



Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua
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PRESS RELEASE

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Boys & Girls Club Announces the Teen Center at the Club and Clubhouse Improvements

NASHUA, NH - The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua announced today that it will renovate its 47 Grand Avenue facility and create a teen center to increase its capacity to serve more youth, especially teenagers.

“This project is the final stage of our current strategic plan to have a deeper positive impact on our members and serve more youth,” said Norm Bouthillette, the Club’s CEO. “We spoke to hundreds of teens and stakeholders throughout Nashua and learned that there is a need for a teen center and for programs to help teens avoid drug and alcohol use, prepare for careers and higher education, stay fit and resolve conflicts.” The Teen Center at the Club will provide these and other programs to provide teens with skills to become responsible adults.

Economic downturn, more working and single parents, and other factors have dramatically increased demand for the Club’s after school and summer programs. To accommodate 4,200 current members and serve more youth, especially teens, the Club will retrofit a Teen Center and renovate the facility, enhancing safety and incorporating energy efficiencies. The Project will enable the Club to increase membership by 200-300, provide affordable after school programs for 600 youth daily, including serving 75 more teens daily. It will ensure safer children and neighborhoods and more teens prepared for adult responsibilities. These translate to economic, social, and quality of life benefits for Greater Nashua.

The 10,000 sq. ft Teen Center at the Club will have a fitness center, music recording studio, career and education center, performing stage, café, and other amenities. Included in the lower level will be community meeting rooms for the Club's collaborating partners to provide a greater network of care to the Club's youth. Collaborators include the 21st Century Community Learning Centers, Big Brothers, Big Sisters, Community Council, PLUStime NH, and many other agencies who provide programs and services to improve the quality of life in Nashua.

The upper level will continue to serve children ages 5 – 12 and will have an expanded education center, an updated cafeteria, and new cultural arts studio, dance studio and multi-purpose room to seat up to 100 people, and many other features. Project completion is scheduled for late spring, 2009.

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua annually serves 4,200 boys and girls ages 5 - 18 in six locations throughout Nashua, Merrimack, Litchfield and reaches another 10,000 youngsters in the community with a variety of programs and wholesome activities to build attitudes, skills, values and behaviors that enable youth to succeed in adulthood. The Club's vision is for all children to have a safe place to go after school to develop the best within themselves and experience the joys of childhood. The Club is staffed with professional, caring adults and is open to all children.

Membership is \$15 a year and no child is turned away for inability to pay. To help and to get information, visit www.bgcn.com or call Leslie Sanderson at 883-0523, ext. 212.