

**Whatever It Takes  
to Emerge Strong.**

**Boys&  
Girls&  
SafePlaces&  
Guidance&  
Leadership**



**Winter 2020/Spring 2021**

**Whatever It Takes for  
Youth, Families,  
and Communities.**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF INLAND VALLEY**

**[menifeebgc.org](http://menifeebgc.org)**

## Message from the Director

Throughout this COVID-19 crisis, our Clubs have been there for young people and their families, providing the social, emotional and academic support kids need. From meals, distance learning support and virtual programming, our Clubs have adapted to stay connected to the kids we serve. And as we receive feedback from our families, the connection to our youth and our communities has never felt more vital.

As the COVID-19 vaccine ramps up distribution and an eventual end to the pandemic slowly comes into sight, our Clubs will continue to be on the frontlines helping kids and teens get back to some normalcy. I know our Clubs will continue doing “whatever it takes” to support kids and their families, while preparing to address issues many youth are likely to face in the coming months.

This pandemic is far from over, but there is reason to feel optimistic. And our optimism is confirmed every time we hear from families and hear more about the amazing work we have undertaken. With that being said and most importantly, we are not done and our team of staff and Board of Directors foresee more amazing work that is yet to come.

Thank you,



John Whann  
Executive Director



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## Thank you for Giving the Gift of a Great Future!

### **Diamond \$1,000+**

Robert Karwin, Law Office of Robert P Karwin \*  
Duke Realty-SoCal  
The Handley Family

### **Platinum \$500+**

The Arevalo Family  
Susan Bradley  
Craig Cooper, Menifee Bicycles  
The Garcia Family  
Angie Stack  
Patrick Walsh  
The Whann Family

### **Gold \$250+**

The Burch Family  
Robert Castro  
Howard Chapman  
Jessica Torres  
Mayor Bill Zimmerman

### **Silver \$100+**

Anonymous  
Liz Alaheri  
Ezel Barroso  
Joe Belitz  
Jerry Bowman  
Lupe Branson  
Vicki Carpenter  
Perris Valley Aviation Service, Melanie Conatser  
David Gault  
Cynthia Kerenyi  
Leah Loftis  
Bailey Mac  
John Minko  
Lucero Crystal Murillo

### **Silver \$100+**

Brent Morton  
Carrie Pruitt  
Ceasar Velador  
Luis Velador  
Andrew Vrooman  
Perris Skyventure

### **Bronze \$50+**

Danny Becker  
Jaclyn Copeland  
Robert Cox  
Maribel de la torre  
Cynthia Fernandez  
Christopher Ford  
Anthony Garcia  
Michelle Gavina Robinson  
Maria Gomez  
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Brenton Johnson  
Essence Johnson  
Robert Lewis  
Yvonne McClain  
Teresa McDaniel  
Dina Medina  
Judith Mercado  
Rosy Mercado  
Vilma Mercado  
Sara Millard  
David Miranda  
Nikki Prosser  
Jamie Rauhut  
Daniel Rodriguez  
Genaro Ulloa  
Julissa Velador  
Samantha Velador Rivera  
Kim Webb

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\* Jeremiah Milbank Society Donor



**Thank you for Giving the Gift of a Great Future!**

**Friends \$1+**

Anonymous  
Jennie Andrade  
Emma Baltazar  
Carissa Bernal-Hernandez  
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Lobo Campos  
Savannah Chavez  
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Thomas de melo  
Julian del toro  
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Nicole Farrell  
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Sonia Gonzalez  
Dean Handley  
Ashley Harris  
Angela Hatfield  
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Deanna Howard  
Nastenka Imbert  
Melissa Jauregui  
Alfonso Letty Lopez  
Chona Mejia  
Martin Mercado  
Christina Miranda  
Ajeet Nagra  
Noe Ochoa  
Sara Pearson  
Danny Pitts

Casey Price  
Michael Rivas  
Carol Rogers  
Jackie Sanchez  
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Damian Smith  
Patricia Strandt  
Mel Szafrinski  
Amy Tackett  
Stephen Tackett  
Carolee Taylor  
Amry Torrez  
Lois Vargo Bondurich  
Oziel Velador  
Raquel Virgen  
Nina Yates Tallent

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## Thank you to local businesses and community groups!

### Rotary Club of Menifee

The Rotary Club of Menifee recently donated over 70 headphones with built in microphones for kids to use at the Clubs for distance learning assistance and other educational programs. Kids often forget their headphones at home or they break and this donation will ensure kids have headphones to be successful in their online classes!



### George & Kristina Mills-A Better Look Home Inspections

Back in November, George & Kristina Mills donated Thanksgiving meals for Club families. This donation helped families who otherwise may not have been able to afford a Thanksgiving meal. George and Kristina said, "It is our honor to support the Boys and Girls Club. This past year with so much going on with COVID we felt privileged to be able to provide hand sanitizing stations as well as meals at Thanksgiving to the families of BGCIV. We look forward to supporting the BGCIV in 2021. Keep up the good work BGCIV!"



### Anderson Chevrolet & Lake Elsinore Storm

Thank you to Lake Elsinore Storm and Anderson Chevrolet for donating soccer balls and sports equipment for our Club kids! Soccer is a very popular sport at our Clubs and this donation provides the necessary equipment for our sports and fitness programs!



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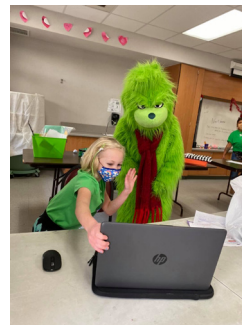


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### Chef Rosie & Provecho Grill

Back in December, Chef Rosie visited the Club with some special guests! Chef Rosie and her team at Provecho Grill made pancakes for all the kids in our distance learning assistance program. Chef Rosie even brought along The Grinch to surprise the kids and bring them joy in a year that was very difficult.



### Buffalo Wild Wings

Back when our Quail Valley Clubhouse first opened, Buffalo Wild Wings provided free lunch for all of our staff! Buffalo Wild Wings also donated free wings to our Great Futures Campaign Champions at the Perris Clubhouse! Thank you Buffalo Wild Wings!



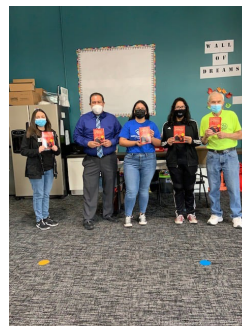
### Homebuilders at the Audie Murphy Ranch Master Planned Community

The homebuilders at the Audie Murphy Ranch master planned community in Menifee came together and donated \$10,000 for the Clubs! These funds were used to provide a special Christmas for our Club kids and families and more. Thank you to Brookfield Residential, DR Horton, Meritage Homes, Pardee Homes, Pulte Homes and Richmond American Homes!



### Rotary Club of Perris

The Rotary Club of Perris came out to the Perris Clubhouse and presented their Annual Rotary Dictionary Project. They gave the kids dictionaries in both English and Spanish. Each year the Rotary Club of Perris provides dictionaries to 3rd graders at local schools. Due to Covid-19, things were different this year, but Rotary remained dedicated in service to others.



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### Greater Diamond Valley United Way

Thank you to Greater Diamond Valley United Way for donating boxes of fresh produce for our Club families! The boxes contained watermelon, celery, onions, potatoes & more. These boxes helped to reduce food insecurity for our families! Greater Diamond Valley United Way also donated much needed Covid-19 supplies including air purifiers and hand sanitizer.



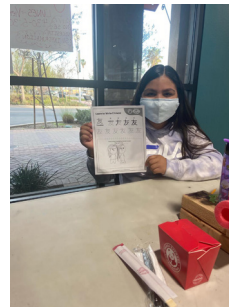
### MoxieBox

MoxieBox donated art supply bags to our Club kids back in November! Our kids loved having their own bag full of supplies to spark their creativity!



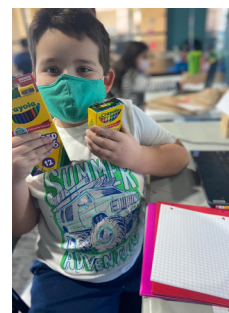
### Panda Express

The Clubs teamed up with Panda Express for a Lunar New Year celebration. The Clubs celebrated by teaching youth about Chinese history and culture. They worked on different crafts and showcased them at the Clubs. Our local Panda Express even delivered food for all of the kids as part of the celebration!



### Staples

Thank you to Staples for donating school supplies for all of our kids to use! Each Club kid received their own bag of supplies to use for distance learning while at the Club. Each child has their own designated area and they keep their supplies from Staples to use throughout the school day.



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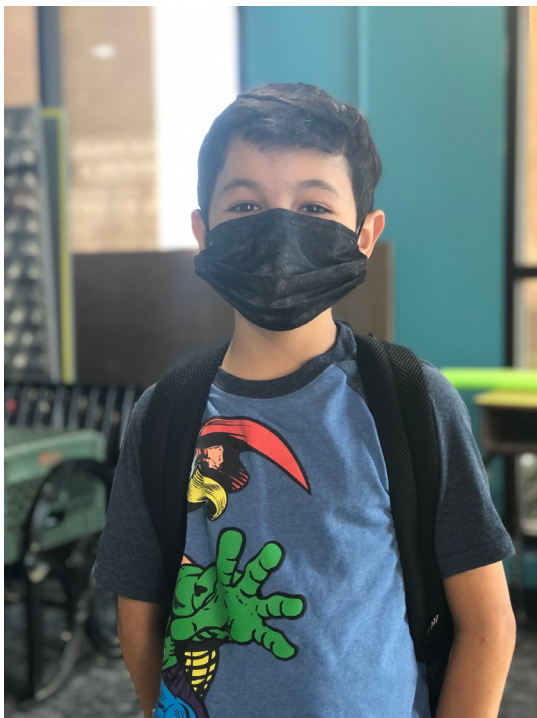


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## Club Member Highlight

Meet Nicolas. Nicolas is a 4th grader and has been a Club member at the Perris Clubhouse since late 2020. Nicolas struggled being at home during the Pandemic. He did well with academics, but was struggling emotionally. Since coming to the Club he has done really well, recently becoming member of the month. We sat down with Nicolas to talk about his experiences at the Club and his life.



"I was sad when schools shut down. I wasn't really learning that much, but I started pushing myself to do better when I got to 4th grade. I like coming to the Club to do my homework and to do activities instead of staying home all day. I just like to be active. I'm pretty energetic. I would probably say my favorite staff is Mr. Thomas. He's fun.

My favorite program is Drama Matters. I want to be an actor when I grow up and it helps me improve my acting skills. I want to be in theatre, not movies. I do not want to do all those takes, takes, takes. I don't know what my favorite movie is. I've watched a ton of movies. It's a tie between a whole bunch. My favorite actor is Adam Sandler. He's really funny and weird and plays a lot of interesting roles and that's where I could see myself. I'll have felt successful when I'm playing the main role. Either a dramatic or funny role. I do want to go to college in case acting doesn't work out. Then I would want to be an Engineer. It's a good job and I'm good at math. My entire family is good at math."

The last thing we asked Nicolas is, if he could tell people something about himself what would it be? He said, "If I could tell people one thing it would be that I'm having a great time."

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## Program Highlight

### CALIFORNIA CADET CORPS PROGRAM LEADS TEENS TO GREAT FUTURES!



The California Cadet Corps program is in its first year at the Quail Valley Clubhouse. The program is for teens 6th grade and up. The mission of the program is “to create outstanding leadership development opportunities for students.” The program is run by Julio Rodriguez, Commandant Chief Warrant Officer 3 California Cadet Corps. The program started in July of 2020 and emphasizes life skills to help students long after they graduate. Youth in the program learn important aspects of leadership, followership, adherence to personal appearance and grooming standards, proper uniform wear and have the opportunity to participate in some very exciting co-curricular activities including community service. These activities reinforce the lessons they learn in the classroom and provide them an opportunity to lead and learn among their peers. These activities are “hands on” teaching tools and are a very fun and exciting way to reinforce the importance of team-work, service, positive attitude, hard-work, and positive image. California Cadet Corps is a place where a student not only starts to grasp important life lessons, but also truly feels a sense of accomplishment, belonging, and pride that comes with teamwork and success.



#### Quote from Cadet:

“The California Cadet Corps was founded in 1911. Since then, it has trained millions of young cadets. The program’s objectives are to develop leadership, patriotism, citizenship, promote academics, encourage health and wellness, and teach basic military subjects as well. However, I personally feel that this program is a bit more than that. It is successful because we do more than just talk about being good leaders. As cadets, we actually put our leadership lessons into practice every day in our classrooms and in our communities. We use our training and lessons by volunteering, taking part in exciting drills and competitions, or by taking part in summer encampments. Prior to participating in the California Cadet Corps, I was soft spoken and hesitant to participate in any extracurricular activities. Now, I am a Cadet Second Lieutenant Officer who has run brigade level events! With the help of the Cadet Corp, I have stepped out of my comfort zone, and tried things I never thought I’d be able to do. I’ve built my confidence up, and have been inspired to become a leader. What can I say! It’s all in our motto! ESSAYONS! LET US TRY!”-C/2ndLt Emily Romo

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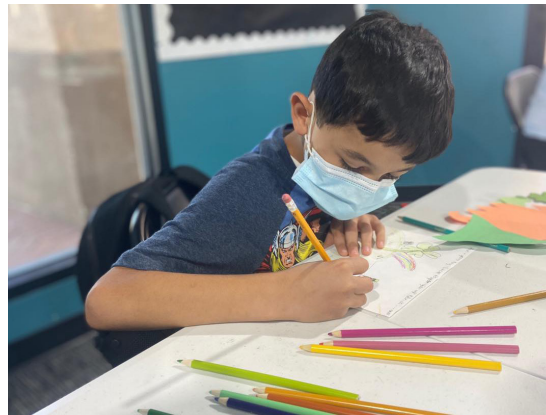


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## Distance Learning Assistance

When schools resumed virtual learning in the fall, many of our Club families were left wondering how they were going to work and help their child with their online schooling. Many of our Club parents and guardians are considered essential workers and needed a safe place for their child. The Club responded to this need by creating a new program called Distance Learning Assistance. The Club extended its hours from 7am-6pm for children to come to our facilities and participate in their online classes with the help and guidance of trained staff. Some of the kids we saw in the beginning were really struggling with virtual school and needed additional help in a structured setting. Mr. Sam, Menifee Clubhouse Unit Director, said, "Some of the kids were crying and frustrated because they didn't know how to navigate online and they really needed help." Since opening for this program, there has been an increase in need and enrollment numbers have climbed. The staff have really stepped up and are doing whatever it takes to make sure youth are on the path to succeed. Staff send home weekly reports to parents to let them know how their child is doing and for parents to give feedback. The supervisors at each Club also work with teachers and administrators at the schools. If students have trouble logging in or are missing assignments. The Club will continue the Distance Learning Assistance program as long as there is a need to help kids both academically and emotionally by providing them with some sense of normalcy.



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## How to support/Get Involved

The Boys & Girls Club is so excited to host our first ever Mayor's Challenge for Kids! We challenge you to join Menifee Mayor Zimmerman and Perris Mayor Vargas to get outside and get moving! You can run, walk, or bike at a time and place of your choosing between May 8th-May 16th! We encourage you to use local parks and trails, but you can choose any location and any day that works for you during that time frame. Registration is free, but we encourage you to set up a individual or team fundraising page to raise money for youth programs at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Inland Valley! To learn about ways you can contribute, or to send a financial or in-kind donation, contact:

Julia Burch, Assistant Director of Development  
(951) 246-8845 | [julia@menifeebgc.org](mailto:julia@menifeebgc.org)

A promotional poster for the Mayor's Challenge for Kids. The top half has an orange background with the title 'Mayor's Challenge for Kids' in white. The bottom half has a blue background with a photo of a group of people running on a grassy field. The text 'MAY 8-16, 2021 VIRTUAL 5K, 10K & HALF-MARATHON' is in white. A QR code is in the bottom left, and a URL is in the bottom right. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Inland Valley logo is in the top right.

**Mayor's Challenge for Kids**

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF INLAND VALLEY

**MAY 8-16, 2021  
VIRTUAL 5K, 10K  
& HALF-MARATHON**

Join Menifee Mayor Zimmerman and Perris Mayor Vargas in the Virtual Mayor's Challenge for Kids! Run, walk, or bicycle safely at a time and place of your choosing between May 8-16, 2021. Registration is free! To learn more or to register go to <https://menifeebgc.ejoinme.org/MCFK2021>.

SCAN CODE TO LEARN MORE AND REGISTER

Thank you to our presenting Half-Marathon Sponsor Dr. Gary Cringan

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