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PRESS RELEASE

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Open House Celebration for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast
Gulfport to celebrate the opening of the Forest Heights Center

Gulfport, MS – The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast will host a Grand Opening Celebration from 4:30-6:30pm on Thursday, September 23. This is an opportunity for the community to tour the 21,000 square foot facility located at 201 Holly Circle, Gulfport, in the Forest Heights subdivision. This state of the art facility became a reality due to the generosity of community members and businesses who donated during the Capital Campaign, Project Rejuvenation.

"This is a great moment for Gulfport," stated Greg Gipson, Director of Operations for the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast, "It has been a long road in rebuilding since the storm, reopening this club in this new building will bring us into the new fiscal year with safe, secure places for our kids to come with all the amenities to cultivate their talents and interests. We are thankful to the Harrison County School District for providing a place for our program while we were in transition and for their continued support." The new center is located on the same site as the previous Forest Heights Unit, which was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. This year marks the 20th anniversary of when the club was established in the historic Forest Heights neighborhood.

Tours of the facility will be provided during the Grand Opening Celebration. Due to limited parking space at the facility, guests are asked to park at the Comfort Inn & Suites parking lot where a shuttle will be provided to the Center.

For additional information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast please contact Michelle Wilson at 228-896-3770 or visit our website at www.bgcgulfcoast.org.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast

In 2009, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast had approximately 2500 registered members and served 1400 youth through the 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.

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