



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF STANISLAUS COUNTY

PRESS RELEASE

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March 26, 2014

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The Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County received a generous donation from the estate of Josephine Marks, a longtime Waterford resident and businesswoman with a soft spot in her heart for children.

Robert Kunde made the presentation on behalf of his great aunt's estate March 18, 2014, at Coleman F. Brown School, one of two sites schools where the new Boys & Girls Clubs operate programs.

Mr. Kunde said Mrs. Marks, who grew up in an orphanage in Boston, had been very careful with her own money, living frugally despite her success in real estate over the years. She died in 2001 at the age of 98.

Mrs. Marks had asked that the bulk of her estate go to programs that benefit kindergarten and grammar school age children. "The Boys & Girls Club aligned exactly with what my great aunt would have wanted," Mr. Kunde said. Several other nonprofits in Stanislaus County also received money from the estate.

Kenni Friedman, chairperson of the Board of Directors, and Lincoln Ellis, president and chief professional officer of the Club, both expressed appreciation for the \$54,000 gift.

"The gift allows us to carry out the vision of Josephine Marks by permanently providing for our children's future," said Mrs. Friedman. "As we grow, the return on this investment will give us the flexibility to apply it to the area of greatest need."

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County began offering programs in summer 2013 at two elementary schools in the Sylvan Union School District. Currently there are 240 students participating in the after-school programs that include educational, leadership and character building components. Summer enrichment programs will be offered when the school year ends, and the club will expand to Somerset Middle School for the coming school year.

For more information on the Boys & Girls Clubs of Stanislaus County, call 209-222-5826 or visit the website, <http://bgcstanislaus.org>.