



CLUBS YIELD POSITIVE IMPACT IN SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, BEHAVIOR AND ACADEMICS

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate has long valued the importance of measuring the impact of our programs on the children we serve. The results for the 2008-2009 school year are in and they continue to demonstrate the effectiveness of our school-based Clubs:

- Club members miss half the number of school days than non-club members at the same school.
- Club members are referred to the office for behavior half as often as non-club members at the same school.
- Club members' standardized test scores (MAP) exceeded our growth goal of an 8 point gain in our Clubs in Spartanburg Co. Districts 2 and 7 and in Cherokee County



We thank the following partners for making our after-school programs possible:

- 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- The South Carolina Department of Education
- Spartanburg County School District 2
- Spartanburg County School District 6
- Spartanburg County School District 7
- Cherokee County School District



Above, Club staff Mr. Jared helps a second grader with her homework and members enjoy some fresh air, exercise and fun after their homework at our Fairforest Elementary Boys & Girls Club.

AUTUMN FUN!



October was packed with fun field trips and events for our members.

First and second graders from our Chapman and Chesnee Clubs visited the pumpkin patch at Strawberry Hill where, in addition to picking pumpkins, they fed cows, milked goats and watched their Club staff try to catch a pig.

Fifth and Sixth graders from our Cleveland and Mary H. Wright Clubs enjoyed the Corn MAiZE at Stewart Farms in Enoree. Left, Alexis thinks carefully about navigating the path.



All of our Clubs held fall festivals during the last week of October. Activities included face painting, cake walks, relay races and dances. A great time was had by all!

COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS ENRICH CLUB PROGRAMMING

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate draws on a wealth of community resources to offer abundant educational and cultural enrichment opportunities to our members. Through collaborations with many other organizations, we are able to offer exciting programs to children at no cost to their families.

The Spartanburg Science Center brings the magical world of science, nature and technology to life for our Club members. Pictured right, Mr. John Green, Executive Director of the Science Center dazzles members at our Arcadia Elementary Club with a lesson on static electricity.



The Spartanburg County Historical Association guides our members in an exploration of our region's history through weekly classes in our Clubs and field trips to local historical sites. In October, members attended Festifall at Walnut Grove Plantation and Autumn Fun Day at the Price House.

In collaboration with **The Arts Partnership and The Spartanburg Little Theatre**, bus loads of Club members attended the *Street Beat and James and the Giant Peach* performances at the David Reid Theatre in The Chapman Cultural Center last month. In partnership with **Ballet Spartanburg**, members will attend several other dance performances in the coming months including *The Nutcracker*.



Another key partner in empowering children through the arts is the **COLORS program of the Spartanburg Art Museum**. Each week, members from our Mary H. Wright Club attend a session at their studio in The Chapman Cultural Center and two of their instructors lead a weekly art studio session at our Carver Jr. High Club.

Scholarships for music lessons are provided to our Club members in partnership with **The Lawson Academy of Arts at Converse College**. Pictured above, Naomi Williams, a fifth grader at our Cleveland Elementary Club, enjoys her weekly piano lessons at Converse. She performed in a recital there last month.

VOLUNTEERS A-PLenty!



Partnering with **District 7's Americore program, USC Upstate's Non-Profit 101 classes and Wofford College** to place volunteers in our Clubs is paying off in a big way for our members. Volunteers give our members the extra help they need in homework and tutoring and serve as positive role models.

Pictured left, Angelica Figueroa, now a student at USC Upstate is a former Club member who has returned to our Clubs as a volunteer through the District 7 Americore program.

So far this school year, 200 volunteers have contributed a total number of 900 hours of service in our Clubs.

WE WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

A great big THANK YOU to all of our program and funding partners and volunteers for your contributions to the development of our youth! Because of your support, we maintain a top-notch program for the Upstate youth who need it most and have expanded our services to reach more children in need in these challenging economic times.

We are now serving 1400 children each day!



BE INVOLVED

Volunteer opportunities are available to help out our kids at the Club or in our administrative office.

BE INFLUENTIAL

Join our movement to help all kids BE GREAT. Make an online donation today at www.begreatupstate.org.

BE INSPIRING

Share a talent with a kid. We need volunteers to teach art and music and facilitate sports programs.

Please consider Boys & Girls Clubs of the Upstate for a year end donation.

