



Wickstrom Maintenance Technicians Angel Campos (in front, on left) and Steve Anderson join Richard and Amy Wickstrom (on right), Wendy Farley, and students from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dundee Township for Teen Career Day hosted at Wickstrom Auto Group.

Teen Career Day at Wickstrom Auto

ON JULY 10, 2018, students from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dundee Township visited Wickstrom Auto Group to learn about possible career options and about the business values that are important to the dealership's owners and employees. The students were given a tour of the entire facility, learned about automotive maintenance, and even took a ride in some Jeeps out back on an outdoor track.

When asked what they learned, Anthony said, "All departments work with and feed off of each other." Another student, Jamina noted that, "The workers push for each other and are concerned with safety." Michael said, "Everyone here works as a team," and he noted the achievements of the sales department in selling cars. Raymond learned that you have to change the oil and check the oil filter every time.

A COMMUNITY RESOURCE

For the past 21 years, Boys and Girls Clubs of Dundee Township (BGCDT) has provided kids and teens with research-based programs that focus



Helping with Teen Career Day are (from left) Interim CEO of BGCDT Wendy Farley, VP of Development for BGCDT Amalia Woolf, and Amy Wickstrom.



Steve Anderson talks to students about auto maintenance.


on education, healthy lifestyles, and character and leadership development. Today, the club serves 3,000 children at eight schools, including Sunny Hill Elementary, a Barrington 220 school in Carpentersville.

The Boys and Girls Clubs serve children who have significant challenges at home and in their neighborhoods. These children are provided with hands-on educational and experiential enrichment every day after school, as well as all-day programming during the summer in a safe setting with experienced staff. The club is a place where youth can participate in both supervised and self-directed activities designed to give them the developmental assets necessary to become successful adults. Homework help, leadership opportunities, STEM programming, and a plethora of age-appropriate activities are offered at the club every day. The youth development strategy is to instill a sense of competence, usefulness, belonging, and influence in the young people served.

“Wickstrom Auto is serious about making our community a better place to work and live,” Farley said. “Wickstrom has been a great partner of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dundee Township for several years. We are grateful for everything they do. They help us serve over 3,000 in-need, at-risk children in Carpentersville. Our Teen Career Day at Wickstrom Auto provided our teens with an opportunity to see, first-hand, jobs that might be available to them right out of high school. Our teens are learning the future will be bright for them even if they are not college bound. It was a great day for our club.”

Most of the teens in the club will not go to college, so a focus is to educate them on career opportunities that exist for people without a college degree. BGCDT is helping its teens create a life plan about what they will do upon graduating from high school—with the hope that it will define a long-term career that includes health insurance and other benefits with a great company.

BGCDT helps children from kindergarten through high school. Its mission is to nourish character and inspire potential. BGCDT has teamed up with companies to assist its teens with career development. These companies include Spa Bleu, Comcast, Buffalo Wild Wings, Culvers, Jelly Belly Candy Company, Edward Jones Investments, Seigle’s Cabinets, State Farm, and K-40.

The Boys and Girls Club of Dundee Township is located at 20 S. Grove St., Suite 201, in Carpentersville. To learn more, visit www.bgcdt.org or call 847-551-4309. 

Upcoming Gala: Boys and Girls Clubs of Dundee Township will host its annual Tennies and Ties Gala on Sat., November 3 at the Historic Otto Building in Carpentersville. For more information, go to www.bgcdt.org



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