



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF LINCOLN/LANCASTER COUNTY**

For Immediate Release

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UPS Foundation Awards \$10,000 to Boys & Girls Club Through the “Global Volunteer Month Program”

On Friday, July 12th, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of Lincoln/Lancaster County, Michelle Birkel, received a \$10,000 check from Jeffrey Dwerlkotte, a local freight driver for UPS. Through the UPS Foundation’s Global Volunteer Month Program employees can select non-profit organizations to receive the grant, then 14 organizations are randomly chosen to receive the \$10,000 grant. This year the Boys & Girls Club of Lincoln/Lancaster County was chosen by Jeffrey Dwerlkotte to be his organization of choice to donate to, and the UPS Foundation randomly chose the Boys & Girls Club to receive the grant. “I believe that a partnership with the Boys and Girls Club is investing in the future, stated Dwerlkotte. By teaching the kids the defensive skills we teach at UPS, we are giving them the tools to make themselves a safer driver.”

“We are incredibly grateful for the UPS Foundation and Jeffrey Dwerlkotte for choosing us to receive the grant,” said Executive Director Michelle Birkel. “We know there are many great non-profit organizations locally to support. With the funds being provided by the UPS Foundation we will be able to support more summer and school year programs, buy new resources like toys and games, and make sure we have proper staffing to carry on Club operations. Mr. Dwerlkotte has been a long-time supporter for the club, and we are very blessed to have his continued support.”

Mr. Dwerlkotte presented the check to the Boys and Girls Club of Lincoln/Lancaster County at Park Middle School on July 12th. “It is incredibly important to recognize outstanding members of the community and the impact they have. Mr. Dwerlkotte volunteers at the Club by teaching classes for the UPS Road Code program. He is the perfect example of how ordinary people can make a positive impact in the community, states Birkel”

Since 2009, [The UPS Foundation](#) has partnered with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to deliver UPS Road Code, a program based on the same safety training used with UPS's own drivers. Approximately 125 UPS employees trained as volunteer instructors teach UPS Road Code's safe driving techniques to help teens "Drive Change." The program focuses on different safety principles, from basic instruction to the consequences of risky behaviors such as talking on cell phones, texting or drinking while driving. The program's driving simulators test teens' safe

driving knowledge using a computer screen featuring interactive animation, a steering wheel, and life-like gas and brake pedals. UPS Road Code is available free of charge across the country.

Photos of the event can be found here:

<https://lincolnbgc.sharepoint.com/:f/s/Marketing/EnQTqg0-8BpHjcVYI8wumNIBfxt8AndEnGtT-m0WmskgaQ?e=M6YeXK>

About Boys & Girls Clubs of Lincoln/Lancaster County

For more than 12 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of Lincoln/Lancaster County's (BGCL) mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. BGCL is an After-School and Summer Program that offers youth ages 6-18 academic support, evening meals and enrichment/recreational activities during non-school hours, Monday through Friday, twelve months a year. It is vitally important for youth to have a safe place to go during the high-risk after school hours and during the summer. Our program prioritizes outcomes in the areas of academic success, character and leadership, and healthy lifestyles. BGCL member's need more beyond the regular school day to ensure future academic success. They need sustained, stable, positive relationships with caring adults. They need time to build trust in adults and out of school programming allows them extra time to build that trust with our staff. BGCL is a safe place to make attainable goals and provide opportunities to experience success when they reach goals. For more information on BGCL, visit www.LincolnBGC.org or contact us at 402-202-6040 or 402-261-1224.