



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE EASTERN PANHANDLE

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Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle Receives DEI Award

The Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle (BGCEP) was awarded the Roxanne Spillett Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Honor Award at the Boys & Girls Club Midwest Leadership Conference in St. Louis, Missouri in October. The award, which was named after the first female President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, recognizes a Boys & Girls Club that advances diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and that lays the groundwork to build sustained, supportive relationships that youth need to thrive. BGCEP board member, Dr. Chiquita Howard-Bostic, a Sociology Professor at Shepherd University, nominated the Club for the award.

“The fact that Dr. Howard-Bostic nominated us demonstrates how committed the Club is to be ensuring that every youth and staff member is not only welcomed but appreciated for being unique,” said CEO Stacie Rohn. “Dr. Howard-Bostic herself has been recognized as a strong advocate for DEI and has provided training for our board, staff and members.”

As part of the nomination, Dr. Howard-Bostic outlined how the Boys & Girls Club has taken a comprehensive approach to addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion through training, board and staff recruitment, and programming. The nomination highlighted a day-long training for youth, including those from other community organizations, with the goal of enhancing communication skills, social decision-making, and self-reflection.

“Ultimately, we want to ensure that our next generation has the tools to address social justice and understand the importance of advocating for others,” said Rohn. “Our kids need to recognize that they have a voice and that other kids are observing how they treat others.”

After receiving the award at a regional level, the Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle will compete with five other regional winners for the top national award.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle strives to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens. The goal is that all youth graduate from high school and have a plan for their future. Membership costs \$15.00 a month and is open to youth ages 6 – 18 in Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan counties.

For more information, contact Stacie Rohn, CEO, at the Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle at director@bgcepwv.org or Trina Bartlett at tbartlett@bgcepwv.org. Both can be reached at 304-263-1832.

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The Boys & Girls Club of the Eastern Panhandle is a 501 c 3 nonprofit FEIN Number 20-2257657