



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida

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**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA RECEIVES \$3,500
FINANCIAL LITERACY GRANT FROM CHARLES SCHWAB FOUNDATION**

Financial Education Program to Provide Central Florida Youth with Tools Needed for a Great Future

Central Florida teens are getting hands-on money management experience that will help them learn how to attain financial independence and well-being as adults. Youth from Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida will participate in Money Matters: Make it Count, which is a national program co-sponsored by Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Charles Schwab Foundation that prepares teens for a strong financial future by teaching them critical money management concepts.

Our Walt Disney World Clubhouse and East Altamonte Boys & Girls Club received a \$3,500 grant to run Money Matters. Through the program, teens learn to save, spend and invest their money wisely, critical skills in any economy.

“Money Matters provides fun, interactive activities that help our teens understand money management before they make financial mistakes in the real world,” said Gary Cain, President & CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida. “These lessons help our Club members get ahead by teaching them about everyday experiences including how to use a checking account, create a budget and save for college.”

Through the grant provided by Charles Schwab Foundation, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida will offer the program to Club teens ages 13-18. Additionally, teens will be eligible for college scholarship opportunities provided through the Money Matters Scholarship Program. Charles Schwab Foundation will award scholarships to teens who are applying skills learned through Money Matters to everyday life.

The Money Matters program includes an interactive experience, Reality Store, that helps youth understand how choices they make regarding career, managing income and expenses, and saving will affect future outcomes. The Reality Store is an online experience that allows participants to draw a salary based on a career choice and manage basic living expenses for themselves and a family. They envision a lifestyle they would like to have and receive a checking account “deposit” equal to one month’s salary and spend it in the Reality Store on necessities and extras. They also handle some of life’s unexpected events and discover whether their occupation provides the financial resources needed to sustain the lifestyle they want.

Since the program’s inception in 2004, more than 600,000 Boys & Girls Club teens have completed Money Matters in more than 1,700 Clubs. Additionally, Charles Schwab Foundation has presented a

total of \$500,000 in college scholarship grants to 248 Boys & Girls Club teens, ages 16-18, who completed the program and demonstrated newly acquired personal finance skills.

For more information visit moneymattersmakeitcount.com.

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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 nearly 14,000 young people at 30 Clubs and middle school sites in Brevard, Orange, Osceola and Seminole 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 Boys & Girls Clubs of America

For more than 100 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (GreatFutures.org) has enabled young people most in need to achieve great futures as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Today, more than 4,100 Clubs serve nearly 4 million young people annually through Club membership and community outreach. Clubs are located in cities, towns, public housing and on Native lands throughout the country, and serve military families in BGCA-affiliated Youth Centers on U.S. military installations worldwide. They provide a safe place, caring adult mentors, fun, friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours. Priority programs emphasize academic success, good character and citizenship, and healthy lifestyles. In a Harris Survey of alumni, 57 percent said the Club saved their lives. National headquarters are located in Atlanta. Learn more at <http://www.bgca.org/facebook> and <http://bgca.org/twitter>.

About Charles Schwab Foundation

Charles Schwab Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization funded by The Charles Schwab Corporation. Its mission is to create positive change through financial education, philanthropy, and volunteerism. More information is available at <http://www.aboutschwab.com/community> Charles Schwab Foundation is classified by the IRS as a charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Foundation is neither a part of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (member SIPC) nor its parent company, The Charles Schwab Corporation.

Charles Schwab Foundation and Boys & Girls Clubs of America are unaffiliated entities.