



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA

# Advancing the BIE 2024-2030 Strategic Direction





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# About Boys & Girls Clubs of America

For more than 160 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) has walked alongside young people and their families, creating safe, welcoming spaces where they are seen, supported, and encouraged to grow. At our core, we believe every young person carries unique gifts and purpose, and when those gifts are nurtured, they can shape stronger, healthier communities for generations to come.

Across the country, BGCA serves millions of youth each year in thousands of communities: urban, rural and everything in between. While our reach is broad, our approach is deeply local. We understand that every community holds its own strengths, challenges, and stories, and we are committed to meeting youth where they are. By focusing on access to opportunity and local support, we work to ensure that every young person, no matter where they live, has the opportunity to thrive.

## About Native Services

Our work in Native communities began in 1992, grounded in connection, respect, and care. From the beginning, we recognized that Native youth already hold deep knowledge of their cultures, languages and lands. Our role is not to replace that knowledge, but to honor it, strengthen it, and help create pathways where it can flourish.

For nearly 35 years, BGCA Native Services, led by Native professionals, has worked in partnership with Tribal communities to support youth in ways that are culturally founded and community driven. This work is built on trust and guided by the understanding that strong futures for Native youth are inseparable from identity, belonging and connection to community.

Today, BGCA Native Services helps build and sustain relationships with Tribal leaders and partners, strengthens the capacity of Native Clubs, and supports the development of leaders at every level. Through culturally relevant programs and shared learning, we help young people deepen their sense of who they are and where they come from, while expanding their vision for what is possible.

Across Indigenous lands, over 255 Native Clubs serve 104,000 Native youth in about 175 diverse American Indian, Alaska Native, American Samoan and Native Hawaiian communities in 29 states. These Clubs are more than program sites; they are trusted spaces of gathering, mentorship and cultural continuity.





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# Advancing the BIE 2024-2030 Strategic Direction

The Bureau of Indian Education's 2024–2030 Strategic Direction sets three overarching priorities for every BIE-funded school: Cultural Identity and Language, Wellness, and Student Success. A Native Boys & Girls Club directly advances all three, during the after-school hours where youth development and identity formation most powerfully happen.

BIE 2024-2030 Strategic Priorities	What Native Boys & Girls Club Delivers
<b>Cultural Identity &amp; Language</b> Preserve and revitalize cultural identities and Tribal languages as central to student well-being, identity and academic success.	<b>Culture-led Programming</b> Native adaptations of BGCA curriculum built in partnership with Tribal communities. Your Club sets the cultural direction, language immersion, traditional arts/cultural programs, land-based learning, are core, not add-ons.
<b>Wellness</b> Implement comprehensive frameworks addressing students' physical, mental, emotional, cultural, safety and social needs.	<b>Safe Space &amp; Whole Youth Support</b> A structured, caring after-school environment with trauma-informed mentors, violence and drug prevention programming, social-emotional learning, and physical wellness, during the hours when youth are most at risk.
<b>Student Success</b> Redefine achievement aligned with Tribal ways of knowing, emphasizing personal development, problem-solving, and preparation for life beyond school.	<b>Leadership &amp; Future Readiness</b> Career exploration, academic support, entrepreneurship, 21st-century skills, and college/workforce prep, empowering Native students to lead their sovereign nations toward a self-determined future.



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# 34

years serving Native  
youth in Indian Country

# 255+

Clubs across 29 states,  
150+ Tribes

# 175

Native American  
Tribal nations

## BIE Commitments

**Facilitate space for BGC  
meetings within school settings**

**Work with administrators to  
integrate Club activities into  
school life**

**Assist with security clearances  
for BGC staff**

**Promote club programming  
aligned with BIE strategic goals**

## BGCA Native Services Commitments

**Provide customized, culturally  
relevant training to BIE school  
staff**

**Support Clubs to tailor programs  
to each Tribe's culture and  
language**

**Consult Tribal councils before  
any Club is formed**

**Deliver national network, funding  
guidance, and ongoing technical  
support**

*"BIE-operated/Tribally controlled schools carry more accountability than almost any schools in the country. We are not here to add to that load. The MOA was designed so that BGCA does the program work and BIE provides the infrastructure. Your role is to open the door. We'll do the rest."*

*Native Services Team, Boys & Girls Clubs of America*

