



# BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

C M Bair Family Memorial Building

## ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2024 - JUNE 30, 2025



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
**OF YELLOWSTONE COUNTY**



At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County we are focused on providing a human-centered experience. Many of the youth we serve find themselves regularly confronted with labels – social, economic, educational – however when members walk through the Clubhouse doors, we hope to leave the labels outside and greet the whole child as a young human with unlimited potential. The challenge then becomes how we, as youth development professionals, recognize and support the intrinsic motivation in all of our youth and grow that potential.



For the Club, this starts with a solid foundation of safety and support. Each year the Boys & Girls Clubs of America supports local organizations across the country in distributing the National Youth Outcomes survey and then disseminating the data collected. Clubs can identify national and local trends as well as strategically focus their efforts in providing the best experiences for our youth. This year, 94% of the members in Yellowstone County reported feeling emotionally safe when they attended Club; 87% reported having strong adult connections at Club. Comparatively, national scores in those areas came in at 93% and 76% respectively.

Providing an experience that positively impacts the whole child requires that we analyze not only our strong scores, but also the data that highlights areas for growth. Nationally and locally, that is supporting youth in developing strong peer-to-peer connections. Only 48% of youth in our Yellowstone County Clubs (and 40% nationally) report feeling they have established positive connections with their peers.

The staff of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County are the key to the successes we have in providing a safe and supportive environment, as well as are the key to helping support our youth make positive progress over the next year in developing peer connections. Club staff are highly trained in the best practices of youth engagement and development. From physical safety to social emotional wellness to trauma informed practices, our Club leaders are passionate about providing our members the best experiences and growth opportunities available.

Right now, the Club needs more passionate people who want to positively impact the youth in our community. We need fun and energetic mentors who want to learn how to develop our members into productive, responsible, and caring citizens.

## **Our Mission:**

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

## Phillips 66 Billings Refinery Makes An Impact!

At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County, our mission to serve those who need us most, however that would not be possible without the incredible support of community partners like Phillips 66. Over the past year, Phillips 66 has gone above and beyond to help us meet the most critical needs of our members with safety, access, and opportunity at the heart of their support.

Last fall, Phillips 66 recognized the importance of safe and reliable transportation for our Southside Clubhouses and generously sponsored a dedicated after school transportation route with a \$20,000 gift. Because of their support, more kids have had a consistent ride to the Club each day, ensuring members have a safe and positive place to go to after school!

Phillips 66's commitment didn't stop there. This spring, they deepened their impact by contributing \$40,000 toward the purchase of two new 15 passenger vans. These vehicles have greatly expanded the Club's ability to give members life changing experiences outside of the Clubhouses, like access to local museums, college campuses, and so much more.

If that wasn't enough, Phillips 66 wanted to ensure the safety of our members during the summer months. Now, with a \$25,000.00 gift, 80 members will be given the opportunity to participate in swimming lessons at no charge to the family. These lessons are crucial for some members because they would not have the chance to learn this vital skill otherwise.

In just one year, Phillips 66 has invested \$85,000 into our mission. Their support has removed barriers, created new opportunities, and helped even more kids believe in their own great future. Thank you, Phillips 66, for being a true Club champion. We're stronger together and we're so thankful to have you by our side!



*When asked about their experience....*

**94%**

**of Club members said they felt emotionally safe, a 4% increase from 2024.**

# Club in the Community & Our Partnerships!

## *Panda Express Grand Opening*

**October 2024**

Panda Express opened a new location on King Avenue West in Billings! They partnered with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County to host an opening day fundraiser. 50% of all sales on opening day were donated to support the Club's mission. The Club was invited to attend the Grand Opening and welcome the first guests.



## *42<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade*

**March 2025**

The Bair Family and McKinley Clubhouse came together to participate in the 42nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade! Club staff, Club members and their families decorated the largest bus in the fleet. Many Club members who were in the audience recognized staff and their friends!



## *Educational Field Trips!*

**Summer**

Local businesses support the Club's mission by opening their doors and sharing their knowledge and expertise with Club members. Each field trip is a great opportunity for a member to learn something new!



***Pie Guys Pizzeria***



***Candy Town USA***



***Billings Fire Dept.***

**2024-2025**

# ***Signature Events***

## ***31st Annual BE GREAT Ball Friday, March 21st, 2025***

The 31st Annual BE GREAT Ball provided vital resources for our Staff and members. Through the generous support of our sponsors, donors, and volunteers, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County raised over \$198,000 to do "Whatever It Takes" for the Success of every child.



## ***48th Annual "Tee It Up For Kids" Golf Tournament Friday, September 5th, 2025***

The 48th Annual Golf Tournament, held at Yellowstone Country Club, raised over \$60,000.00 to help support the Club's programs and services offered to over 400 Club members each day.

32 teams, Country Club staff, and volunteers all gathered at the course for a memorable day of raising thousands of dollars to provide kids a safe and fun environment where they can thrive!



## ***3rd Annual Ron Muri Fun Run Saturday, June 1st, 2024***

On Saturday, June 1, 2024, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County held the 3rd Annual Ron Muri Fun Run to kick off summer! More than seventy-five registered participants and Club volunteers turned out for a fun-filled family fitness day! Families took on the course this year with lots of smiles and excitement while Club Staff cheered them on every step of the way throughout the Lockwood School Campus. As families crossed the finish line, they were invited to pet an Apache, purchase an energy drink from the Club's Keystone Club, and cross their fingers in the hopes of winning a summer themed raffle prize!



# Why Our Friends Create Endowments



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation continues to grow because more of our friends recognize the benefits of gifting to an Endowment and creating their own named fund.

Some prefer to launch their Endowment fund now so they can see the results, and others plan to establish it later with estate assets. Others yet, prefer to start it now and add more to it later through a bequest. Why are our friends choosing to make Endowment gifts to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation?

There are a number of reasons, here are five you may wish to consider:

## 1. Durability

The idea of creating a perpetual stream of financial support makes sense. The fund is guarded and invested separately from other assets, so the principal of the fund stays intact. The income or a portion thereof is then used to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County



**Karrie Owen**  
**Vice President,**  
**Donor Advancement**

## 2. A Positive Legacy

When donors attach their names to an endowment fund, they create an enduring legacy that will outlive them and influence future generations. Grandchildren, great grandchildren and other family members and friends will be reminded of the person's values and commitments. Named endowment funds can also be used to honor the lives of others who have made a significant impact on the donor and/or the Boys & Girls Club.

## 3. Perpetual Annual Gifts

Many donors view an endowment as a way to underwrite their own regular donation to the Boys & Girls Clubs. For example, an endowment fund of \$20,000 could create an annual "gift" of \$1,000 to benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs. It is a wonderful way to keep giving generation after generation.

## 4. A Stronger Boys & Girls Club

Each year, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County must raise funds to meet programming needs and sustain facilities. Annual distributions from endowment funds permit the Board of Directors to plan more confidently for the future and build capacity to better serve our local kids and teens. An organization with a strong endowment is simply more financially stable.

## 5. Personal Satisfaction and Incentives

It is incredibly fulfilling to do something that lasts, something that really makes a difference. Other types of donations are important, but having your name on a fund that will benefit our community's children and teens for generations is truly satisfying.

If you would like to learn more about the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation and the benefits of making a gift, please contact Karrie Owen, Donor Advancement and Marketing at 406-294-4511 or [Kowen@bgcyellowstone.org](mailto:Kowen@bgcyellowstone.org).

# \$409,854 Raised

*July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025*

## **Meet Kennadie Peterman, the 2025 Jenny Nemer Sibinger Memorial Scholarship winner!**

Kennadie was a Club member for nearly 8 years at the Heights area Clubhouses, starting in 2012! She was a Torch Club Officer where she learned communication and money management skills, attended a Club conference where she gained independence, and connected with other Club members through mentorship.

“Club instilled a sense of work ethic to drive my goals forward while bringing others along and building them up to the best of my ability”

She’s been on the Varsity Golf team three years in a row, is a member of the French Honors Society, and is a Studio Assistant at the Greater Heights School of Dance, all while maintaining a 4.23 Grade Point Average. She puts others first, step up when something needs to be done, and helps others whenever she can.

Kennadie graduates this spring from Skyview High School and plans to attend Carroll College in Helena, where she will major in Pre-Pharmacy.

“For me, a successful career challenges you, encourages you to keep learning, and allows you to help others”

*Each year, the Jenny Nemer Sibinger Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation awards an annual \$1,000 higher education scholarship to a member or former member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County. Awarded scholarships can be renewed up to a maximum of four years, for a potential \$4,000 scholarship.*



***When asked about their experience....***

# 87%

***of Club members said they had positive adult connections at Club, a 7% increase from 2024.***

# 2024 MONTANA TEEN MEMBER OF THE YEAR

Jenessa, Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Teen member of 3 years, 406 Impact President, and Junior Staff, was recently presented with the 2024 Teen Member of the Year Award.

To be considered for recognition as the Montana Teen of the Year, the nominee must have exhibited leadership and service and will be judged on the following criteria:

- Significant contributions made to the Club(s) served and the community.

- Honors received from the local Club(s), Region, and National, or outside the Club Movement.

Although Jenessa has only been a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County for just three and a half years, the impact she has had on the Club community has been incredible. Jenessa has taken over the responsibility of managing The Teen Bean, the teen-ran coffee shop inside the Clubhouse. She manages inventory, requests supplies, trains new workers in several areas (drink making, customer service, money handling), and oversees the day-to-day operations when the shop is open and running. She has brought a new level of organization, cooperation, and professionalism to the business that has never been seen before and teen members love being a part of it. Because of Jenessa, other Teen members are learning career and life skills that are essential to being a functioning part of society. Her leadership with the Teen Bean is also generating significant funds that help send Keystone members to the national conference every year and help to keep our teen center updated with the latest technologies.

Jenessa has been a Keystone Club member for three years and was just elected by her peers to be the Keystone Club President. Now, she oversees weekly meetings, creates agendas for meetings, and holds members accountable to attend and be productive during their scheduled time. Jenessa also works alongside the Keystone Club advisors, ensuring that they are on track to reach Legacy Status as a Club. With her help, they achieved Gold Status two years in a row and are now aiming for new heights. She helps coordinate volunteer opportunities, create fundraising opportunities, and organize teen events to encourage teen engagement at the Club. Jenessa is only a few months into her presidency, but she has already created a more structured and productive program. It is no doubt that the future looks bright with Jenessa at the wheel.

Through Keystone Club, Jenessa has made a considerable impact on her local community. She has participated in many volunteer events. She and other members have twice made hygiene kits to pass out to the local unhoused population. She participated in our local Trunk or Treats to ensure kids have a safe Halloween. Jenessa led the committee that oversaw our first and second annual Keystone dance, an event that allowed all teens, regardless of Club membership, to have a fun and safe place to go on a Friday night. Jenessa was also a driving force in our canned food drive last December and she and another Keystone member dropped off the donation to a local shelter for teens and adults.

As a sophomore, Jenessa applied to be a member of the National Honor Society and was accepted. This was a huge step for her. She had to have letters of recommendation, qualifying GPA, demonstrate leadership qualities, and community service hours to be considered. She also has been consistently on the Honor Roll.



At Club, she was one of our first Bair Cub mentors at the Bair Family Clubhouse, which is a teen mentorship program. She worked one on one with a younger Club member to help them learn positive social skills and develop their problem solving. Jenessa also received Teen of the Month honors at Club before applying to become a junior staff.



Last December, Jenessa interviewed for a junior staff position at our Bair Family Clubhouse. Hiring her was an easy choice. Since then, Club staff have seen her grow into a more outspoken and positive leader. When she first joined Club, she was relatively shy and reserved, she has since become more involved and is no longer afraid to speak her mind and hold other members accountable. She helps them make safe and smart decisions while still creating meaningful and positive relationships.



Perhaps one of the most admiral qualities about Jenessa is that she never asks for recognition for the tasks she completes. She works hard and continues to be humble, even after achieving incredible things as a young person. Club members love spending time with Jenessa, and so do her fellow staff. Often, Jenessa is the first one to be asked to help in any situation, and she is usually springing into action without having to be prompted. She has truly become a staple in our Club community and is a positive role model for members, teens, and staff alike.

## TEENS ARE TAKING OVER!

### 2025 KEYSTONE DANCE-A-THON

3 years ago, The Keystone Club made the decision to hold a Dance-A-Thon to help fundraise and increase teen outreach in thier community. They held their 3rd Annual Dance-A-Thon at the start of the year and opened to the doors to teens in the community for a night of safe and supervised fun. They also raised funds to attend the Annual Keystone conference! Their Y2K theme was a blast from the past and so much fun! They designed cute mix-CD covers and danced their heart out to some classic songs!

*Keystone Club is the ultimate teen program that offers leadership development opportunities for Club members between the ages 14 to 18, with key focus areas in academic success, career preparation and community service.*



# TEEN ETIQUETTE PROGRAM

If you tune into the nightly news, peruse magazines in the checkout aisle, or scroll through social media, chances are pretty high that you have seen many misdeeds and examples of poor behavior. It seems common to shine a light on the worst in people and shrug off bad behavior. Here at the Club, we focus on recognizing good behavior, building healthy habits and demonstrating positivity in word and deed.



One program that is an example of building strong social skills is our Etiquette Program. This multi-week program started four years ago in the Lockwood Clubhouse with intermediate Club members. Over two months, the third through fifth graders would meet weekly to learn and practice social skills and manners – how to shake hands, greet people, tie a tie, and set (and eat at) a dinner table, to name a few. The program was not only popular with the members, but the staff saw that many of the youth were building confidence.

Members were able to use more eye contact and engage in small talk or respond appropriately when an adult spoke to them. At the end of the program the members were able to demonstrate all the skills they learned when they were invited to a dinner party at the Club. Members were asked to dress up and show off their ability to have respectful conversations and demonstrate appropriate table manners over a three-course meal provided by Club staff.



Last year, our teen staff, Paige, reworked some of the lessons and tailored the program for our teen members – including interview skills and written correspondence. Teens across the organization participated in the program and, with support from some amazing Club supporters: Greg & Eileen McDonald, Alberta Bair Theatre, Rib & Chop, Ciao Mambo, and TEN, were able to show off their new skills by dressing up for a fancy dinner and evening at the theatre.

## 2024 KEYSTONE CONFERENCE ATLANTA, GEORGIA

406 Impact, the Keystone Club at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County attended the 2024 Keystone Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, with over 1,500 teens and staff from across the nation!

This unique experience offered several sessions aimed at developing leadership skills, planning community service projects, and other engaging activities Keystone Members could take back to their own Clubhouse. Additionally, the conference hosted a College and Career Expo for teens, with more than 50 organizations in attendance. Each day ended with a dance party with craft stations, photo booths, and tons of fun that rewarded Teens for their hard work.



Each year, the Keystone Conference hosts an exclusive social for Clubs who have obtained Gold or Legacy status, and 406 Impact was invited for the second year in a row as a Gold Charter Club. Their goal now is to obtain Legacy Charter for the 2024-2025 Keystone year. They have been working hard fundraising, planning events that serve the Club, their peers, and especially their community, and have plans on creating a pantry at the Bair Family Clubhouse that will provide a myriad of goods to teens and their families in the Clubhouse.

# ***WE'RE DEDICATED TO THE MISSION***

## ***LEVEL 3 TRAUMA INFORMED***

At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County, staff and leadership are committed to building safe Clubs and kids by providing a trauma-informed experience to their peers, Club members and their families.

Trauma-Informed requires staff to understand the impact of all types of traumatic events and experiences and respond in ways that lead to emotional and mental healing. Key elements include building safety, trust and awareness, increasing equity in the Clubhouse, creating opportunity for Club members' voice and choice, and connecting and collaborating with resources available in the community.



Last December, Brian Dennis, Annie Hasiak, Kenzie (Lockwood) and Sarah (Bair Family) attended trainings in Loveland, Colorado to achieve Phase 3 in Trauma-Informed development. This included developing a plan to implement Trauma-Informed practices in all five Clubhouses and build partnerships with local mental health professionals.

The need for trauma-informed care in Yellowstone County is growing. A typical classroom in School District 2 could have an approximate population of 55% of students who are neurodivergent or have experienced traumatic events. However, at Club, that population increases to about 90% of members. By incorporating Trauma-Informed Practices in the Clubhouse, the daily experience could greatly improve for Club staff, Club members and their families by building social and emotional skills, providing access to mental health resources in the community, and creating opportunities to create meaningful relationships built on trust.

## ***KINDNESS CLUB***

The Lockwood Clubhouse is inspiring leadership and personal growth through their Kindness Club!

Each Friday, Club members can choose to participate in Kindness Club and make an impact in the Clubhouse and community! They plan their acts of kindness together, making sure to not repeat any they've done recently, and go on to make a difference! They've written compliments to Club staff, cleaned up the sidewalk and area around the Clubhouse, organized the Clubhouse's and school's lost and found, made sandwiches for unhoused people, and crafted holiday cards for local nursing homes.



This kind club is a great opportunity for Club members to step out of their comfort zone and realize they can make the world a different place no matter how big or small their actions are!

***When asked about their experience....***

***85%*** ***of Club members said they felt physically safe at Club.***

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