The Club Experience

Our Mission
To inspire and enable all youth, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Alexis O.
Youth of the Year

The Youth of the Year is the premier recognition for Club members. The recipient exemplifies service to the Club, academic success, strong moral character, and life goals. This year the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley was honored to announce Alexis O. as the 2015 Youth of the Year. Alexis is a role model to Club members everywhere.

"The staff at the Club really gets to know the children individually. They focus on their talents and help them discover new abilities. For me, I received the gift of piano lessons and guitar instruction, and plenty of encouragement to keep writing. The one thing that has meant the most to me is having a place to go where I know people care about me. I feel protected. I feel valued. I feel loved!"

- Alexis O.
2015 Youth of the Year
Who We Serve

Our Reach

4 Boys & Girls Clubs in the Chippewa Valley

19 Full Time Adult Staff

810 Adult Volunteers

1,297 Registered Members + 4,986 Youth Served Through Community Outreach = 6,283 Youth Served

Member Demographics

65% Youth Ages 8-11
35% Teens
25% Minority Races or Ethnicities
55% Qualify for Free or Reduced-Price School Lunch
38% Live in Single-Parent Households

To view your local Club’s Annual Impact information, please visit our website at www.cvclubs.org/annual-reports

FIND A CLUB NEAR YOU!

“The Boys & Girls Club really keeps your focus on school and drives you to be successful. I have a great future ahead of me, in part, because of the staff at the Club, and I can’t thank the Club enough for that.”

- MaiKa V., 2013 Youth of the Year currently attending University of Wisconsin - Madison

“"The Club is a special place for our community youth, it helps them find a sense of belonging as well as the tools they need to succeed moving forward. Thank you to our generous community donors and volunteers for making what we do possible.”

- Deb Fischer
Mayo Clinic

Boys & Girls Clubs in the Chippewa Valley

Chippewa Falls Center
Youth Served: 832

Menomonie Center
Youth Served: 700

Mary Markquart Center
Youth Served: 4,011

Jackson County Center
Youth Served: 740

Black River Falls
Eau Claire
Chippewa Falls
Menomonie


Demonstrating Our Positive Impact

**ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**The Need**
11.6% of young people in Wisconsin fail to graduate from high school on time. National assessment of educational progress in 2015 showed 21% of 8th graders in Wisconsin read below the basic level.

**What We Do**
Our educational programs help ensure kids will be successful in school, keep them learning throughout the summer months, and prepare them to be globally competitive graduates.

**Our Impact**
Our members completed 5,939 hours of homework at the Clubs, and an additional 6,147 hours in Stride Academy and Project Learn. These programs focused on math, reading, and spelling skills that helped members excel in their abilities.

**GOOD CHARACTER AND CITIZENSHIP**

**The Need**
22.4% of high-school youth in Wisconsin were involved in a physical fight in the past year and 17.6% of Wisconsin youth reported being electronically bullied. Within the 4 counties the Clubs serve statistics show 1,478 juvenile arrests.

**What We Do**
Our leadership and volunteer service programs empower youth to become good leaders and citizens with a passion for helping others. The Club also offers age specific programming for boys and girls to help them cope with their changing bodies, self esteem, and positive conflict resolution.

**Our Impact**
66% of Club members volunteered in their community at least once per year. 548 Club youth participated in anti-bullying programming while at the Club in 2015.

**HEALTHY LIFESTYLES**

**The Need**
In recent studies, 29% of young people ages 10-17 in Wisconsin are overweight or obese and 43% of Wisconsin youth ages 6-17 engage in physical activity less than 5 days a week.

**What We Do**
Our programs help youth engage in positive behaviors that nurture their well-being and overall health. Club members learn how to manage stress, demonstrate good teamwork, eat right and stay physically fit.

**Our Impact**
64% of Teen Club members surveyed engage in physical activity more than 5 times per week. The Clubs served 77,883 meals and snacks following the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s health guidelines.

**Your Local Club**

**Teen Center Updated in 2015**
The Club serves over 70 teen members, providing them with opportunities to participate in Junior Staff, college campus tours, career exploration, and be with friends in a safe place after school. In 2015, Nordson Corporation Foundation granted the Club funds to enhance the teen space with new furniture and technology to aid community teen’s academic pursuits.

**Chippewa Falls**
Since 2013

**“As a member of Junior Staff at the Club I have had more responsibility and the chance to work with kids and staff. I plan to go to college to be a physical therapist when I graduate.”**
- Morgan D., age 13

**Jackson County Center**
Since 2001

**Academic Success Leads the Way in 2015**
Jackson County Youth completed over 3,200 hours of Academic Success programing focused on homework and Stride Academy, an online academic skill building program purchased with funding from the Black River Falls Area Foundation. The Club partners with the local school district and members’ families to ensure they are successful in school.

**“I like it when the Staff helps me with my math at homework time.”**
- Elle H., age 9
Serving Our Members: 2015 Highlights

Healthy Meals and Snacks
Prepared and served 77,883 total healthy meals and snacks across all sites.

Community Service Activities
861 members engaged in Club-based community service activities.

Homework Completed
5,939 homework hours were completed at the Clubs, helping members be successful at school.

Doors Open
Clubs were open at least 247 days serving members after school and in the summer months.

Summer Program
Partnered with the local school districts to have certified teachers lead summer school programs at three Club locations to prevent summer learning loss.

Homework Completed
5,939 homework hours were completed at the Clubs, helping members be successful at school.

Structured Programs
Offered over 40 structured program options to members at each Club location.

Club Focuses on Healthy Lifestyles
Healthy lifestyles programming educates members on nutrition, physical activity, and how to be mentally strong. The Club is an open meal site to all community youth under age 18. In 2015, 38,490 healthy meals and snacks were served to Club and community youth through the program. Grants from both the Walmart Foundation and Mayo Clinic Health System-Eau Claire Foundation provided new equipment and materials to enhance programming.

“In the Healthy Habits program the food is yummy. It helps keep me healthy and I get to learn good tips to stay healthy.” - Ella, age 10

“I like to go to the Boys & Girls Club because I get to play with my friends, get my homework done and do crafting during rec time with my friends and staff.” - Sonny, Age 10

First Year a Success
In its first year, the Club enrolled 165 members and served an additional 535 youth through special events and community initiatives. The Club, partnered with the Menomonie Area School District, is located in River Heights Elementary School. Over the course of the year, the Club opened its doors to more youth through free transportation from 4 local elementary schools. Club members completed homework, played sports, participated in creative art projects, created a garden, went on educational fieldtrips, and made new friends this past year.
The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley has become a special place in the community where hope appears and the lives of young children are transformed. Here, these young people discover that dreams really can come true. The Club provides high impact programming giving members opportunities in three core areas:

- Academic Success
- Good Character And Citizenship
- Healthy Lifestyles

The Club fills the gap between school and home by providing welcoming, positive environments in which kids and teens have fun, participate in life-changing programs, and build supportive relationships with peers and adults.

“At the Boys & Girls Club I get to be with my friends. It is also a safe place to be when my parents work late at night.”

– Silvia, Age 9
Menomonie Center

In 2015, the daily attendance at many Clubs reached the building capacity. For the first time last summer, the Club had waiting lists due to insufficient building space.

- Chippewa Falls averaged 67 members per day during the summer, with some days reaching 95 youth.
- Mary Markquart Center served an average of 140 youth during the summer, peaking at 185 youth.
- Jackson County Center served over 60 youth at their highest attended day last summer.
- Menomonie Center served an average of 30 youth each day during summer program, and 40 during the school year.

It is an exciting time at the Club, to see so many youth coming through the Clubs doors. To ensure no child is turned away due to building space, in 2016 Black River Falls and Eau Claire are opening the doors to new, larger facilities in which to better serve community youth.

Revenue

- Contributions
- Grants
- Special Events
- Program Fees
- In-kind*

Expenses

- Programing Services
- Fundraising
- Administration

Thank you to all of our donors!

Your generosity ensures that our Clubs are able to provide high quality youth development programs each and every day. Without your annual support we would not be able to maintain and operate our facility nor serve so many youth throughout the Chippewa Valley. To view a list of all our supporters please visit www.cvclubs.org/annual-reports.
A Message from our Executive Director

Dear Friends of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Greater Chippewa Valley,

This has been a year of tremendous growth and opportunity. Thanks to the generous support of foundations, corporations, and individuals like you, we are able to help young people discover that dreams really can come true.

In 2015, the Clubs served more youth than ever before! Over 6,280 youth were served through membership and community outreach. Members received exciting opportunities to develop their leadership skills through positive community service. They learned how to make better health and nutrition choices through participation in hands-on gardening and cooking programs. During Project Learn, members progressed towards academic success by completing their school homework at the Club!

The overwhelming response and support from each community has been above what we could have ever imagined and we continue to make great plans for the future as more families participate in our Club programming.

On behalf of the youth we serve, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely yours,

Sara Antonson
Executive Director