



Boys and Girls Clubs of America



“To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.”

Our Mission



Our mission is to promote safe, positive, and inclusive environments for all. We support all youth - every race, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic status, and religion - in reaching their full potential.



76% of low-income members ages 12 to 18 regularly reported receiving mostly As and Bs, compared to 67% of their peers nationally.



52% of 12th grade members express an interest in a STEM career, compared with 27% of 12th graders nationally.



97% of Club teens expect to graduate from high school.



Our History



The company was founded in 1860 by three women in Hartford, Connecticut.

Mary Goodwin, Alice Goodwin, and Elizabeth Hammersley

The initial goal was to create a positive environment for kids that roamed the streets. The first club was organized with character development as the core focus of the experience with improving behavior, increasing personal expectations and goals as additional targets.

Although the company's name was originally the *Boys Club Federation* it would be changed in 1990 to recognize the fact that girls are also part of their cause. The name was changed to the "*Boys and Girls Clubs of America*."



Our Programs



National photography program

The National Photography Program is designed to help youth ages 6 to 18 go beyond taking snapshots and develop the necessary skills to take photographs that can really impact the viewer. The current popularity and accessibility of photography makes it a powerful means to engage youth of all ages in creative programming, while simultaneously teaching them skills they will use for the rest of their lives. For some youth, photography opens a door to creative self-expression that no other art form allows. Others may discover a career path.



Lyricism 101

Recognizing the power of the literary arts, Lyricism 101 positions Club members as torchbearers and experts in the ancient oral poetic traditions that continue to thrive around the world. The program gives teens an opportunity to tell their stories, build community and express their artistic visions through the music of hip-hop culture and the culture of the cipher.

Health and Wellness



Triple Play

A Game Plan for Mind, Body and Soul

Triple Play is a dynamic wellness program that is designed to help youth create opportunities to take charge of their personal health and wellness.

These Club programs help develop physical fitness, reduce stress and promote a positive use of leisure time, appreciation for the environment and interpersonal skills.

80% of Club alumni said the Club had a positive impact on their attitude toward fitness and health.

Healthy Habits (Mind): Addresses the ways an individual's health behaviors are influenced by personal beliefs and exposure to positive modeling. In addition to nutrition education, activities focus on helping youth assess, practice, identify, consider, and recognize health behaviors and messages.

Daily Challenges (Body): Intentional focus on physical literacy: Ability - Increasing capability in basic movement skills and overall fitness; Confidence - the knowledge of the ability to play sports or enjoy other physical activities and Motivation - the intrinsic enthusiasm for physical activity for members to be physically active for life.

Social Recreation (Soul): Emphasis on social and emotional development, or the social, cognitive, and behavioral skills that youth need to be healthy and productive. There is an explicit focus on emotional regulation, healthy relationships (with self

Your Assistance



Get Involved

Volunteer

There are many reasons why you should volunteer with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. The Club provides a safe and fun environment for kids to learn and grow. They offer programs and activities that help kids develop important life skills. And we rely on the support of volunteers to help make all of this possible.

Volunteering with the Boys and Girls Club is a great way to make a positive impact on the lives of kids in your community. You can help them learn make a difference in their future.

Individual Volunteers

Whether you help with homework, organize a game, serve as a mentor or teach an art project, you'll have the opportunity to build healthy relationships with young people eager for adult guidance, and have a positive impact on their lives. In turn, you will find that spending time with these young people has a positive impact on you as well. All you have to do is go to the website for your local Boys and Girls Club and fill out an application!

Groups and Corporate Volunteers

Volunteer groups provide support to our Clubhouses on either a one-time or recurring basis. Groups can choose to help with daily programs, beautification projects, and/or Clubhouse events. We can accommodate groups of three to 30 participants. To get started, please email Don Crouch (dcrouch@bgcgnh.org) with your company name, volunteer idea, and dates you are interested in.

Donate and Work with Us

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater New Haven is looking for team members who are passionate about giving whatever it takes to build a great future for kids.

We believe that all kids deserve the opportunity to succeed in life, and we need dedicated team members to help make that happen. If you share our passion for making a difference in the lives of kids, we want you on our team!



Please donate today and change a child's life. Every little bit helps, and it would make a great difference in the lives of all the children that are within our programs. Together we can make a difference!





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