



## Forest Heights Center

The Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast's Forest Heights Center is approximately 21,000 square feet and is packed with amenities that will stimulate and engage its patrons on many exciting levels. The facility will house multiple age appropriate learning centers, a computer lab, kitchen, art room, full service teen center, full size gymnasium, and community meeting space. The building will enable the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast to serve nearly 300 youth in the North Gulfport area each day.

The building is clad in Corrugated Corten Steel and a product called Kalwall. Kalwall is a translucent material that was used in hopes of reducing the amount of artificial lighting needed during the day; ultimately reducing operating costs. Operating costs were a constant thought woven into the design which will result in saving money over the lifespan of the building:

- Polished concrete floors to eliminate the need for waxing
- Large fans to reduce HVAC loads
- Alternative paving materials to reduce heat islands, reducing the loads on HVAC and eliminating the maintenance required by asphalt.

Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast strived to not only be responsible with the earth's resources, but also, to design a building that was affordable and could be maintained in the years to come.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of the Gulf Coast is extremely proud to be a partner in the historic neighborhood of Forest Heights in Gulfport. The Forest Heights subdivision was originally created by the National Council of Negro Women in conjunction with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 2005, the Mississippi Regional Housing Authority Region VIII donated the entire two acres on which the new facility will be built. The BGCGC is extremely thankful to the City of Gulfport for making a conscious decision to improve the lives of young people in their community by supporting our programs for so many years. BGCGC is also appreciative of Harrison County School District which has collaborated with the organization since it opened the Forest Height Unit by offering space in their schools, curriculum and program development, and transportation which has enabled us to provide after school and summer programs.

Finally, the BGCGC would like to thank all of our Project Rejuvenation investors, specifically the Mississippi Power Company, Barksdale Foundation, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, The Favre 4Ward Foundation, Coca-Cola Foundation, and all of our board volunteers.

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