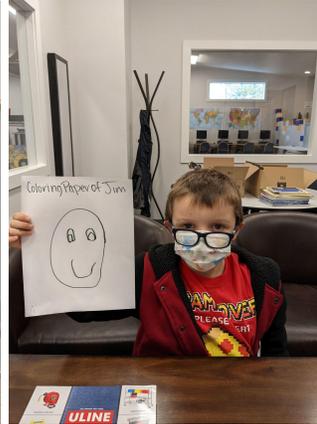




THE CLUB
PLUS DELTA

A Reason for the Season



by **Jim Pearson, Executive Director**

Greetings, and Happy Holidays, Club Supporters! As we progress through this year's holiday season, I have been reflecting on the events of the past year. While these times have most certainly been challenging, almost every day I am reminded of the reason The Club is here, and why our work is so important during these trying times. I have witnessed young people from our communities grow in ways that are difficult to quantify. To see children exhibit kindness, empathy, and care for others is a distinct joy of this work. I have had countless meaningful interactions with children and their parents that have further solidified the relationships that we have worked so hard to establish and build. The Club's staff, which is composed entirely of high school and college students, have continued to demonstrate the guiding principles of our organization, and are wonderful models for the youth we serve. Despite the ongoing struggles, there is a ray of hope that shines brightly on The Club every school day. Thank you so much for continuing to support The Club's efforts to be a force for positive change in our communities!



THIS QUARTER'S TOP STORIES

VALLEY GIVING GUIDE IS IN FULL SWING

The Club is pleased to partner with Blue Mountain Community Foundation's Valley Giving Guide for this year's Giving Tuesday campaign. Donations in all amounts - small and large - are a critical piece of The Club's overall funding picture. The campaign runs through December 29, 2021, so if you would like to make a tax deductible donation to The Club, please visit ValleyGivingGuide.org and enter The Club in the search field. Donations in any amount have an immeasurable impact in helping us provide meaningful programs for our young people.

GIVING
TUESDAY



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE ON THE RISE

It should be of little surprise that the ongoing pandemic has had an impact on The Club's membership numbers. However, numbers are rebounding, and daily attendance has jumped dramatically since the start of the school year. At the end of September, attendance averaged 25 children per day. At this point, average attendance has grown to 35 children per day, with many days seeing over 40 young people from Dayton, Waitsburg, and Starbuck participating.



A FOCUS ON SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING



Thanks to a generous grant from Blue Mountain Community Foundation and Greater Columbia Accountability of Health, The Club has contracted with Rosy Nechodom, School Counselor for Waitsburg School District, to provide twice weekly activities focused on Social Emotional Learning (SEL), with an emphasis on bullying. Rosy's activities are being well received, and we are already beginning to see positive results. Rosy will continue to join us for the duration of the school year.

TEEN NIGHTS ARE BACK AT THE CLUB



After a pandemic-induced hiatus, we are thrilled to be once again offering Teen Nights. These monthly after hours events are exclusively for Middle and High Schoolers, and allow for an opportunity to engage and socialize outside of school. The Club has hosted three such events so far this year. Plans are underway for more activities throughout the school year.



READING AND MUSIC WITH TODD VANDENBARK



Todd Vandebark, Director of Columbia County Rural Library District, has been gracing us with monthly visits to share some of his favorite books and sing a few songs. We are so grateful for Todd's time and enthusiasm. It's always a great time when Todd stops by!

THE CLUB ENTERS PARTNERSHIP WITH ESD 123

We are excited to announce our new partnership with Education Service District 123 (ESD 123). This collaboration will provide some financial and curriculum support for The Club's programs. In the absence of our annual fundraiser, which has been postponed twice, this development is most welcome, and we wish to extend our sincere thanks to ESD 123 for their commitment to the education and well being of our community's youth.

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest intention." - Oscar Wilde