

# ***BE IN THE KNOW...***

## ***AND FEELING GOOD...***

August 14, 2020

Dear Boys & Girls Clubs Supporters,

If you are like most folks these days, I suspect you would enjoy a little pick-me-up. It's hot. Your summer vacation may have turned into a "stay"cation. We're weary of COVID news. It's time to switch to a fresh new season and embrace the changes fall *usually* brings.

I say *usually* because in normal times, Boys & Girls Clubs staff would be gearing up for "Back to School" mode. Instead, they are in the "Giving back to their Community" spirit! As you know, new challenges present the catalyst for change and reinvention. And that's exactly what we are doing right now by **increasing our relevance to the communities we serve.**

As part of its intergenerational outreach program, the **La Quinta Club** recently delivered care packages to the elderly living at Season at Mira Flores Senior Living. This is a population that is specifically vulnerable during these times of isolation. Keystone Club member "Jazel" helped the delivery crew stay true to our leadership and youth-development mission.

Now, for a little blast from the past. This next story should surely make you feel good too. It's about former Club kids **Clara Levrault** and **Armando Munoz** who share a passion: giving back to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley and protecting the community where they were raised. Both credit two of our local Clubs (La Quinta and Indio) for providing stability and setting examples for them to become responsible adults. Clara is a deputy district attorney and Armando is an investigator with the sheriff's department. Both volunteer for this organization. As a matter of fact, Clara, a BGC Board member since 2015, was recently elected as our Interim Chairperson! Clara is not the first female to lead our board, but she is the first "of a younger-age generation" than any of her predecessors. Talented and armed with enthusiasm, she joined us at the Mecca Club outreach just a week ago today. Here is Clara's own feel good story which I just love sharing with you!



**Boys & Girls Club La Quinta Keystone Club member Jazel**



*This past Friday, I had the pleasure of joining Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley CEO, Dr. Quinton Egson and staff to hand out care packages to the families that we would typically be serving inside our Mecca Club (absent COVID-19).*

*This was an idea Quinton and I envisioned a few weeks ago as a way to continue to serve the Mecca community. And I'm proud to say that the event was a success!*

We handed out 100 care packages (containing food, masks, and educational games) to families, ultimately serving 438 community members. We had people in the parking lot waiting more than an hour before the event was scheduled. The event, scheduled to last two hours, ended after 45 minutes due to the demand.

The gratitude expressed by the families was a reminder of why each and every one of us dedicates our time to this organization.

While COVID-19 has changed the way we're achieving our mission to serve the community, it hasn't changed the needs of our community. I'm so proud of our team for quickly and successfully adapting to these challenging times.



KESQ-TV Channel 3 came out and covered the event, but in case you missed the broadcast, I've attached some photos.

I'm excited to continue to adapt to the times and provide much needed services to not only our Mecca community, but the communities served by our other three clubs as well.



Clara Levrault  
Interim Board Chair

I am telling you, it would have done anyone's heart good to see the Club working our mission in new ways.

Please know that your continued support helps us "spread the club's love" as one senior said when she received her package. As always, we appreciate you and hope you know that **YOU are helping to spread goodness and kindness to our communities in need.**

Dr. Quinton Egson  
President & CEO



BGC Director of Operations Tony Williams, Clara Levrault,  
and Dr. Quinton Egson