

# A STEP FORWARD

A PLACE TO GO, A WAY TO GROW.

2021 COMMUNITY REPORT



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Jill Slay-Garlich *Board Chair*  
 Andrew P. Blassie *President*  
 Ed Finklestein *Executive Vice President*  
 Anthony (Tony) Gordon  
*Vice President*  
 William Schoenhard *Secretary*  
 Djuan Coleman *Treasurer*

### Member Directors:

Trent Ball  
 R. Hank Bellina  
 Jomo J. Castro  
 Nancy Hawes  
 Charles Karam  
 Leona Lucas  
 Lisa Monteleone  
 Lt. Col. Lawrence O'Toole  
 John R. Peter, MD  
 Adonis Smith  
 Ken Stein  
 Margaret J. Walsh  
 Pat White  
 Carter H. Whitson  
 Michael Yates

### Honorary Life Director

Col. Leonard L. Griggs, Jr.  
 Gary J. Prindiville  
 Gary Slay

### Vale

Kenneth Berresheim  
 Honorable Paul J. Simon

### Advisory Board

Joe Ambrose  
 John Fabick, IV  
 Raymond Mungenast  
 Max Nall  
 Ann Pace, CSJ  
 Rick Voytas  
 Michael Weisbrod

### Executive Director

Robert Puricelli



## LETTER TO OUR COMMUNITY

Like many other youth development organizations, 2021 was a roller coaster of a year for Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club. It was a long climb out of the pandemic for GSGBC and the youth and families we serve. School closures, shifting health guidelines and priorities, and pandemic-related learning loss all made for a stressful environment, but kids are resilient and so are we. From our in-house Virtual Learning Centers back to traditional classrooms, members of the Club were far better prepared for a new school year than their peers.

GSGBC opened our new Dutchtown campus in June 2021! We welcomed kids to a summer of fun, enriching activities in a safe, trauma-informed environment. We introduced kids in Dutchtown, Mount Pleasant, and Gravois Park to "a place to go, a way to grow" and opened a third campus in Bevo Mill for summer camp. In 2021, more kids than ever participated in GSGBC's programming.

Internally, the GSGBC board and leadership accommodated our collective "new normal" in a variety of ways: our first virtual fundraiser "Tour de Dutchtown" and an online auction at our 29th Annual Golf Classic. Due to a Covid-19 resurgence, we weren't able to host our annual Pillar Society appreciation dinner and missed seeing so many of you who so passionately support our work.

The audit for FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021) showed a significant operating surplus of \$1,716,638.00 due to unusual factors:

- Due to the pandemic, GSGBC held three fundraising events in this fiscal year:
  - 28th Annual Golf Classic in August 2020 (rescheduled)
  - Tour de Dutchtown virtual event in January 2021
  - 29th Annual Golf Classic in May 2021
- Our Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan of \$137,000 was forgiven
- Upon completion of the Dutchtown Campus, the Club received a \$450,000 grant awarded by the City of St. Louis to pay for some improvements.

Due to the strength of the stock market in 2021, our unrealized gains and changes in beneficial interest were exceptionally strong.

Despite all the challenges, our GSGBC community has been with us every step of the way. Our staff, Board of Directors, and supporters stepped up to make sure the Club's kids weren't left behind.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

**Andrew Blassie**  
President

**Robert Puricelli**  
Executive Director

**Jill Slay-Garlich**  
Board Chair



# DUTCHTOWN OPENS

**477** served at Soulard,  
Dutchtown, and Oak Hill  
campuses

**100%** participate in trauma-informed  
social-emotional education

**100%** pre-tested for tutoring

**100%** of tutored youth increased  
reading comprehension and  
retention



**IN JUNE** of 2021 Gene Slays Girls & Boys Club opened the doors to our Dutchtown campus just in time for summer camps. The opening was the culmination of years' worth of work renovating the building, establishing a presence in the neighborhood, coordinating programs with new partners in the area, and creating the support for the building – and the kids – to thrive once opened.

GSGBC had known for years that the need for comprehensive and high-quality afterschool and summer programs were needed in the Dutchtown neighborhood along with the surrounding neighborhoods (Gravois Park, Bevo Mill, and Mt. Pleasant). GSGBC had also seen an increase in the number of youth enrolling at its Soulard location from those neighborhoods. Those two points had made it clear that a second location serving those neighborhoods would be necessary both for the kids and the long-term viability of the Club.

With the assistance and backing of the City of St. Louis through the Mayor's Office, the City's Community Development Agency, and numerous other stakeholders,

GSGBC undertook the renovation of a former hundred-year-old school located at 3216 Pulaski in the Dutchtown neighborhood. As renovations got underway the COVID-19 pandemic shut everything down leading to a rescheduled opening. Once health restrictions eased and work resumed, the building was completed and opened in June of 2021.

Additionally, GSGBC, at the request of the Mayor's Office, was designated and operated as an essential business providing meals to the greater Dutchtown area during the pandemic. By the end of June 2021 GSGBC had provided over 75,000 meals to families in the community.

Between June and December of 2021 GSGBC was able to serve 127 youth at the new Dutchtown campus, providing them with tutoring, homework assistance, experiential learning opportunities, snacks and meals, and provide trauma-informed care for their social and emotional well-being. These programs, services, and resources are all just the start of what will be a second long-term GSGBC building serving those youth who need our support the most in the communities where they live.

# TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE



**GENE SLAY'S** Girls & Boys Club practices trauma informed care by teaching our members ways to cope with difficult emotions or challenging situations. We do this by supporting our members to learn to recognize triggers, identify emotions, and develop healthy coping skills to manage emotions. GSGBC utilized the Sanctuary Model, along with the Conscious Discipline program, to implement trauma informed care at the Club.

The Sanctuary Model is a blueprint for organizational change based on four pillars: Trauma Theory, S.E.L.F. Model (Safety, Emotions, Loss & Future), Seven Commitments (Nonviolence, Emotional Intelligence, Social Learning, Open Communication, Social Responsibility, Democracy, Growth and Change) and the Sanctuary Toolkit. This model of change increases awareness, emphasizes safety, and teaches the necessary skills to manage feelings, while creating an environment where our staff, members, and families can heal, grow, and build resiliency.

Conscious Discipline is a classroom management approach that supports social emotional learning and self-regulation. Trauma informed care and social emotional support shapes the Club in the following ways:

- **Individual Social and Emotional Support**
  - The members of GSGBC are provided a safe space where they come to discuss and heal from the trauma they may have experienced.
- **Community Meetings**
  - Community meeting is a tool used by members and staff to check in and consists of three questions: How are you feeling? What are your goals? Who will you ask for help?
  - Community Meetings help us to identify emotions, look toward the future, and enlist each other's support, which are all important steps in healing from trauma.
- **Safety Plans**
  - A safety plan is a list of simple activities that our staff and members can utilize when feeling overwhelmed to help manage their emotions.
  - Emotion Management is an important component of trauma informed care.

# BY THE NUMBERS

**96%**

Promoted to the next grade level

**72%**

Demonstrate improved social skills, improved decision making and problem-solving skills

**100%**

Participate in athletics

**90%**

Develop positive relationships with their peers

**100%**

of middle school and high school students attend College and Career Readiness programs



# EVENTS



## TOUR DE DUTCHTOWN

On February 18, 2021 Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club hosted its virtual gala Tour De Dutchtown in lieu of our annual in-person gala due to the ongoing COVID 19 pandemic. The gala's purpose was to help raise funds for the completion of the second GSGBC campus in Dutchtown which would build the foundation for a successful future for the kids of Dutchtown and surrounding neighborhoods. The event was a rousing success raising \$223,000 and included auction items, Fund-A-Need, and a performance by The Voice finalist and St. Louis native Kennedy Holmes.



## 29TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

The 29th Annual Golf Classic took place on June 1st 2021 at Norwood Hills Country Club and while some pandemic precautions were still in place, over 300 supporters of the Club came out for a beautiful day of golf. GSGBC was still able to raise over \$489,000 to support the mission of the Club. Thanks again to our loyal sponsors, donors, golfers, staff, GSGBC board, and volunteers for helping make this an amazing event that help GSGBC continue to position the Club to be, "A place to go...a way to grow."



A photograph of Chris Griffin, a young Black man with curly hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored patterned shirt. He is standing at a clear acrylic podium with a microphone, looking slightly to his right. The background is dark with colorful bokeh lights in shades of blue, purple, and green. The text 'SUCCESS STORY: CHRIS GRIFFIN' is overlaid in large white letters on the right side of the image.

# SUCCESS STORY: CHRIS GRIFFIN

**CHRIS** was raised in a single-parent household in south St. Louis by his strong, intelligent mom, Mia. He first started coming to the Club because Mia knew it was a place where Chris would be safe after school, receive academic support, and learn valuable skills that would serve Chris throughout his life.

Chris has been a part of Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club for over 14 years. Chris joined the Club in 2006 and joined the basketball team and learned to swim, got homework help, and received support and mentorship. Chris says, "This support opened my eyes to worlds I wasn't familiar with and opportunities that I didn't know existed." In 2017, Chris became a junior staffer at the Club gaining valuable work skills. Currently, Chris works at the Club on college breaks and during the summer.

With support from the Club's Scholarship Fund, Chris is attending Southeast Missouri State University and majoring in political science with a minor in criminal justice. Chris has

completed internships with the Congressional Black Caucus on Capitol Hill and completed an internship in the office of State Senator, Brian Williams. Chris serves on many college committees and is a president ambassador for the 2021 school year and a justice on the judicial board at SEMO.

Chris is well on his way to his goal to become an entertainment lawyer. "Besides being a lawyer, I have a huge interest in the film industry and politics. I plan on producing movies and TV shows in the future and when I reach my mid-30s, I will run for local and state offices. All those things may be considered long-term goals, but to me, they are short-term goals. Without the support of the Club and my family, these goals could have never been dreamed of, let alone achieved. When I see the kids attending the Club today, I see versions of myself and am proud to know that they will get the same type of encouragement and support that will lead them to achieve their goals. Success stories like mine should be seen not as the exception, but the rule."

# PILLAR SOCIETY 2021



## **CITIZENSHIP**

### **\$25,000 + ANNUALLY**

Anders CPAs + Advisors  
ARCHS  
ARCO Construction  
CDA - City of St. Louis Community  
Development Administration  
Centene  
City of St. Louis - Dept of Health  
City of St. Louis, Youth at Risk Grant  
Program Department of Public  
Safety  
First Bank  
Gene and Joan Slay Charitable  
Foundation  
Huntleigh McGehee  
Incarnate Word Foundation  
John Hopkins  
Mangrove Foundation  
Marillac Mission Fund  
Missouri Department of Economic  
Development  
Mr. Andrew P Blassie  
Mr. Gary E Slay  
Mr. Guy Slay  
Mr. Nestle' Purina PetCare Company  
Polar Tank & Trailer  
Slay Transportation  
St. Louis Mental Health Board  
Truck Centers, Inc.  
United Way of Greater St. Louis

## **CARING**

### **\$15,000-\$24,999**

AT&T Missouri  
Bank of America Woods Foundation  
Dr. Kenneth R. Mares  
FISHCO  
Michael Hohl  
Mrs. Jill Slay Garlich

## **FAIRNESS**

### **\$10,000-\$14,999**

Bernal T Chomeau  
Civil Design, Inc  
Donna & Paul Kindl  
Dr. Shabbir Safdar  
Haberberger Mechanical  
Contractors, Inc  
Jason A Ellis  
John McCartney City Lighting  
Products  
John Scott  
Michael Yates  
Mr. Brook Dubman  
Mr. Glen T Slay  
Mr. Ken & Katie Stein  
Mrs. Margaret Heying  
Ms. Linda Aboussie  
Novus International  
Stephen F. Butz  
Sterling Bank  
Susan B Allen  
The Trio Foundation of Saint Louis

## **RESPONSIBILITY**

### **\$5,000-\$9,999**

Alex & Emily Oliver  
Amrit & Amy Gill  
Bank of O'Fallon  
Brad Badami  
Brenner Tank  
Community Financial Advisors  
Dr. William G Marshall Jr. MD, MBA  
Ed Finkelstein  
Greg & Mimi Twardowski  
Jeffrey Slay  
Jim & Ann Simon  
Jim & Kathryn Sansone  
Jim & Meg Huber  
John Fabick Tractor Co  
John Intagliata

## **RESPECT**

### **\$2,500-\$4,999**

Keeley Companies  
Kreilick Family Foundation  
Lee Patterson Trust  
Maggie O'Brien's  
Margy & Bob Kemp  
Mr. Bill Schoenhard  
Mr. Craig Effan  
Mr. Raymond J Mungenast  
Mr./Mrs. John & Nancy Ross  
Ms. Nancy Hawes  
Norman J. Stupp Foundation  
Ruth Kim  
Scott Carothers  
SMT Events  
SSM Health Cardinal Glennon  
Children's Hospital  
Stifel  
The Clark Fox Family Foundation  
Tony & Ashley Raineri

## **RESPECT**

### **\$2,500-\$4,999**

Alex & Alice Aboussie Family  
Charitable Foundation  
Andrea & Dan Tarlas  
Bartlett & West  
Bruce Hamper  
Calvin Matthews  
Carrollton Bank  
CC3 Solutions  
Chemline Inc.  
Clara McLeod  
Commerce Bancshares  
Dr. John & Mary R. Peter M.D.  
Fred A Moore, Jr.  
Golf Foundation of Missouri  
Gori Law  
Greater St. Louis Book Fair  
Gregg and Laura Hollabaugh  
HR Green  
John & Julie Meersman



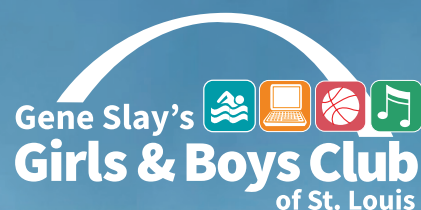
The Pillar Society represents individuals and corporations who annually support the mission of the Club and the successes of over 477 youth each year. Based on the Six Pillars of Character that all GSGBC youth strive to exhibit, the GSGBC Pillar Society celebrates this journey by bringing our philanthropic supporters and our youth together.

Joseph G. Nassif  
Lynn & Clay Jenkins  
McKelvey Homes  
Meridian Land Group  
Millstone Weber, Inc.  
Miner's Towing Co., Inc.  
Mr. Jack Coatar  
Mr. Johnny Garlich  
Mr. Bob Puricelli  
Mr. Eric Trelz  
Mr. James W Eason  
Mr./Mrs. Dan & Kelly Harbaugh  
Mr./Mrs. Leo Miceli  
Ms. Shan Herwig  
Network for Good  
Patrick Duff  
Robert Christopher Madison  
Seanna McGough  
Sisters of St. Joseph of  
Carondelet  
St. Louis Italian Golf  
Tournament  
Steve & Barb Nelson  
Steve & Monica Covington  
Teamsters Local #688  
Tom Meyer

**TRUSTWORTHINESS**  
**\$1,000-\$2,499**

Anne H Bader  
Christopher Howard  
Cynthia Gibson  
Ed Finkelstein & Rosa Jonas  
Finkelstein  
Edward Imo  
Ellen Condie  
Gary Sansone  
Grace VanConia  
Joe & Mary Lynn Wilhelm  
John & Liz Mosby  
John Blaskiewicz

John M. Harlan, Jr.  
John Orbe  
Kathy & John Peterson  
Katie Marek  
Katie Snider  
Kutis Funeral Home  
Laborers International Union  
of North America Local 42  
Mark & Jan Blassie  
Mary Orris  
Michael & Tina Donahoe  
Michael D. & Kathryn M.  
Souders  
Michael J. Evans CPA  
Mr. Hank Bellina  
Mr./Mrs. Anthony Gordon  
Mr./Mrs. Mark Haberberger  
Mr./Mrs. Tom & Jane Fisher  
Mr./Mrs. Ronald & Ann Auer  
Mr./Mrs. Vincent & Barbara  
Matteucci  
Ms. Helen Costello  
Ms. Joyelle Gerner  
Patricia Gibson  
Phil Hocher  
Ray & Mel Pashea Simon  
Robert J. Minkler, Jr. CPA/  
CGMA  
St. Louis Christmas Carols  
Association  
The Marian Foundation  
Thomas E. Hilton MSF, CPA/  
ABV/CFF, CVA, CGMA  
Tim & Kathie Harris



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021



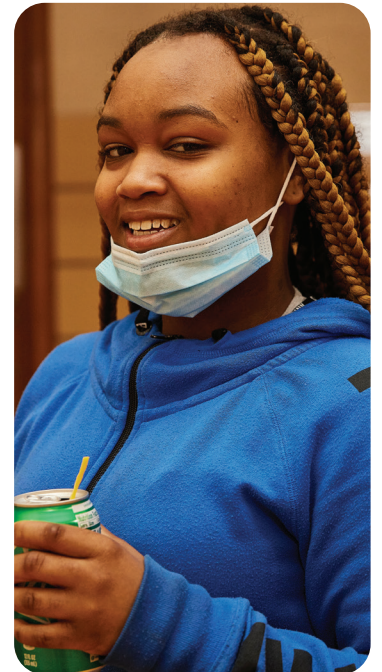
Contributions	\$635,043
Other Events (Net)	\$250,615
Grants/Foundation	\$945,784
United Way of Greater St. Louis	\$182,092
Banking & Investment Income	\$920,547
Programs	\$17,181
Miscellaneous	\$17,021
Donated Goods & Services	\$187,672
28th Annual Golf Classic (Net)	\$561,222
SBA Paycheck Protection Program	\$137,000

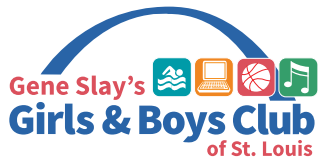


<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,854,177</b>
Program Expenses	\$1,437,951
Administrative Expense	\$362,047
Development Expense	\$337,541
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,137,539</b>

GSGBC experienced a stronger than expected surplus in FY21 due to the following factors;

1. Received a \$450,000 CDBG/HUD grant through the City of St. Louis for the Dutchtown capital expansion project that was reflected as income in the year it was received
2. Due to Covid the Club held two golf tournaments in this fiscal year as opposed to one in a non-Covid year
3. The increase in Banking and Investments Income was due to the impact of the strong stock market on the Clubs endowment and operating reserves
4. The Club received a SBA Paycheck Protection Program loan that was forgiven in this fiscal year therefore it was reflected as income





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## IN MEMORY OF JUDGE SIMON

Judge Paul J. Simon served on Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club Board for over 20 years. Judge Simon was instrumental in helping the Club expand its footprint in Soulard and was a longtime fixture at the Club's numerous events during his time as a board member.

In addition to his service to GSGBC, Judge Simon was a member of the Missouri House of Representatives, deputy city coroner, a special assistant Missouri attorney general, and President of the St. Louis Board of Alderman. He was appointed to the Missouri Court of Appeals in 1979 and was the Court's Chief Judge from 1989 to 1990

## IN MEMORY OF "KENNY"

### BERRESHEIM, KENNETH JOSEPH

Kenny served on Gene Slay's Girls & Boys Club's Board from 1998 until his passing in 2021. Kenny was a fixture at GSGBC's Annual Golf Classic, where his donations of water bottles, travel mugs, and more were always a huge hit with our golfers. In addition to his service of GSGBC, Kenny served on the Board of the Italian Open Golf Classic for many years and was active in a number of other civic organizations.

