, learn, and dream.

Growing up, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana was more than just a place to go after school—it was a haven where I could explore my interests, build lifelong friendships, and gain essential life skills. The mentorship and programs offered there helped me develop a strong sense of self-confidence and a commitment to community service. These experiences laid the foundation for my personal and professional success, and I am deeply grateful for the role the Club played in my journey.

I would be remiss not to highlight the extraordinary staff members who were instrumental in my experience at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana. Their dedication, compassion, and unwavering support were fundamental to my development. They went above and beyond to provide guidance, encouragement, and a sense of belonging, making a lasting impact on my life. I will forever value their genuine commitment to helping me, as well as those who have followed, reach our full potential and continue making a positive impact in our communities.

It is clear that many young people today face challenges that are as significant, if not more so, than those faced by previous generations. Providing them with access to quality youth services is not just an investment in their future, but in the future of our communities as a whole. Programs like those offered by the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana are crucial in offering mentorship, educational support, and recreational activities that help guide young people through their most vulnerable years.

Since 1970, supporters like you have helped the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana unlock the greatness in thousands of kids across Louisiana. For over 50 years, BGCA has been a second home where kids can thrive academically, embrace healthy habits, and develop strong character and leadership.

On behalf of BGCA and its Board of Directors, thank you for turning our vision into reality.

As an alumnus, I've seen firsthand the difference BGCA makes. With your support, we'll enhance our programs, deepen community connections, and support our youth and families in unprecedented ways. We're building a future where every child can thrive.

Together, we're creating a vibrant environment where kids can discover their potential and shape their futures.

With gratitude,

# Jamie Myers

**Chief Diversity Officer &** Vice President Of Marketing. **Atlas Technical Consultants** 

New Iberia Club Alumni, Board Member







# WHO WE ARE

#### Our Mission:

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

#### Our Vision:

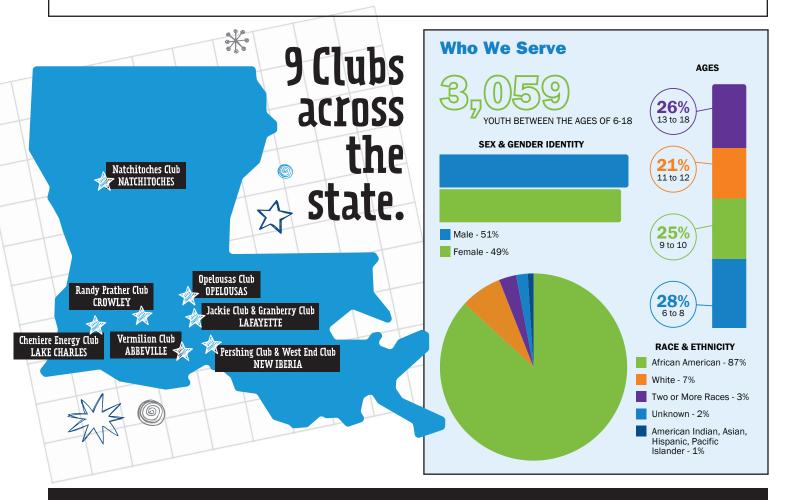
To provide a world-class club experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who enters our doors with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.

#### **Our Values:**

Integrity - Communication - Accountability - Respect - Excellence









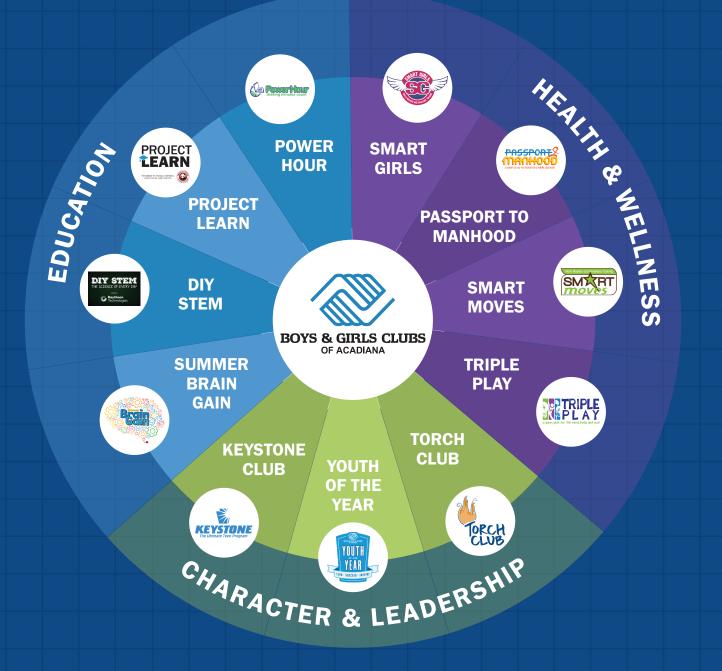
# PARISHES SERVED

Lafayette • Calcasieu • Iberia • Vermilion Acadia • Natchitoches • St. Landry



# IMPACT AREA PROGRAMS

To best meet the needs of youth in all communities, Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana offers tested, proven and nationally recognized programs that closely align with the developmental needs of all young people. Program implementation focuses on three impact areas to put young people on the path to great futures.



# **Education**

Education programs are designed to ensure all Club members graduate from high school on time, ready for a post-secondary education, and a 21st-century career.

### Health & Wellness

Focusing on physical, mental, and emotional wellness, the Clubs help develop young people's capacity to engage in positive behaviors to nurture their well-being, set personal goals, and grow into self-sufficient adults.

# Character & Leadership

Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana are committed to help youth become responsible, caring citizens. Participants develop leadership skills and gain opportunities for planning, decision-making, contributing to the Club and community, and celebrating national heritage.

# Why Generational Change Matters Now



After the school day ends in Louisiana, 1 in 5 kids are alone and unsupervised. These hours—from 2 to 6 p.m.—are the peak time for juvenile crime nationally according to the latest report by Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a national organization of law enforcement leaders. After school programs turn that time of risk into opportunity. Fortunately for the 115,540 children in after school programs in Louisiana, the hours after school are a time when programs help kids get excited about learning, attend school more often, achieve better grades, and build foundational skills, like communication, teamwork, and problem solving.

# Where Youth Need Support

The impact of social media and being back in the classroom creates challenges for young people — from managing stress and problem-solving, to navigating bullying and peer relationships.

National: Nearly half (47%) of youth say if they don't understand something right away, they stop trying to understand.

BGCA: 95% say when something is really hard, they keep working at it.

National: 37% of youth say they have skipped a day of school in the last month.

BGCA: 63% have not skipped school in the last month.

National: 40% of youth say they were bullied on school property in the past year. Of those, 38% didn't tell an adult.

BGCA: 42% bullied on school property. 63% told an adult about it.



# The Case for Generational Change

To fully UNLOCK GREATNESS, it takes leading edge programming, collaborative partnerships, and dedicated individuals to support the youth who need us most.

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana, we are committed to giving youth the tools they need to face life's challenges confidently. Our trained staff and volunteers are not just mentors; they're sources of support and inspiration, helping each child believe in their potential. Forming strategic partnerships with community organizations, schools, and businesses allows leaders in the community to provide valuable guidance and opportunities to drive meaningful change. Performing high-quality and evidence-based programming continues to empower personal and academic growth, providing a platform for exploration, discovery, and skill development.

At BGCA, we believe that every child deserves the opportunity to thrive and can turn any child's vision into a reality. Through these joint efforts, BGCA creates a foundation for long-term success and resilience, driving meaningful generational change.

# **OUR FOUR IMPACT PILLARS**

BGCA is focusing on continuing to make a positive impact on the youth who need us most. Through this Initiative, we recognize pillars of innovative change, club enhancement and creating possibilities for today and tomorrow. We strive for first-class services for the youth we serve and continue to develop them into caring, productive, and responsible citizens.

With your support, this initiative will scale programs and services, build a deeper connection with the community, support our youth and families at levels never seen before, and will build a model of sustainability focused on unlocking greatness in our leaders of tomorrow.

### **PROGRAMS**

Unlock Greatness of the Mind, Body & Spirit

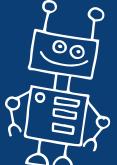
Building a National Model of Education, Engagement, and Training



# **EXPOSURE**

Unlock Greatness through Innovative Experiences

Creating Tomorrow's Leaders, Innovators and Problem Solvers



# **FACILITIES**

Unlock Greatness through Safe Access

Access to Safe Space to Empower, Connect and Explore



# SUSTAINABILITY

Unlock Greatness for Generational Change

Ensuring the Work of Today and Sustaining the Growth of Tomorrow



# PROGRAMS

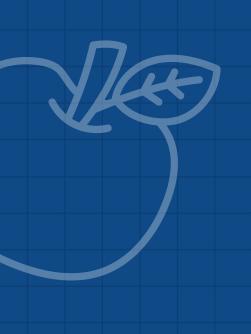
# \$1 MILLION

#### **Funding Priorities:**

- Enhanced Programming for All Club Sites
- Nutrition & Food Insecurity
   Initiatives
- Comprehensive Mental
   Health Partnerships
- Financial Literacy
- Technology Access
- Mentor Training & Education
- Physical Activity

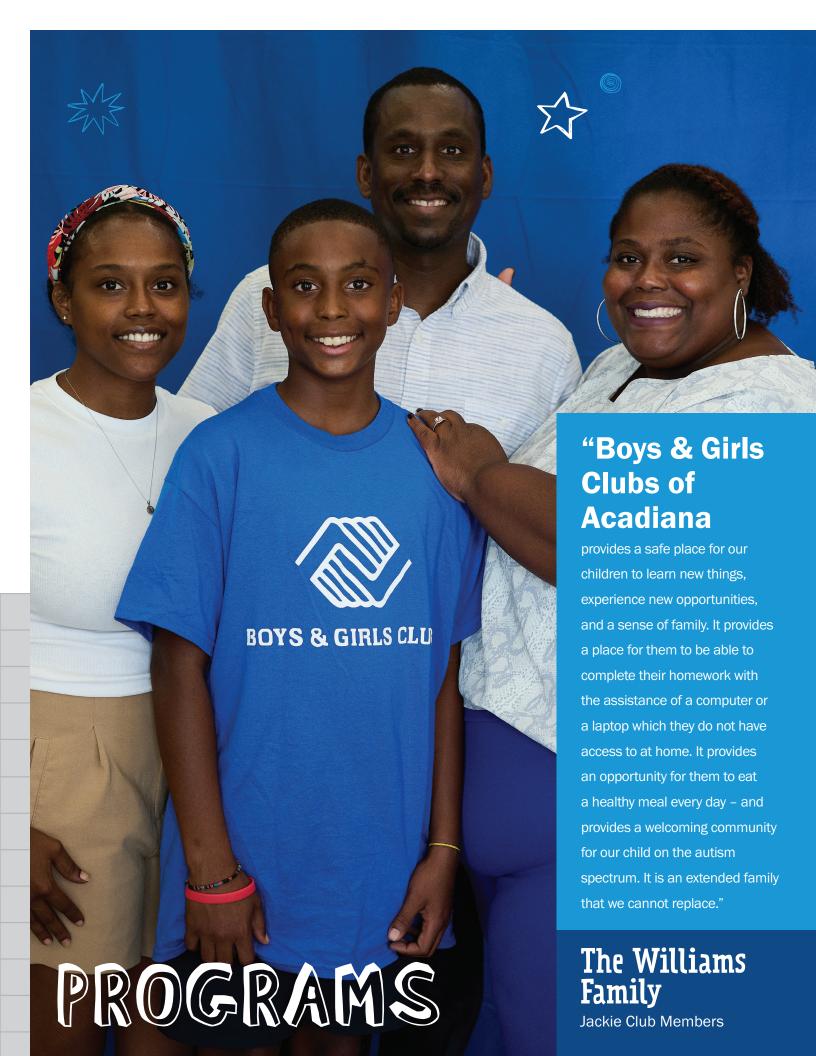
# Unlock Greatness of the Mind, Body, & Spirit

**Building a National Model** of Education, Engagement, and Training



Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana provides innovative programs designed to excel in school, become good citizens, and lead healthy productive lives. Focusing on three impact areas, BGCA enhances Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Good Character & Citizenship.

Open during the hours that kids are most at risk, the Club provides a safe place, where youth are encouraged to positively influence their community through volunteer work, and abstain from destructive decisions. Focusing on physical health, BGCA is **unlocking greatness** in providing one hot meal per day, as well as weekend meal access. To support mental health and wellness, BGCA provides virtual counseling opportunities, interventive health and medical access, and emotional resilience programs.



# EXPOSURE

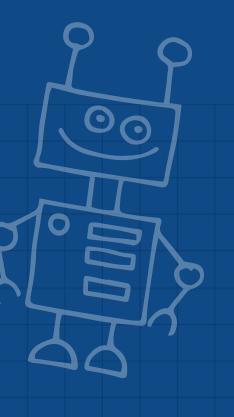
# \$2 MILLION

#### **Funding Priorities:**

- Experiential Programming for All Club Sites
- State of the Art Workforce &
   Job Readiness Training
- College Readiness & Technical Preparation
- Equipment & STEAM
   Initiative
- Teen Immersion Platform
- Teen Leadership Institute
- Corporate Partnership Model

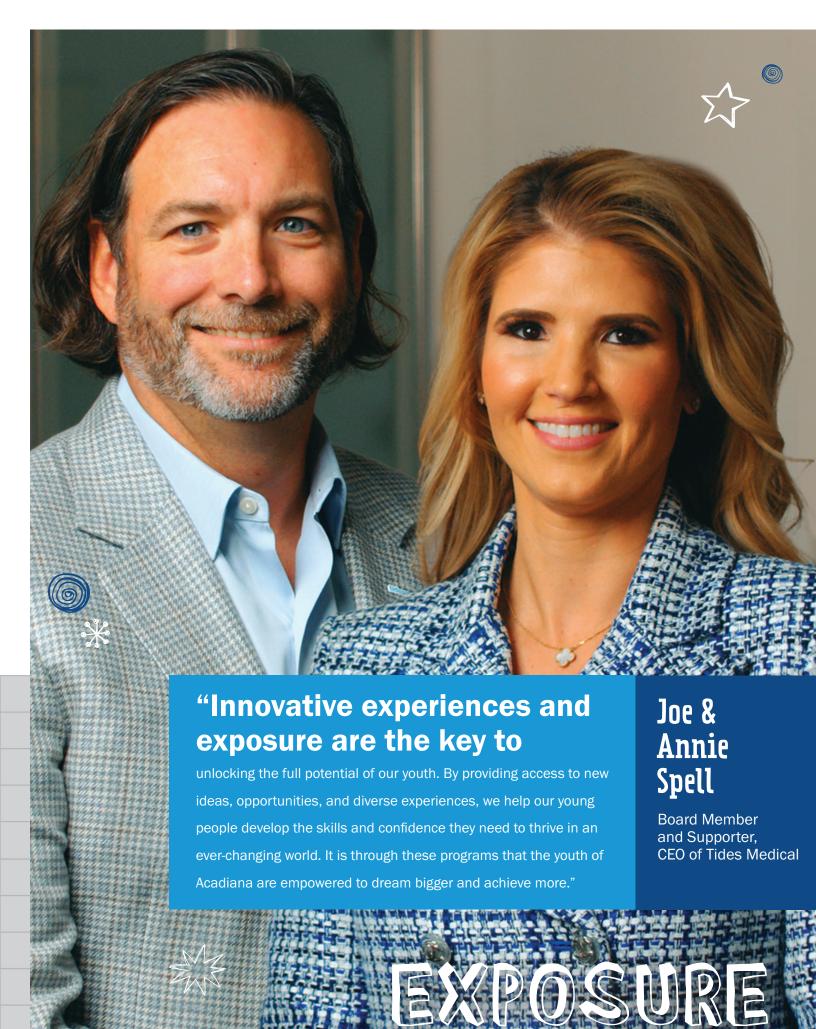
# Unlock Greatness through Innovative Experiences

Creating Tomorrow's Leaders, Innovators, and Problem Solvers



When young people are introduced to the world around them, they are more likely to dream big and connect what they are learning to future career opportunities. Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana helps teens recognize their potential and develop the skills necessary to become anything they dream.

BGCA helps bridge the gap between education and careers by offering academic support, career exploration, skill development, mentorship, and job readiness programs. BGCA is **unlocking greatness** by exposing teens to different businesses and job industries, job and workforce training, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) activities to provide a successful transition into the workplace.



# FACILITIES

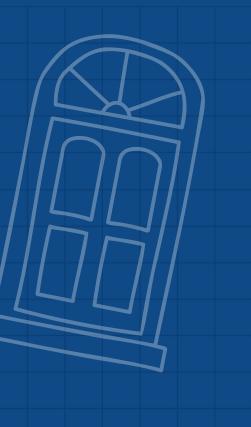
# \$3 MILLION

#### **Funding Priorities:**

- New Club Builds
- Current Club Upgrades
- School-Based Sites
- Specific Real-Time Wishlists
- The EMPOWER Center

# Unlock Greatness through Safe Access

Access to Safe Space to Empower, Connect, and Explore.



Since the very first Club opened in 1970 with the purpose of giving local kids a safe place to go, safety has been the number one priority of Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana. After all, safety is where it begins. Statistics show that environments that are safe, positive, and inclusive are essential for young people's development.

The landscape of youth safety has drastically changed in our 50+ year history. From public health crises like COVID-19 pandemic to the Internet's impact on bullying and self-esteem, kids face new threats to their stability and well-being each day. BGCA is **unlocking greatness** by building a safe haven for youth across our footprint through new locations, enhancing our current locations, creating new sites for rural communities, and building a world-class resource hub for all BGCA staff and members for development and inspiration.



# SUSTAINABILITY

# \$5 MILLION

#### **Funding Priorities:**

- Annual Giving
- Name Endowed Fund
- Alumni Engagement Fund
- Sustainability Today
- Sustainability Tomorrow

# Unlock Greatness for Generational Change

Ensuring the work of today and sustaining the growth of tomorrow.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana's impact today is felt across the Acadiana region, SWLA, NWLA, and beyond. Implementing and aligning around a vision for tomorrow must recognize the needs of today. In support of the three prioritized funding areas, BGCA will continue to generate unrestricted funding needed on an annual basis to continue our mission, engaging communities served with the opportunity to participate in the vision of tomorrow.

BGCA is **unlocking greatness** in maintaining an annual giving platform that engages and cultivates the next generation of transformational donors, implementing a Named Endowed Fund Initiative, and providing opportunities for first-time major gift and BGCA Alumni donors.





**Growing up in Erath, Louisiana, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana was more than just a place to spend my afternoons.** It was a safe place where I felt valued and supported. The Club's programs provided me with opportunities that extended beyond the usual after-school activities. From engaging in immersive art projects to participating in community-driven initiatives, every experience was designed to help us discover our potential and give back to our community.

One of the most significant impacts of the Club was the mentorship I received. The staff and volunteers at the Club were more than just role models—they were guiding lights who believed in me when I struggled to believe in myself. They taught me the importance of perseverance, responsibility, and empathy. It was their encouragement that helped me realize I had the potential to make a difference.

The Club also instilled in me a deep sense of community and the value of service. By taking part in service opportunities, I saw firsthand the challenges faced by others in our community and felt a growing desire to contribute to positive change. The skills I developed—leadership, teamwork, and problem-solving—were essential in shaping my path.

After years in the corporate world, I chose to pursue a career in public service. My experiences at Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana guided me towards this field, where I could use my skills and passion to help others. I am now working as a State Representative for District 49, focusing on Natural Resources, Environment, and Rural Development. Every day, I draw on the lessons and values I learned from the Club.

I wanted to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunities Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana provided me. The Club's impact on my life cannot be overstated; it not only helped me envision a future filled with possibilities but also gave me the tools and confidence to pursue it. I am committed to giving back to my community in the same way the Club invested in me, and I hope to inspire others as I was inspired.

In light of this, I encourage you to support Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana in any way you can. Whether through donations, volunteering, or spreading the word about the Club's mission, your involvement can make a profound difference in the lives of many young people. Just as the Club shaped my future, your support can help create opportunities for others to achieve their dreams and contribute to their communities.

Thank you for supporting such a transformative organization. Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana is truly a beacon of hope and possibility for countless young people.

With deepest appreciation,

**Jacob Landry** 

State Representative
Vermilion Club Alumni





# WAYS OF GIVING

# CURRENT INVESTMENT

A major gift to current initiatives is an investment in the generation of today.

This type of gift goes toward the 5-year vision of BGCA and will provide immediate impact!

# LONG-TERM INVESTMENT

A major gift to BGCA's
endowment is an
investment in the
generation of tomorrow.
This type of gift will secure
the work of BGCA over the
next 5 years and beyond.
You will leave a legacy
of enriching lives for
generations to come.

# PLANNED INVESTMENT

A planned gift to BGCA's endowment through your thoughtfulness and commitment helps BGCA move forward with confidence and ensure that our standard of excellence will continue.

# Recognition

Recognizing the vision and great generosity of our donors is important to Boys & Girls Clubs of Acadiana. BGCA recognizes all donors by inclusion in donor listings annually. Additionally, BGCA has an array of naming opportunities and permanent cumulative recognition of gifts of \$25,000 or more (individual) and \$100,000 or more (corporate) committed to the **Unlocking Greatness** Initiative.

# Permanent Cumulative Recognition

The total of all gifts received by BGCA from an entity or individual during their lifetime determines membership in the cumulative giving society for permanent display within the Club location. Matching gifts are applied to the donor and count towards lifetime society membership. A deferred, irrevocable gift to BGCA will also count towards membership in the lifetime giving society. (Revocable gifts are not counted towards lifetime membership until they mature).

# Types of Gifts

Major and planned gifts take many forms, as described below. Each giving opportunity will offer donors significant benefits based on their philanthropic goals and circumstances. BGCA recommends you obtain the professional counsel of your choice who specializes in charitable giving and estate planning. Our team stands ready to work with you, and your advisors, to help you plan for tomorrow and receive maximum benefits today.

# CURRENT GIFTS

#### Cash Gifts

Generally accomplished via cash, check or credit card. Tax-deductible for those who itemize deductions.

#### **Pledges**

Payable over time. Deductible in the year payment is made.

# **Matching Gifts**

Takes advantage of programs offered by many employers, increasing the value of the original gift.

# **Appreciated Property**

Gifts of stock, bonds, mutual funds, or other appreciated property (artwork for example) may provide favorable tax benefits.

### **Property That Has Lost Value**

Donor sells the property, takes a loss for tax purposes, then contributes the cash received from sale. Deductions given for both the loss and the charitable gift.

#### **Real Estate**

Possible for the donor to make a gift of residence, farm or vacation home, reserving the right of occupancy as long as the donor and spouse live.

### Closely Held Stock

Produces a current tax-deduction equal to fair market value of the stock.

# DEFERRED GIFTS

# **Charitable Gift Annuity**

Provides a fixed income for the lifetime(s) of one or two annuitants.

#### **Charitable Lead Trust**

Donors provide assets for use for a limited period. Funds are invested to provide income.

#### **Wealth Replacement Trust**

Protects inheritance interests of heirs. Using resulting tax savings of current or deferred charitable gifts, the donor purchases a life insurance policy with heirs as beneficiaries.

#### **Charitable Remainder Trust**

Provides partial tax-deduction for gift to trust and guaranteed lifetime income to donor and spouse with remainder of trust assets going to the Foundation after death of donors.

#### Life Insurance

Make BGCA sole owner and beneficiary of paidup policy.

#### **Bequests**

Outright bequests, as well as certain bequests in trust, are not subject to estate taxes.

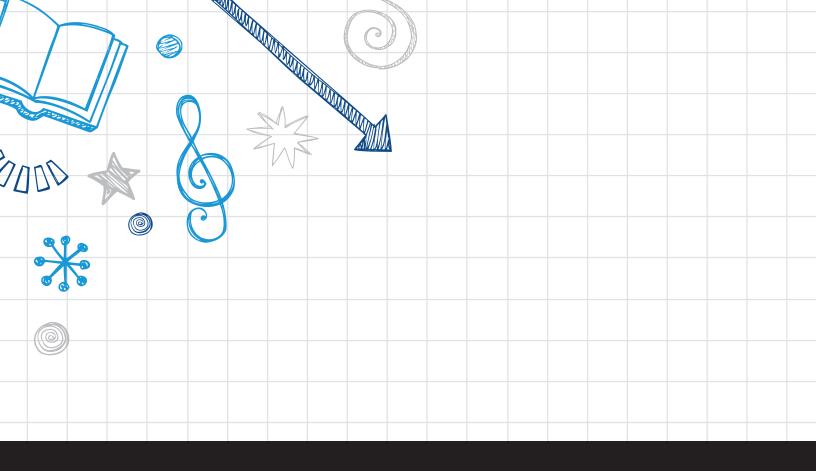














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