



**NCU**  
Northcentral University

## MEMO

To: George Burnett  
From: PV Leadership Council  
Re: Annual Project Prioritization  
Date: March 13, 2014

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The PV Leadership Council discussed options for the annual disbursement of funds resulting from the partnership between the Town of Prescott Valley and Northcentral University. We would like for the funds for 2014 be spent for the benefit of Prescott Valley children. We believe that what's best for PV children is best for PV. With that in mind, we would like to recommend the following disbursement of funds.

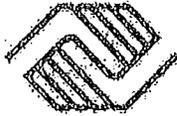
\$10,000 to Big Brother Big Sisters for a mentoring collaboration between Humboldt Unified School District and YBBBS. \$5,000 to expand number of mentors working with children in Lake Valley Elementary and \$5,000 to expand YBBBS efforts to apply Best Practice one on one mentoring at Bradshaw Mountain Middle School.

\$15,000 to Hungry Kids Project – Volunteer organization that provides Prescott Valley children in need (identified by the school nurse or principal) with a bag of groceries every Friday afternoon to take home to the family. 100% goes to purchase food.

\$25,000 to Boys and Girls Club for youth programming restricted to Prescott Valley starting up in May 2014. We feel that this summer program will help keep kids positively occupied while parents are at work.

We would be fine if Town of Prescott Valley would prefer we give \$10,000 for the Hungry Kids Project and \$5,000 for Art in the Park.

More information from each proposed recipient follows.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF METRO PHOENIX

February 26, 2014.

Ms. Katia Nyysti
Director of Virtual Academic Center
North Central University
10,000 E. University Drive
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314.

Dear Katia:

It was wonderful to meet you, albeit by telephone -- thank you so much for reaching out. We were thrilled to learn of North Central University's extraordinary commitment to Prescott Valley -- for every student who enrolls, NCU gives back to the local community. I have no doubt that the University's support has done much good and is deeply appreciated by all who have benefitted.

As you know, Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix has assumed management of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Arizona (BGCCAZ) for two years under an agreement with Boys & Girls Clubs of America. We have an ambitious timetable to ensure that the Prescott Valley and Prescott Branches of BGCCAZ are again offering youth programs in May 2014 and that these programs continue to thrive in the months and years ahead.

We know that there is a need for a Boys & Girls Club in Prescott Valley, and we feel certain that, with the support of the community, a strong BGCCAZ will emerge from this difficult time to serve youth and families. I wanted to share our vision for BGCCAZ with you and have enclosed an organization "Fact Sheet," projected 2014 operating budget and organizational chart.

This is a critical time for BGCCAZ, and, on behalf of the organization, we are requesting a grant of \$25,000 from NCU. This funding would be used for youth programming and would be restricted to the Prescott Valley Branch.

We appreciate your consideration of our request, and thank you again for letting us know of your strong ties to the Prescott Valley community. If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me by email or at 602-343-1212.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature of Amy Gibbons]

Amy Gibbons
President and Executive Director

Enclosures

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89th Ave. & McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ

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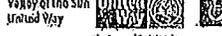
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ADMINISTRATION
2645 North 24th Street
Phoenix, AZ 85008-1822

Tel: 602.954.8182
Fax: 602.956.3320
www.bgcamp.org

Fed Tax ID: 80-0107689
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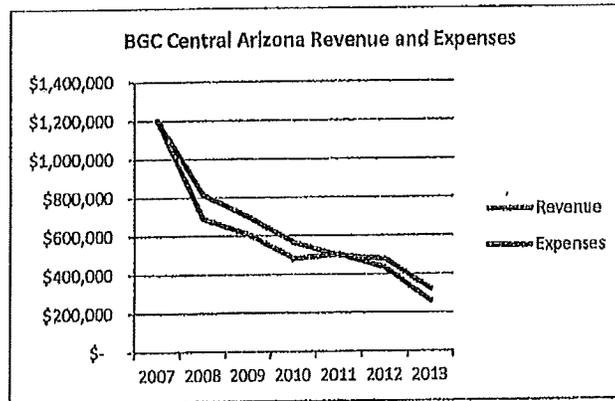
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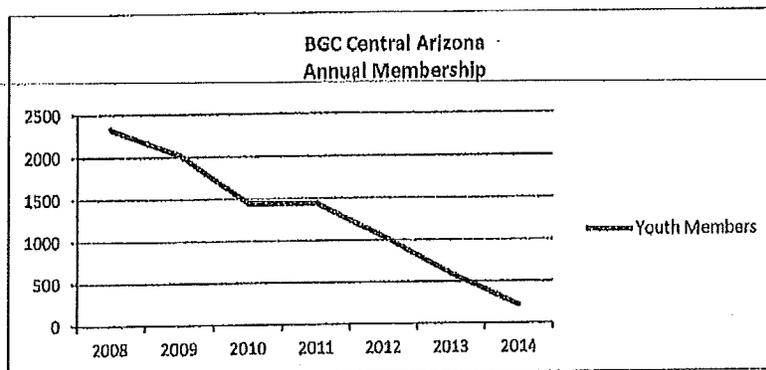
## Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Arizona Background, Current Status and Future

### Background Information

- The Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Arizona (BGCCAZ) was founded in 2000 with sites in Prescott and Prescott Valley; the federal tax identification number is 86-0964489
- With strong community support, the organization expanded quickly
- In 2007, BGCCAZ had a total of 7 club sites, serving 2,400 club members aged 6 – 18
- Annual budget in 2007 was \$1.2 million – revenue came from a variety of sources including special events, individual contributions, grants, program fees
- The 2008 recession was hard on BGCCAZ. In the ensuing years, the organization had a steady decline in revenue; it was unable to balance its budget five out of the past seven years



- In the years since the recession, the organization closed sites and lost members



- By 2014, BGCCAZ operated three sites with a total of 220 enrolled members
- In February 2014, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) closed the remaining club sites to re-structure the organization
- BGCA asked Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix to develop a strategic roadmap, financial plan and timeline to bring BGCCAZ back into operation on a sound fiscal basis

### **Need for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Arizona**

- In Prescott and Prescott Valley there are a total of 16,232 youth under the age of 16
- Out-of-school time programs are offered by the Prescott Unified School District, YMCA, Salvation Army, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Camp Fire Girls and others
- These providers offer many good programs but seldom are as affordable, accessible and varied as a high quality Boys & Girls Club

### **Role of Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Phoenix (BGCMP)**

- BGCMP has been in operation since 1946; we operate 12 clubs in greater Phoenix and a full-service Dental Clinic
- BGCMP re-structured its own operations during the recession and has maintained a balanced budget every year since
- We have reviewed the finances, staffing and club operations at BGCCAZ, developed a timeline for the re-organization, defined new staff positions, and developed a proposed annual budget of \$535,750
- We have had meetings with Prescott and Prescott Valley community leaders and stakeholders to discuss next steps including re-constituting the Board of Directors, re-opening club sites in May 2014 and obtaining financial support

### **The Future of BGCCAZ**

- There is a clear need for a Boys & Girls Club organization in Prescott/Prescott Valley
- The Prescott/Prescott Valley community has demonstrated strong support for BGCCAZ in the past
- A re-organized BGCCAZ with a strategic roadmap, energized Board of Directors, and realistic operating budget can emerge as a stronger organization providing important services to youth and families



Yavapai  
Big Brothers Big Sisters

## Humboldt Unified School District & Yavapai Big Brothers Big Sisters Mentoring Collaboration

*"If I could, I would take all the money we are spending on incarcerating kids and I would spend it on a program that provided a mentor for each one of them."*

*Scott Mayberry, Director of Yavapai County Juvenile Courts*

### The Need

According to the U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan "Our nation faces a dropout crisis. When 25 percent of our students -- and almost 40 percent of our black and Hispanic students -- fail to graduate high school on time, we know that too many of our schools are failing to offer their students a world-class education."

Sociology professor Donald Hernandez, who compared 3<sup>rd</sup> grad reading scores to graduation rates stated: "A student who can't read on grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is four times less likely to graduate by age 19 than a child who does read proficiently by that time. Add poverty to the mix, and a student is 13 times less likely to graduate on time than his or her proficient, wealthier peer," read the report.

Couple that with a study comparing dropout rates and incarceration rates by researchers at Northeastern University: "about one in every 10 young male high school dropouts is in jail or juvenile detention, compared with one in 35 young male high school graduates." There is an undeniable connection between literacy skills and incarceration rates.

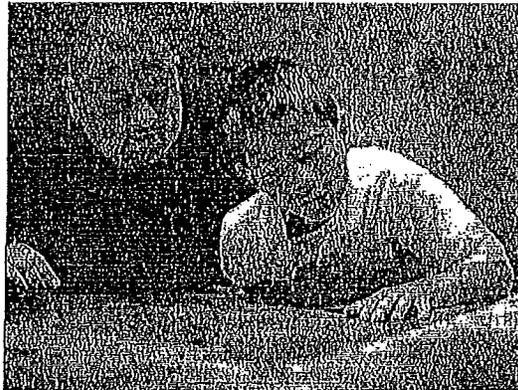
According to Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent of Humboldt Unified School District, it is critical "Researchers have identified middle school as the critical intervention point to keep students on the path to high school graduation."

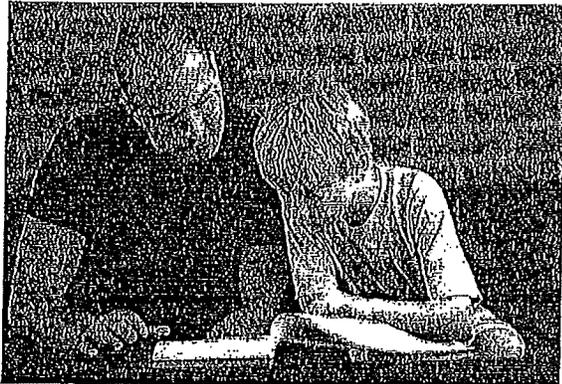
### A Request

Northcentral University is being asked to join Yavapai Big Brothers Big Sisters in responding to these identified issues by providing funds to support two critical programs that address the above issues.

- \$5,000 to help expand the number of mentors working with children in Lake Valley Elementary School. These funds would be used to recruit, screen, match and support School Based Mentors to work one on one with 1st through 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who are falling behind in reading.
- \$5,000 to expand Yavapai Big Brothers Big Sisters effort to apply Best Practice one on one mentoring efforts, as identified by the Office of Juvenile Justice, at Bradshaw Mountain Middle School.

Both schools are located in Prescott Valley and are part of the Humboldt Unified School District and serve student populations with high levels of poverty and additional demographics that make their students at-risk for dropping out and incarceration. Over 58% of the youth attending these schools receive free or reduced lunch. At least 40% of the students who are enrolled at these school sites live in single parent homes, an important statistic because, research tells us that *single parent children are twice as likely as other children to get in trouble with the law, use drugs, drop out of school and end up in jail as adults.*





### Elementary School Mentoring Project Goals

Learning to read is the building block that sets the bases for all future educational success. Research shows that third-graders' ability to read is a clear link to future academic and career success. Those who can't meet basic reading requirements by third grade tend not to catch up. "Third grade is really important because it's when students switch over from learning to read to reading to learn" (Emily Workman, Education Commission of the States "If they're not able to make that transition when they go into fourth grade, they

begin to fall behind. Additionally, a state literacy law that kicks in next school year requires that third-graders must pass a state reading test or risk being held back.

The goal of this project is to supplement the increased time teachers will devote to reading. Volunteer Bigs (school mentors) will work one on one, week after week, month after month, and year after year to help make sure their Little Brother or Little Sister is able to go on to fourth grade and be successful. It will be a team effort between the school and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

### Middle School Mentoring Project Goals:

Together, HUSD & YBBBS will combine their strengths in academics and volunteer mentoring, to deliver a program that will help vulnerable elementary and middle school boys and girls succeed. Through one-to-one structured mentoring, volunteer "Bigs" (school mentors) will ensure opportunities for these youth to achieve academic and social success while decreasing incidents of delinquency, truancy and dropping out.

Boys and girls paired with volunteer mentors through Big Brothers Big Sisters are on average 40% less likely to be arrested than all other youth in the community.

Compared to their peers matched boys and girls are:

- 46% less likely to start using drugs
- Matched minority youth were 70% less likely to start using drugs
- 52% less likely to skip a day of school



*"Middle school is the last and best chance to prepare students for a successful high school career. Research shows with systematic, intensive interventions students who started middle school behind can catch up."*

Laura W. Bush

## Overview:

A successful program will consist of professionally supported quality matches between volunteer mentors and students that ensure the highest outcomes for these children. The mentor and youth will meet for one hour per week at the school to develop a supportive relationship and work on academic and developmental activities pertinent to the child's needs as directed by the teacher.

While these programs are designed as a school-based program, matches who would like to meet outside of school throughout the year will have the opportunity to undergo additional screening and support in order to do so. Match goals are formulated through input from teachers/school personnel, parents, and other professionals involved in the child's life and YBBBS Match Advisors, as well as the mentor and the child.

All matches strive to achieve helping the student with reading skills, academic success, avoiding trouble with the law and developing decision-making skills that reduce harmful risk taking while increasing future orientation.

With your support, the Elementary and Middle School Mentoring Project will allow HUSD and YBBBS to collaborate and to change the lives of vulnerable at-youth, giving them a chance to successfully reach their potential, to graduate high school and college and become productive members of our community. Northcentral University's support will allow HUSD and YBBBS to build a foundation of mentoring success on which to grow and expand the program and its impact in the future.



## Mason's Story as Told by His Mother - A Real Life Story

Big Brothers Big Sisters is really important to me and my son. When we first started, Mason was really in need of attention to build his self esteem.

I remember the day we first met his Big Brother. Mason was so excited. Several hours before his Big arrived, he took a bath and laid his nicest clothes out. He got dressed and sat on the steps of our front porch for two hours, staring at that walkway, waiting for his Big Brother to pull up. It was that minute that I understood how big and how important Big Brothers Big Sisters was going to be in my son's life.

When he graduated, Mason had a 4.0 GPA and was part of the National Honor Society. He is attending the University of Arizona. Mason plans to study computer science and get his PhD. He received a \$20,000 national scholarship from KFC, making his academic and professional dreams a reality.

I am so grateful to Big Brothers Big Sisters. I really believe that, without this program, my son would be a statistic. He's not. Mason hasn't had a father in his life ever. Big Brothers aren't meant to be fathers. But Mason needed to feel important to have someone other than me. What was important to Mason was just having a Big Brother believe in him. - Tamela





**The Humboldt Schools.**  
*Motivating achievement since 1906.*

If we were to receive \$15,000, The Hungry Kids Program would be able to service approximately 60 additional students. Six additional sites would be served by volunteers delivering 10 weekend food bags to each site. This would provide outreach to all of our District sites.

If we were to receive \$20,000, The Hungry Kids Program would be able to additionally provide food for hungry children during the summer. Utilizing the summer feeding sites, The Program could stock four open food pantries to supplement weekend meals for hungry children.

Additional funds would enable The Program to increase numbers served and to evaluate other avenues of service for all children. Also, essential equipment needs would be evaluated to ensure sustainability of this growing program.

Program Facilitator: Carmelite Staker (928) 772-9563

6411 N. ROBERT ROAD, BUILDING 200, PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ 86314  
OFFICE 928.759.4000

HUMBOLDT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT #22  
6411 N. ROBERT ROAD, PRESCOTT VALLEY, AZ 86314 • PHONE 928.759.4000 • FAX 928.759.4020



## The Humboldt Schools.

*Motivating achievement since 1906.*

### Hungry Kids Project (Bags)

#### Overview

District Governing Board member and community volunteer, Carm Staker, is the coordinator of the Hungry Kids Project. Carm and Tami Hitt-Wyant, Food and Nutrition Director, meet on a weekly basis to discuss the continued success of the project. A lead volunteer (Corrine) helps with the coordinating of volunteers to prepare and deliver the bags to the schools. The Food and Nutrition Director develops menus, orders and purchases food; she or a volunteer then picks up the food for delivery to the program facility for assembly and distribution to Mountain View Elementary, Coyote Springs Elementary, and Lake Valley Elementary Schools. For Humboldt Elementary School, food is ordered, purchased and delivered separately. As this project has grown, volunteers coordinated by Noreen Alexander have stepped up to take over the food procurement. Some items are delivered through Shamrock Farms directly to Mountain View Elementary and Humboldt Elementary Schools. The other items are purchased from Fry's Grocery Store or Sam's Club.

#### Identification of Students

Students are identified by the school nurse and/or principal. The District's Public Relations secretary has a prepared letter for the schools to send home to parents asking if they would allow their child to participate in the project. Once the letter is signed, the student will receive a food bag on Friday of each week. School secretaries are called Friday mornings for a weekly count.

#### Preparing the Bags

Volunteers meet at the facility on a four-week rotation though many serve every week, to fill the bags. Humboldt Elementary School has two volunteers that meet weekly to prepare the bags.

The bags include: Two cereal boxes, two vegetables, two dried fruit boxes, two to four fresh whole fruits, canned meats and entrees, jars of peanut butter and boxes of crackers

Volunteers then deliver the requested number of bags to each school office. We currently sponsor 25 to 30 students per school. School office staff discretely delivers or have the students pick up the food bags to take home.



## The Humboldt Schools.

*Advancing education since 1906.*

### Budget

All funds go directly to purchasing the food for the student food bags. The money is deposited to the Connection account (a high school group's account) and food bills from Shamrock are submitted for reimbursement. A debit card is available from an accounting clerk (Tina) at the high school to be checked out for food purchases at Fry's. Inventory is done weekly at the facility and at Humboldt Elementary School. This allows for accountability and a base for the next weeks order. The cost for each bag is @\$6.00 and includes enough food for two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners, and two whole-fruit snacks. The cost for providing weekend food for one student is \$234 for the entire school year. Currently, just over 100 students are served.

### Summary

The goal of the project is to end childhood hunger and more specifically to end childhood hunger within Humboldt Unified School District. As you well know, hungry kids cannot focus on learning.

We must also ensure nutrition and food safety are top priorities. The choice to use primarily nonperishable food is for food safety. We cannot ensure that a student will go straight home so we prepare bags with foods that will be safe no matter the circumstance.

This project is an amazing opportunity to give directly to the students of our District. The school meals program feeds our students during the school week and the Hungry Kids Project fills in the gaps.

Thank you for encouraging and supporting this critical program.

## Hungry Kids Menu 09/06/2013

### 2013 Hungry Kids goals

Where we are.....

Serving over 100 students (@25 per school site including LVES, MVES, CSES and HES)

**Goal 1:** Increase the nutritional quality of food bags sent home with students by January 2013

using procurement partnership with Yavapai Food Council.

**Goal 2:** Pilot a food pantry site at GHMS, allowing students access to discrete healthy food when needed.

**Goal 3:** Increase students served at existing sites to +/- 30 per school.

**Goal 4:** Develop a complete food donation list to ensure foods donated by individuals and organizations uphold the food safety and nutritional integrity of the Hungry Kids Program.