



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA

NATIVE  
SERVICES

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS


2017

ANNUAL  
REPORT




# REFLECTING ON A MILESTONE YEAR FOR NATIVE YOUTH

2017 marks the celebration of 25 years since Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) and our Native communities have become partners. Over the past 25 years, BGCA has partnered with Tribal Nations, supporting their efforts to create opportunities for Native youth to succeed. Native youth draw strength from their culture, and BGCA Native Services supports deepening Native youth's cultural identity through relevant programming that promotes positive youth development. Since 1992, the Native Club Movement has spread to over 100 different American Indian, Alaska Native, American Samoan and Hawaiian communities. We celebrate 25 years of dedicated Native programming to ensure Native youth remain strong and resilient for generations to come.



Through robust commitment, BGCA adapts our evidence-based programs to meet the unique cultural values and traditions of today's youth, along with crafting new programs and curricula specifically for Native Clubs.



A careful creation of programming that speaks to the lived truths of Native people has been paired with targeted trainings for CEOs and Club staff. While there are an infinite number of powerful moments from Native Clubs in 2017, a selection of outstanding stories have been assembled herein that represent the true spirit of our collective Native youth development. The many success stories from Boys & Girls Clubs on Native Lands throughout 2017 demonstrates the vast outcomes and exceptional efforts put into serving Native youth and indicates that there are more great things in the future for Native Clubs in the coming years!

# CELEBRATING



YEARS *of*

NATIVE CLUBS



# LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

This year represents an amazing anniversary for Boys & Girls Clubs in Native Lands. I would like to thank everyone who has supported, and continues to advocate for the work of our Clubs! Through your dedication and commitment to empowering Native youth, we were able to continue expanding services across the country. There are few words to express our appreciation for the commitment to our mission that we see every day.

Native Boys & Girls Clubs are not only safe spaces where youth can go after school; they are havens of hope, opportunity, and resilience. The variety of programs offered are used to effectively guide our youth through education and career development, character and leadership development, health and life skills, the arts, and sports. Culturally relevant activities and adaptations incorporated into these programs have also allowed youth to grow and advance with their heritage in mind. In the long run, it is initiatives like these that will assist and strengthen our youth as they are our future.

We could not have reached this point without the encouragement and belief in our mission shown by our partners, donors and Tribal leaders. We are forever grateful for your continued support.



Woliwoni,

Carla Knapp

**Carla Knapp**  
*Vice President, Native Services*  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America





# LETTER FROM PRESIDENT AND CEO

Thank you for making 2017 yet another remarkable year for Boys & Girls Clubs of America! This year marked a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service to Native communities for the organization. During those years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) has grown to become the largest Native youth-serving nonprofit organization in the nation. It is a responsibility we feel privileged and gratified to champion.

We are grateful for the support our Native Services Unit received in 2017 towards the advancement of our mission– to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Only 52% of all Native youth finish high school while 90% of Club alumni graduate on time. Native youth and teens need the guidance and support our Clubs provide, and we are able to better serve them with your continued support.

The Native Services Unit was established by BGCA 5 years ago and since that time the impact and variety of the programs offered to Native youth has been enhanced and refined. Native Services has very ambitious goals to aid in the sustainability and development of all Native Boys & Girls Clubs and currently serves over 90,000 Native youth daily. Native Boys & Girls Clubs support youth's cultural identity through programming that explicitly promotes positive youth growth and development in the areas of workforce development, healthy life style choices and academic excellence.

Our programs and accomplishments are highlighted throughout this report and we are proud to share them with you. This report provides insight into the achievements that took place in 2017 and a sense of the robust future ahead for our Native Boys & Girls Clubs.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James L. Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**James L. Clark**  
*President and CEO*  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America



A young girl with a feather in her hair, wearing a traditional Native dress with a patterned bodice and a red skirt, is performing a hula hoop routine. She is standing on a large rug with a geometric pattern. In the background, there are several flags and a group of people seated in chairs.

# MISSION

*To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.*

# VISION

*Strengthening Native youth's cultural identity through programming that explicitly promotes positive youth growth and development along critical cultural, social, emotional, intellectual, and physical dimensions through viable and sustainable organizations.*

# CORE BELIEFS

**A Boys & Girls Club Provides:**

- A safe place to learn and grow
- Ongoing relationships with caring, adult professionals
- Life-enhancing programs and character development experiences
- Hope and opportunity



# NATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Native Advisory Committee (NAC) provides leadership and insight on Native history, traditions, values and culture that will help establish and refine BGCA's systems and methods of service to assure the greatest benefit for Native Clubs. Individuals who assume a position on the committee are responsible for providing BGCA Native Services with input on Club training and professional development, as well as input on issues facing Native youth. NAC members must also support BGCA Native Services by identifying resources and potential sponsors to further opportunities to Native youth.



## ALABAMA

**Stephanie Agerton**  
*Boys & Girls Club of the Poarch  
Band of Creek Indians*

## ARIZONA

**Timothy Johnson**  
*Boys & Girls Club of the San  
Carlos Apache Nation*

**Tamara Littlesalt**  
*Boys & Girls Clubs of  
Greater Scottsdale*

## ALASKA

**Alana Humphrey**  
*Boys & Girls Clubs of  
Southcentral Alaska*

## COLORADO

**Bruce LeClaire**  
*Boys & Girls Club of the  
Southern Ute Indian Tribe*

## HAWAII

**Kelly Pearson**  
*Boys & Girls Club of Maui*

## KANSAS

**Nathan Hale**  
*Boys & Girls Club of the Prairie  
Band Potawatomi Nation*

## MICHIGAN

**Sandra Walden**  
*Boys & Girls Club of Bay Mills*

## NEW MEXICO

**Johnny Abeyta Jr.**  
*Boys & Girls Club of  
Ohkay Owingeh*

## NEW YORK

**Jessica Cree Jock**  
*Akwesasne Boys & Girls Club*

## OKLAHOMA

**Lindsey Harris**  
*Boys & Girls Club of Chelsea*

## SOUTH DAKOTA

**Glen Marshall**  
*Boys & Girls Clubs of Rosebud*

## WISCONSIN

**Ron Corn**  
*Woodland Boys & Girls Club*

**Heather Peterson**  
*Boys & Girls Club of the  
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Band*





# BGCIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country Board of Directors, comprised of BGCA National Staff and leaders from partner organizations, seeks to advocate for all Clubs on Native Lands. Advocacy takes place through fundraising, partnership building, and communicating with local Clubs and Tribal agencies.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Barry Griswell**

*Former Chairman and CEO,  
Principal Financial Group Retired CEO  
Community Foundation of Greater  
Des Moines*

### **Dan Lewis**

*President & CEO  
Native Insight, LLC*

### **John Underwood**

*Managing Director  
Goldman Sachs & Co.*

### **Carla Knapp**

*Vice President, Native Services  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America*

### **Kelly Concho-Hayes**

*Director of Organizational  
Development  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America*

### **Lorraine Orr**

*Chief Operations Officer  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America*

### **Andra Rush**

*Chief Executive Officer  
Rush Trucking*

### **Kristine Morain**

*Legal Advisor  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America*



# AT A GLANCE

In 2017, Boys & Girls Clubs in Native Lands impacted the lives of nearly **90,000 youth** living in Native communities, nearly **14,000** of which were teenagers. These youth participate in evidence based programs that build community leaders, support culturally relevant programming and increasing awareness of service learning.

## 186 Clubs

*chartered from 1991-2017*

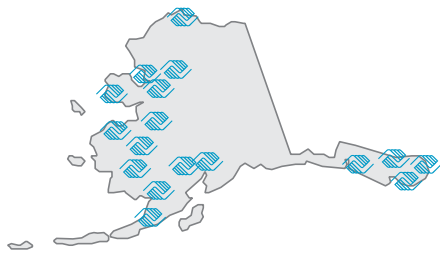
## 90,000 youth

*served from Native communities*

## 14,000 teens

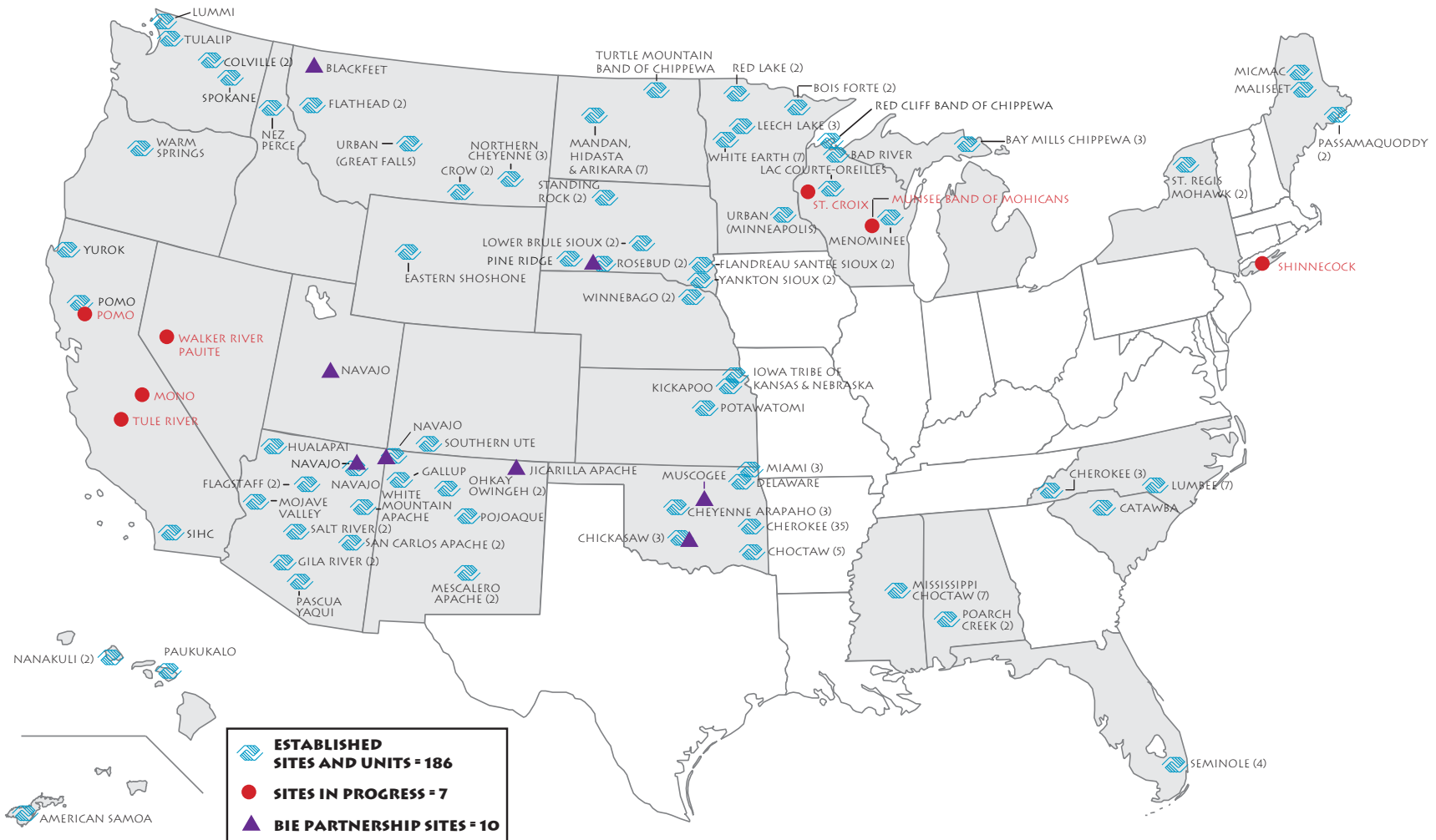
*served from Native communities*





LIST OF CLUBS IN ALASKA:	
BARROW	NOME
EMMONAK	NOORVIK
KAKE	SAND POINT
KIVALINA	SAXMAN
KLAWOCK	SELAWIK
KOTZEBUE	ST. MARY'S
METLAKATLA	TOGIAK
MOUNTAIN VILLAGE	TYONEK
NAKNEK	

# 2017 NATIVE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS





# IMPACT STORY » Bay Mills Youth Learn about Ecosystems

Native Americans and Alaska Native students are the least represented minority population in STEM disciplines, according to University of Michigan's Native American Research Laboratory. However, Native people have a unique perspective that can help bring innovative ideas into these fields. To help Native youth engage in STEM at an early age and to spark their interest in these fields, during the summer of 2017, Boys & Girls Club of Bay Mills partnered with Bay Mills Community College (BMCC) to conduct a program for their youth known as "Science Camp."

Science Camp is a week-long activity in which youth in grades 4 – 7 participate in a variety of unique and exciting activities that include Native traditions, plants, medicines, traditional harvesting of fish, forensic studies, aquatic ecosystems research, health, fitness science, nutrition and farming.

One of the most popular activities of Science Camp was the aquatics research on ecosystems. During this portion, youth visit a local stream where they are taught how to properly examine, measure, and log information on fish by the Bay Mills Biology Department. Participants learned how to look up the species of fish on the state's Department of Natural Resources website. Biologists facilitating the activity explained the importance of protecting the stream's ecosystem by being respectful of the surrounding habitat. The youth were surprised how the ecosystem can be affected by the banks of the stream, as they provide shelter and food for various species.

Stephanie LeBlanc, Assistant to the VP of Academics at BMCC, who plays a major role in the planning, coordination, and supervision of Science Camp stated, "What is great about Science Camp, especially the activity facilitated by the biology department, is the youth are able to participate in hands on activities. It is a whole different experience for the kids when they can really get their hands dirty. I would absolutely recommend that activities like Science Camp are happening at other Clubs." Youth learned the important lesson that they should respect the environment because there are many animal and plant species that thrive there.



# PROGRAMS WITH NATIVE ADAPTATIONS

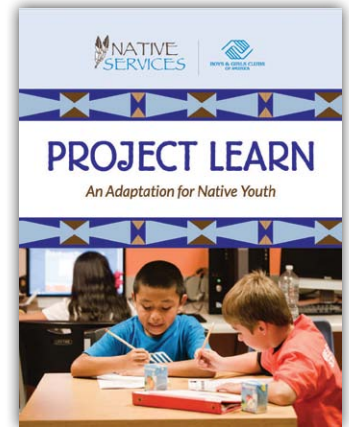
To ensure that Native youth have access to programs and curricula that address their specific needs, the BGCA Native Services has adapted many of BGCA's evidence-based programs and campaigns to incorporate Native culture and beliefs. Native adaptations guarantee that Native youth are being wholly immersed in programming that speaks to the unique aspects of their lives.

## PROJECT LEARN

Project Learn reinforces and enhances the skills and knowledge young people learn at school during the hours they spend at the Club. This comprehensive program strategy is based on research showing that students do much better in school when they spend their non-school hours engaged in fun, but academically beneficial, activities. The NSU worked to integrate certain components into the Project Learn curriculum that Native youth could relate to. Additions to the curriculum include:

- population specific statistics
- specific examples of high-yield learning activities that are culturally relevant
- importance of collaboration with Elders and Tribal departments
- activity extensions and best practices

While the structure of Project Learn remains unchanged, the adaptations allow for Native Clubs to make the program relevant to Native youth.



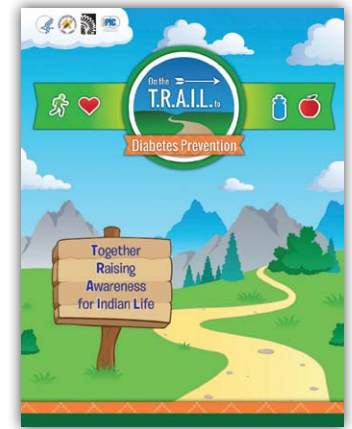
## MY.FUTURE

My.Future Essentials is an online curriculum created by BGCA to give youth the technology skills they need to thrive in today's digital world. Through personalized and engaging hands - on experiences, My.Future teaches youth valuable digital skills. My.Future Essentials helps youth understand their media world, identify and develop digital interests, and earn certifications as they make progress. Through a partnership between BGCA Native Services and Verizon, the curriculum was reviewed to provide Native Clubs with an adaptation that is more reflective of Native culture. The adaptation was designed to give Clubs the ability to create their own activities and to encourage students to explore their cultural heritage while increasing their digital literacy.



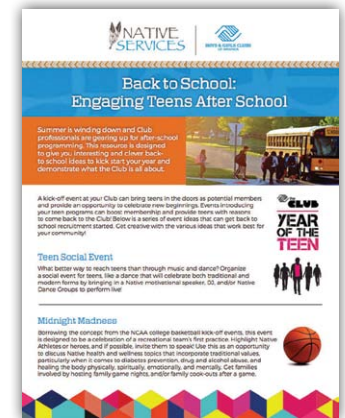
## ON THE T.R.A.I.L. TO DIABETES PREVENTION

In 2003, BGCA, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), IHS, and Nike, Inc., initiated a prevention program aimed at reducing the onset of type 2 diabetes among Native youth. The program – On the T.R.A.I.L. (Together Raising Awareness for Indian Life) to Diabetes Prevention – is an innovative combination of physical, educational, and nutritional activities that align with many Native Communities ideas of holistic wellness. T.R.A.I.L. is comprised of a 12 chapter curriculum program that provides Native youth with a comprehensive understanding of healthy lifestyles in order to prevent diabetes and attain emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual balance. Woven throughout the program is the principle that BGCA has always centered in its approach to youth development; an evidence-based approach. Programs draw from Tribal traditions and history to learn about nutrition, food choices, media influences and the impact of diabetes. FirstPic, Inc. has partnered with BGCA on this program from its onset and assisted in its successful implementation in over 50 Native communities nationwide.



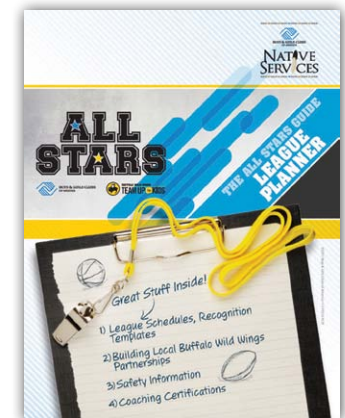
## YEAR OF THE TEEN

Back In 2016, BGCA launched the “Year of the Teen.” The campaign aims to bring awareness to teen membership, challenges, and needs. The effort to engage Native youth continued as an area of distinctive emphasis in 2017. Year of the Teen called for Clubs to focus on teen recruitment and retention so that more teens have a “safe haven” to go after school and engage with peers and adult staff. Recruitment and retention strategies were provided to Native Boys & Girls Clubs on how to attract but also retain teens while integrating their heritage. Strategies included hosting events at the Club, such as social outings and college and career fairs, as well as marketing the events in a multitude of mediums in order to be as accessible as possible.



## ALL STARS

The mission of ALL STARS is simple - get more young people, on more teams, for more playing time, while fostering a sense of belonging, building life skills and self-confidence. The ALL STARS curriculum adaptation for Native youth includes year-round programming opportunities for youth ages 6-18 to join flag football teams, cheer teams, basketball leagues and participate in traditional dance groups.



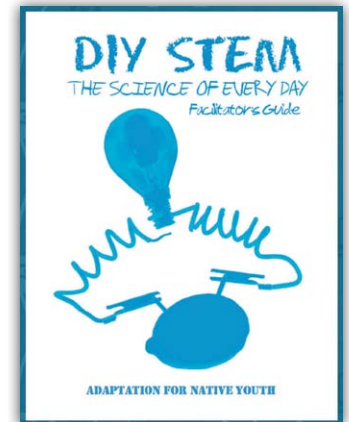


## DIY STEM

Do It Yourself (or DIY) STEM is an activity-based program that brings scientific principles to life. The program uses items commonly found in the Club, or can be easily procured, to introduce Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematical (STEM) concepts to youth. DIY STEM is a program that can be implemented in its entirety or as separate units depending on the needs and interests of various Club kids.

The program and curriculum requires youth to think deeply so they can build skills to become the professionals, builders, researchers, educators, and leaders of the future. Club staff guide members to explore STEM related concepts to find an area that interests them most. Five units are available for members and staff to explore and complete including: Energy and Electricity, Engineering Design, Food Chemistry, Intro to Aeronautics, and The Science of Sports.

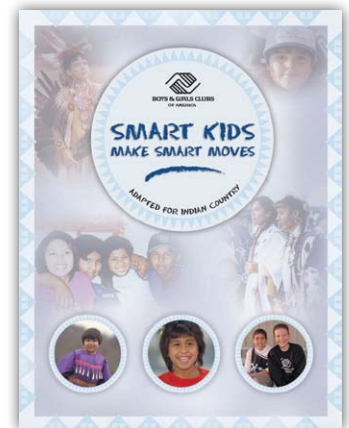
DIY STEM's Native adapted curriculum integrates crucial anecdotes relating these curriculum units to the Club members' everyday lives. Emphasis is placed on the importance of STEM related concepts as they can help preserve culture while benefitting Native communities across the country. Activities such as Native drumming are used to show youth that science happens all around us.



## SMART MOVES

SMART (Skills Mastery and Resistance Training) Moves addresses problems such as drug and alcohol use and premature sexual activity. SMART Moves is a 17 session program that tackles topics such as self-awareness, interpersonal skills, and drug use for youth ages 6-9.

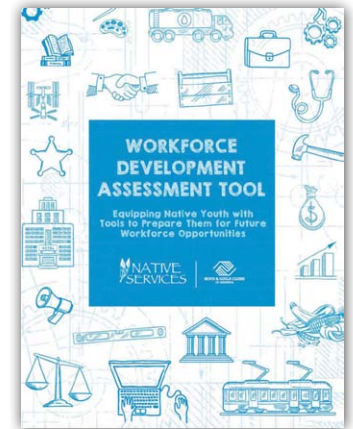
SMART Kids Make Smart Moves was published in March 2003 through a partnership of Boys & Girls Clubs of America, the Center of Substance Abuse Prevention, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Native American Programs and FirstPic, Inc. An advisory group comprised of experts who understand SMART Moves and the target population reviewed the program and identified adaptations to make the curriculum more reflective of Native American culture. Due to the flexible nature of SMART Moves, local Native Clubs also have the ability to create their own activities and supplemental materials that best reflect their local culture and traditions.



## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

The Workforce Development Initiative capitalizes on existing job skills and career development programs to create and implement a robust local workforce development program for youth. The program prepares teens to enter the workforce while engaging local employers as they get ready for the next generation of employees.

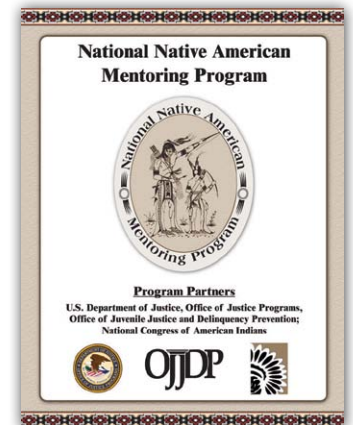
The Workforce Development Initiative has been specifically adapted for Native youth and provides Clubs and Club professionals with resources and support necessary to facilitate programming. In concert with this effort, BGCA has provided an assessment tool to help Native Clubs assess their capacity to implement a workforce development program. The assessment tool provides step by step procedures that prepare staff to conduct the programming. Each section acknowledges unique workforce opportunities for Native youth such as becoming Tribal department employees.



## NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN MENTORING PROGRAM

In the stretch of 25 years of successful programming, there are highlights that stand as markers of the true spirit of the Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country. The National Native American Mentoring Program (NNAMP) is undoubtedly one of those special highlights. In 2004, the Navajo Nation, a federally recognized Tribe located in the states of New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah, received a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to develop a unique NNAMP that addresses the situation of children whose parent(s) are incarcerated in Tribal, state, or federal prisons. Building on the strong network of Boys & Girls Clubs located in Indian Country, the Navajo Nation teamed with local Clubs to establish and implement NNAMP over three-years.

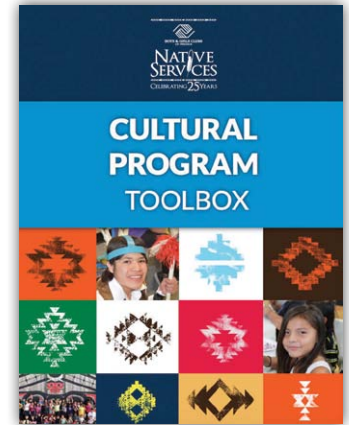
There was a steady interest on the part of Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country to expand upon this mentoring model. In 2007, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) agreed to embark on a journey to develop a program open to all youth in need of a positive role model and extra attention, regardless of their background. Through a vigorous collaboration with NCAI and FirstPic, Inc., a consulting firm and BGCA partner that has been instrumental in helping to establish Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country since 1996, the project was brought to 34 Boys & Girls Club organizations. Since the foundational effort more than a dozen years ago, the program has matched over 1,600 youth who were in need of a positive adult role model with a compassionate and supportive volunteer mentor.



## CULTURAL PROGRAM TOOLBOX

The Cultural Program Toolbox was developed by the BGCA Native Services in response to the large need for adapting activities and programming to the unique atmospheres of varied Native communities. Native Services recognizes the need for culturally relevant services to provide for Native youth, and the Cultural Program Toolbox is one of the many ways they are fulfilling that need.

The Cultural Program Toolbox is designed to boost the creativity that all Native Clubs already have by giving some specific examples and ideas of what they can do to run culturally-specific programs. It also includes template documents such as a sample MOA, a sample Native Arts Grant, and a sample job description for a Cultural Arts Coordinator.



## BE THERE

The Be There initiative supports Clubs in creating a high-quality Club Experience for all youth by investing in building a safe, positive environment, establishing supportive relationships, and creating a sense of belonging. Be There is a comprehensive approach to help Clubs and BGCA-affiliated youth centers integrate best practices in supporting youth experiencing bereavement and other major life altering losses. We not only want to help youth process through their grief, but we also want to include resilience development as part of the long-term approach in preparing our youth to reach their full potential. Be There provides trainings, resources and strategies that help Clubs increase their capacity to support youth, staff and families who are grieving. The strategies that are offered in this toolkit are meant to support Clubs in building strong supportive relationships among youth, staff, families and the community.

Grief is an all too familiar experience for many of the young people we serve. And while the challenges that Native communities face are great, the resiliency of those Native communities is even greater. The decades of superior youth development, advocacy, and support that Native Services provides is inextricably linked to that resiliency even as it serves to reinforce it. Be There is yet another way that Clubs are making a difference and helping to heal children and teens in Native communities.





# IMPACT STORY » Opening of the Nespelem Boys & Girls Club

The number of Boys & Girls Clubs on Native Lands continued to grow in 2017! As part of this expansion, a second Boys & Girls Club opened on the Colville Reservation in Nespelem, WA. Success of the partnership between the Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County and the Colville Business Council has been evident in the Inchelium community, located on the Colville Reservation, with the opening of the Inchelium Boys & Girls Club. As a result, the Colville Reservation expanded to the Nespelem Community Center.

“We’re pleased with the decision of the Colville Tribes to expand the Boys & Girls Club into the Nespelem district,” said Bill Tsoukalas, Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County, “Our organization includes partnerships with the Tulalip Tribes, Spokane Tribe, Warm Springs Tribe as well as the Colville Confederated Tribes.”

The Club is housed in the Nespelem Community Center, and has a computer lab, activity room, and an office. Since the soft opening it has already experienced great success, with an average daily attendance around 60 youth during the summer and 20-30 afterschool. This location will be reaching an group of Native youth that had previously not been reached on the Colville Reservation, providing much needed programming. Congratulations to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County and the community in Nespelem! It is one more Club that will be enabling their youth to reach their potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



# EXECUTIVE TRAININGS

BGCA Native Services recognizes that professional training not only enhances the experience of Club members but decreases staff turnover. As we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> year of Native Boys & Girls Clubs, staff had the opportunity to take part in a variety of in-person trainings that covered topics from developing leadership skills to advanced philanthropic growth.

## NATIVE ADVANCED LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Advanced Leadership Program (ALP), provided by BGCA, is a learning experience that gives Boys & Girls Clubs leaders and their teams the critical tools to cultivate leadership capacity in their organization. The ALP fits perfectly within the ambitious goals of Native Services to lift up the Native voices in communities over the last 25 years. Designed to provide new concepts, benchmark best practices, and provide real time coaching, the ALP is one of the top programs to assure growth of tomorrow's Native leaders. In 2017, 15 participants from 5 organizations traveled to Fort Myers, FL to take part in the third annual Native ALP. These organizations were able to glean valuable experience designed specifically for leaders who are serving Native communities and the unique challenges they face.



## ADVANCING PHILANTHROPY

In 2017, 14 Native organizations participated in the very first Native Advancing Philanthropy (AP) workshop. The exciting new opportunity is designed to guide Clubs in building a sustainable development model centered on the creation of a maintainable culture of philanthropy. The Advancing Philanthropy program provides a chance for Clubs to increase resource development in a transformative way. The curriculum of this workshop was designed exclusively for Native Boys & Girls Clubs. Even more specifically, the goals of AP are to increase overall philanthropic giving by 30% and double individual giving. Serving those young people who need us the most will require significantly more resources. With these increased resources, Clubs will be able to improve the lives of more children, deepening the Clubs' positive impact in the community while ensuring their own financial security.



## 2017 BGCA NATIONAL CONFERENCE - NATIVE TRACK

Native Boys & Girls Clubs were proudly represented at the 2017 BGCA National Conference. Held in Dallas, TX, this event hosted a series of engaging sessions, and special guests. Participants eagerly explored the exhibit hall and learned more about the exciting initiatives and accomplishments of Native Clubs across the country.

Native Club staff were invited to participate in a special session designed for Native Club professionals focusing on promising practices for improving the optimal Club Experience. During this session, special guest Dr. Beverly Cotton of Indian Health Service (IHS) spoke on mental and behavioral health. In addition to the presentation, the 2017 Native Spirit Award was presented to Chad Evans of the Boys & Girls Club of the Leech Lake Area for his devoted leadership and members of the Native Advisory Committee joined together to discuss accomplishments, progress, and future goals for Native Clubs. Conference guests were also invited to attend the local Texas Rangers game, where Boys & Girls Club of Tahlequah member Lyric Peterson sung the National Anthem. On the last day's Morning General Session, BGCA Native Services, our partners and representatives from Native Clubs were invited to join the stage in honor of celebrating 25 years of Native Clubs, and witnessed the ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Indian Health Service (IHS).



## PACIFIC WEST SW REGIONAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - NATIVE TRACK

Native Services hosted a 1-Day Native Track at the Pacific West SW Regional Leadership Conference titled “Promising Practices for Improving the Club Experience.” Native Services provided insight on the National Youth Outcome Measurement and research; efforts that help deepen the understanding of youth who are served. Specifically, the organizational data provided will help enhance Club youth climate, improve program quality and boost youth development competence for all staff.

Native Services also held a session titled “Youth Development Institute: Building Communities.” Participants of this valuable session learned how to:

- Create a positive Club community where youth feel supported
- Increase youth engagement
- Create programs and experiences that encourage youth voice
- Decrease conflict and behavior issues in Clubs
- Design effective structures that promote social and emotional learning
- Gain valuable skills implementing high quality programming





## 2017 NATIVE SUMMIT

BGCA's 2017 Native Summit was held November 14-16, 2017 in Fort Myers, Florida and marked the celebration of 25 years of Native Clubs! Organized by BGCA Native Services, over 270 CEOs, Board and Tribal Leaders representing over 55 organizations came to participate in the Summit, share in each other's culture, and attend informational sessions.

The opening celebration included remarks from the Chair of the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the President of the Navajo Nation, the Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation and a cultural performance from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians. Speakers included partners and ambassadors of Native Clubs. On the second day, the 2018 Native Spirit Award was presented to Angela DiCicco from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Scottsdale.



The Cultural Night Social showcased the variety of Native cultures that were represented and allowed everyone to experience Native music, dancing, and the opportunity to participate in cultural practices different from those of their own.

Native actor Martin Sensmeier spoke on the opportunity that Boys & Girls Clubs offer to Native youth and why it is so important for him to be an ambassador for the Clubs. Other general sessions allowed participants to hear from Nike N7, Walmart, Rush Trucking, and Federal Agencies such as Indian Health Services, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Bureau of Indian Education. Each day of the Native Summit consisted of breakout sessions which included topics such as programming, finance, grant management, marketing, culture, and more. These sessions were designed to help Native Clubs develop stronger, more sustainable organizations that most effectively meet the needs of their communities.

At the culminating general session, Dr. Katherine Campbell of the Bureau of Indian Education spoke on the importance of working with Native Clubs and finished with the ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between the BIE and Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian Country. The Native Summit was a major success for BGCA Native Services and offered great opportunities for all who attended.







# ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

BGCA Native Services is constantly reflecting on its evolution to understand how to best meet the needs of Native youth. The celebration of the past 25 years has provided the perfect opportunity to take a closer look at where organizational capacity can be further fortified. A central theme that emerged from that reflection is building bridges between public and private partnerships that are so integral to the future of Native Clubs.

## GREAT THINK INDIAN COUNTRY

BGCA's Great Think series is designed to facilitate innovative public-private collaborations that ensure vibrant futures for America's youth. BGCA Native Services built upon the foundation laid in the previous year and introduced a White Paper that fully explored how diverse efforts and advocacy can be united to specifically support Native youth resiliency. The White Paper is the summary result of a striking event that brought together the varied expertise of leading professionals in education, economic development, and health to address the singular importance of making great futures.

Over 100 representatives from government agencies, corporations, nonprofits – including numerous Boys & Girls Clubs – contributed to this inspirational piece in some form. This stands out as a highlight of the collaborative nature that Boys & Girls Clubs on Native Lands will be continuing to be a leader in.



The Great Think White Paper highlights the discussion of some of the top challenges confronting American Indian/Alaska Native and Hawaiian youth today. It explores ways that public, private and nonprofit entities could better help Native youth manage pressures of their unique circumstances and realize their full potential.





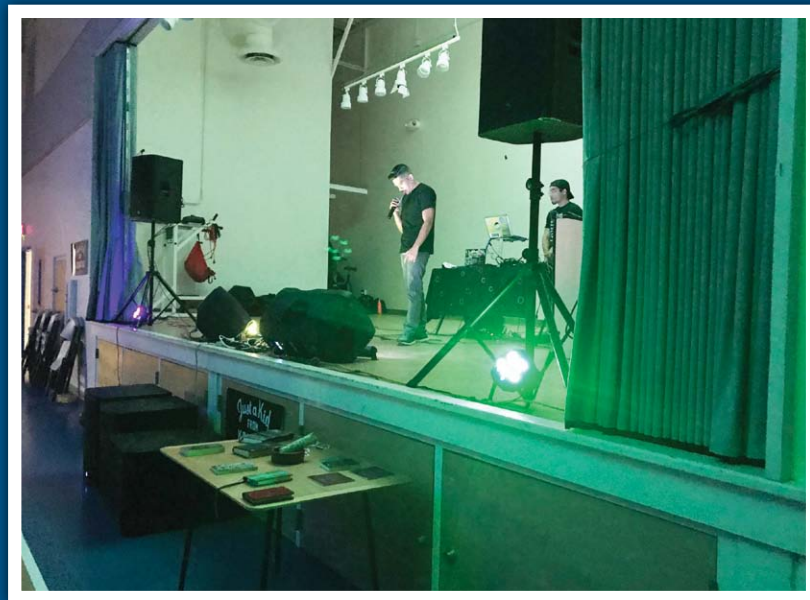
# IMPACT STORY » Fundraising Concert for Clubs in Puerto Rico

In 2017, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley, Gila River Branch – Komatke turned a celebration concert into a fundraising opportunity for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Puerto Rico (BGCPR). Since BGCPR was part of the devastation of Hurricane Maria, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley, mobilized to help them get back to their full capacity.

On October 20, 2017, the Hip Hop Hundred Hundred was hosted at the Club. The concert was organized as a celebration of the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday for Baha'u'llah of the Baha'i faith. Youth development director Emiliano Morondos said, "The concert itself was a joyful occasion. We wanted to perform and hangout as a community while using the time spent to raise funds for a worthy cause." The Club used hip hop as a way to honor Baha'u'llah, Native Lands and those who came before.

The staff of Komatke Boys & Girls Club organized the event as a celebration and involved the youth from both their Keystone Club and their Torch Leadership Club by having them emcee and provide concessions. Andrew Kisto served as one of the opening acts for the hip hop concert. Kisto is a major part of the Torch Leadership Club at Komatke Boys & Girls Club as well as a Gila River Tribal member. The night was followed with performances by hip hop artists in the Phoenix area including Roses: Soul Siam, Shining Soul, Colby Jeffers, Jose Maria Fierro, Kishan the Educator, and Deeh Jai.

The event was opened up to all branches of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the East Valley as well as the surrounding communities. There were about 85 concert attendees and each one was encouraged to donate at least \$5 to the cause. The youth from Komatke's Keystone Club were able to take those donations to the Keystone state conference that was held in Prescott, AZ. At the conference, donations from all Clubs were combined to be sent to the BGCPR for rebuilding purposes.



# MAKING A DIFFERENCE

## FIRST NATION BOYS & GIRLS CLUB RECEIVES A CLUB MAKEOVER

On January 17, 2017, First Nation Boys & Girls Club received a Club Makeover courtesy of BGCA Native Services. Before the makeover, it had been about 10 years since the space had seen major updates. Now the Club has a fresh look complete with a new paint job, tables, chairs, billiards equipment, tablets, wall graphics, and even a jukebox! The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, led by CEO Rose Lowry-Townsend, recently opened several new Clubs allowing for additional services provided to Native youth who were not being reached previously. When given an opportunity for a Club Makeover, Rose saw an immediate need at the First Nation Boys & Girls Club, led by Unit Director Tangelina Jarry. They were able to give their space a complete makeover.

The remodel could not have been made possible without an all-around team effort from both BGCA and the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina! Not only did BGCA donate the materials needed; but members of the Native Services team traveled to First Nation Boys & Girls Club to provide a helping hand with the cleaning, painting, and assembling of some of the new supplies. The Tribal Council of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina was also crucial in supporting this project. Ms. Barbara Lowery, Tribal Council Member and Elder personally helped and showed her support throughout the Club Makeover. Youth arrived the day after the makeover overjoyed when they saw their newly renovated space. Many of the kids shared they were most excited about the new jukebox and the way it looked in the Club's freshly painted game room. With this Club Makeover, First Nation Boys & Girls Club now has a space whose physical appearance matches the quality of the work that takes place inside.





# CLUB MAKEOVER

First Nation Boys & Girls Club



# NATIONAL DAY OF ADVOCACY

Native Boys & Girls Clubs joined BGCA Native Services Vice President Carla Knapp in attending BGCA's National Day of Advocacy again in 2017. With the strength of a quarter century of Native-specific youth development guiding them, the Native organizations spoke on Capitol Hill with credibility, clarity, and strength.

*The goal of BGCA's National Day of Advocacy is to share the mission and record of impact in communities across the country with elected officials.*

That message was supported by the long history of success and accomplishment of Native Clubs. In sync with the stirring atmosphere of 2017, the National Day of Advocacy is also an opportunity to elevate policy priorities to ensure we can continue to meet the needs of the Native children, teens, and communities we serve. Club CEOs, board members, and Club kids are critical to making the case of support for our National Movement, and are placed at the forefront of advocating at the highest levels of government. As constituents from across the country, engagement is an important factor in bringing a divided Washington together for a higher purpose: ensuring a great future for Native youth. Through the rousing hard work of BGCA Native Services, 2017 stands out as a historic year for advocacy.



# IMPACT STORY » Training Young Leaders in Hawaii

At the Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii, members of the Torch Club Program had the exciting opportunity to set out on two special field trips aimed towards career development and culture!

Youth were taken to the Kauai Museum to first learn local history and culture, and then to the Kauai District Courthouse to learn about the range of careers and skills needed to work there. The museum tour had Club youth “travel through time,” as they learned about Kauai’s government hierarchy, and the social and political development of the islands. Upon arrival to the Kauai District Courthouse, Club youth received a personal tour around the premises, and learned of the history of the district court judges and founders. They also had the chance to meet and greet with courthouse security, tech support, tellers, and the librarian to learn what their positions and skill-sets entail.

With new advances in technology, youth learned that many courthouse hearings today are now digitally recorded, and those recordings need to be preserved and maintained. Courthouse staff explained that people with computer engineering skills are very much needed today.

Youth were also taught the significance of jury duty, and why it is a requirement for citizens to participate.

The field trips provided practical and valuable insights into local history, as well as the various career options available to youth as they grow older. Thank you to the Boys & Girls Club of Hawaii for providing their youth the opportunity to become responsible citizens in this fun and exciting way!



# BGCIC PARTNERSHIPS



## AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND

The American Indian College Fund, through its commitment with BGCA, will provide \$100,000 in scholarship dollars annually over the next five years exclusively for qualified Boys & Girls Club members to attend Tribal colleges and universities (TCUs) in the immediate proximity of their Club. Students must apply and be accepted into a TCU to be considered. Upon acceptance, the scholarships are renewable annually as long as students meet the college's eligibility requirements.



## AMERICORPS VISTA

The mission of the Corporation for National and Community Service's Volunteers in Service to America program is to fight poverty in America. On Native Lands, the BGCIC AmeriCorps VISTA Project supports this mission by strengthening the capacity of Native Boys & Girls Clubs. VISTAs develop, expand and/or enhance programs related to increasing physical activity and improving nutrition for youth and assist Clubs in improving programs to improve educational outcomes for youth.



## BUREAU OF INDIAN EDUCATION

A new Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between BGCA and its local affiliates in Indian Country, and the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE), will allow collaboration to enrich the lives of Native youth, by supporting programs that discourage violence and drug abuse, while encouraging good citizenship and educational accomplishments. The goal of this partnership is to use the strengths and expertise of both organizations to improve and enhance the educational well-being of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) youth attending BIE funded schools and dormitories.



## INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE (IHS)

IHS provides funding for the On the T.R.A.I.L. to Diabetes Prevention program. T.R.A.I.L. is an innovative combination of educational, physical, and nutritional activities that provides youth with a comprehensive understanding of healthy lifestyles with the long-term goal of preventing and/or reducing the onset of type 2 diabetes. Club members draw from Native traditions and history to learn about nutrition, food choices, media influences and the impact of type 2 diabetes.



## NATIONAL RECREATION FOUNDATION

BGCA and the National Recreation Foundation (NRF) are teaming up to bring baseball and softball leagues to youth on Native Lands. The \$10,000 "Fielding Dreams in Indian Country" grant will promote healthy lifestyles among Native youth through team sports. NRF is dedicated to enhancing the role of recreation and improving the quality of life of youth.







## NORTHWEST AREA FOUNDATION

This 2 year partnership aims to expand the number of Native Clubs delivering workforce development programming to Native youth and ensure that Native Clubs can deliver the highest-quality Club Experience by providing an assessment tool that sets Clubs up for continuous improvement. Our goals are to increase Clubs capacity to provide high-quality Workforce Development programs, guiding Native youth to develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and a clear vision of their future career goals.



## NOVO FOUNDATION

Novo Foundation's initiative seeks to strengthen indigenous knowledge and life-ways. Through this 3 year partnership, Novo and BGCA Native Services will work together to improve the ability of Native organizations to build and sustain strategic partnerships and key stakeholders through culturally relevant services, youth development programs adapted for Native youth that are driven by outcomes and leadership trainings for Club staff and Board Members.



## OJJDP

The Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs (OJP)'s Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) supports Boys & Girls Clubs of America through grants that allow BGCA to strengthen, expand, and implement youth mentoring activities and youth development programming.



## RED NOSE DAY

The aim of Red Nose Day is to bring about real and lasting change by tackling the root causes of childhood poverty and social injustice through the power of entertainment. BGCA Native Services have received proceeds from Red Nose Day, which will be used to build capacity and support increases in average daily attendance in Native Clubs.



## VERIZON

Verizon has partnered with BGCA on My.Future in support of Native Clubs and Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Dormitory Schools. Trainers from Boys & Girls Clubs work with BIE Dormitory parents and staff to utilize Nokia tablets with BGCA programming. Through President Obama's ConnectED program, Verizon has already established wireless broadband connectivity at eight of 10 (BIE) Dormitory Schools and will provide free wireless data service to students for 2 years.



## WALMART

The Walmart Foundation has provided funding to support Healthy Habits, BGCA's outcome-driven nutrition education program for Native kids and teens. This program addresses that Native youth typically face much higher rates of diabetes than their non-Native peers by providing access to nutritional education. Healthy Habits is focused on basic cooking techniques, smart food shopping, and using community resources to create healthy meals.



# THE NEXT 25 YEARS AND BEYOND

The past 25 years have been a series of successes for distinct youth development work on Native Lands. The pride that BGCA Native Services has for the span of accomplishments gives us all energy to continue building a bright future for Native youth.

## GREAT FUTURES 2025 STRATEGY

The forward momentum of Boys & Girls Clubs on Native Lands is the top priority to sustain the rising voice of Native people. With the Great Futures 2025 Strategy developed in 2017, BGCA Native Services aims to give Native youth the ability to reach their full potential. The Great Futures 2025 Strategy outlines four key priorities that will be pursued to reach the goal of positively influencing the future of our Native youth through a meaningful and impactful Club Experience.

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB MOVEMENT

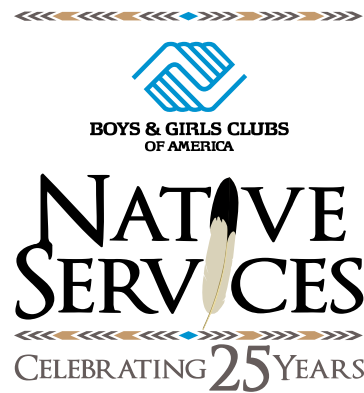
**GREATFUTURES**  
**2025**

- **Increase Program Quality** through continued development of culturally relevant tools and resources for youth professionals
- **Strengthen Organizations and Club Leadership** through customized training for Clubs to build capacity through coalitions, partnerships, and skill growth
- **Advocate for Youth Development** through lifting up Native voices at all levels of influential corporate and government leadership
- **Reach More Youth** through expanding our reach to more and more communities that need us most

By building on our continued dedication and success in providing quality youth development and programming over the past 25 years, BGCA Native Services welcomes the opportunity to expand our positive impact in the lives of Native youth over the next 25 years and beyond.







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