



# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF WISCONSIN

Antigo  
Appleton  
Baraboo  
Bayfield  
Beloit  
Berlin  
Black River Falls  
Chippewa Falls  
Cumberland  
Delavan  
Eau Claire  
Fitchburg  
Fond Du Lac  
Fort Atkinson  
Fort McCoy  
Green Bay  
Green Lake  
Hartford  
Hayward  
Jackson  
Janesville  
Kenosha  
La Crosse  
Little Chute  
Madison  
Menasha  
Milwaukee  
Nekoosa  
Neopit  
Odanah  
Oshkosh  
Plover  
Red Cliff  
Reedsburg  
Rice Lake  
Sheboygan  
Sheboygan Falls  
Sparta  
Stevens Point  
Sturgeon Bay  
Superior  
Tomah  
Waukesha  
Wausau  
West Bend  
West Salem  
Weston

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Boys & Girls Clubs Applaud Unprecedented Investment ‘Beyond the Classroom’** *Governor Evers Announces \$50 Million Grant for Non-Profits Today at Green Bay Club*

Green Bay, WI — Boys & Girls Clubs praised Governor Evers today for his unprecedented commitment to invest \$50 million “*Beyond the Classroom*” and boost out-of-school learning opportunities and mental health programs for Wisconsin kids ages 5 to 17. Eligible activities could include preparing high school students for post-secondary training, supporting the mental health needs of school-age kids, and ensuring access to summer learning opportunities.

“What’s best for our kids is indeed what’s best for our state, and Governor Evers has again proven his commitment that great futures start with kids’ mental health and well-being,” said Karen DeSanto, President of the Wisconsin Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs. “These grants to non-profits are critically important in allowing us all to bounce back from this pandemic, and focus on our future.”

Grants will be awarded by the Department of Administration to groups that serve school-age youth virtually and in-person, outside of school and during the summer months. “Organizations across our state are playing a critical role in supporting the educational and emotional well-being of our kids,” said Department of Administration Secretary Joel Brennan. “Non-profit organizations that provide educational, programming, and mental health supports for Wisconsin children provided a connection and a sense of normalcy for so many families throughout the pandemic.”

“Wisconsin Clubs work with over 139,000 youth at 160 sites across 58 cities,” added Andy Gussert, Director of the Wisconsin Alliance. “We again thank Governor Evers for recognizing the importance of after school programs in preparing kids to succeed as adults. This investment will make a tremendous impact on so many families.”

Wisconsin clubs serve more youth than any organization outside the public school system, and more youth per person than any other state in the country. Seven out of every ten kids are from a racial or ethnic minority, two of every five are from a single parent household, and two of every three are on reduced school lunch programs. “These are the kids who need opportunities the most in our recovery,” said Gussert.

**# # #**

*The mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs is to ensure all young people, especially those who need us most, can reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Every dollar invested in Boys & Girls Clubs returns \$12.40 in earnings and cost-savings to their communities. For more background, visit <https://www.bgcwisconsin.org/our-impact>*