



The Cindy Platt  
**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
 OF TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY

# WHATEVER. IT. TAKES.

FALL 2020

After our doors were closed for almost three months, we reopened on June 15th to members —elementary, middle, and high schoolers who hadn't been to school, spent time with their peers, or been to the Club since early March. This number was just a third of the members who'd attended the summer before, bringing unanticipated and unfamiliar change to the normally full Club. But with fewer numbers, our staff was able to settle in and dig deep, providing much-needed individual and personal support to our members while running summer programming.

### Smaller groups, greater impact...



Science can be fun!

Members did intensive hands-on projects that included constructing (and erupting!) paper mache volcanoes, making homemade ice cream in a Ziploc bag, learning why Mentos and diet cola create an explosive reaction, and solving a kitchen mix-up mystery using clues and deductive logic. Members agreed that they looked forward to STEAM more than any other academic program of the summer.

### Physical and emotional health...



### Triple Play "SOUL"

During this summer more than ever, our members needed a safe space to feel loved and accepted while learning how to regulate their thinking and emotions. Their world was rapidly changing, but the Club staff strived to be one thing that remained consistent. Triple Play SOUL was the platform where members learned grounding techniques, discussed why families look different and what it means to be a friend, and were given the floor to ask questions and talk about what they were feeling. At the end of this summer, many members said that they always feel safe at the Club.

Save the Date for  
 Giving Tuesday Dec. 1st!  
[bgctransylvania.org](http://bgctransylvania.org)



## Teens making the most of it...

All upper grade level teens were relocated from our main building to the high school building just a few minutes away—a change which allowed us to create space to keep everyone safe and healthy this summer. Here’s a report from Selina Hoxit, our Teen Services Director, about their summer...



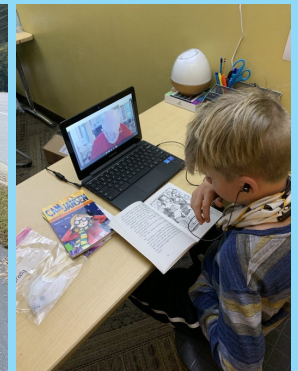
“Because of Covid, we weren't able to go on as many field trips or plan as many exciting events, but being in that space and having a smaller group helped the members to connect with one another more and we were able to run more creative and engaging programming. We had yoga class, learned how to cook healthy meals/snacks, and learned how to safely build a fire at Rockbrook Camp. We also completed several art projects that were donated to local nursing homes. This was especially meaningful because residents were not able to have any visitors at the time.”

## Our School Year Impact is Great.

### Building Community Relationships...

In October, Club members and staff wrote and delivered over 600 cards to let Transylvania County schools’ staff and faculty know how “Marvelous & Magnificent” they are. (The cards came with a pack of M&Ms attached!) Caitlyn Murray, our Education Director who headed up the project, says, “These dedicated individuals have continued to show flexibility, passion, and commitment to all young people in the community even during a difficult and uncertain time. We wanted our members to see that it's more important than ever to connect with our community and show these school employees how thankful we are for them.”

Providing for physical needs is one part of enabling young people, especially those who need us most. Thanks to a collaboration with Transylvania County Schools Nutrition Services, every child who attends the Club can eat breakfast, lunch, snack and dinner—at no cost to them or their family. Since the start of the school year, we’ve given out an average of 63 meals per day. We’re thankful to be able to support families in a tangible way and be there for our community that we care about deeply.



The Club became an off-campus virtual learning site when it reopened at the start of the school year. Club members attended on their off-days from school, and program specialists doubled as part-time teachers during the daily two- to four-hour-long virtual work sessions, while directors provided over 100 hours of one-on-one academic help to members who needed extra support!

### 2020 Partners Club Inductees...

Our Partners make it all possible! This year we are proud to add Pisgah Health Foundation, Chad & Erica Banner, and Thomas & Laura Hook to those donors who have crossed the threshold of \$25,000 lifetime giving. We will celebrate in person when we are able.

**Every year Mountain Song Festival raises almost 10% of our entire operating budget. This year, some of our faithful sponsors stepped up to move mountains in a year without the festival. Our 2020 Moving Mountains Sponsors are Sarah & John Jackson, Trails Carolina, Jan & Jim Field, PLATT, Jason & Jamie Ramsey Family, Great Pisgah Cattle, Miranda & Neill Fuleihan, Witherspoon Platt + Associates, Dan Cameron Family Foundation, Theophilus, New Leaf Garden Center, and The Transylvania Times. Thank you!**