



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Taco Bell® Foundation For Teens™ and Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast
are committed to Teens' Futures**

Fort Walton Beach, FL – (October 5, 2016) – Taco Bell® Foundation For Teens™ has once again teamed up with Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast with the *Graduate for Mas* program. For the third year in a row, the Taco Bell Foundation has selected Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast's Teen Clubs as recipients of the *Graduate for Mas* grant. This year, Taco Bell has awarded our Teens \$5,000 to help ensure they are diploma bound with a plan for their future. This year's funding brings the three-year total allocation from the foundation to more than \$22,000 for Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast.

Even more exciting, teen members are eligible to apply for the LIVE FOR MAS Scholarship!

THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND, FOR CREATORS, INNOVATORS AND DREAMERS

That's right. The Live Más Scholarship is not based on your grades or how well you play sports. No essays, no test scores, no right or wrong answers. The Taco Bell® Foundation is looking for the next generation of innovators, creators and dreamers – whose post-high school education we will help fund. This is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for the next generation. The Taco Bell Foundation awarded \$1 million to 220 dreamers, creators and innovators.

Read more here: <https://www.livemassscholarship.com>

Graduate for Más is a program co-created in partnership with Get Schooled that challenges America's teens to make a personal pledge to graduate high school. Once registered, teens receive the information and inspiration they need to succeed. By staying active, they can earn points for prizes, rewards and educational support, including scholarships, and mentoring resources in their communities.

For the last two decades, Boys & Girls Clubs of America has partnered with the Taco Bell Foundation and together have committed to helping young people reach their full potential starting with high school graduation. In 2014, the Taco Bell Foundation announced it would provide an additional \$30 million, over five years, to BGCA to prepare teens to meet the demands of high school; help them become college- or career-ready; provide access to \$83 million in scholarships and financial support; and celebrate their accomplishments and graduation. This partnership is the largest financial contribution to the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in more than 108 years.

In 2016, our partnership will enable Clubs to serve, and retain, more teens by offering unique experiences and we will ignite a movement that empowers youth to channel their passions and achieve their individual dreams.

What will the partnership support?

- Local Clubs' efforts for teen outreach and programming, custom to the unique needs of teens in your communities.
- National conferences to train local staff focused on teen development and fostering a positive teen Club experience.
- Rewarding experiences like Graduation Celebrations to honor and recognize the academic accomplishments of graduating seniors, as well as those young people progressing on the path toward high school graduation.

"We are excited and energized by this partnership and the opportunity to create significant impact with our teens. Let's take our commitment to teens to a new level and help build the next generation of leaders in communities everywhere!" said Dawn Novy, Director of Program Development, Outcomes & Grants for Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast

Mission: To enable all young people, especially those that need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

Vision: Improving lives of all Emerald Coast youth as the premier youth development organization.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast serves youth ages 5 to 18 by providing guidance-oriented character development programs conducted by trained, youth development professionals. Boys & Girls Clubs of the Emerald Coast encompasses 8 Clubs and serves more than 2,150 youth across Escambia, Okaloosa, and Walton counties. For more information call 850-862-1616 and visit online at www.EmeraldCoastBGC.org.

About Taco Bell® Foundation for Teens™

Taco Bell Foundation Inc., also known as Taco Bell® Foundation for Teens™, is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) public benefit corporation committed to inspiring and enabling America's teens to graduate from high school and achieve más through its programs, partnerships, and direct financial assistance. Since 1992, the Foundation has served over 2 million teens in 6,000 communities across the country where Taco Bell restaurants have a presence. Through the support of our customers, franchisees, employees and vendor-partners over the last 20 years, the Foundation has awarded more than \$45 million in grants and scholarships focused on education and career readiness. For more information on the Foundation and its commitment to teens – Taco Bell team members, friends and future leaders – visit tacobellforteens.org, and find us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/TacoBell4Teens>.

About Taco Bell Corp.

Taco Bell Corp., a subsidiary of Yum! Brands, Inc., (NYSE: YUM), is the nation's leading Mexican-inspired quick service restaurant. Taco Bell serves made to order and customizable tacos, burritos, and specialties such as the exclusive Doritos® Locos Tacos, gourmet-inspired Cantina Bell® Menu and lower calorie Fresco Menu. The company encourages customers to "Live Más," both through its food and in ways such as its Feed The Beat® music program and its nonprofit organization, the Taco Bell Foundation for Teens™. Taco Bell and its more than 350 franchise organizations have nearly 6,000 restaurants across the United States that proudly serve more than 36 million customers every week.