

# Annual Report 2017



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF THE LOWER NAUGATUCK VALLEY





# Leadership Team

Here at the Boys & Girls Club, we understand that after-school hours are just as important in a child's life as the time that they spend in the classroom. Research shows that what happens during out-of-school time can have a dramatic impact on reversing the negative trends facing our youth and our country, specifically youth dropout rates, obesity, and violence.

Our Boys & Girls Club continues to be at the forefront of youth development, and to ensure that youth leave us as well-rounded individuals with a plan for the future, we focus on three key areas: academic success, good character and citizenship, and healthy lifestyles. You can find a breakdown of these programs and how many of our members participated in each on page 6.

On page 3 you'll find the story of Sabrina, our 2017 Youth of the Year who started college this fall in pursuit of a career in Criminal Justice, a passion she found



through our Boys & Girls Club. On page 4 you'll find Twiza's story, an alum who earned her medical degree this year and is now a Pediatric Resident in Staten Island. Great futures truly do start here.

We thank you for your support over the past year. Your generosity and commitment to our mission help provide the resources we need as we work to expand the opportunities for all those who come to us. We're looking forward with great enthusiasm to the next year, and all the possibilities our kids will discover during their time with us.

Joseph A. Pagliaro, Jr.  
Board President

Shaye A. Roscoe  
Executive Director



The Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley is a United Way Agency

## Our Staff



**Shaye A. Roscoe**  
Executive Director

**James A. Queen**  
Director of Operations

**Lisa Savoid**  
Marketing & Development Director

**Marie Ambrosini**  
Finance & HR Administrator

**Ann Marie Wheeler**  
Office Manager

**Raymond P. Lavietes Unit**  
Jennifer DeLeon-Prutting, MSW,  
Unit Director  
Adam Manning, Program Director

**Joel E. Smilow Unit**  
Breon Sanders, Unit Director  
Victoria Queen, Program Director

**Seymour Unit**  
Jesse Patrick, Unit Director

# Board of Directors

## Daun Barrett

Valley Parish Nurse Program

## Karen Bentlage

Future Industries

## Brendan Carey

NFP

## Patrick Carey\*

Carey & Guarrera Real Estate

## Richard Carroll

2nd Vice President

Toyota Financial Services

## Arlene Clancy

Retired School Principal

## Martin Coughlin

Secretary

Community Member

## Louis Dagostine, Esq.

Culla & Donofrio, LLP

## Susan M. DeLeon

Chairwoman of the Board

Iroquois Pipeline Operating Company

## Bart Flaherty

Community Member

## Rebecca Golebieski

Apicella, Testa & Company, P.C.

## Michael P. Healey\*

Stevens Ford

## Christopher Jones

All Premier Hardwood Flooring

## James Lane

Community Member

## Robert Lesko

DiMatteo Group Insurance LLC

## Nicholas Luise

Community Member

## Vincent Luzietti

Trident Funding

## Bernard McGorty

Community Member

## William M. Miller, Jr.

Treasurer

Miller Investment

## Aleta Miner

Shelton Economic Development

Corporation

## Kenneth F. Nappi\*

Community Member

## Carol Navarro

C&D Number Crunchers, LLC

## Joseph A. Pagliaro, Jr.

President

Riverview Funeral Home

## Ben Perry

S&G of Shelton

## Joseph Salemme

Property Developer

## John F. Santa

Community Member

## John Schaible

SCHUTZ Dental

## Fred Serra

1st Vice President

NFP

## Lisa Serra

Salon Sanctuary & Day Spa

## Diane Stroman

TEAM, Inc.

## Dominick Thomas, Esq.\*

Cohen & Thomas Attorneys at Law

## Jimmy Tickey

Community Member

## Linda Welch

Retired School Principal

## Lifetime Board

Joseph Andreana\*

Louis Dagostine

LeRoy Glover

David Grant\*

Robert Manger

William C. Nimons\*

Jack O'Donnell

Calvin K. Price\*

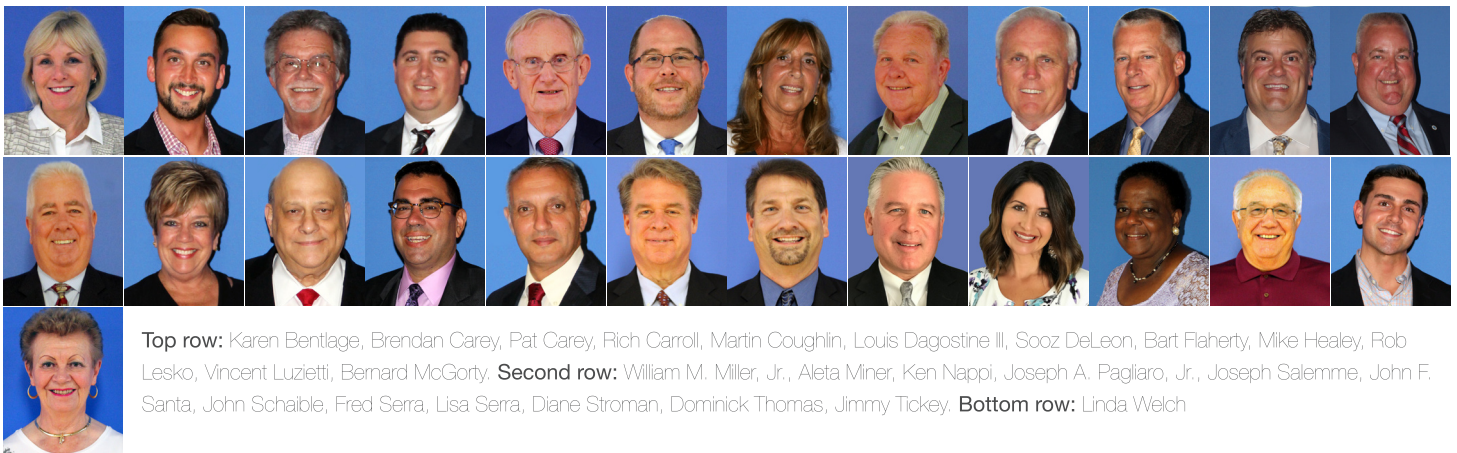
Kenneth E. Schaible\*

Donald Smith

Charles H. Sullivan\*

Leo Vine, Esq.\*

\* Past President



Top row: Karen Bentlage, Brendan Carey, Pat Carey, Rich Carroll, Martin Coughlin, Louis Dagostine III, Sooz DeLeon, Bart Flaherty, Mike Healey, Rob Lesko, Vincent Luzietti, Bernard McGorty. Second row: William M. Miller, Jr., Aleta Miner, Ken Nappi, Joseph A. Pagliaro, Jr., Joseph Salemme, John F. Santa, John Schaible, Fred Serra, Lisa Serra, Diane Stroman, Dominick Thomas, Jimmy Tickey. Bottom row: Linda Welch

## Our Mission

To provide, in a safe environment, programs that inspire, educate, guide, and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens.



# Youth of the Year

“I am the daughter of immigrants, and this has always set me apart,” says Sabrina, our 2017 Youth of the Year.

Her parents, from Portugal and Puerto Rico, struggled to speak and understand English, and Sabrina, at age 10, developed a strong sense of independence and responsibility. What her parents couldn't do, such as filling out doctor's forms and school papers, Sabrina learned to do for herself. She keenly felt the difference of being a minority at a time in her life when she was shy, easily persuaded, and struggling with self identity. She needed an outlet, and she found it at our Boys & Girls Club.

Sabrina credits Torch Club with starting her journey to transformation. Seeing the other kids dealing with their own circumstances, situations, and backgrounds allowed her to embrace her own. She learned that it was ok to vocalize her thoughts and use her creativity. It set her free to find her self confidence and bold spirit.

“I've come across many different kinds of people, but the ones I recall most clearly are those who doubted me,” Sabrina says. “There are negative people everywhere you go, but it is within you to value their

opinions or to remain true to yourself and to who you know you are.”

In the seven years she's been a Club member, Sabrina has met mentors and role models who taught her the value and importance of helping others. She now comes to the Club as a mentor and role model in her own right.

Sabrina found her life's passion while volunteering—within her community, at our Club, and with the local Police Department. The time she spent helping others

taught her that she wants to spend her life doing the same. She will be the first of six siblings to attend college—the

University of Massachusetts, Lowell, where she will pursue a Criminal Justice degree. Her goal is a career in juvenile justice, where she will be able to assist adolescents who are struggling to function in society.

“My opportunity for greatness does not end at my Club,” Sabrina says. “I leave those doors behind with a world of experience and connections ahead of me.”



**“My opportunity for greatness does not end at my Club.”**





# Boys & Girls of the Year



**Above** Kiara & Jaylan, Raymond P. Lavietes Unit Girl & Boy of the Year • Sabrina, Youth of the Year • Tyler, Seymour Unit Boy of the Year • Angelina, Seymour Unit Jr. Youth of the Year • **Below** Marques and Rynne, Joel E. Smilow Unit Boy and Girl of the Year

Before attaining Youth of the Year, our Club members have the opportunity to hone their leadership skills through multiple programs: Boy and Girl of the Year and Jr. Youth of the Year. Each offers members training and practice for the future.



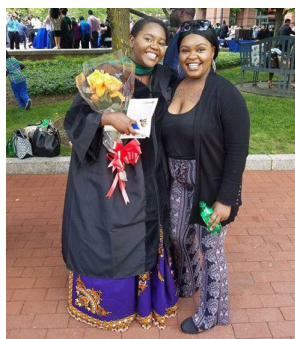
## Alumni Association

"I've dreamed of being a doctor since I was seven," says Club alumna Twiza Mambwe. "I knew it was a dream that would stay with me for a lifetime." She judged correctly. Her love of medicine only grew stronger through the years—high school biology and chemistry classes fascinated her. "I was amazed by how a tiny cell could have so much power."

Her first two years of college were spent at Penn State, where she quickly found that college was a whole new ball game. "Penn State taught me that love and aspiration can take you only so far." The classes were more challenging, her schedule was fuller, and her responsibilities were exponentially greater. Determined to persevere, she fought through financial and social difficulty, finally earning admittance to the American University of Antigua College of Medicine in the Caribbean. After three and a half years of rigorous study, she earned her undergraduate degree.

Twiza's experiences have taught her that life holds no guarantees, or impossibilities. "I've learned that we can accomplish all things in life if we believe, push, and persevere," she says. After eight years of medical school, she is now Twiza Mambwe, M.D., Pediatric

Resident at Staten Island University Hospital. "I am thankful to my Boys & Girls Club, which helped raise me to be the successful woman you see today."



Our Alumni Association raises money throughout the year for our kids. These funds have allowed us to provide many "extras," such as funding for the National Keystone Conference for our Lavietes and Smilow clubs, and for our Seymour Unit, an intercom system, bumper pool table, and weight room equipment and upgrades.



# Programs

Everything we do at the Boys & Girls Club is centered around helping our members become well-rounded children and young adults. By focusing on academics, health and fitness, and leadership and service, the children and youth we serve will be better prepared to graduate high school and thrive as adults, contributing to their communities and to their nation. The Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Formula for Impact is a roadmap to help us achieve these goals.



## Program Sponsors

### \$10,000+

Boys & Girls Clubs of America  
BGCLNV Alumni & Friends Association

### \$5,000+

Breakout Athlete

### \$2,500+

Charter Arms  
Unilever  
Valley United Way, Special Needs Grant

### \$1,500+

Dr. Edward G. Bednar Family

### In Kind

Ansonia Board of Education  
Ansonia Food Services  
Ansonia Police Department  
Basement Systems  
Ben Trabka  
Breakout Athlete

Candace Kodiak  
Cathi Kellelt  
CHAZ of WPLR  
Comcast  
Derby Police Dept.  
Diversified Nonprofit Services  
Doggie Styles  
Donna Skurat  
Echo Hose Hook & Ladder Co. #1  
Edge Fitness  
Electri-Cable Assembly  
Food Corps  
Home Depot  
Ice Cream Shoppe  
J Cuts  
J&B Auto Body  
Jessica Champagne  
Julia Hinton

Lauren DiBenedetto  
Marc Weissman  
PORC  
Prudential  
Really Good Stuff  
Seymour Board of Education  
Seymour Police Department  
Sharon Kelley  
Shelton Board of Education  
Shelton Police Department  
Sikorsky Credit Union  
Spoonier House  
Town of Seymour  
Valley Angels  
Valley Parish Nurses  
Valley United Way  
WPLR  
Yale Community Rowing

In kind donations are dollars saved which we apply directly to support the programs and services we provide for our members. We are sincerely grateful for this assistance. In some cases, our programs couldn't run without it.





**Education & Career**

<b>24</b>	STEM Mentoring
<b>248</b>	The Arts
<b>654</b>	Club Tech, Computers
<b>833</b>	Power Hour

**Character & Leadership**

<b>10</b>	Junior Staff
<b>14</b>	SMART Leaders
<b>37</b>	Keystone Club
<b>62</b>	Torch Club

**Health & Life Skills**

<b>56</b>	Passport to Manhood
<b>169</b>	Resistance Skills
<b>279</b>	TGIF
<b>819</b>	Triple Play
<b>1,010</b>	Sports
<b>698</b>	Games Room
<b>57</b>	Dance

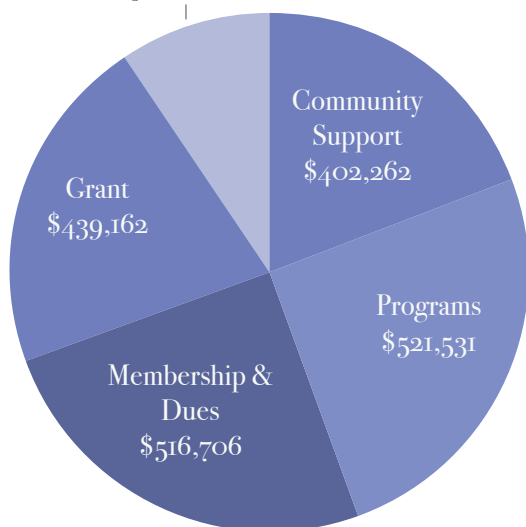


# 2016-2017 Financials (Unaudited)

Fiscal Year July - June

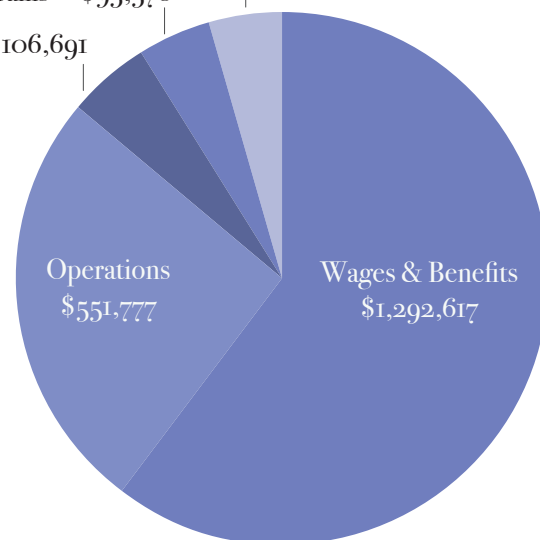
## Income • \$2,069,529

Special Events • \$189,868



## Expense • \$2,137,470

Special Events • \$92,816  
Programs • \$93,570  
Grants • \$106,691



Connect with us on social media



Official Website  
[BGC-LNV.org](http://BGC-LNV.org)

Alumni & Friends Association  
[BGC-LNV.org/alumni--friends-association](http://BGC-LNV.org/alumni--friends-association)

Facebook  
[Facebook.com/BGCLNV](https://Facebook.com/BGCLNV)

Twitter  
[Twitter.com/BGCLNV](https://Twitter.com/BGCLNV)

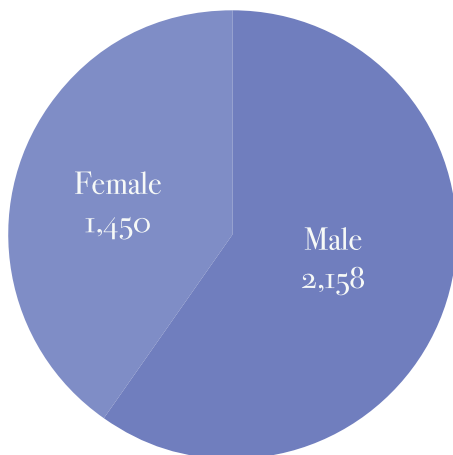
Instagram  
[Instagram.com/BGCLNV](https://Instagram.com/BGCLNV)



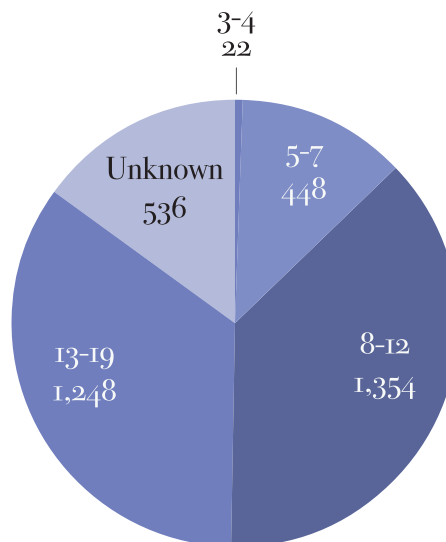


# Demographics • 3,608 Members

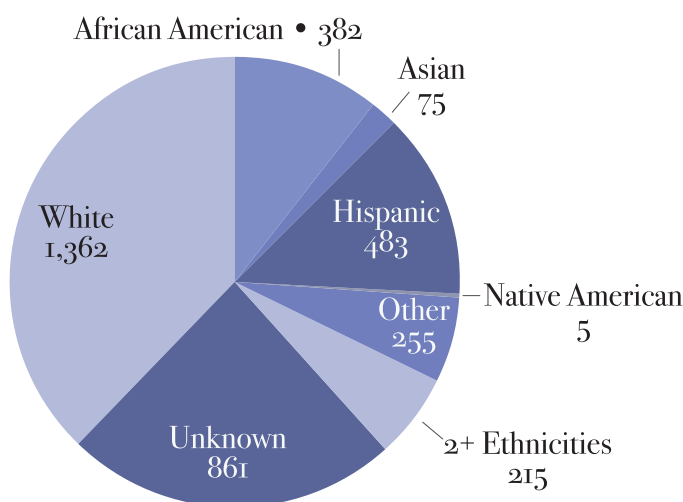
**Gender**



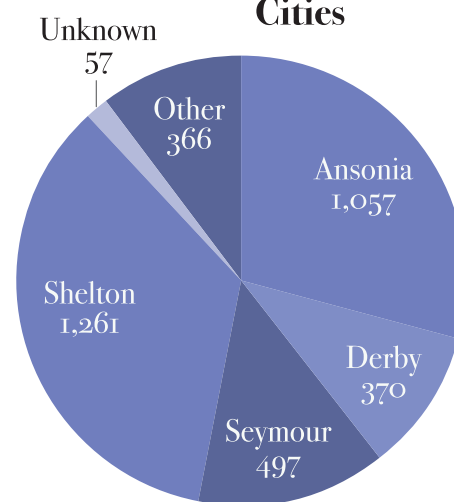
**Ages**



**Ethnicities**



**Cities**



## Corporators

Ahern, William  
 Apicella, Achille  
 Araujo, Robert  
 Archer, III, Walter  
 Balog, Stephen  
 Blackburn, David  
 Bosch, Judy  
 Coffey, Maureen  
 Cohen-Neil, Jennifer  
 Coiro, Don  
 Condon, David  
 Coughlin, John  
 Dadonna, Michael  
 Dagostine, Peter  
 Dagostine, Ralph  
 DaSilva, Al  
 Debicella, Dan

DeFilippo, Charlene  
 Degennaro, Barbara  
 Dellolio Jr., Nicholas  
 DeMarseilles, Edward  
 Devine, Jeff  
 DiAdamo, Harry  
 Dziubina, Cheryl  
 Dziubina, Pierre  
 Elmy, Fred  
 Farrell, Lynne  
 Foehrenbach, Richard  
 Gamble, George  
 Geissler, Patricia  
 Grasso, Albert  
 Hinton, Pamela  
 Hoyle, Clifford  
 Imbrogno, Robin

Jachimowski, Stanley  
 Jalowiec, Joseph  
 Jones, Dave  
 Jones, Terry  
 Kekac, John  
 Kudej, Stanley  
 Logan, George  
 Marcinek, Mike  
 Monahan, Grace  
 Nager, Robert  
 Nathan Jr., Allen  
 O'Leary, Raymond  
 Oppel, Win  
 Perry, Lynne  
 Presutto, David  
 Ramia, Donald  
 Ramia, Kathy

Samatulski, Mary Ellen  
 San Angelo, Anthony  
 Sarmiento, Carlo  
 Savitsky, Linda R  
 Schpero, Alan  
 Severson, James  
 Skoronski, Frank  
 Sous, Ramon  
 Sylvester, Leon  
 Thomas, Gregory  
 Volo, Richard  
 Welch, James  
 Williams, Stuart  
 Wilson, Thomas  
 Wynne, Michael  
 Zaprzalka, John  
 Zaprzalka, Thomas

# Donors

## Major Donors

Blanchette Sporting Goods  
Charter Arms  
City of Ansonia  
City of Derby  
City of Shelton  
Cohen & Thomas  
Coleman Bros. Carnival  
David & Connie Condon  
J&L Enterprise LLC  
Joel E. Smilow  
Karen Bentlage  
Robert Manger, Jr.  
Town of Seymour  
Valley Community  
Foundation

## Donors

805 Columbus, LLC  
Achille Apicella  
Albert Grasso  
Aleta Miner  
Alimak Hek Inc.  
Allyson Landolfi  
Amazon Smile Foundation  
Anthony & Karen Minopoly  
Anthony A. Incerto  
Anthony SanAngelo  
Aquarion Water Company of  
Connecticut  
Archdiocese of Hartford  
Arlene Clancy  
Australian Gold  
Automated Services, LLC  
Bart Flaherty  
BBI Technologies Inc.  
Ben Perry  
Bernard McGorty  
Bernice & Frances Nicolari  
BIC Corporation  
Bleachbright  
Bradford & Marianne Smythe  
Carla Sullivan  
Carlson & Carlson Inc.  
Carol E. Navarro  
Carol Pendagast  
Chris Douglas  
Citizens Charitable Foundation  
Citizens National  
Cohen & Thomas  
Complete Payroll Solutions  
Connoisseur Media LLC  
CT Cambridge Advisors LLC  
Dan Debicella  
David Black  
David Eldridge  
David Presutto  
Derby-Shelton Rotary

Devoted Creations  
DiAdamo Associates Inc.  
Diane Stroman  
Edward & Laura Lane  
Edward Messina  
Eileen Lopez-Cordone  
Ekstrom Helmer  
Encon Heating & Air Conditioning  
Environmental Data Resources Inc.  
Eye Pro Inc.  
Federico Corona  
Fran Scarpa  
Fred & Lisa Serra  
Gary Nolan Ruiz  
Gerald & Kathleen Hoeffler Hall  
Geraldine Carlson  
Grace Monahan  
Greig Rosano  
Healthcare Subrogation Group  
Heath Klarsfeld  
Home Builders Assoc. of Hartford  
County  
Hricz-Borges  
IBM Employee Service Center  
Indeco North America Inc.  
J&L Enterprise  
Jack Ribas  
Jack O'Donnell  
James A Rubin  
James Bohl CPA PC  
James Lane  
James Welch  
Jenna Wiegand  
Jennifer Cohen  
Jennifer Magri  
Jim's Ice Cream  
Joan Lawlor  
Joan Widomski  
Jodon & Wendy Michael  
John A. Sayour  
John Corrado  
John Coughlin  
John F. Santa  
John J. Zaprzalka  
John & Diana-Lynn Schaible  
Jonathan Wetmore  
Joseph Andreana  
Joseph Pagliaro, Jr.  
Joseph Nechasek  
Judy Bosch  
Katie Nappi-Miller  
Kelly Boone  
Ken & Kristen Nappi  
Kenneth E. Schaible  
Kenneth Goncalves  
Kenneth Nappi  
Ketan Shah  
Kimberly Pritchard  
Laura Burstein  
Leon Sylvester  
Liberty Bank  
Light Sources, Inc.  
Linda Hooper

Linda Savitsky  
Linda Welch  
Lisa Savoid  
Loop Acrylics Inc.  
Louis Dagostine, III  
Lucas Products  
Lynne B. Perry  
Mark & Briggette Bliska  
Mark Hinnau  
Martin Coughlin  
Mary Ann Miller  
Melanie Petro  
Melissa Gianfrancesco  
Michael Healey  
Michael & Shannon Yannes  
Michael Seamon  
Michael Wynne  
Minuteman Press of Shelton  
Mohegan School  
MR International  
Nail Savers Inc.  
Nariman Mhrzad  
Newtown Savings Bank  
Nick Luise  
Norvell Skin Solutions LLC  
Patrick Carey  
Peralta Illustration & Design  
Perry Hill School  
Peter Dagostine  
Pierre Dziubina  
Pimentel Construction Co.  
Precision Resource  
Premier Manufacturing Group-DBA  
ECA  
Ralph Dagostine  
Richard Carroll  
Richard Colwell Jr.  
Robert D. Scinto  
Robert Dorosh  
Robert Gambarella  
Robert Lesko  
Robert Nager  
Robert Scarduzio  
Robert Schaefer  
Robert Zuraw  
Rory Burke  
Samuel Paoletta  
Sharon Closius  
Sharon Manning  
ShelfGenie  
Shelton Police Union  
Smith Bros. Insurance  
Stacey Tall  
Stanley Jachimowski  
Stephen Balog Jr.  
Sun Evolutions  
Susan DeLeon  
Susan Mauriello  
Susanne Kenney  
Sylvester Leon  
Thomas Lawrence  
Thomas Zaprzalka  
Truist

Twilight Teeth  
United Health Group, Employee  
Giving  
United Way of Milford  
US Products  
Valerie Knight-DiGangi  
Venman & Co.  
Webster Bank N.A.  
Welch, Teodosio, Stanek & Blake  
LLC  
William M. Miller, Jr.  
William Nimons  
William Purcell  
Yankee Clipper

## Grants

21st Century  
Connecticut Alliance of Boys & Girls  
Clubs  
Katharine Matthies Foundation  
Mystic Aquarium  
Office of Justice Programs  
Sea Research Foundation  
Toyota Financial Services  
Toyota Financial Services  
Remarketing  
Business Unit  
U.S. Department of Justice's Office  
of Juvenile Justice and Delinquent  
Prevention  
Valley Community Foundation  
Valley United Way  
University of California, Los Angeles

## Foundations

Bassett Family Foundation  
Col. Lloyd E. & Joan Platt Witmer  
Scholarship Fund  
David M. & Gail A. Grant Family  
Fund  
DiMatteo Family Charitable  
Foundation  
Donald W. & Lillian Smith Fund  
Early Family Foundation  
Frey-Hershey Fund  
Friend A. Russ Fund Inc.  
Huntington Foundation, Inc.  
Jones Family Farm  
Raymond P. Laviestes Foundation  
Exchange Club of Shelton  
Unilever  
UPS Foundation

## Memoriums

Alberta Petrocelli  
Bernard & Catherine Nicolari  
Bertha Eccles  
Daniel J. Turro  
Danielle Serafin  
Julius Parks  
Iolanda Cortina



# Service to Youth



Champion of Youth Award Winners

**Joseph A. Pagliaro, Jr.**, and **Susan M. DeLeon** (top photo) were honored with our **Raymond P. Lavietes Service to Youth Award** this year in recognition of their tireless and unselfish efforts to make the Valley a better place for children. This award is the highest honor our Club can bestow on an individual.

Our highest honor for organizations is the **Champion of Youth Award**, which was presented this year to the **Family of Dr. Edward G. Bednar**,

**Blanchette Sporting Goods**, **Curtiss Ryan**, and the **Town of Seymour** (pictured above).

Our newest award is the **From the Heart Award**, presented to individuals and organizations whose special acts of caring are often the touch that makes their chosen program, event, or Unit a success. Pictured at the top of the page are this year's recipients: **Don North**, **Doggie Styles**, and **Lewis Jewelers**.



# College Scholarship Funds

## Coram Gardens

This award was established in 1987 by the former Coram Gardens Civic Association to help improve the quality of life for those people from the geographic region of Coram Gardens. Since its inception, more than \$150,000 has been disbursed to help defer the cost of college tuitions.

Recipients: Jessica, Jaylan, Sabrina, Yencere, and Tayliah

## Raymond P. Lavietes

This award was established in 2005 by long-time friend and supporter Ray Lavietes. Ray left our Boys & Girls Club a bequest of \$100,000 to help our members afford a secondary education. Thanks to Ray's generosity, more than \$51,000 has been disbursed in scholarship funds.

Recipients: Kiara, Emily, William, Marila

## George C. & Margaret Smith

George C. and Margaret Smith left a surprise bequest to our Boys & Girls Club. Since its inception this fund has provided

more than \$123,000 for secondary education to our young men and women.  
Recipients: Samantha, Megan, Holly, Julia, Taylor

## Dr. Edward G. Bednar

This award was established in 2010 in memory of "Doc" Bednar, a long-time



Board member and unfailing supporter of our Club and the children who attend every day. Since the first scholarship, the Bednar family has awarded more than \$22,200 to help students pursuing an education in the healthcare field.

Recipients: Matthew, Mackenzie, Kiara, Alina, Lauren

## George and Beatrice Ryan Scholarship Fund at the Valley Community Foundation

George Ryan of Curtiss-Ryan Honda established this scholarship to help students planning to study automotive administration, sales, or technology. Since 2010 our Club members have received nearly \$18,000 to help them in this career choice.

Recipient: Kiara, Sabrina

## Nina Poeta Memorial Scholarship

The Poeta Family established this scholarship in 2016 for a Boys & Girls Club graduating senior who best exemplifies the qualities of Nina Poeta: kindness and compassion, a good work ethic, leadership, service to community, and academic success.

Recipient: Kiara

## Fortin Family Foundation

New this year is the Fortin Family Foundation scholarship, provided for students pursuing education in a trade such as manufacturing, carpentry, plumbing, or engineering.

Recipients: Kyle, Keith

## "Doc" Bednar Pancake Breakfast



Dr. Edward G. "Doc" Bednar was a proud member of our Board of Directors, and one of his favorite events was our Memorial Day Pancake Breakfast. After his death in 2008 we renamed the breakfast after him in honor of his unwavering dedication both to the event and our Club kids. His family has continued his philanthropic tradition, and now sponsors the popular breakfast every year.

## "Red" Larsen Golf Classic



### MAJOR SPONSORS



Nick Luise

Our John "Red" Larsen Golf Classic has run every year since 1972. Red participated in almost every tournament while he was alive, chaired half of them, and usually spent the night before the tournament stuffing tee-favor bags. His love for children and dedication to our Club were rivaled only by his love for his family and the game of golf.