



“WHERE EVERYBODY PLAYS”


Neighborhood
Boys & Girls Club
Where Everybody Plays

*80th Anniversary
Campaign*



NEIGHB

OUR 80 YEAR HISTORY

The Neighborhood Boys Club was founded on October 19, 1931 by Robert Buehler and Richard Valentin, and incorporated as a non-profit organization on April 24, 1935. A pilot Girls Program was launched in 1991 and upon its success, the organization name was changed to the Neighborhood Boys & Girls Club (NBGC) in 1997.

ORHOOD



Since its inception, the NBGC has recognized that children are our most valuable resource. Our society places great stress upon them due to the challenges of broken homes, poverty, gangs, drugs, working parents, single parent homes and a lack of positive peer and adult role models. Supporting young people before they fail and helping them grow physically, emotionally, socially, culturally and intellectually is an important role that the NBGC has undertaken through its sports and youth development programs.

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OUR HISTORY



Parents have come to rely on the organization as an extension of their family.

The NBGC currently serves over 1,500 boys and girls. Approximately 41% of the members' families are from moderate to poverty income levels; 50% of the membership is Hispanic, African-American, Middle-Eastern, or Asian heritage. Approximately 25% of our members reside in a single parent home and 75% attend public schools. The membership is 64% boys, 36% girls. Our total program has grown from 600 members in 1991 to over 1,500 in 2010 with the incorporation of girls into the program and the tremendous growth of new housing in our service area (Albany Park, North Center, Lakeview, Roscoe Village, Ravenswood, Lincoln Square, Irving Park, Ravenswood Manor). During that same time period our staff has grown from two full time and five part time employees to five full time and eleven part time employees.

The NBGC is a unique organization where a family can exchange a registration form for a lifetime of learning and support for their children. Parents come to NBGC for a variety of reasons, whether for athletic programs, out of school activities, tutoring, a place for their children to make friends, or a safe and supervised environment. Whatever the reason for walking in the door, the NBGC is a place where every child can leave their problems behind. Parents have come to rely on the organization as an extension of their family.



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OUR



The NBGC offers a diverse program of instructional athletics, before and after school care, drop in and leadership development programs. Seasonal sports are a major part of the program during the school year. Youth have the opportunity to develop their natural abilities and talents through participation in many programs and sports beginning in kindergarten and extending through eighth grade. These include:

- ★ Football
- ★ Soccer
- ★ Basketball
- ★ Volleyball
- ★ Floor Hockey
- ★ Baseball
- ★ Softball
- ★ After School Kids Clubs at NBGC and at John C. Coonley School
- ★ Computer Lab
- ★ Tutoring
- ★ Girls on the Run
- ★ Arts & Crafts
- ★ Community Service
- ★ Drop In Game Room (foosball, ping pong, table games)
- ★ Family Nights
- ★ Big City Mountaineers
- ★ Leadership Training
- ★ Summer Enrichment Camps



PROGRAMS

By far, the most important program is our Youth Development and Leadership Program. The vision of our founders was to create a culture of peer-led leadership. A dedicated group of approximately seventy young people, ranging in age from 13-22, are responsible for each and every youth. Many of these amazing teens are ranked at the top of their class academically and serve as class officers or student government representatives. Most participate on one or more school sports teams or are involved in multiple extra-curricular programs. The teens are responsible for facilitating the day to day programs and activities. Youth Leaders are trained to guide, mentor and be role models in their community. Their focus is on youth development and learning to recognize the needs of each individual without losing sight of the group goals. The community supports the aspirations of these Youth Leaders through a College Scholarship Program. Individual scholarship awards range from \$500 to \$5,000 and are funded by alumni, individuals, local businesses and foundations. Up to \$35,000 is awarded annually.



OUR NEED

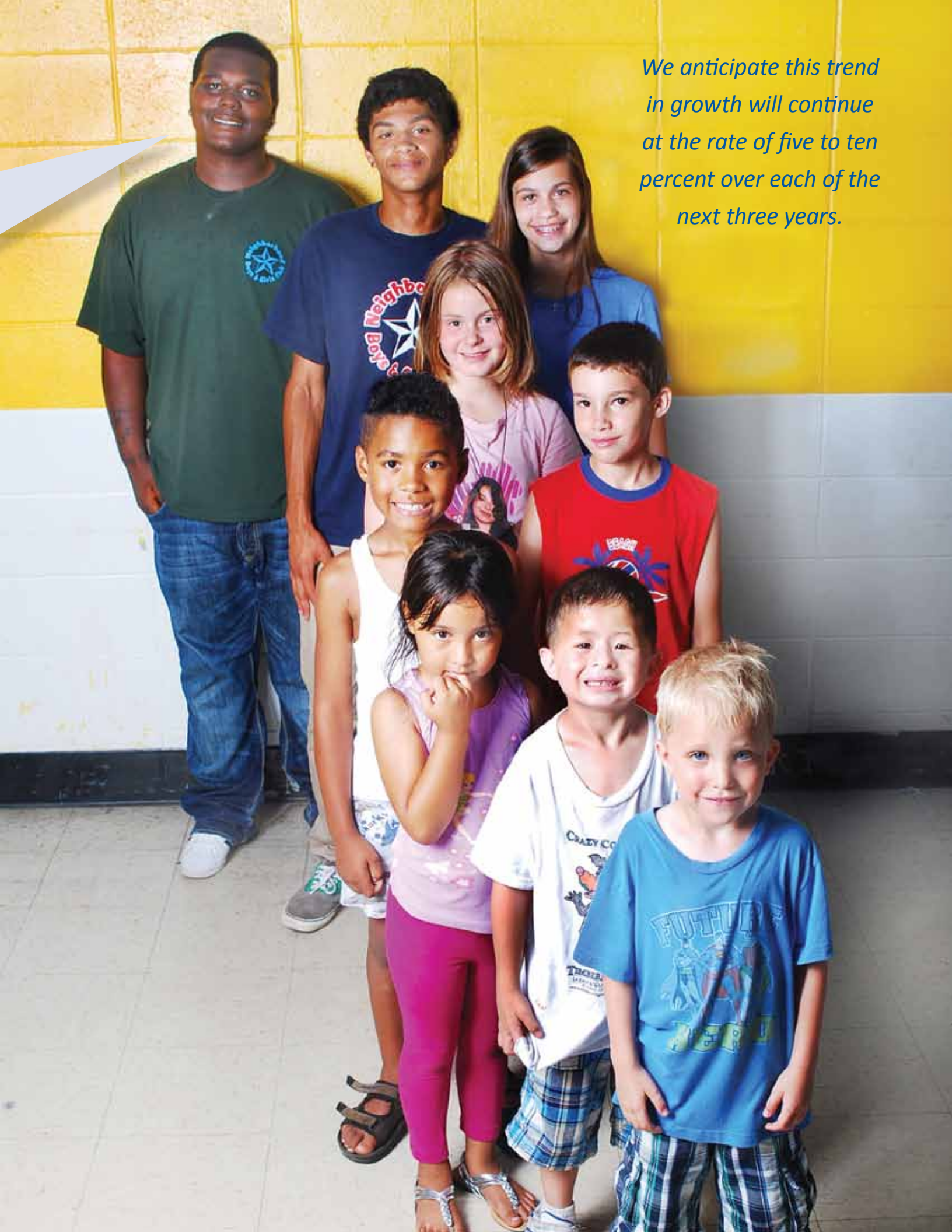
Our existing building was opened in 1958, when we were just a boys club, on Chicago Park District property at Paul Revere Park. Although the building was paid for by the NBGC, it is owned by the Park District and sits on Park District land. The building maintenance and repairs were all originally provided by the Chicago Park District. Over time, the NBGC has assumed more and more of the building maintenance and repair expenses.

Since adding the girls program in 1991, and the housing growth in our area in recent years, we have seen our membership jump from 600 to over 1,500 in 2010. With growing membership, the need for girls' rest room facilities, an aging building of 50+ years and the added burden of building repairs, we are challenged with undertaking a major building renovation.

We anticipate this trend in growth will continue at the rate of five to ten percent over each of the next three years. To support this growth and ensure a viable clubhouse to meet the needs of our youth, we are engaging in a \$750,000 capital campaign for building renovation, program expansion and building the reserve fund.

In early 2010, the NBGC began some of the critical renovations to our facility. We added a new roof, a girls' washroom, upgraded the boys' washroom, built two adult ADA compliant washrooms, retiled the program staff office and west hallway floors, and added an expanded entrance and program office space. We are fortunate to have received \$200,000 in initial funding for this portion of the renovation from TIF dollars, as well as an additional \$16,300 in contributions from friends of the NBGC. The NBGC added \$60,000 from its reserves to ensure that this portion of the project would be completed.





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Our Goal

As we officially kick off our capital campaign, we are pleased to share with you that we have been extremely fortunate to have received a challenge gift of \$150,000 from two generous NBGC alumni to be matched by contributions from parents, alumni and friends. We are grateful to these two individuals for their foresight to create this exciting and stimulating gift opportunity that will help us reach our campaign goal of \$750,000.



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Your Support Will Help Us...

The campaign will include the following capital projects (specific line item costs can be found on the insert included in the pocket of this brochure):

- ★ refurbish the small gym with new flooring; add wall surround mats, new basketball rims and backboards; install a ventilation system; remove a wall section and relocate electric
- ★ update the computer lab with high quality internet access and software; purchase new lap tops; hire a part-time instructor
- ★ redesign the program and administrative offices to create efficient workspaces; purchase new furniture, blinds and computers
- ★ replace flooring in the administrative offices
- ★ build a small addition to the current clubhouse to increase storage space for items and supplies used on a daily basis. This will free up existing space currently used for storage to be available for more group and individual learning activities.
- ★ procure off-site storage space for seasonal athletic and program equipment, supplies, uniforms and large miscellaneous seasonal items and supplies

Our program vision for the future includes expanding our After School Kids Club program into three other local elementary schools, forming partnerships with local schools and parks to access facility space for our growing athletic programs, increasing our staff to meet the changing needs of a diverse community and enhancing our Youth Leadership and Scholarship programs. A portion of funds raised will be set aside to help accomplish these goals.

The final portion of the capital raised will be designated to the NBGC reserve fund.



Thank you for investing your time to learn more about our important campaign. We look forward to future discussions with you about our progress and how you can help us reach our goal of renovating the clubhouse "where everybody plays".



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