

Press Release for Nancy Gardner

Boys & Girls Club Names Nancy E.S. Gardner as New Chief Development Officer

Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley has hired Nancy E.S. Gardner as the organization's new Chief Development Officer (CDO). Gardner is poised to successfully lead the Club in its advancement of strategic goals to increase after school services for youth in Sonoma Valley. Funds raised will support BGCSV intentions to broaden its reach to more youth and deepen the impact of services on those members and the community. Gardner officially begins her new post January 30th.

"We are thrilled to announce Nancy as the newest member of our leadership team," says BGCSV CEO Dave Pier. "She's an extraordinarily intelligent, experienced leader who brings not only a peak skill set to this job, but also a real passion for the meaningful work of the Boys & Girls Club. Nancy is an exceptional communicator and an authentic relationship-builder who has already developed an impeccable reputation for excellence locally. She will work closely with the management team at the Club, particularly with Katie Holden who continues to excel as our Director of Marketing and Events."

A long time resident of the Valley, Gardner comes to BGCSV from serving as CEO/President of the international non-profit organization Guide Dogs for the Blind in San Rafael, CA. from 2007 to 2010. In that position she had oversight of the Development Department and ultimate responsibility for fundraising.

"With the expansion of Club services in the past five years; more than doubling the number of youth served every day to over 500, successfully reaching and serving teens with programs like College Bound, and the understanding that significant need still exists in the Valley, the momentum of the Club precipitated the need for expanding our ability to develop the resources necessary to meet those community needs," says BGCSV Board President Marchelle Carleton. "We conducted a lengthy search and Nancy is the ideal candidate for this important position, and we are so pleased to have her join our efforts of making Sonoma a better place for all of us."

Before her post at Guide Dogs, Gardner was the Executive Director of North Bay Regional Center (NBRC), a private non-profit agency supporting persons with developmental disabilities, for 15 years. During most of her tenure at NBRC, she was the chairperson of the statewide Association of Regional Center Agencies Legislative Committee, and was actively involved in all relevant legislative and state budget affairs. She has received numerous statewide awards, and was honored in a Resolution in the Congressional Record in October, 2007. She was awarded a Master of Science degree from the University of Kansas and received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska.

"I am honored and eager to lead The Boys & Girls Club's development efforts; critical to achieving long-term solutions for our community in the key impact areas for youth of Education, Leadership Development and Health," says Gardner. "I believe in the work of the Boys & Girls Club and am grateful for the opportunity to join the organization in changing the lives of Sonoma Valley youth forever."

Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley is the only multi-location, year round youth facility offering afterschool education and development programs to nearly 2000 Sonoma Valley youth annually. The Club has been serving Sonoma Valley youth since 1962 with a mission of providing positive opportunities for youth to learn and succeed.

Each day, over 500 kids come to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley. They come to play, of course. But also to learn the things that their schools are cutting back on: arts, athletics, computer science — we even help them complete their homework. Each year, the Club serves 77,000 snacks and 5600 meals. Nourishment isn't limited to food; the Club is staffed with smart, caring adults who provide the instruction and encouragement kids need to learn and grow. There are five Boys & Girls Club locations throughout Sonoma Valley including the Maxwell Clubhouse, Flowery, Sassarini and Dunbar Elementary Schools and Altimira Middle School. For more information, visit www.bgcsonoma.org.