

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Betsy Owens**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida  
407-841-6855 or [bowens@bgccf.org](mailto:bowens@bgccf.org)

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida, Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake  
& Sumter Counties Announce Merger**

**ORLANDO, November 2, 2017** – Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida (BGCCF) and Boys & Girls Clubs of Lake & Sumter Counties (BGCLSC) are pleased to announce their merger.

With this merger, the five Lake & Sumter Clubs will join BGCCF's 31 Clubs, for a total of 36 Clubs in seven Counties under the BGCCF corporate umbrella. BGCLSC will continue to use its name and public identity, but administrative functions will be integrated into BGCCF.

"We couldn't be more excited to have Lake & Sumter Counties joining our BGCCF family," said Julie Anderson, Chair of BGCCF's Corporate Board of Directors. "Our individual donor bases have voiced their support and enthusiasm for this merger, and we believe that all 36 Clubs will benefit from the efficiencies we gain in centralizing our administrative functions."

Lena Williams, Chair of BGCLSC's Board, echoed Anderson's enthusiasm. "We are delighted to be able to share best practices within the new, merged organization. Most importantly, I know the 1,691 children we serve in Lake and Sumter Counties will ultimately benefit from the strength and expanded resources of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida."

Kelsey Gonzalez will serve as Area Director for Lake & Sumter Counties, and will report to Mack Reid, Chief Operating Officer of BGCCF.

The five Lake & Sumter Clubs are: Lady Lake; NE Lake (serving Umatilla and Eustis); South Lake (serving Clermont); Spring Creek (serving Paisley); and the Teeter Club in Leesburg. In both the

number of Clubs and number of children served, BGCCF is the largest Boys & Girls Clubs organization in Florida.

**About Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida:**

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 more than 15,000 young people at 36 Clubs and middle school sites in 7 counties. 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), [facebook.com/bgccf](https://facebook.com/bgccf), or [twitter.com/bgccf](https://twitter.com/bgccf).

For media inquiries, contact Betsy Owens at [bowens@bgccf.org](mailto:bowens@bgccf.org), or 407.841.6855.

###