

LAYERS OF PROTECTION



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICA

COMMITMENT
TO SAFETY

For nearly 160 years, the safety of young people has been the foundation of Boys & Girls Clubs. Today, we are strengthening our safety practices even further as we move to create a zero-incident culture. Acknowledging risks and implementing measures to address them is fundamental to keeping kids safe. The Boys & Girls Clubs Movement have multiple layers of protection in place to ensure safe places for our members.

Board-led Safety Committee

Safety at the governance level is our pinnacle. Every organization has an active committee that leads and guides the safety planning and internal assessment process.

Certified Praesidium Guardians

A robust certification process that prepares staff to be experts in organizational abuse prevention.

Community Engagement

Engage local stakeholders to ensure youth safety is at the center of advocacy and engagement efforts.

Staff and Youth Councils

Local Clubs establish safety councils to allow for youth and staff voice.

Assessments & Reviews

Multiple assessments (internal and external) conducted annually at every Clubhouse across the nation.

Robust Training & Learning Events

Continuous targeted training - including sexual abuse prevention and mandated reporting training for staff, board members, and volunteers.

Policies, Procedures and Standards

All Clubs are required to have in place – and annually train against – safety policies that will protect youth.

Prohibition of 1:1 Contact

One-on-one interaction between youth and staff and volunteers, including board members, is prohibited.

Annual Background Checks

Every staff person, board member, and volunteer must have an annual criminal background check including identity verification & national sex offender registry.

Mandatory Reporting

All Clubs are required to report any criminal matter to law enforcement immediately and no later than 24 hours to Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

Report Concerns

Staff, volunteers, parents or members should report any concerns regarding possible inappropriate behavior. Confidential helplines are posted within local Clubhouses.

Ethics Helpline
866-295-3701

Crisis Text Line
**Text CLUB
to 741741**

24-hour Safety Helpline
866-607-SAFE
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