

EVERY KID NEEDS

A SAFE PLACE A HEALTHY MEAL SOMEONE WHO CARES

YOU

Dear Friends,

“What Boys & Girls Club is to me... is family.”

Every kid needs a safe place. A healthy meal. Someone who cares. For Jodi, now raising three kids in Bemidji, the Boys & Girls Club has been all of that - and more. Over the past three years, her family has faced more change than most families face in a lifetime. Through it all, the Club has been the one constant she could count on.

This past year brought what Jodi calls “absolute changes” for her family. They lost Mayanah, her eldest daughter and big sister to Ullr (9), Tesi (7), and Skadi (5). When Ullr and Tesi walked into the Club in the days and weeks that followed, staff were already people they knew and trusted. They didn’t have to explain what they were carrying. The staff simply showed up - with patience, care, and open arms. When it was needed most, the Club was there for the whole family.

Ullr has been part of the J.W. Smith Branch since opening in fall 2023, receiving support tailored to how he learns, help navigating hard days, and consistency between school and the Club. He still has tough moments - but he has people in his corner. Ullr is growing and building real connections.

“When Tesi joined, she already felt like she was part of the Club family,” says Jodi. Tesi brings her whole self to the Club - her kindness, her energy, and her eagerness to join in on every program. And soon, Skadi, who can’t wait to be a Club kid, will follow in her siblings’ footsteps and join next year. For this family, the Club has been a steady bridge between school and home.

“The support we’ve received - I don’t know how I would make it without the Club staff. I really don’t.”

Jodi’s family is not alone. Across Bemidji and Blackduck, families are working hard. When childcare becomes a barrier, the pressure builds.

Every kid needs YOU. When you give to the Boys & Girls Club, you invest in this whole community - in families like Jodi’s, and in every Club family. Your gift today gives kids like Ullr, Tesi, and Skadi a safe place to belong, a healthy meal, and someone who will always show up for them - no matter what changes come.

Will you be that someone today?




Jodi Stone
Club Parent


Andrea Kent
Executive Director



GIVE BY
JUNE 30TH
AND YOUR GIFT WILL BE
MATCHED UP TO
\$42,500

THANKS TO
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