



**CHAMPION CARES**  
FOUNDATION

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# **CHAMPION CARES FOUNDATION**

**Impact Report 2022**

**A new chapter begins**

# **2022**

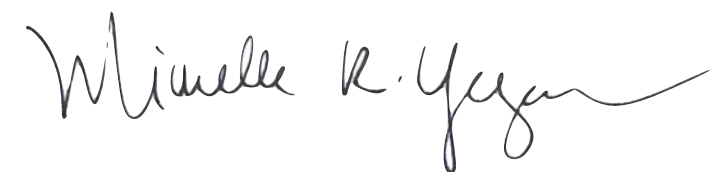


# Our new flagship Boys & Girls Club opens

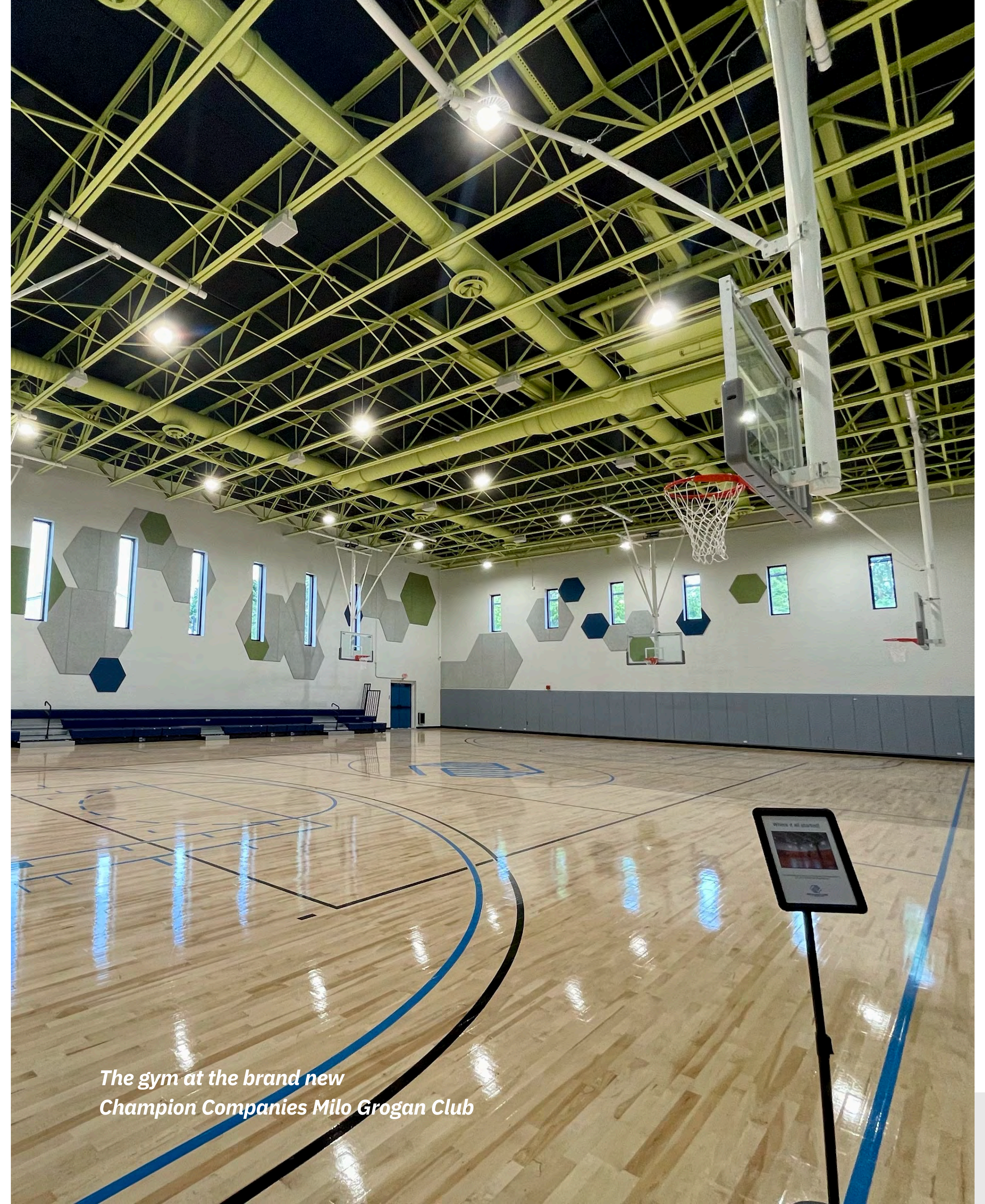
## **A remarkable partnership between the public and private sector**

More than two years of planning, designing, and construction culminated in a celebration in summer of 2022 with the grand opening of the new Champion Companies Milo Grogan Club for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio. The reaction from the children who play and learn at the club put into great clarity how impactful we can be for our community when public and private sectors come together to further a cause.

In fact, getting out in the community was a common theme for our Foundation in 2022. After years of social distancing and virtual events, it felt like 2022 was a return to form with in-person volunteering and seeing how showing up can be just as impactful as writing a check. We enjoyed handing out gifts along with meal boxes to our Adopt a School partner Moler Elementary, starting another home for a deserving family with Habitat for Humanity, and many other great opportunities to engage with the Central Ohio community. As always, thank you to all who support The Champion Cares Foundation in our efforts to lift up those organizations that address our community's greatest needs. Together we are making a difference in the lives of others.



**Michelle Yeager-Thornton**  
The Champion Cares Foundation



*The gym at the brand new  
Champion Companies Milo Grogan Club*



Toy Drive at Moler Elementary School



2022 Impact Report

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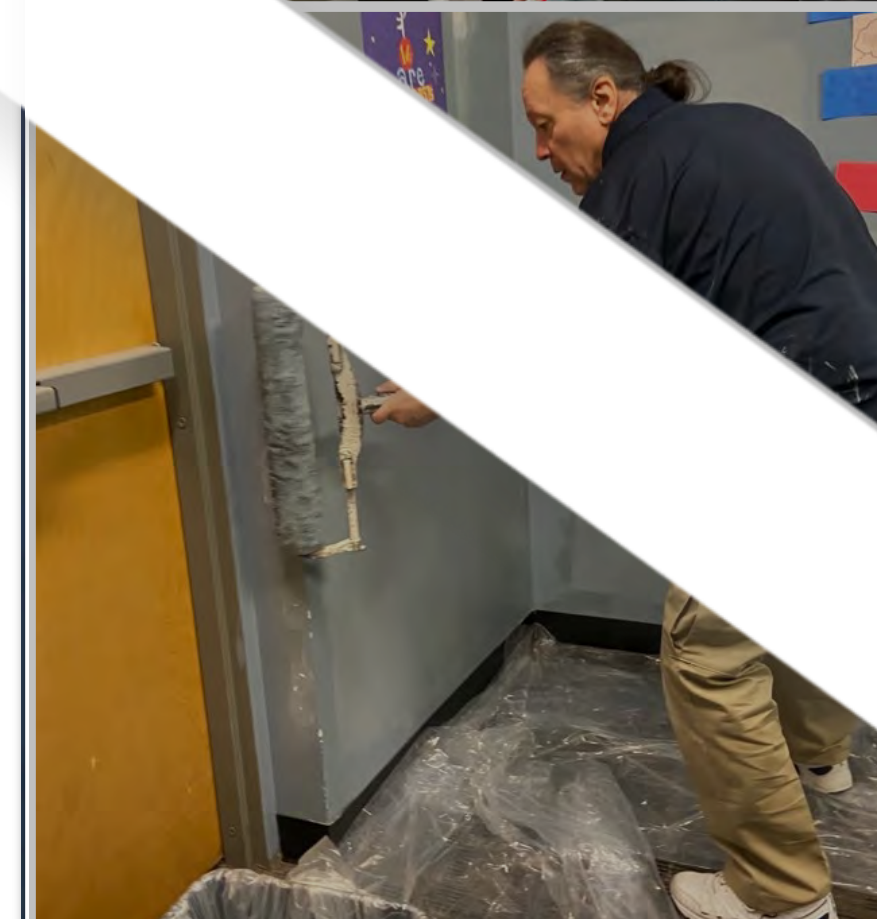
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[championcaresfoundation.com](http://championcaresfoundation.com)



# Who We Are

The Champion Cares Foundation supports organizations serving Central Ohio in the areas of Health, Human Services and Youth Development. Champion Cares leverages its extensive network of public, private and non-profit groups to create partnerships that address the community's greatest needs. By making connections and raising awareness, Champion Cares combines world-class expertise with philanthropic support for its partner organizations. To date, Champion Cares has given back \$4M and 10,000 volunteer hours to the community.



## Our Mission

To equip and empower organizations meeting our community's critical needs







Champion Cares Foundation

# Champion Cares Snapshot 2022

With our largest year of grants yet, we were pleased to close out our commitment to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio with the grand opening of their new clubhouse. In addition, we stayed engaged with long-time Champion Cares partners, as well as newer causes that touch the children in our community like the children’s programming at the Franklin Park Conservatory and Girls on the Run of Central Ohio.

2022 Team Member Donations

# \$41,200

Round up Your Rent Program Community Donations

Includes Champion Cares Foundation Match

# \$22,300

Individual Donations

# \$791,000

## Notable Beneficiaries 2022

Beneficiary	2022
Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio	\$500,000
Children’s Hunger Alliance	\$103,800
Columbus Early Learning Centers	\$10,000
Cristo Rey Columbus High School	\$15,000
Franklin Park Conservatory	\$18,500
Friends of the Conservatory	\$10,000
Girls on the Run of Central Ohio	\$30,000
Ohio Cancer Research	\$25,000
YWCA Columbus	\$31,000



# \$847,228

Total Grants 2022

Team Member Volunteer Hours

# 1,050





Idea into Action

# Setting a New Standard



In 2018, The Champion Companies took on Crawford-Hoying in a charity basketball match at the Boys & Girls Club in Milo-Grogan. This event set in motion an idea to give this community a new club.

## IDEA INTO ACTION

### How a charity basketball game turned into a first-class Boys & Girls Club



#### How it began

In 2018, Champion's President & CEO Brian Yeager set up a friendly charity basketball match between Champion and another multifamily developer Crawford Hoying. The location was to be the original Boys & Girls Club in the Milo Grogan neighborhood of Central Ohio, and the losers would donate to the organization of the winners' choice. Champion won that day and actually matched Crawford's donation to Boys & Girls Clubs of Columbus for a total of \$50,000 donated that day.

#### October 2020

"It's an exciting day, we're demolishing our oldest club in Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Ohio," said Doug Wolf, the CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Ohio.

Built in 1955, the Boys and Girls Club in the Milo-Grogan neighborhood needed an upgrade. "It will have spaces for each of our age groups, it will have a state of the art gym, it will have a media center so we can project movies and programming on to a wall," said Wolf.

But that game would lead to much more than a \$50,000 donation. The event opened the eyes of Brian Yeager and Michelle Yeager to the condition of the 65 year old clubhouse. Basketball rims were bent, paint was peeling, and the facilities needed some serious upkeep that was hard for BGCCO to find funding for. After some serious consideration between Brian, Michelle, and BGCCO to renovating the clubhouse it was decided-- renovating wasn't enough. These kids deserved a brand new, state-of-the-art facility that would serve the neighborhood for decades to come. An idea was set into action.



The Columbus Dispatch

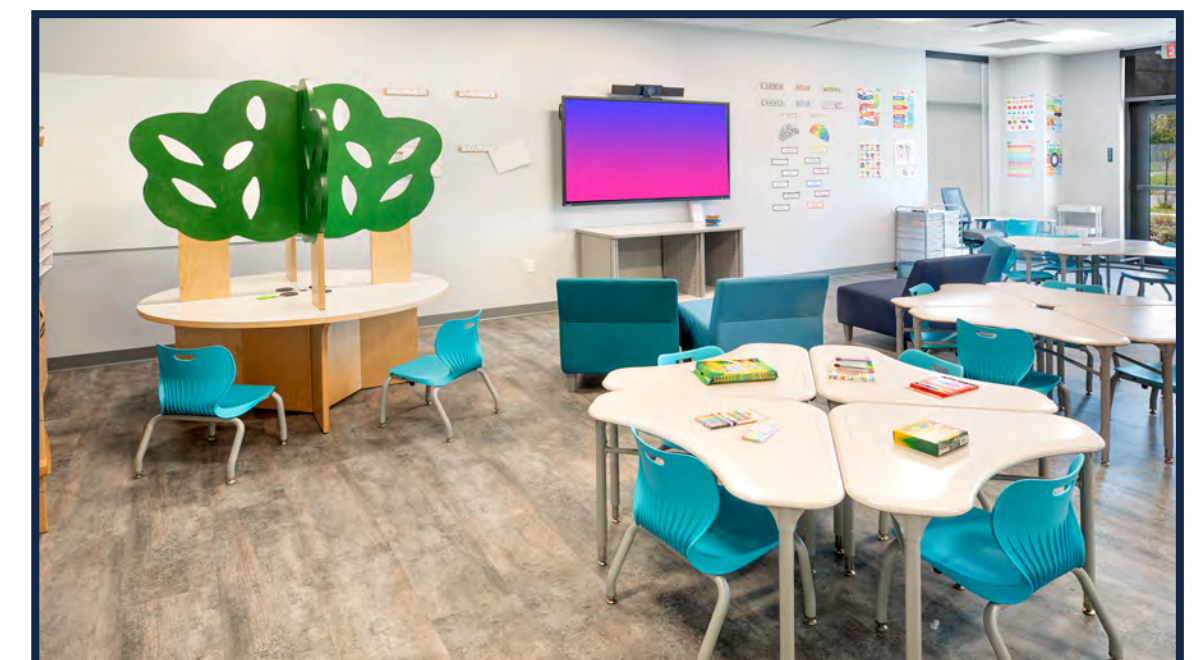
### Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio to break ground on new \$13.5-million facility

Earl Hopkins  
The Columbus Dispatch  
Published 3:02 p.m. ET Nov. 17, 2020 | Updated 7:59 a.m. ET Nov. 23, 2020



The project received extensive media coverage in Central Ohio





### Setting a new standard

At 24,160 sq. ft., the new Champion Companies Milo Grogan Club truly sets the standard for Boys & Girls Clubs locations across the country. The children of the neighborhood now get to enjoy an NCAA-sized basketball gym, classrooms for different age groups, art and multimedia spaces, and even an outdoor space for a community garden. In addition to these incredible amenities for the children, the new clubhouse is also now the headquarters for Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio. Never before had the organization been able to share a space with the children they serve, but with this new facility, they can now work and have meetings while looking out over the children playing in the gym, or attending art class.

While the initial fundraising goal for the project was \$13.5 million, the support from the community far exceeded those expectations and the final result was an astounding \$15.3 million raised.

The funds raised will help finance capital and operational/ programmatic investments for the longevity of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio and the important work they are doing in the community.

### Grand opening

Champion donated a lead gift of \$2.5 million to start the project, and then spearheaded the fundraising, design and construction efforts for the new club. The larger Central Ohio business community responded to the fundraising call through the adversity of a global pandemic to make this dream a reality for the children of the neighborhood. In June 2023, with local and state leaders in attendance as well as steadfast supporters of BGCCO, the club was officially opened!



*Mayor of Columbus, Andrew Ginther, speaks at the grand opening of the new club.*



The Champion Companies

# Programmatic Pillars

Champion Cares leverages its extensive network of public, private and non-profit groups to create partnerships that address the community's greatest needs.



## Human Services



Human services organizations help people find stability, including help with basic needs like food and shelter, and also guidance, counseling, and treatment that promotes self-sufficiency and happiness in people's daily lives.

## Youth Development



Youth development organizations help prepare young people to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood and to achieve their full potential.

## Health & Wellness



Organizations that focus on health could mean rehabilitative health, disease and disorder treatment, medical research, or mental health and crisis intervention.





The Champion Cares Foundation

# Board of Directors

Meet the key team members who propel the work of the Champion Cares Foundation everyday.

**“We are inspired and motivated to support our community's underserved neighborhoods with help from fellow leaders, team members, and even our residents.”**



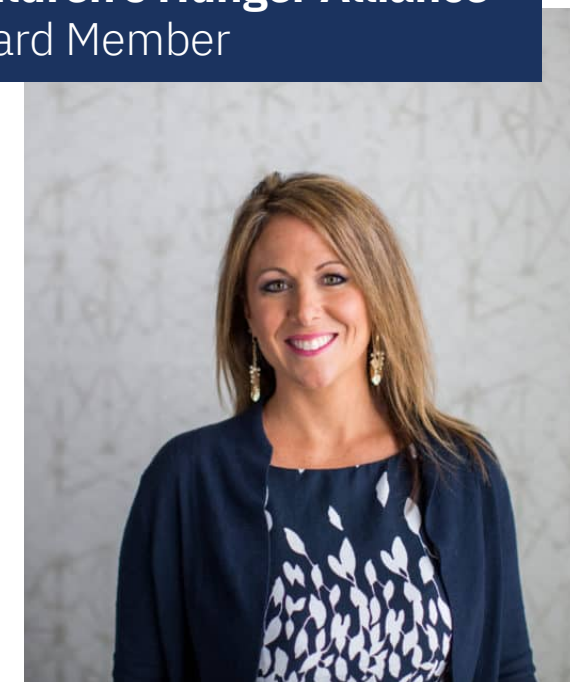
Michelle-Yeager Thornton  
Co-Founder & COO  
The Champion Companies



Brian Yeager  
President & CEO  
The Champion Companies

## At Work in the Community

Children's Hunger Alliance  
Board Member



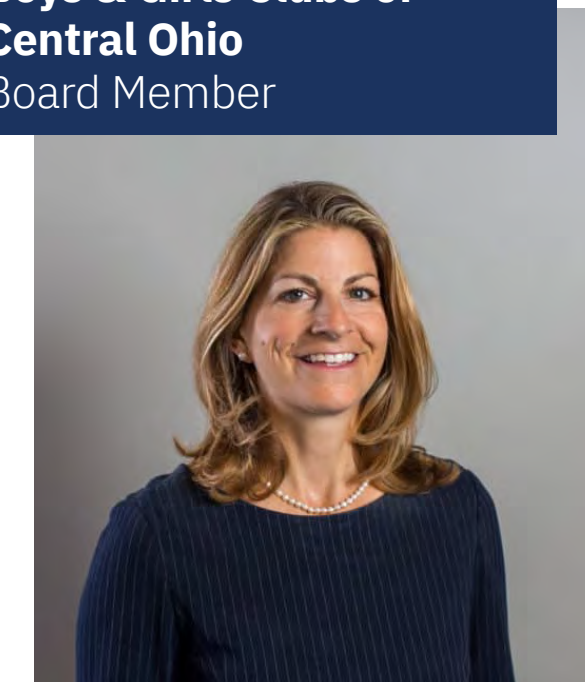
Kelli Berner  
Chief People Officer  
The Champion Companies

Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Board Member



Brian Hoar  
Chief Investment Officer  
The Champion Companies

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio  
Board Member



Caroline Worley  
Chief Legal Officer  
The Champion Companies



# Financial Report

Beneficiary	Amount
A Kid Again	\$15,000
Boys & Girls Club	\$500,000
Children’s Hunger Alliance	\$103,800
Cristo Rey Columbus High School	\$15,100
Franklin Park Conservatory	\$18,500
Girls on the Run of Central Ohio	\$30,000
Habitat for Humanity	\$25,000
Ohio Cancer Research	\$25,000
Ohio State - James Cancer Hospital	\$25,000
YWCA Family Center	\$31,000
& other organizations	
<b>2022 Total</b>	<b>\$847,228</b>

## Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio - [bbbscolumbus.org](http://bbbscolumbus.org)

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Ohio is a non-profit prevention-based agency that serves the community by providing quality mentoring relationships to children and youth in need of a friend. Big Brothers Big Sisters has a rich history of nurturing friendships between caring adult volunteers and promising children and youth. For more than 75 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters has served many thousands of children and youth in Franklin, Delaware and Union counties through its mentoring and camping programs.

## YWCA Family Center - [ywcacolumbus.org](http://ywcacolumbus.org)

YWCA Family Center is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. The YWCA Family Center provides emergency shelter and critical services to stabilize homeless families in Central Ohio. A national model, more than 70% of the families who use the YWCA Family Center are able to find housing within 21 days of entering the program.

## Children’s Hunger Alliance - [childrenshungeralliance.org](http://childrenshungeralliance.org)

Children’s Hunger Alliance is known for feeding hungry minds and bodies. CHA works to ensure all children are fed regular and nutritious meals and develop lifelong healthy eating habits. CHA does this by directly feeding children, increasing easy access to nutritious food, and educating children about healthy food choices and physical activity.

## Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio - [bgccolumbus.org](http://bgccolumbus.org)

The mission of Boys and Girls Clubs of Columbus is to empower young people to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. They do this by providing comprehensive, affordable after school and summer programming for youth ages 6 through 18.



# Our Partnership with The Columbus Foundation



## The Columbus Foundation Snapshot

### Top 10

Asset Ranking Among Foundations in U.S.

**\$3.15 Billion**

Grants Since Founding

The Columbus Foundation serves nearly 3,000 individuals, families, and businesses that have created unique funds and planned gifts to make a difference in the lives of others through the most effective philanthropy possible.

The Columbus Foundation is committed to strengthening the central Ohio community by providing services to donors, advancing the impact of nonprofits, and serving as leaders and conveners in the community. As a comprehensive, community-focused organization, we are built to respond to shifting community needs and opportunities, all thanks to the generosity of donors and philanthropic members of our community.

Source: The Columbus Foundation



The Columbus Foundation

## The Columbus Foundation Mission

To assist donors and others in strengthening and improving our community for the benefit of all its residents.



"We feel it's our purpose to empower people and make a difference in the lives of others."  
BRIAN YEAGER,  
PRESIDENT AND CEO,  
THE CHAMPION COMPANIES  
PICTURED: Brian Yeager and Michelle Yeager-Thornton

Brian Yeager and Michelle Yeager-Thornton  
The Columbus Foundation spotlight





Contact us.

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