



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF KING COUNTY
REDMOND/SAMMAMISH



Sammamish EX3 Teen & Recreation Center – Case Statement

THE NEED

With more than 6,000 teens living in the Sammamish area, the new Boys & Girls Club facility will provide a safe, positive place for teens. There is currently no teen-dedicated facility in the area, and teens currently congregate in grocery store or shopping center parking lots. More than just a “place to go after school”, the EX3 Teen Center will encourage teens to explore new opportunities and challenges, be open to new experiences, and get excited about their skills, interests, and futures. The amazing program offerings will include a technology lab, performance stage, teaching kitchen, study space, games room, and multi-purpose room. Our teens come from diverse backgrounds, and our doors will be open to all teens in grades 6-12. No child or teen is ever turned away from a Boys & Girls Club or EX3 Teen Center.

THE PAST

The City of Sammamish entered into a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of King County in October, 2010. According to the partnership, the City will lease the facility to Boys & Girls Clubs for \$1 per year, and the Redmond/Sammamish Boys & Girls Club will be responsible for the costs of renovating and operating the facility. To raise funds for the renovation, the organization reached out to area individuals, businesses, and foundations. Approximately \$1.2 million was raised and the renovation began on July 18, 2011. The facility is expected to be completed by the fall of 2011.

THE PRESENT

The Redmond/Sammamish Boys & Girls Club has formed a Steering Committee to drive the current fundraising efforts. The group consists of Club Board members, staff, and community leaders who are actively seeking contributions from area individuals, businesses, and foundations. Our goal is to raise \$250,000 for operating costs and \$3-\$3.5 million to build the gym. While membership and program fees will help cover operating costs, fundraising is necessary to ensure that budget goals are met. Meeting budget goals enables us to provide the highest quality staff, programs, and facilities for our teens while keeping membership and program fees affordable.

THE FUTURE

Our vision is to create a place that will meet all of the needs of our teens. There is currently no space in the facility where teens will be able to engage in sports, recreation, or physical fitness activities. Construction of the gym will meet these needs by providing opportunities to participate in basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, and exercise classes. The gym will also include a climbing wall and will host school dances. There is also a severe shortage of gym space in the Sammamish area, and we will partner with area schools and leagues. During school hours, we will offer a combination of open and rental opportunities to the community for both the Teen Center and the gym. Construction of the gym will begin once the funds have been raised.