



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF COACHELLA VALLEY



Be in the Know

January 20, 2023

Dear Boys & Girls Clubs Supporters,

It's already a happy new year as November and December was filled with joyous happenings to report!

The very busy holidays started with our Frank Foster and Palmer Power Family Clubhouse in Coachella celebrating its 20th anniversary, followed with a Thanksgiving dinner and then oodles of generous holiday gift drives.



Community partnerships help this organization thrive. Our Club kids—and their families too, benefitted greatly with many folks opening their hearts!



Board member John Foster, wife Joan, Tom Foster, Coachella Unit Director Juanita Godwin and Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley President/CEO Quinton Egson attended the 20th anniversary celebration at the Coachella Club.



Board member Doug Miller and wife Debbie serving Thanksgiving dinner at the Indio Boys & Girls Club.

Like our newest neighbors – the **Coachella Valley Firebirds** which treated five families to a hockey game plus \$1,000 in “wish list” holiday items! Residents of **The Citrus Club in La Quinta** and **Seven Lakes Country Club** organized toy/gift drives and a clothes-



shopping spree! **Coachella Valley Water District** gathered new toys for the Coachella Club; **Desert Horizons Ladies Golf** donated their tournament funds.

A word from our Board Chair, Lee Osborne...



On behalf of all 35 board members, thank you for making 2022 a smooth recovery from the prior two years. With your support, we are making a profound positive impact on the lives of thousands of underserved young people. Thanks again for your consistent support and I hope to see you at our annual auction on Saturday, March 11th.

P.S. Did you know... that the La Quinta Club's street address was changed from Park Drive to Moon River Drive in 2013 to honor crooner Andy Williams who was very supportive of that Club? One of the rooms is also named after him.

In the 'pizza kitchen' vocational program, Coachella Valley kids prepare for the future.

The idea behind the initiative is to offer different professional opportunities and guidance to youth that will eventually help them compete in the workforce.



At an after-school program in Indio, students don't just learn how to make pizza...

professional opportunities and guidance to youth that will eventually help them compete in the workforce. The primary focus of the program is to use the industrial kitchen and pizza oven in the John Carroll and Jim O'Brien Clubhouse, the Indio facility that the Club has used since the 1960s, as a launchpad for members to acquire employability skills.

For Egson, his favorite part of the program is demonstrating the many careers that are possible. "We've had business owners, chefs, pilots and managers speak to our kids about preparing for their future," he said. "This program can serve as a model for children to understand and prepare for their career aspirations. We are excited about what we've done, what we are doing and what we will do in the future." Other benefits of the after-school program are getting children to try new foods, like more fruits and veggies, increasing their nutritional knowledge and building greater self-efficacy.

One past Boys & Girls Club member, **Jeffery Morris**, who is now the Operations Manager of Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers in Palm Springs and a recent speaker for 40 kids who attended the initiative, said he learned a lot there as a kid. "I learned how to cook, prepare, serve and charge for food," he said. "I was given skills to be successful for the rest of my life. I have spent 27 years in hospitality and can now look back and say that I'm a successful restaurant operator due to what I learned at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley Indio clubhouse."

*Thank you everyone and a very happy new year to you!
I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Hyatt Regency
Indian Wells for the Grand Auction, celebrating our desert
gems, the Bianco family, on Saturday, March 11, 2023!*

Quinton Egson
President & CEO

In a youth vocational program from Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley, preparing for a future career all starts with the organization's pizza kitchen. This program teaches kids the importance of teamwork, being punctual, producing and selling a product, supply and demand, and budgeting," said **Quinton Egson**, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley.

The pizza kitchen vocational program was born in 2020 with the support of one "generous donor".

The idea behind the initiative is to offer different

