



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF THE BEMIDJI AREA**

# 2025 Impact Report

*Data reflected is from the 2025  
calendar year.*

## 2026 Youth of the Year

Olivia is now in 9<sup>th</sup> grade at the Bemidji High School and has been a Club member for eight years. Her story is a powerful reminder of what the Club truly means to the youth we serve.

From walking through our doors as a carefree first grader to navigating life's challenges with courage and resilience, the Club has been a constant - a place where she feels safe, supported, and never alone.

Her journey reflects the impact of caring mentors, meaningful connections, and a space where young people can grow into who they're meant to be.

*"The Club has been there for me since I was in first grade. It's helped me overcome many challenges and created a space where I feel comfortable, stress free, and where I can be my most authentic self."*

*-Olivia G.*



## Mission

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

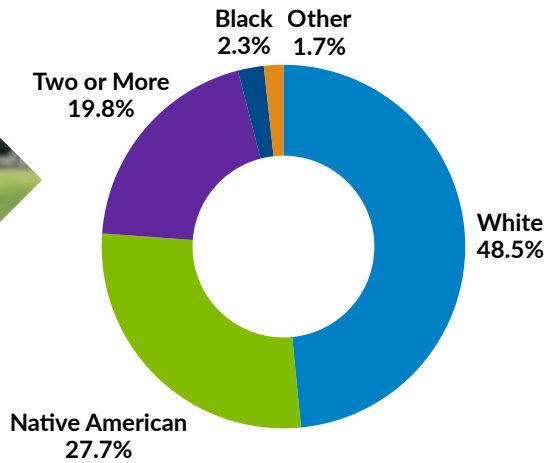
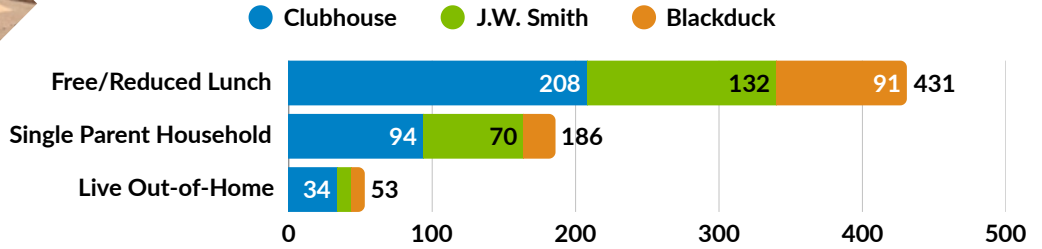
## The Need

Every day 219,277 kids in Minnesota leave school with nowhere to go. They risk being unsupervised, unguided, and unsafe. In Beltrami county, 25.8% of children live in poverty, more than double of the state average of 10.3%.

## Our Role

Kids and teens need safe, welcoming places where they can learn, grow and thrive. That's where Boys & Girls Clubs come in. We believe every young person deserves access to meaningful life experiences designed to empower youth to lead healthy, productive lives. Through caring mentors, innovative programs and an unwavering commitment to safety and inclusion, Clubs do whatever it takes to support kids and teens on their paths to great futures.

# Who We Served



Members attended 52 times in 2025, equivalent of 1x/week



Members who have been registered for multiple years

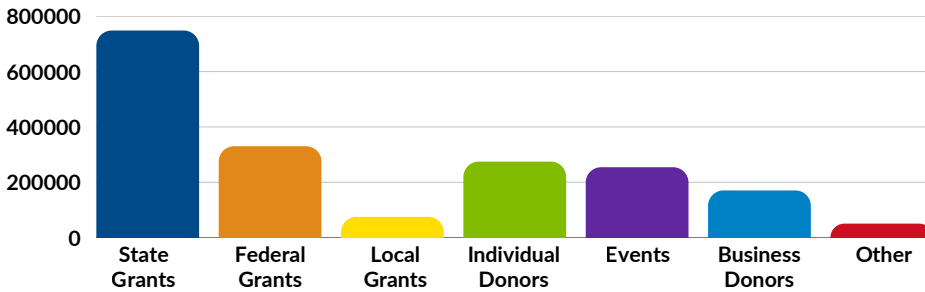


Members age 5-12

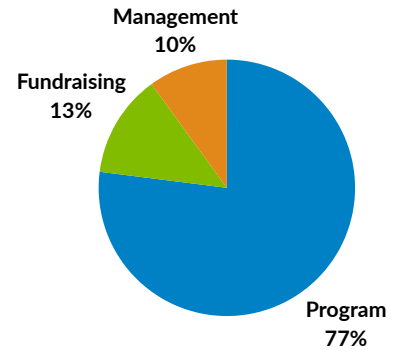


# Financial Overview

## Club Revenue



## Club Expenses



## Fundraising Information



## Endowment Long-term Goals

Year 2030	\$2.5M
Year 2035	\$5M
Year 2045	\$10M

# Moments in Our History



**2002**

Community embraced Boys & Girls Club model to address increasing rates of juvenile crime and create more positive experiences for youth.



**2003**

Established the Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area and secured a temporary site, serving 23 youth a day.



**2005**

Opened \$2.2M Clubhouse, a center-based youth facility.



**2009**

Opened Teen Center to better serve youth aged 13-18 in their own space.



**2017**

Served 29,827 meals/snacks to youth in one year.



**2014**

Purchased a 12-passenger van to help eliminate transportation barriers for Club families and to provide field trips to youth.



**2012**

Built 60x40 high-tunnel to add 1,440 square feet to our outdoor garden area.

**2011**

Broke the average daily attendance record and served 108 youth per day.



**2019**

Became certified licensed exempt child care center; families able to access County Child Care Assistance Program funds.



**2020**

Closed Clubhouse mid-March due to COVID-19, launched Cyber Clubhouse. Reopened in June prioritizing essential workers' families; renovated space for Distance Learning Center for middle school teens.

**2022**

Pandemic restrictions lifted, return to normal program operations.



**2024**

In September, launched a third site in Blackduck, co-located in the school, to extend program and services to a new community.



**2024**

Launched summer outreach program "Club On-The-Go" to serve Ridgeway and Conifer neighborhoods and reach at-risk youth and families, serving 22 youth

**2023**

Launched second site at J.W. Smith Elementary to extend program services to more youth in need, serving 83 K-3 youth.



**2025**

Clubhouse renovations added an office suite, two Tween/Teen bathrooms, and three new programming areas.

**GREAT FUTURES**



## Staff

- **Andrea Kent** (2009) *Executive Director*
- **Alicia Mueller** (2019) *Finance Assistant*
- **Andrew Fairbanks** (2026) *Cultural Liaison*
- **Braydon Roman** (2022) *Facilities/Transportation Assistant*
- **Chelsey Rantala** (2024) *Blackduck Branch Director*
- **Emily Fairchild** (2019) *VP Resource Development*
- **Emily Raymond** (2025) *Campaign & Marketing Coordinator*
- **Hannah Larson** (2024) *Events & Marketing Coordinator*
- **Jordan Mann** (2025) *Member Services Assistant Director*
- **Karl Mork** (2004) *VP Business Operations*
- **Kris Jensen** (2024) *Receptionist & Grant Assistant*
- **McKenna Rohe** (2019) *J.W. Smith Branch Director*
- **Michelle Rupert** (2026) *Clubhouse Middle/High Assistant Director*
- **Morgan Morgenstern** (2015) *Bemidji Clubhouse Director*
- **Savanah Shenkle** (2025) *Clubhouse Elementary Assistant Director*
- **Shelby Weckwerth** (2011) *Area Program Director*



## Board of Directors

- **Dan Nynas** *chair*
- **Heather Tverstol** *vice chair*
- **Erin Morrill** *vice chair*
- **RoxAnn Aaberg** *treasurer*
- **Michele Brielmaier** *secretary*
- **Dr. Sarah Cronin** *past chair*
- **Abbey Van Vynckt**
- **Alex Schussman**
- **Drew Hougard**
- **Ericka Medberry**
- **Grace Ferdinandt**
- **Jason Riggs**
- **JoAnn Kelsey**
- **Jorge Mendoza**
- **Missy Thomas**
- **Rose Brown**

## Committees

- **Blackduck**
- **DEI**
- **Executive**
- **Facility**
- **Finance**
- **Human Resources**
- **Program & Safety**
- **Event: Gala**
- **Event: Golf**

## Academic Success

*Academic Success has long been a priority outcome of Boys & Girls Clubs because high school graduation continues to be a critical milestone on the path toward greater success and well-being in adulthood.*



- **84%** of Bemidji Club teens report they expect to graduate high school, with **56%** planning on a post-secondary option.
- **82%** of Bemidji Club members report they received mostly A's and B's last year.

## Character & Leadership

*Character development is a fundamental aim of positive youth development work. Attitudes, traits, and behaviors associated with character often overlap with social-emotional skills, life skills, or employability skills.*



- **71%** of Club youth volunteer in their schools/communities at least once a year, with **29%** volunteering at least once every two weeks.
- **85%** of Club youth report that when someone they know is hurting, they try to help.

## Health & Well-being

*Health & well-being is a priority because, before young people can grow and thrive in other aspects of their lives, first their primary needs related to safety and overall health must be met.*



- **70%** of Bemidji Club members were physically active for 60 minutes a day for at least 5 days a week
- **75%** of Bemidji Club members eat 3 or more fruits and vegetables per day.
- **73%** of Bemidji Club members can identify ways to calm themselves down.

## Life & Work Readiness

*Youth need help building the basic life skills they'll need as young adults and in preparing to be successful in the workforce. We give young people more of a competitive edge in the rapidly changing job market by providing opportunities for youth to explore careers, develop crucial hard and soft skills, and gain real-life work experience.*



- **86%** of Club youth believe that what they are learning in school will be important later in life.
- **92%** of Club teens know a lot about different types of careers.

## Multi-generational Approach

*The Club intentionally creates and implements opportunities for families to engage in Club activities to bridge the communication, relationships, and learning between Club staff and Club families.*



- "The staff is great! We have made friends with other families we have met through family nights! I enjoy being a part of the Club!"
- "My family loves this program I suggest it to lots of families!"