

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

OF THE BEMIDJI AREA

PO Box 191, Bemidji, MN 56619

(218) 444-4171



Among the peas and carrots...
Club member Kaydence finds a place to belong.
INSIDE: See how her garden grows.

give TO THE MAX

NOV. 17, 2016

You can **help a child right here in our community** by designating the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area as your charity of choice when making a Give to the Max gift. **Give anytime at bgcbemidji.org** or at the Club, 1600 Minnesota Ave. NW. **Or make a gift in person** on Nov. 17 at Lueken's South or North stores, 5-7 p.m., or at the Club, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Give to the Max runs through midnight on Nov. 17.

Newsletter design by Barebonz Design.

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Permit No. 72
Bemidji, MN



The Bernick Family Foundation, a component fund of the Central Minnesota Community Foundation, awarded \$12,000 for healthy eating through the Club's Triple Play program. Thank you for encouraging youth and their families to eat smart, keep fit and form positive relationships as part of a healthy lifestyle.

SAVE THE DATE:

- * **STEM Day** with interactive activities for kids, Oct. 27, at the Club
- * **Holidays by Hand Fine Arts and Crafts Festival**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Dec. 3, at the Club. To reserve a booth contact holidaybyhand@gmail.com.
- * **Bowl-A-Thon**, Bemidji Bowl, Jan. 29
- * **An Evening of Love for our Kids**, annual gala, Hampton Inn & Suites, Feb. 10

Every kid deserves a great future.

bgcbemidji.org



For the love of gardening



Kadynce celebrates a happy harvest in the Club garden.

Seeds of hope

Thank you
for giving
Kadynce —
and children
like her —
a place to
belong and
a garden
to love.

Club member Kadynce, 12, and her two siblings lived in and out of foster care – sometimes split up and placed in different homes – before they moved to Bemidji in 2013.

“That took its toll on them,” says adoptive mom Kayleen. “They were behind in school, struggling with behaviors from their past and instability.”

Then a friend told Kayleen about the Boys & Girls Club. It soon became a favorite place, especially for Kadynce who was charmed by the Club garden.

“The first time I went out and saw this big, beautiful greenhouse, I loved it,” Kadynce says. “That garden got me into loving vegetables, the outdoors and wanting to have a garden of my own.”

She also appreciates Beltrami County Extension

agent Deb Dilley, garden supervisor, who teaches the children about good nutrition and encourages her gardeners to nibble while they work.

“When I was younger, I didn’t like vegetables,” Kadynce says. “Now, I love vegetables. I want everyone to eat more vegetables and avoid junk like corn syrup and sugar.”

Her mom is happy about that but most pleased that Kadynce has found a place to be accepted and connected with caring staff.

“Kadynce is now a confident, well-rounded, happy girl – much different than she was three years ago – and I credit the Club with part of that transformation,” Kayleen says.