



## Amazon Invests \$400,000 to NJ Boys & Girls Clubs Statewide to Help Youth and Families in Local Communities

Supports Educational Achievement, Health Living and Social-Emotional Learning

Clifton, NJ - November 30, 2021 Boys & Clubs in New Jersey is pleased to announce a \$400,000 commitment from Amazon to Boys & Girls Clubs throughout New Jersey. This critically important funding to Boys & Girls Clubs in Camden, Gloucester, Mercer, Monmouth, and Passaic counties will enable the expansion of Club sites to accommodate more kids. It comes at a critical time when afterschool and summer camp programming are greatly needed, particularly given the effects of the pandemic. This major gift will also work to build stronger and healthier communities where it's needed most, fostering educational achievement, healthy living and social-emotional learning.

Amazon's gift to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Mercer County, along with other funders enabled the Club to open six new school sites to serve 300 more youth per day this school year. Amazon's support also provided the Club with the opportunity to provide scholarships to area youth so they can attend the Club's afterschool programming regardless of their ability to pay.

At the Boys & Girls Clubs of Monmouth County, Amazon's contribution will support the expansion of its teen empowerment and employment program, Project L.E.A.D., as well as the development of a new Club site in the county. Funding of Project L.E.A.D. will allow the Club to provide more young people with valuable work experiences that teach responsibility, helping them develop time management skills, form good work habits, and become financially secure.

Funding for the Boys & Girls Club of Clifton will support the launch of its Youth Voices Town Hall program, an expansion of the Club's leadership and career development programs. This program will provide teens with opportunities for exposure, self-discovery, and ways to build their own network connections. Amazon's funding will support leadership and service-learning best practices and allow young people to engage in conversations with community experts and leaders as they explore their future career paths.

Each day, thousands of young people make the decision to come through New Jersey

Club doors because of our commitment to provide them with hope and the opportunity to pursue a Great Future. As we head into the holiday season, Clubs strive to ensure the families we serve have what they need to make the Thanksgiving season a celebration. To meet this goal, \$25,000 of Amazon's support to Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey will go towards assisting 20 traditional and military Boys & Girls Clubs in providing Thanksgiving holiday meals for hundreds of NJ Club families in need. Amazon's Thanksgiving support to local Clubs made a tremendous impact to one particular local family whose three children attend the Boys & Girls Club of Newark. This Club family endured a recent fire in their apartment losing all of their belongings. Thankfully the family was not physically harmed but were greatly impacted by this tragic fire. The support from Amazon will truly help this Club family rebuild their new home, as well as uplift the family during the holiday season.

"Year round, the Boys and Girls Clubs in New Jersey provide invaluable service to youth across the state," said Colin Newman, Amazon's Public Policy Director for New Jersey. "Whether it is afterschool initiatives, helping teens develop skills to enter the workforce and launch new careers, or assistance to families during the holidays, the Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey are building stronger communities. Their work during the pandemic has been especially vital for underserved communities, and we're happy to support their ongoing efforts to ensure all New Jersey youth can grow and flourish."

"Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey is grateful that Amazon is supporting NJ Clubs across the state. This investment will help us continue to provide families with an enriching and safe place for kids after school. Support can't come at a better time given the escalating need we're seeing," said Susan Haspel, State Director of Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey. "Every day, NJ youth numbering in the tens of thousands rely on Boys & Girls Clubs across NJ for hope and opportunity."

## **About Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey**

Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey is an alliance of 22 Boys & Girls Club organizations serving more than 71,000 youth ages 5-18 throughout the Garden State. Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey is a collaborative effort representing all 22 Clubs with the purpose of building local Club capacity; raising public awareness; and securing resources and financial support to increase the impact and reach of NJ Clubs. For more information, visit [bgcnj.org](http://bgcnj.org).

## **About Amazon**

Amazon is guided by four principles: customer obsession rather than competitor focus, passion for invention, commitment to operational excellence, and long-term thinking. Amazon strives to be Earth's Most Customer-Centric Company, Earth's Best Employer, and Earth's Safest Place to Work. Customer reviews, 1-Click shopping, personalized recommendations, Prime, Fulfillment by Amazon, AWS, Kindle Direct Publishing, Kindle, Career Choice, Fire tablets, Fire TV, Amazon Echo, Alexa, Just Walk Out technology, Amazon Studios, and The Climate Pledge are some of the things



Online + Traditional Public Relations & Marketing

Terese Greer  
2-14 Fair Lawn Avenue  
Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410  
Tel: (201) 843-5600, ext. 202  
Email: Terese@rosica.com

pioneered by Amazon. For more information, visit [amazon.com/about](http://amazon.com/about) and follow @AmazonNews.