

## Feasibility Study Feedback

### Hibbing, MN

1. Needs of youth in the community:
  - Activities for youth in the community seem disjointed
  - Must be plugged in to really know what is happening
  - Generational poverty
  - Lack of things to do as a family
  - Need more inclusive activities that are not just sports based
  - Need a safe place for kids 7 to high school age
  - Need a place that focus on programs for the youth
  - Transportation
  - Families have mental health issues
  - Substance use
  - Food insecurity
  - Lunch buddy program for mentoring
  - Childcare needs
  - Early intervention
  - Sports are cost prohibitive
  - Diversity
  - Kids need a safe and stable environment
  - Need a Boys & Girls Club
  - Homeless
  - Organized programs for youth
  - Shortage of wrap-around care
  - Lots of kids go home to an empty house
  - Not a lot of healthy choices
  - Vaping
  - Too many video games

2. Things the community is doing well for the youth:

- High school has social workers
- Sports programs
- Spent money on infrastructure for sports
- United Way is commissioning another Wilder Study for 4 school districts to better understand the needs of the youth
- Summer Recreation program
- Kiwanis program
- Swimming and gymnastics programs
- Church youth programs
- Hibbing Kinship mentoring
- Skate Park
- Head start
- Kids Plus in Chisholm
- Blue Jacket Café
- United Way backpack program
- Some Churches are doing good work for youth

3. What do you know about Boys & Girls Clubs?

Knew of Clubs: 32

Did not know about Clubs: 2

Other comments:

- Many years ago, applied for position as Executive Dir in Grand Rapids and turned it down
- Took Judo lessons at a club in Casper, WY
- Stigma was that they were for low-income kids, in Casper, WY
- BGC of Bemidji provide transportation
- Familiar with BGC of Bois Forte, serve meals and brings all kids together
- Familiar with a Texas military based club.
- Creating health habits in youth and families fosters a healthier community
- About 4-6 years ago the community college was willing to offer space to open a club
- Liked the mentorship program
- Know very little about the actual services they provide
- Think it's like the YMCA
- Safe place with activities
- Positive activities
- One common building
- A place to do homework
- Socialization with other children
- Conflict resolution
- Opportunity to try new things
- Community day camps
- Alumni of Omaha, Nebraska club
- Make new friends
- After school snacks
- Role models

4. Do you think a BGC could help solve the needs of the community?

- Absolutely, it is a bigger, recognizable umbrella.
- It will strengthen opportunities with smaller nonprofits and engage them
- Extensive programming
- They could without duplicating efforts with other organizations in the community
- The Club will help create mentoring opportunities
- They would be helping with childcare
- A space to help shape healthy habits on the front end
- A place to belong that is not judging about anything
- Access to opportunities in arts, sciences and other activities
- Helping kids build up esteem
- Helping with homework
- Giving the kids a safe space to hang out at
- Allowing kids to thrive

5. Could the community support a BGC?

- I feel there is support but have some concern over sustainability
- Yes, kids need a place
- Just a matter of asking
- Yes, with the support of community partners, business leaders and fundraisers
- The community will rally around a great youth program. The national branding will help. This is been needed for a long time.
- Yes, get the medical community involved in supporting it
- There is a great group of people involved and I know they will get this done
- Yes, I have four boys and they would all attend
- Get the United Way involved
- Can we get some state funding?
- Is there space within an existing school?
- Enough people feel that this is needed
- Other communities can do it and we should be able to do it also
- We can definitely do it in Hibbing
- The church may be able to donate some money, a token amount
- There may be a YIPA grant of \$40,000 that may be available
- Yes, we can get it done.

6. People the club should reach out to for support:

- St. Louis County
- Chisholm City Council
- Dr. Owens Foundation
- Hibbing
- and Chisholm Community Fund
- Whitney Ridlin and Chris ISmil-Iron Range
- Hibbing Community College
- Fairview Range
- Mining companies
- Super One Foods
- L&M Supply
- Sunrise Bakery
- Max Gray Construction
- Hibbing Plumbing and Heating
- Essentia Health Foundation
- Cleveland Cliffs
- Churches
- Newspapers
- Radio support
- Jackie Prescott, Hibbing HRA
- Northland Foundation
- Blandin Foundation
- Dr. Ben Owens Foundation
- IRRRB