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## John Benoit donates \$15,000 to Boys & Girls Club of Coachella Valley

*Mariecar Mendoza*  
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Riverside County Supervisor John J. Benoit presented the Boys & Girls Club of the Coachella Valley with \$15,000 during an assembly for nearly 200 children at the La Quinta club Friday.

The funds will be split between the La Quinta, Indio and Coachella Boys & Girls Clubs for general support, Benoit said.

"This is a time when we need people who can to step up because all these schools and all these nonprofit are having more trouble than they've ever had in raising funds to keep basic programs going," Benoit said. "So I'm pleased that the county has been able to do it and I encourage others to join."

The presentation of the check was made to Douglas Miller, president of the Boys & Girls Club of the Coachella Valley, during the official launch of the organization's new literacy project, The Waterford Program.

The program began Monday thanks to a donation by the Waterford Institute, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to use technology to supplement student learning; Wilbur Colom; and Bermuda Dunes resident, James W. Parkinson.

"The important thing here is that there are people like Mr. Parkinson and The Waterford that are willing to come to the facility and create a literacy program that for many of these kids could be the turning point of their lives," Benoit said.