

CONTACT

Cassandra Thomas
813-769-7535
813-875-5771
cthomas@bgctampa.org
www.bgctampa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Major Gift to Transform Whole Community

Donation to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay will Help Change Lives for Hundreds of Youth

MARCH 2017, TAMPA, FL: Through the generous support of the Spurlino Foundation, a transformational gift has been given to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay to renovate and expand the Bethune Park facility in Wimauma, FL.

“The community of Wimauma is one that we have been working hard to create impact in for quite some time,” said Chris Letsos, President & CEO for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay. “We are committed to building beacons of hope where *all* belong to a Club. Every child needs the investment of a community and we are fortunate to have friends, like the Spurlino Foundation, who answer the call to build great futures.”

The *We Are Wimauma Campaign* will focus on the expansion and renovation of a beacon center that will integrate services of impact with Shields Middle School and Wimauma Elementary. The facility will serve as a hub for the community; addressing a need for youth and families with the potential to increase daily school attendance, promote grade progression and graduation rates, increase parent involvement, and prevent at risk behaviors through mentorships and evidence based practices.

The \$3 million proposed project is a collaborative partnership with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, Hillsborough County Parks & Recreation Department and the Community Foundation South Shore Council. Funds from the campaign will not only expand the current site but also include massive interior renovations, that will include a technology lab, games room, teen center, and kitchen. To date, the Campaign has raised \$1.5 million, with the Spurlino Foundation leading the effort.

To make an investment in the *We Are Wimauma Campaign* please contact Chris Letsos at cletsos@bgctampa.org or 813-769-7528. Visit www.bgctampa.org for more information.

About the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay

For 90 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay has been a positive force in the community; enabling young people to become productive, responsible and caring citizens through structured programming, safe learning environments and dedicated staff. With a focus on three core priority outcomes – Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Improving Character & Leadership, Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay provides opportunities to build new skills that raise a Club Member's belief that he or she can succeed and receive recognition for personal, social and academic accomplishments. With 18 Clubs throughout Hillsborough and Pasco counties and five school sites, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Tampa Bay makes futures great for more than 15,000 young people each year.