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Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend Organizational Overview

Who We Are

Established in 1992 to help curb youth crime and delinquency, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend offers kids ages 5 to 18 a **Positive Place to go after school**, where they can grow personally and academically in a safe and structured environment. The private nonprofit agency provides a compelling alternative to drugs, crime, gang activity and other negative influences affecting youth today, and enables members to realize their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

What We Do

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend offers after-school programs for **more than 7,000 kids at 10 Club locations** in Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson and Leon Counties. These after-school programs run four to five hours per day, Monday through Friday. Some Clubs also offer full-day summer programs that run from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Why We're Special

More than the average after-school facility, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend administers highly structured programs in five core areas, including character and leadership development, education and career development, health and life skills, arts and cultural enrichment, and sports, fitness and recreation.

The organization also provides a valuable service to local taxpayers and law enforcement officials by helping keep kids out of trouble. National research suggests that **juvenile crime peaks between 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.**, generally right after school lets out. During that time, Boys & Girls Clubs members are engaged in positive, life-enriching and character-building activities. It costs just \$1,500 to provide one child with all the benefits of a local Boys & Girls Club, which pales in comparison to the **thousands more** it costs taxpayers to address juvenile crime after it has occurred.

How We Do It

While the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend is affiliated with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, it operates independently of the national organization and therefore relies heavily on the generosity of area residents and private sector organizations to provide the financial resources necessary to serve more than 7,000 children every year.

The organization also depends on local volunteers to serve as one-on-one mentors, homework helpers and administrative assistants so that it can continue to provide kids and young adults with the some of the best programs and services available.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Big Bend is managed by a full-time executive director and governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of local residents.

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Our mission is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



A United Way Agency



United Way of the Big Bend