

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley Honors Robert Shippy at 2026 Stars Gala

Investment from The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation Expands Access to Affordable
Out-of-School Time Care for Arizona Families

Scottsdale, AZ (March 18, 2026) — Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley (BGCAZ) honored Arizona business leader and philanthropist Robert Shippy, president of Rolling Plains Construction, at its annual Today's Kids, Tomorrow's Stars (Stars) Gala on Saturday, March 7, 2026, at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa.

A longtime champion of youth and families, Shippy was honored for his unwavering commitment to expanding opportunity for young people across Arizona. Under his leadership, Rolling Plains has grown into a national powerhouse, but Shippy's most enduring legacy may be his investment in people, especially the next generation.

“Robert Shippy understands that strong businesses and strong communities are built the same way — by investing in people,” said Marcia Mintz, President and CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley. “He sees potential where others see barriers, and he has used his success to open doors for Arizona's youth.”

While Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley serves more than 20,000 youth each year through affordable after-school and summer programs, the need continues to outpace capacity. For every child currently enrolled in a Club, three more are waiting for access to safe, affordable out-of-school time care.

For working families, that gap is more than an inconvenience — it's an economic issue. When parents cannot access reliable after-school care, they are forced to reduce hours, decline promotions, or leave the workforce altogether. Access to affordable, high-quality out-of-school time programs directly supports workforce participation, family stability, and Arizona's broader economic growth.

The Stars Gala focused on expanding access to reliable, affordable out-of-school time care for thousands more Arizona families. During the event, Renee Parsons, Co-founder of The Bob & Renee Parsons Foundation, surprised guests by announcing a \$1,000,000 gift to support these efforts.

About the Event

The sold-out Stars Gala is one of the Valley's premier philanthropic events, bringing together business leaders, community partners, and supporters who believe in creating brighter futures for Arizona's youth.

The evening celebrated Robert Shippy's impact, recognize outstanding Youth of the Year finalists, and rally the community around a shared mission: ensuring every child who needs a Club can access one.

Event Details:

Today's Kids, Tomorrow's Stars
Saturday, March 7, 2026
Westin Kierland Resort & Spa

For more information, visit bgcaz.org/stars

About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Valley offers affordable after-school and summer programs for more than 20,000 young people in grades K–12. At 30+ Clubs across Arizona, BGCAZ provides award-winning programs focused on academic success, character and leadership development, healthy lifestyles, and workforce readiness. For over 75 years, BGCAZ has helped young people reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible members of the community. Learn more at bgcaz.org or follow [@bgcarizona](https://www.instagram.com/bgcarizona).