

CONSIDER THIS!

Once you've gotten the conversation started, there are all kinds of ways that Kiwanis clubs and Boys & Girls Clubs can work together to change kid's lives. Here are a few:

- Invite Boys & Girls Club parents and staff to become members of your club.
- Volunteer to serve as a mentor for Boys & Girls Club members.
- Be a coach or referee for a Boys & Girls Club sports program.
- Propose and fund a Kiwanis-sponsored playground or sports field.
- Hold a Kiwanis club meeting—or more than one—at a local Boys & Girls Club.
- Participate in Boys & Girls Clubs' Youth of the Year program.
- Start up a Kiwanis Healthy Snack Program.
- Introduce BUG and Terrific Kids programs to enhance Boys & Girls Club programs.
- Sponsor a Boys & Girls Club Power Hour.



HOW CAN YOUR CLUB CONTACT A LOCAL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB?

Learn about the organization at [kiwanis.org/bgca](https://www.kiwanis.org/bgca). And click the link regarding 1,300 local Boys & Girls Clubs!

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Boys & Girls Clubs of America

TOOLKIT



A PARTNERSHIP OF PEOPLE WHO CARE

KIDS NEED ADULTS WHO LOOK OUT FOR THEM—WHO SHARE THEIR ENERGY AND HELP GUIDE IT. THAT'S WHAT KIWANIS CLUBS PROVIDE. IT'S ALSO WHAT BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA AND LOCAL BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OFFER. OUR PARTNERSHIP RESULTS IN JOINT SERVICE, FUNDRAISING AND OUTREACH—FOR THE KIDS WHO NEED IT MOST.

WHAT IS BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA?

In every community, many children are left to find their own recreation and companionship. An increasing number have no adult care or supervision at home. Young people need to know that someone cares about them. That's where a local Boys & Girls Club comes in.

It's a safe place where kids can play, learn and grow. And it's where adult volunteers help young people—especially those who need it most—reach their full potential. The organization's programs and services enhance that development, instilling a sense of competence, usefulness and belonging.

Members learn about citizenship, service, healthy lifestyles and much more. And they have fun all the while. For 4 million kids in 4,000 clubs, great futures are getting started every day.



WHY ARE KIWANIS AND BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA PARTNERS?

It's simple: We can do more together. In fact, our partnership is already thriving. Kiwanis International and Boys & Girls Clubs of America have been collaborating since 2008. And they've been changing lives. Here are a few ways local partnerships have made an impact in communities all over the country:

- **Feeding those in need.** In Snohomish, Washington, there is a free community dinner every Monday and Thursday for families in need. And on the fifth Monday, Kiwanians and Boys & Girls Club volunteers work together to feed more than 100 people. It's a great service for recipients—and great experience for the children, who help create and serve meals while giving back to the community.
- **Fixing up the place.** The Manteca, California, Sunrise Kiwanis Club lent a hand to their local Boys & Girls Club when Kiwanians painted and updated the club's games room. They even paid for all the supplies. In fact, one Kiwanis club member donated a state-of-the-art theater system with SurroundSound, a blu-ray DVD player and speaker system. Many kids there can't afford to go to the movies, so the club's Friday movie nights are now something special. For the Boys & Girls Club staff, the room has also become a perfect place for training sessions.
- **Gardening and growing.** In Goshen, Indiana, local Kiwanians and the Boys & Girls Club garden together. The kids learn how to grow their own plants, which also allows them to taste certain fruits and vegetables for the first time—and even share them with fellow club members. As the garden grows, Kiwanians instill pride in the kids, along with a lifelong passion for gardening. It's also a great way to contribute produce to a food pantry or to sell it at a local farmer's market.



HOW CAN YOU FIND A LOCAL BOYS & GIRLS CLUB?

If you don't already have a partnership with a Boys & Girls Club, this is a great time to start. Here's how:

1. **Find a club.** To get in touch with a Boys & Girls Club, go to bgca.org/FindAClub.
2. **Contact a club leader.** Kiwanis members can reach out to a Boys & Girls Club director. Just give them a call! Then explore how you can work together. (See Starting the Conversation below.)
3. **Help kids together.** There are so many ways Kiwanis members and Boys & Girls Clubs can team up to make the world a better place for children. Explore them all at kiwanis.org/kiwanis/partners/preferred.

STARTING THE CONVERSATION

There are many ways to connect with Boys & Girls Clubs in your area. Here are a few simple ideas to get you started.

- **Meet.** Once you've reached out, ask to meet with staff members to discuss how you can work together. Keep it casual—meet for coffee or in some other low-key way.
- **Get social.** Invite Boys & Girls Club staff members to a social event that your club is hosting. Make sure it's one where people mingle. And consider assigning specific Kiwanians to your guests so they'll feel welcome.
- **Invite them to serve with you.** If you have a project in the near future, invite the local Boys & Girls Club to join you. Or volunteer to help with an upcoming project of theirs. What better way to get familiar with each other than by doing what you love together?
- **Invite them to a meeting.** In fact, ask Boys & Girls Club staff members to speak so your club understands what they do and how you can help. It's a great opportunity, even if they can't attend the whole meeting. Be sure to offer to do the same for them.
- **Get connected.** Check out their website and connect on social media. Then let your club know what they're up to and ask for suggestions on how you might help.