



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA**

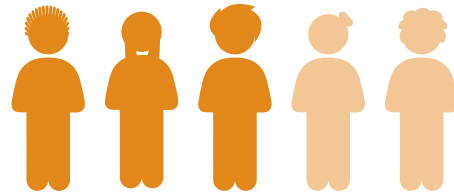
# State of Youth in America

Every young person **deserves to thrive** – **regardless of their circumstances or ZIP code**. But for too many kids and teens, a great future and their ability to reach their full potential are **threatened by widening income and access inequities**.

## BARRIERS TO OPPORTUNITIES



households face **food insecurity**.

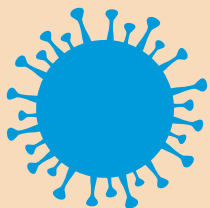
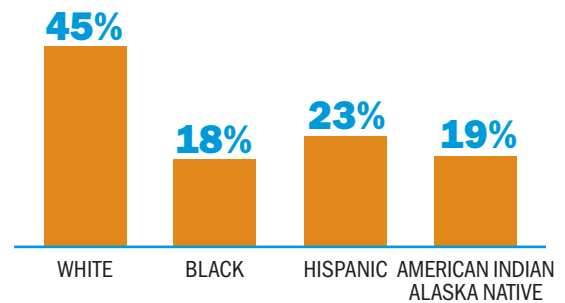


3 out of 5 children live in **low-income families**.

## INEQUITY IN ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



The percentage of 4th graders who **read proficiently remains low**. Dramatic racial gaps persist.



## THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbates existing gaps in opportunity, with potentially **long-term impacts on kids and teens, especially those from communities grappling with systemic inequity**.

From nutrition and learning loss, to safety and emotional well-being, the pandemic's social and economic stressors and lack of normally available safety nets have disrupted young people's development and well-being.

## CHANGING WORKFORCE NEEDS



**4.5 MILLION**

young people ages 16 to 24 **aren't in school and don't have a job**.

## EMOTIONAL & MENTAL STRESSORS

**ALMOST HALF**

of all U.S. youth (45%) have experienced at least one potentially **traumatic event** in their lives.



# Boys & Girls Clubs Meet Kids Where They Are

**4.6 MILLION KIDS AND TEENS SERVED ANNUALLY**

**At their Club, youth have access to:**



a safe environment



academic support



meals and snacks



high-quality programs



supportive relationships

**A CULTURE OF SAFETY AND INCLUSION**

**68,000**  
**adult staff**

encourage youth voice and foster inclusive environments, supported by **457,000 volunteers**.



**467,000**  
**kids and teens served daily**

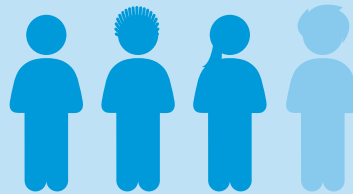
Clubs open their doors to youth of every race, ethnicity, gender, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic status and religion.



Clubs meet kids where they spend **80% of their time: outside of school.**

Clubs are embedded in their communities, offering safe in-person and online spaces and the key ingredients that kids and teens need to reach their potential. By building on their strengths and the assets in their lives, Clubs strengthen young people's resilience and belief in their own capabilities.

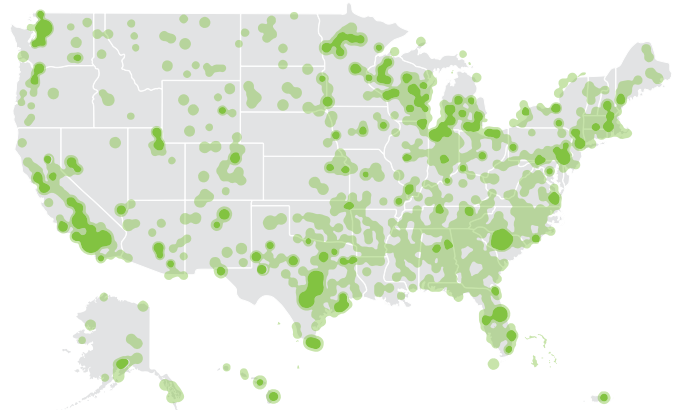
**Clubs make it possible for parents and caregivers to go to work.**



**3 in 4**

kids in the U.S. don't have a stay-at-home parent.

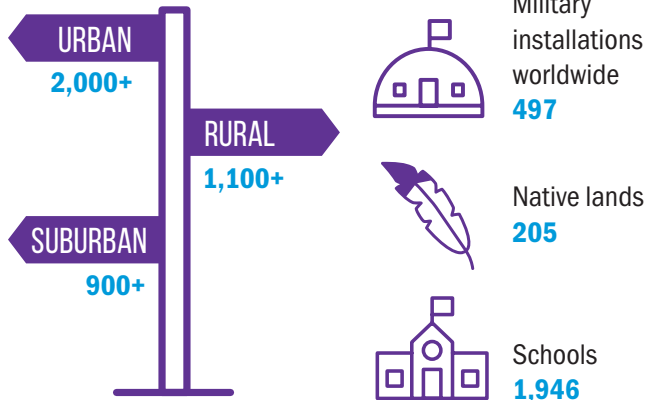
**4,700+ CLUBS**



# The Impact of Local Clubs

When kids attend **high-quality youth development** programs like Boys & Girls Clubs, they become **resilient, build life skills and live healthy lifestyles.**

## CLUBS ARE IN EVERY TYPE OF COMMUNITY



## CLUB YOUTH ARE COMMITTED TO HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Club youth develop **perseverance** so they can face life's challenges.

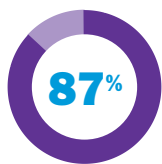
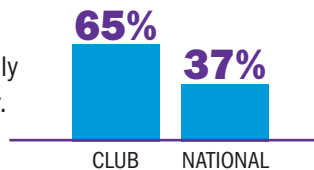


report that if something is hard, they **keep working at it.**

Club high schoolers are more likely to have **avoided using alcohol or vaping** than their peers nationally.

## CLUB KIDS AND TEENS ARE LEADERS AND CHANGE AGENTS

Club 12th graders are more likely to **volunteer** on a monthly basis as their peers nationally.



of Club youth say they can **stand up for what's right.**

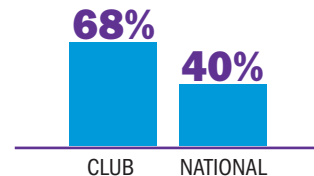
## CLUB YOUTH GRADUATE WITH A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Club youth receive **college and workforce preparation.**

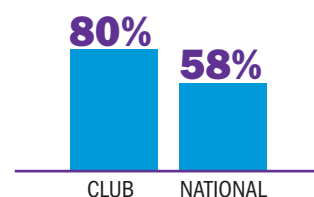
**95%** of Club seniors know what education or training they need for the career they want.

**76%** of Club kids and teens are on track to **graduate on time.**

### NEVER USED ALCOHOL

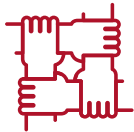


### NEVER VAPED



# Help Support Great Futures

Donating to BGCA directly supports local impact by bolstering our work to:



Build strong local Clubs and communities



Increase the quality of every kid's Club experience



Reach and serve more young people



Advocate for America's youth at the local, state and federal levels

"I never really felt like I was in control of my life," says Anaa. A refugee from Ethiopia, he and his family fled to America when he was a child. Life in America brought new challenges, from learning English to adjusting to a new culture. Anaa fell in with the wrong crowd and frequently got into trouble.

One day, a police officer gave him a guest pass to the local Boys & Girls Club. There, he found people and a place that encouraged him to achieve. **"I had people who actually cared about me. I had a place where I could make mistakes and learn from them,"** he says.

Through Club programs like CareerLaunch and Money Matters, Anaa explored the possibilities for his future and built valuable life skills. He even became his Club's

For every \$1 that Clubs pay in membership dues to BGCA, they receive **\$68 in funding and services**. Giving to BGCA directly translates to more resources for Clubs so they can focus on what matters: **servicing the kids and teens who need us most.**

## A PLACE TO BECOME: ANAA'S STORY



community outreach intern. But it was his Club mentor, Mr. Williams, who made the biggest difference. In Mr. Williams, Anaa saw someone who looked like him and was successful and college educated. He challenged Anaa to think about what he wanted to do. Together, they made a list of Anaa's goals, and Mr. Williams held Anaa accountable to each one. By high school graduation, Anaa had crossed everything off the list.

In 2019, Anaa was recognized as the Midwest Youth of the Year. Today, he is a student at Pomona College with plans to become an entrepreneur. He has already started his own company that sells reusable water bottles, with a portion of the proceeds supporting organizations working to increase access to clean water across Africa.



Every \$1 invested in Boys & Girls Clubs returns **\$9.60 in economic benefits.**

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

Go to [BGCA.org](https://www.bgca.org) to find out how you can get involved in the Boys & Girls Club mission.