

Aug. 9, 2017

Community joins forces to begin renovations for the Boys & Girls Club of Alachua County

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — Local business leaders have united to plan and fund a series of substantial upgrades to the Boys & Girls Club of Alachua County facility, located at 2661 NW 51st St. Gainesville.

This initiative, announced at the Boys and Girls Club Annual Caribbean Cruise for Kids on Aug. 5, 2017, is being managed and supported with donated construction management services by D.E. Scorpio Corporation, donated architectural and interior design services by Kail Partners Architecture & Interior, and donated landscape design services by CHW Engineering. A number of local businesses have additionally jumped on board offering in-kind donations, including furniture and material led by major contributions from Lowes and significant gifts from McLeod General Trades and Ashley Furniture HomeStore.

Monies raised through ongoing efforts over the last six years, coupled with The Rotary Club of Gainesville Foundation's Wild Game Feast Grant will be paying for the majority of the facility's improvements. Monies contributed through Doug Johnson's Reeling for Kids Fishing Tournaments, will be funding major field improvements in addition to building renovations to assist the club's athletic department.

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This coalition's mission for the project is to foster development for youth in the community by making improvements to one of its most crucial recreational centers.

“On behalf of the staff and volunteers of the Boys & Girls Club of Alachua County I want to personally thank all of the wonderful local organizations, companies, and individuals that give of their time, talents, and treasure to sustain and advance the mission of the Club,” said the club's Executive Director, Shane Johnson. “It's because of efforts like this renovation project that we are able to continue serving the youth of Alachua County.”

“The team at D.E. Scorpio believes whole-heartedly in our mission of advancing the communities we serve,” said Domenic Scorpio, President of D.E. Scorpio Corporation. “Having had the privilege of serving on the Boys and Girls Club Board for a number of years, two as President, it is fantastic to see the Club finally begin to undergo some of the improvements it so desperately needs. Our organization is honored to be a part of this effort contributing our management services and we are really excited about some of the employee volunteer work-days we have planned in the future. We are also truly humbled by those who are joining us in the effort. Kail Architecture and CHW Engineering didn't hesitate when asked if they could help. I think everyone knows how important this organization is for the community and the kids that it serves. I encourage everyone to do what they can, it makes a difference.”

The project is continuing to seek funding and in-kind donations from other community members and organizations interested in joining this effort. In particular, the sponsors are seeking assistance for additional renovations.

The renovations are scheduled to begin in mid-September.

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