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LOCAL CLUB 678 YOUTH PROGRAM RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARDS FOR PROGRAM EXCELLENCE AND MARKETING

CLUB 678 connects low-income, middle school students with educational and community support to shrink academic achievement gap

BELLEVUE, WA – Local youth mentoring program CLUB 678 was presented with two prestigious national awards during the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's 110th Annual National Conference in New Orleans, LA - the Merit Award for Program Excellence in Education and Career Development and a Marketing and Communications (MAC) Award. The program was selected from among hundreds of entries across the country for its outstanding design and implementation. CLUB 678 is a highly engaging after-school program for middle school students, which provides key supports and interventions to youth who are most at-risk of falling behind academically.



The program which was launched in January 2015 and is operated year-round, currently serves 80 students in grades six, seven and eight in the Bellevue School District.

A joint initiative of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue, King County Housing Authority and the Bellevue School District, CLUB 678 receives generous support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.



CLUB 678 is modeled after the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue’s highly successful BE GREAT: Graduate program for high school students, and includes an intentional mentoring model that emphasizes academic self-sufficiency. By supporting, inspiring, and providing one-one-one mentoring to middle school students, the program cultivates the habits and attitudes that are critical for success in school and in life. CLUB 678 improves students’ attitudes about

school, helps them achieve greater academic success, and creates a sense of community by bringing together students focused on educational progress and healthy social-emotional development.

Engaging low-income middle school students is critical: they face a significant and widening academic achievement gap when compared to the Bellevue School District as a whole. Test scores from the District show that low-income youth perform around 30 percent lower in core subjects than their peers.

CLUB 678 is run by Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue at their Teen Excellence Center which is located in the rapidly growing and diverse Lake Hills neighborhood. It is but one program in a systematic approach devised by Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue, KCHA, and the Bellevue School District to improve educational outcomes for Bellevue’s K-12 youth.

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