## **GREAT FUTURES START HERE**.

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF FRESNO COUNTY

*Welcome* to our monthly eNewsletter! Thank you for staying connected to our Clubs.

Our Clubs are now safer than ever. Come see for yourself! We welcome pre-scheduled visits and Club tours. Contact <u>your local club</u> for more details. Looking for a membership application? Visit our website to join a Club for just \$5 a year!

It truly is a wonderful experience to make a difference in the lives of youth in Fresno County. Give today for your chance to be a part of the BGC Movement. Visit our <u>website</u> to learn more about our mission, values, and programs. Or visit <u>BGCA</u> to see how we're making a difference nationally. Monthly Moments News, Events, and Updates



### Del Rey Club Goes to the Zoo!

No one was more excited to have a day off on February 14th than the Club kids in Del Rey! Thanks to a grant provided by The Wonderful Company, 11 Club members and three staff members from the Del Rey Club spent the day at the newly renovated Fresno Chaffee Zoo.

The day was spent exploring all of the zoo exhibits including Sea Lion Cove, Dino Dig, Zoorassic Park, and Twiga Terrace where members got to feed the giraffes. Lunch was enjoyed at Kopje Lounge.

This specific Wonderful grant is designed to encourage a healthy lifestyle. Club members are learning about nutrition, healthy habits, teamwork, social skills, and leadership skills which encourage a successful future.

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"Growing up, I didn't get the chance to do things like this. Field trips, like this one, help Club kids explore the outside world"

Nary Chheun Del Rey Teen Member and Youth of the Year.





**Class in Session!** Torch Club Learning Black History

As many of you know, February is Black History Month. At the West Fresno Boys & Girls Club, the Torch Club program members spent the month learning about Black Historical Figures like Fredrick Douglas, Madame J Walker, and Jackie Robinson. We strive to have honest and transparent conversations at the Clubs. We believe our members should have the opportunity to learn and ask questions. Torch Clubs are a great space to do just that with programs designed for boys & girls ages 11 to 13 that are chartered, leadership focused, and conducted in small-groups. Torch Club is a powerful vehicle that helps Club staff meet the special character development needs of young people. B

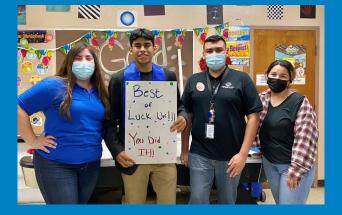
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2022 Youth of the Year

The 16th annual Youth of the Year event was a success because of the power of the Club and the investment from mentors and donors who have changed the lives of teens once again.

We would like to congratulate our Oakhurst member, Kalé Simmons for earning the title of Youth of the Year! Congratulations to Uriel Andrade, Reedley Club, for earning 2nd place and Soledad Iribe-Flores, East Fresno Club, for earning 3rd place.

We are proud of all six candidates!



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"Thank you to the Club for giving us this opportunity and thank you to all the competitors-they did so good. It was amazing to hear everyone's stories. We all deserve this," said Kalé Simmons, moments after hearing the news of his victory.







Read the full story <u>here.</u> Watch the show <u>here.</u>

### LA Rams Andrew Whitworth Speaks of Impact at the Club



Watch Andrew Whitworth share the incredible story of his positive impact on a Club kid during his Walter Payton Man of the Year acceptance speech. <u>Watch his</u> <u>speech</u> on Twitter here.

"It's called an investment... You can invest your time, you can invest your finances or you can invest your voice, doesn't matter which, we just have to keep investing in each other. Let your heart lead you all the way."

# Instagram Post of the Month

The Reedley Club had a Valentine's Day party where they made cake pops & chocolate covered strawberries for their friends & family. YUM!

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Follow @bgcreedley for stories about the Reedley Club!

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# WE ARE OPEN!

Contact a Club to get involved, learn more, and become a member! Visit our website at <u>www.bgcfresno.org</u> or <u>visit your nearest Club</u>!

ZIMMERMAN I EAST FRESNO I WEST FRESNO I CLOVIS I PINEDALE JUVENILE JUSTICE CAMPUS | OAKHURST I SELMA | REEDLEY SANGER I DEL REY I ORANGE COVE I MENDOTA | FIREBAUGH | HARRIS FARMS

#### **CLUB SAFETY**

Clubhouses are modified to support small group learning, temperature checks, parent registration, sanitary practices, and social distancing.

Follow us on our socials!



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### **RESPECT - INTEGRITY - PASSION - FUN - COMMITMENT**