



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA PARTNERS WITH ROSS STORES  
TO PROMOTE ACADEMIC SUCCESS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Orlando, Fla. – Feb. 19, 2014** – Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida (BGCCF) announces a partnership with Ross Stores, Inc., to support the Power Hour programs at their Downtown Branch, Walt Disney World Clubhouse and West Sanford Branch. The Power Hour program is an interactive after-school homework assistance program for members, ages 6 to 18.

Nationally, three out of 10 youth will not graduate from high school on time, often due to serious challenges they face personally and academically. BGCCF's Power Hour program offers the opportunity for Club staff to support youth in developing a positive attitude about learning while emphasizing the importance of high school graduation.

"The generous support from Ross Stores shows their dedication to supporting academic success for youth in our community and communities nationwide," said Mack Reid, BGCCF Chief Operations Officer. "We know that regular participation in out-of-school-time educational programs, like Power Hour, can help in addressing the high school dropout crisis and bridge the achievement gap for our youth."

The partnership with Ross Stores will assist in making the program a more effective tool to keep members on top of their academic studies as well as provide the Club with staff training and resources. Additionally, local Ross store employees will have an opportunity to volunteer their time at BGCCF Clubs across Central Florida.

"Supporting the local communities we serve is an important focus for us", said Gary Cribb, Executive Vice President, Stores and Loss Prevention for Ross Stores. "The Power Hour program provides youths the opportunity to learn and develop skills enabling them to be successful in their studies."

Power Hour is one of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's top national programs supporting academic success. It is the organization's vision to assure success is within reach of

every young person who enters the doors of a Club, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future.

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### **About Boys & Girls Clubs**

Since 1944, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida has provided at-risk children from the local community, between the ages of 6 and 18, with a safe place to learn and grow. Our membership totals nearly 13,000 young people at 30 Clubs and middle school sites in Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole Counties – Great Futures Start at Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida.

The mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. Learn more at 407.841.6855, [www.bgccf.org](http://www.bgccf.org) or [facebook.com/bgccf](https://www.facebook.com/bgccf).

### **About Ross Stores**

Ross Stores, Inc. is an S&P 500, Fortune 500 and Nasdaq 100 (ROST) company headquartered in Pleasanton, California, with fiscal 2011 revenues of \$8.6 billion. The Company operates Ross Dress for Less® ("Ross"), the largest off-price apparel and home fashion chain in the United States with more than 1,000 locations in 33 states, the District of Columbia and Guam. Ross offers first-quality, in-season, name brand and designer apparel, accessories, footwear and home fashions for the entire family at everyday savings of 20% to 60% off department and specialty store regular prices. The Company also operates over 100 dd's DISCOUNTS® in eight states that feature a more moderately-priced assortment of first-quality, in-season, name brand apparel, accessories, footwear and home fashions for the entire family at everyday savings of 20% to 70% off moderate department and discount store regular prices. Additional information is available at [www.rossstores.com](http://www.rossstores.com).

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