



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF CHAFFEE COUNTY

RESPONSE TO COVID-19

For 160 years, Boys & Girls Clubs have navigated times of tragedy and crisis to provide safe places for kids and teens. Today we are committed more than ever to ensure that members, Club staff, families and community members have the resources and support they need to navigate these uncertain times – while also partnering with state and local officials to do even more. Boys & Girls Clubs of Chaffee County have been ready to serve our local communities during this global COVID-19 pandemic by providing meals, programming, and support to those who need it most.

We are working with Public Health. Due to Chaffee County Public Health COVID-19 guidelines, both the Salida and Buena Vista Clubs have limited capacity as of early summer. Each Club is allowed to serve 20 kids per day for a total of 120 kids every week as members are assigned to either one or two days per week. Our hope is that we will serve 100-120 per day as public health guidelines evolve. Circumstances change, but the mission of BGCCC does not.

Safety is our number one priority. BGCCC are open to safely help working families by providing kids with engaging and fun programming, focusing on the kids and families who need us most. All activities require social distancing, wearing masks and frequent sanitization. Staff are restricted to those who are considered essential and the Clubs conduct daily temperature checks with no-touch thermometers.

BGCCC provide support to our kids. Children are better able to cope with traumatic events if they have support from trusted adults and friends. Club staff can help members recognize that the Club is still a positive, safe, fun, space during the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff are available to answer questions and encourage members to express their feelings and concerns. Staff also demonstrate to members that they have trustworthy and supportive adults in their lives whose goal is to keep them safe.

Staff are working with kids on various activities to help relieve their stress and tension, such as: creative art, music and drama projects; relaxing play activities; and reading and discussing books with positive endings.

Bottom line. We are here. We realize that these are taxing times. Conducting a capital campaign during this moment in history may create a new dynamic with our donors and our community. Our hope is that we can all focus on the future, a future where all of our youth are served by caring adults who meet their needs during trying and less trying times. Our children need us, need you, need our community's support and our community's generosity during these turbulent times.