

## Lockers add to Boys, Girls Club help

By Eunice J. Hart  
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It seemed like kismet.

Lisa Hume, director of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Memphis' Hickory Hill club, came upon a windfall of 90 lockers donated by Memphis University School.

Don Gagne was looking for a community service project for his company.

Gagne, general manager of Discover Financial Services' Southern Processing Center, gave Hume a call to ask what the club needed done.

"I said, 'Well, we've got these lockers that need to be installed,'" said Hume.

So on a recent morning, about 20 Discover employees were at the club on Ross Road, installing the used lockers.

"We're going to bang them back into shape so the kids can have somewhere to put their stuff," Gagne said.

The effort was the local Discover office's project for September's Discover Cares Month, in which more than 4,000 Discover employees nationwide worked on community service activities.

For Discover and the Boys & Girls Club, this was not the beginning of a beautiful relationship but the continuation of one that began more than two years ago when the Hickory Hill club opened its doors in a former church building.

Gagne said that since Discover's offices are about two miles from the club, it just made sense to partner with the club and help out.

"This is our community; this is where some of our employees live," Gagne said.

The Discover office has helped in a variety of ways, from sponsoring the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Memphis' annual Steak & Burger Dinner, to making sure transportation is always available for field trips, to even something as simple as donating furniture.

"Any time we're replacing something, we just donate it," Gagne said.

He said 15 percent of Discover's local work force is also paired with a child in a mentoring program with the club. The mentors make a twice-a-year commitment.

"We're the only Boys & Girls Club that has an entire company of mentors," Hume said.



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