

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 9, 2011**

**Contact: Michelle Wilson, Director of Development  
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast  
228-896-3770 or 228-348-3204  
[mwilson@bgcgulfcoast.org](mailto:mwilson@bgcgulfcoast.org)**

**CHEFS FROM AROUND THE WORLD "COOKING AT THE CLUB"**

***CulinaryCorps of America at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast***

**Gulfport, MS** – The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast will host twelve chefs from around the country on November 11th and 12th for the launch of a new culinary program at the Club's Qatar Center at Pass Christian. "Cooking at the Club" will teach cooking skills that can be used by the students to create healthy food choices from familiar Mississippi family recipes. This program was developed for 5th through 12th graders through a grant from the CulinaryCorps of America. This grant funded the course curriculum, the kitchen equipment, a learning library and two days of kickoff events. Additional funding was provided by the Winn Dixie Foundation.

On Friday, November 11th, from 3:30pm to 5:00pm, the visiting chefs will demonstrate the preparation of several recipes from the course curriculum for community leaders, teachers, major benefactors, local food industry personnel, and media in a Food Network style event. Lots of WHAM...BAM...AND FUN!

On Saturday, November 12th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, the chefs will prepare recipes for the members of the Boys & Girls Club and their families.

Both events will encourage the continued interest and support for "Cooking at the Club." The Coast's vibrant hospitality industry will benefit from children being introduced to the value of a culinary career. Secondly, the emphasis on learning to personally prepare and eat healthy foods will address the serious health issues in our state.

According to Sydney Wall, a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs' Pass Christian Unit Board and the facilitator for this grant, "Cooking at the Club" is the culmination of almost two years of groundwork with the CulinaryCorps of America which will hopefully begin many years of excited, interested healthy students.

For more information on the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast, call 228-896-3770 or visit [www.bgcgulfcoast.org](http://www.bgcgulfcoast.org).

**About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast**

In 2010, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast had approximately 2800 registered members and served 1500 youth through Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast New Hope Program, which is a school based therapeutic behavioral facilitation program. Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

###