

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF CENTRAL FLORIDA TO HOST
'RISING STARS GALA' TO BENEFIT BREVARD CLUBS**

(February 6, 2017, ORLANDO, Fla.) Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida (BGCCF) will host its 2nd Annual Rising Stars Gala on Friday, March 17, 2017, at the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex. The event, which includes cocktails, dinner, a silent auction, and entertainment, will begin at 6:30 p.m. in KSC's new "Heroes and Legends" exhibit hall. We will be honoring one of our own local heroes for being an active advocate and supporter of our children.

"This annual fundraiser meets a critical need in serving the more than 550 Brevard County Children we nurture each year," said Gary Cain, President & CEO of BGCCF. "Without our Clubs in Cocoa, Melbourne, and Mims, these children wouldn't have a safe place to go after school, and wouldn't receive the academic help, extracurricular enrichment, and emotional support that they so critically need."

One of the goals of this year's gala is to raise sufficient funds to open the Cocoa Branch, which has a waiting list of close to 400 children, to full capacity.

"We are so very excited for this year's gala," said Kevin Hill, a BGCCF board member, event sponsor and local realtor. "Not only will we have some terrific auction items, the program is going to be truly uplifting. It's a great opportunity for the Brevard business community to come together in support of our most vulnerable residents—at-risk children."

Multiple partnership opportunities exist for the Rising Stars Gala; Health First has already signed on as the Visionary level partner. To learn about partnership opportunities, or to purchase individual tickets to the gala, please contact Erin Harvey at eharvey@bgccf.org or (407) 625-4668.

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](https://www.facebook.com/bgccf), or twitter.com/bgccf.

For more information, contact Betsy Owens at bowens@bgccf.org, or 407.841.6855.

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