



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF BLOOMINGTON**

NEWS RELEASE

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STUDY CONCLUDES BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS ARE A GOOD INVESTMENT

Bloomington, Ind. – A newly commissioned study by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) found that Clubs are a sound investment, providing nearly \$10 in benefits to the community for every dollar invested.

The study, conducted by the Institute for Social Research and the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan, found that every dollar invested in Boys & Girls Clubs returns \$9.60 in current and future earnings, as well as cost-savings, to American communities. The biggest benefits are from Club members' improved grades and reduced alcohol use and their parents' earnings. Collectively, Clubs spend \$1.4 billion annually on operating costs, resulting in \$13.8 billion in lifetime benefits to youth, families and society.

Locally, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington (BGCB) has been serving the youth who need us most since 1956. By providing vital programs that focus on Academic Success, Good Character and Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles, the Club has helped generations of young people achieve the great futures they deserve. This year alone, the BGCB will spend \$2,098,537 on operating costs, creating \$20,145,955.20 in economic benefits to youth, families and the community.

“We were thrilled, but not surprised, to receive the results of this study. We have long known how valuable Clubs are to our community, but it’s great to have independent confirmation of the benefits our Clubs provide, not only to the young people, but to their parents and the community as well,” said Jeff Baldwin, Executive Director, Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington.

The study is the first national return on investment estimate for Boys & Girls Clubs. Researchers made use of newly available youth outcomes data, collected through surveys of Club members across the country, to examine how the costs required to provide Club programming compare to the long-term benefits for youth and families in economic terms.

The study indicates that Boys & Girls Club services and programs produce tremendous value for youth, families and their communities. Clubs help increase the earning power of parents, as well as of youth when they become adults. They also contribute to major savings for society by helping to prevent costly expenditures for health care, public assistance programs, and criminal justice system involvement and incarceration.

About the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington is an organization dedicated to empowering all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as caring, productive, and responsible citizens. The club operates three units serving youth in Monroe County: Lincoln Street, Ferguson Crestmont, and Ellettsville. Offering low annual rates, the club is a place where all local youth can safely learn, grow, and become the adults of tomorrow. Focusing on Academic Success, Healthy Lifestyles, and Good Character & Active Citizenship, programming at the Club is enriching and varied, led by professional staff and volunteers. To learn more about programs and events at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Bloomington or to make a donation, visit www.bgcbloomington.org, call [812-332-5311](tel:812-332-5311), or follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram!

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