



Open the door to stronger families and communities.

Clubs Have a Positive Impact on Youth, Families and Communities

When young people have the support they need to thrive, the benefits extend far beyond them. Families do better. Communities do better. Young people who develop the skills, relationships and confidence to succeed grow into adults who contribute to their households, neighborhoods and society.¹

But that trajectory isn't guaranteed. Too many young people — especially those in under-resourced communities — face obstacles, from limited access to quality learning environments to a lack of trusted mentors and safe spaces outside of school.

Yet demand for high-quality after-school programs far outstrips the supply. Of the nearly 30 million youth whose caregivers want after-school programs, more than three in four are missing out. That's 22.6 million children whose caregivers would enroll them if a program were available.²

For families navigating economic pressures, that gap has consequences. Caregivers worry about their children's safety during after-school hours. Young people lose time for learning, skill building and connection. Communities lose the long-term returns that come from investing in young people early.

Boys & Girls Clubs help close that gap. Clubs provide safe, structured environments where young people form relationships with caring adults and develop habits and mindsets that lead to long-term success. Club programs offer academic support, workforce preparation, health and wellness resources and opportunities for leadership.

Our research shows that the positive impact of Club membership has ripple effects beyond the individual young people served. Boys & Girls Clubs produce valuable benefits for families and communities as well.



When Clubs invest in kids, everyone wins.

Turn the page to see their impact.

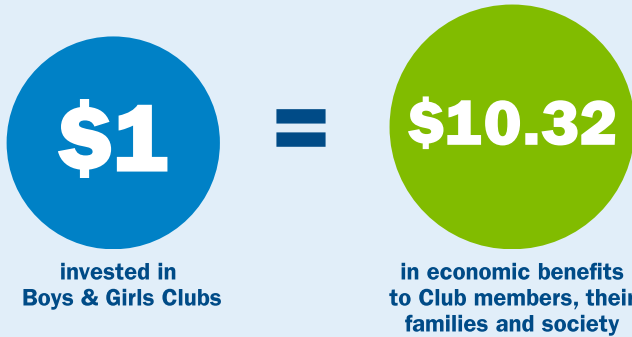


Boys & Girls Clubs Help Families and Communities Thrive

When Clubs invest in youth, families become more stable, communities become safer and society gains long-term economic and social returns.

Clubs Produce Benefits for Society and People

Every dollar invested in Clubs returns \$10.32 in economic and social dividends to Club members, their families and society, with an estimated \$22.4 billion in benefits to the nation from increased caregiver earnings, lifetime earnings of young people, healthcare cost savings and more.³



Clubs Help Caregivers Stay Employed

Nationally, 84% of working caregivers report that after-school programs help them keep their jobs.⁴ An even higher percentage of Club caregivers (95%) say they are able to work because their children can go to the Club.

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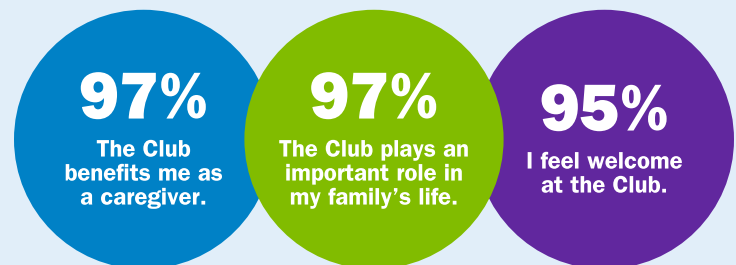
Clubs Provide Trusted Support for Families

Most caregivers (96%) say they can count on the Club if they need support and 93% say there is someone at the Club with whom they can talk about their child's well-being. Nearly half (47%) of caregivers reached out to the Club for support in the past two years and almost all (97%) felt positive about the support they received.



Clubs Play an Important Role in Families' Lives

Caregivers see the Club as an important and welcoming part of their family's lives, with 97% saying the Club benefits them as caregivers.



Measuring Clubs' Impact on Families and Communities

BGCA works with Club organizations to build their capacity to collect and use data to assess needs, measure outcomes, demonstrate their impact and improve their services. The Parent & Caregiver Survey, one of the tools in the National Youth Outcomes Initiative (NYOI) portfolio, enables Clubs and BGCA to explore the experiences, needs and perspectives of caregivers of Club members. In 2025, more than 3,500 caregivers from more than 300 Clubs took the survey; some of those findings are featured in this brief.

BGCA commissioned the research firm Ecotone Analytics GBC to conduct a social return on investment study of Boys & Girls Clubs collectively. The study, titled "The Social and Economic Benefits of Boys & Girls Clubs," was published in 2024; key findings are highlighted in this brief.

Access a [list of citations](#) for the external data sources used.

America
Needs
Club Kids
Club Kids Need You.

Learn more about the mission
and work of Boys & Girls Clubs
and how you can get involved.

bgca.org/get-involved