



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DECEMBER 19 OPEN HOUSE:
TOUR THE HISTORIC CARTER HOUSE, FUTURE HOME OF TITUSVILLE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**

(TITUSVILLE, Fla.) Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Florida (BGCCF) will host an Open House for its future Titusville location on *Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 4 to 6 p.m.* The new Club will be housed in the *Historic Carter House (1915), located at 126 Grannis Avenue South*, which is being completely restored by North Brevard Charities. Members of the community are invited to attend and learn about the adaptive reuse of this historic property, and plans for the new Club which will provide enriching programming for Titusville children, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, during the non-school hours.

The Carter House, built in 1915, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and has been a landmark throughout Titusville's history. Former owner Brigadier General Ellerbe Carter served in 3 wars, and was once Mayor of Titusville. His wife, Patricia Carter, founded and operated the "Titusville Free Library" out of their house, and the couple raised 9 children there. In recent years, the house had fallen into severe disrepair, and was donated to North Brevard Charities five years ago. The restoration was begun about 18 months ago, and will cost about \$250,000 when completed.

Community leaders feel that the Carter House is the ideal location for a Boys & Girls Club. "I can't imagine a better use for this historic property," said Joe Robinson, President & CEO of North Brevard Charities. "This will be a real shot in the arm for the neighborhood, and provide families with all the positivity that comes from a Boys & Girls Club." Robinson, himself a Club alum, noted the fact that Blanton Park, located just across the street, was donated to the City by General Carter, and will complement the Club's activities perfectly.

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“This has truly been a whole-community effort,” said Gary Cain, BGCCF’s President & CEO. “From Councilwoman Jo Lynn Nelson and Joe Robinson spearheading the project, to the incredibly generous funding and in-kind contributions from Parrish Medical, Lowe’s, and so many others, we couldn’t feel more welcomed and excited about opening our “blue doors” to the children of Titusville.”

The Titusville Club will be BGCCF’s third Brevard County location, joining established Clubs in Cocoa and Melbourne (Temple Terrace).

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 16,000 young people at 34 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.

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