

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida's Hughes Branch Receives
\$1.2 million gift from Dr. Phillips Charities**

ORLANDO, October 17, 2017 – Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida recently received a \$1.2 million gift from Dr. Phillips Charities for the construction and operation of the Hughes Branch in Parramore.

The new, 30,300 sq. ft. Hughes Branch is located on the campus of the ACE Community School. The facility has more than quadrupled BGCCF's service capacity in the disadvantaged neighborhood, from about 60 children to more than 250 children in daily attendance. Over 90% of the children served by the Club qualify for free or reduced lunch.

The gift from Dr. Phillips Charities is allocated for both capital (\$800,000) and operations (\$400,000). The operations allotment will enable the Club to increase its capacity during the first full year of operations, which began in August.

"We are deeply grateful to Dr. Phillips Charities for their extraordinary generosity," said Gary Cain, President & CEO of BGCC. "Boys & Girls Clubs is committed to providing the children of Parramore with the support and skills they need to live productive and purposeful lives, and this grant greatly enhances our ability to do so."

Dr. Phillips has been working with the BGCCF since 1955; during that time they have gifted \$4,473,436.26.

“So many kids have undiscovered talents that can propel them to great heights if given the right opportunity. This takes the role of the Boys & Girls Club to a whole new level,” said Dr. Phillips Charities President Ken Robinson.

The two-story Club has a dedicated Teen Center, which has been specifically designed to meet their unique needs in terms of education, and college and career development programming and services. Each floor is equipped with its own computer lab, upstairs with a teen computer lab, learning center, games room, health and life skills area, and dance and music studios. The first floor also houses the gymnasium, stage, kitchen and outdoor patio.

The facility will be dedicated at a grand opening ceremony on November 30, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

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 14,000 young people at 38 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, facebook.com/bgccf, or twitter.com/bgccf.

About Dr. Phillips Charities:

The Dr. Phillips name has been a major economic and philanthropic presence in the Central Florida community since the turn of the 20th century. Dr. Phillips Charities (Dr. Phillips, Inc. and The Dr. P. Phillips Foundation) uses the earnings from its investment and real estate income to give financial assistance to hundreds of charities serving primarily in Orange and Osceola counties. Dr. Phillips has contributed more than \$180 million in grants and pledges to Central Florida.
www.DrPhillips.org

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