

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor



CLUBHOUSE NEWS

1200 S. Cabrillo Avenue, San Pedro, California 90731 • (310) 833-1322

Volume 40

Summer 2011

SUMMERTIME UPDATE

A Message from Executive Director, Mike Lansing



Mike Lansing

We are writing you this update on the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor, our College Bound Program, facility modernization projects, and the communities we serve. There are lots of exciting and challenging things happening within our organization and the Los Angeles Harbor area at this time. We hope this update is informative and provides a good analysis of our accomplishments and the challenges we face today and will face in the years ahead. I thank you in advance for that continuing support as we strive each day to provide the optimum child development programming and services for the at-risk children and teens we serve. Together we can.



With Infinite Hope,

Mike Lansing



Lebron Visits



Basketball Opening Day



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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE LA HARBOR

San Pedro TeenSupreme Center
Boys & Girls Club of San Pedro
Boys & Girls Club of Wilmington
Port of LA Boys & Girls Club
Daniels Field
Dana Middle School

Barton Hill Elementary
Fries Ave. Elementary
Gulf Ave. Elementary
Wilmington Middle School
Banning High School
Fleming Middle School

Island Ave. Elementary
Park Western Elementary
San Pedro High School
Dana Strand Housing Community
Wilmington Teen Center



SUMMERTIME UPDATE

Communities Under Siege

An interesting reality of the Los Angeles Harbor area is that it is often overlooked when our City, State, and National leaders identify/highlight where the greatest “need” and negative impact in terms of poverty and gang related activities occurs within Los Angeles County. The perception is that South and East Los Angeles, Compton, Watts and parts of the valley are the areas most impacted by the negative socioeconomic factors of poverty and gang escalation. In reality however, the Los Angeles Harbor communities of Wilmington and San Pedro that we serve are as negatively impacted by these factors as any of the others listed and we are continually targeted as an area that is ripe for crime.

Wilmington has been under a gang injunction for 8 years. Most recently in 2007 & 2010, a coordinated multi-task force raid in that community arrested dozens of individuals and confiscated tens of thousands of dollars in illegal weapons, drugs, and cash. Wilmington continues to be a hotbed of gang related crimes and violence. Under the Gang Injunction imposed on Wilmington, the City Attorney’s Office continues to prosecute gang members who illegally interact in the city.

This past April, a similar multi-disciplinary task force including “1300” federal agents and police coordinated the same type of raid in San Pedro. Leading up to the raid, 40 arrests of gang members from the Rancho San Pedro, Dodge City Crips, and Young Crowd gangs occurred; and the raid resulted in an additional 88 arrests being facilitated. Subsequent to the raid, between 120 and 150 additional warrants were outstanding and as of recently, all but 38 of those arrests have been made. San Pedro currently has a “temporary” Gang Injunction against the

three gangs listed above, and that is expected to be a permanent injunction by the end of this month.

Another statistic most people don’t know is that San Pedro has the dubious distinction of being #1 out of 21 communities in ALL of Los Angeles in property related crimes. The Los Angeles Police Department and City Attorney’s office has determined that this tremendous spike in crimes against properties in San Pedro is in direct relation to the proliferation of gangs in our community. What makes this reality even more unique is the willingness of these gangs to work together in criminal activities that not only includes theft of private property, but many other “partnerships” in criminal activities, including numerous acts of extreme violence.

We end this update on the realities that the San Pedro and Wilmington communities are facing in

terms of gang activities and the impact it is having on the children we serve and strive to assist in securing an improved quality of life. Today a majority of our youth and teens are subjected to the intimidation, direct violence, and sometimes even gunfire that erupts from conflicts within the growing harbor area gang population. Gangs and the threat of violence strike fear in the hearts of many children as they walk to and from school each day, and for many is just a fact of life in the neighborhoods in which they reside. The fear and violence that the children we serve face in the harbor area are as great as anywhere within the City of Los Angeles. We wish this wasn’t true, but it is the reality we live in and why we need even more support to serve the most at-risk youth of our San Pedro and Wilmington communities.



Club Art Contest Winner

SUMMERTIME UPDATE

Modernization Project



Middle School Center - Before

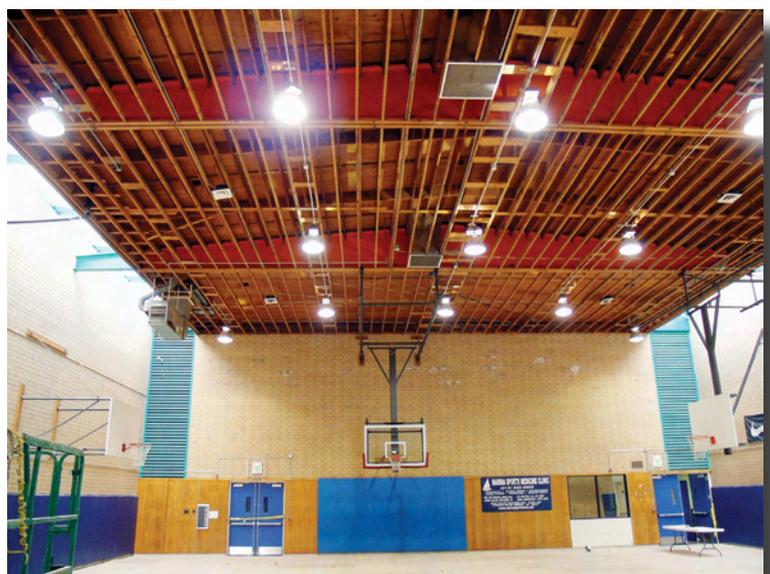
Field Recreation Center directly across the street. This commitment will not only allow us to provide the most comprehensive programming possible at each "level", but it will also allow us to maximize the number of youth served by best utilizing the space originally available. The project is also adding additional program space with a new Elementary Learning Center at the back of this facility, and a new Sports Facility on the Daniels Field Recreation Center across the street.

Last December, we embarked on a "Modernization & Expansion" project at our flagship San Pedro Club site. Originally built in 1965, the facility had become a bit run down after 46 years of serving San Pedro youth. Therefore, the first goal of this project was to modernize the building. The project included: 1) substituting energy efficient lighting, 2) improving heating and air conditioning, and 3) upgrading and expanding technology and telephone capacity. The modernization also included an overall "facelift" to the aging facility with different improvements that would make the Club site look more closely like our recently upgraded, expanded, and beautiful Wilmington Club site.



Middle School Center - After

Our second goal was to modify the facility so that we could best serve an increasing number of at-risk youth with the most age-appropriate programming possible. To this end, we developed a plan to reallocate space and expand the site when possible so that we could develop and operate three separate Centers: Elementary, Middle School and High School. The project includes each center having its own designated space to support our "Triple A" programming strategy (Academics, Arts & Athletics), as well as improving our shared space of the gym, sports arena in the back, and the Daniels



Construction in the Gymnasium

SUMMERTIME UPDATE

College

The success of our College Bound program has eclipsed all of our most hopeful expectations. A summary of our most recent accomplishments and efforts to expand our impact both locally and through the replication of College Bound in other Clubs and States are as follows:

- We had “244” seniors acknowledged at this year’s College Bound Graduation celebration at the Warner Grand Theatre. This is a 22% increase of seniors utilizing the College Bound program compared to last year.
- Of these 244 seniors, 238 graduated from HS on time (98%) and of these graduates, 96% will be attending a 2-year college (46%) or 4-year university (50%) in the fall. These numbers are PHENOMENAL when compared to their peers who are not involved in College Bound.
- With a two year grant partnership with the Everychild Foundation, we have been able to launch our College Bound Clubs website, which we exhibited at our recent Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Conference in May. This website will allow us to provide our college pathway resources nationwide and we have already registered 102 Clubs from throughout the country. These Clubs will be able to access the website for “free” for two years, sponsored through the grant.
- We are providing additional support to eight Clubs from the Los Angeles Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs. In addition to access to our website, we are providing these Clubs direct replication services such as site visits, quarterly trainings, weekly webcam coordinators meetings, and a College Bound replication manual. We plan to have ten Los Angeles based Clubs fully replicating College Bound within two years.



- We continue our Middle School College Bound program in both Wilmington and San Pedro. The Wilmington program is located at Wilmington Middle School. We are currently building out our new Middle School College Bound Center at our San Pedro site as part of our Modernization Project. Our goal – to engage a growing number of youth in College Bound long before they enter high school in order to maximize their ability to graduate from high school on time and be accepted into and have success in college.

SUMMERTIME UPDATE

Bound



- This year, we also initiated our new “College Bound Kids” program, which introduces College Bound at the elementary school level to even further support our members with long-term resources to maximize their academic success and academic futures. Once again, we have found that the earlier we engage our predominantly first generation college pathway members in College Bound – the better the success rate for high school graduation, college acceptance, and eventual college graduation.

The success of our College Bound program would not be possible without the support of our many donors and supporters. And while all support is greatly appreciated, we are especially grateful to the significant grants from The Windsong Trust, The Eisner Foundation, The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, The Ray Charles Foundation, and The Weingart Foundation, in addition to The Everychild Foundation, whose belief in our youth has allowed us to enhance the basic program as mentioned earlier.

As one would expect, as the scope of College Bound has grown to include a major expansion within our own organization to serve even more at-risk youth AND support tens of thousands of additional Boys & Girls Club members nationwide, our annual operating budget for College Bound has also experienced tremendous growth. Our College Bound Operating budget for the coming fiscal year comes to \$1,149,000. Despite our many great partnerships and securing over 80% of the funding required to continue this expanded program, *we currently have an operating shortfall for College Bound in 2011-2012 which we will be working hard to overcome in the coming fiscal year.*



2011 College Bound Scholarship Winners

SUMMERTIME UPDATE

Sustainability & 75th Anniversary

In 2012, our organization will be celebrating our "75th Anniversary" in serving youth in our harbor area communities. It will be a great opportunity to reach out to our alumni and the greater San Pedro, Wilmington, and "hill" communities as we hope to capitalize on our many decades of serving the most at-risk youth of our area.

Besides hosting a series of small and larger celebrations over the next 18 months to both showcase our successes and bring people back or maybe even "in" for the first time to our upgraded San Pedro Club and recently modernized Wilmington Club sites, we also hope to capitalize on the modernization and expansion project described in the first part of this update. We plan to tie our 75th Anniversary with "Our Next 75 Years

Campaign" and utilize these newly upgraded facilities to hopefully secure the \$5 million available through a number of naming opportunities that range from classrooms for individual donors, to the naming of one of our College Bound Learning Centers, up to a major naming sponsorship of the entire building. Besides eliminating the debt incurred during the current Modernization Project, this campaign will also provide our organization with a formidable endowment that will support the annual operating costs of our much-needed and successful programs - such as College Bound.

We thank you for your support of the youth we serve. You have been a great partner in the past, and we hope you will continue to be the same in the future.



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