



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF AMERICA**

### **Fact Sheet: Impact Assessment**

- GOAL:** To provide Boys & Girls Clubs with a tool to independently assess and improve the quality of their programming as well as deepen their impact on the young people they serve (the previous version of this tool was called Commitment to Quality).
- WHY:** An extensive research review was conducted in Boys & Girls Clubs over the past 20 years and compiled with literature and research in youth development and after school programs. BGCA then partnered with Search Institute, a nationally-recognized youth development research organization, to conduct in-depth Club visits, interviewing managers, program staff, teens and community leaders to collect best practices. The information generated from this study was compiled and became the foundation for creating the Impact Assessment. Through this intensive research effort, BGCA has collected hundreds of specific Club best practices that concretely illustrate five key elements of positive youth development.
- WHO:** All Boys & Girls Clubs
- WHAT:** The Impact Assessment is designed to help Clubs independently assess and then improve the level of impact they have on their members' lives. Clubs conduct this annual assessment using 55 impact statements. These statements illustrate characteristics of a thriving Club and serve as criteria for measuring quality. Clubs use their assessment results to develop annual Deepening Impact Action Plans. These plans guide staff in improving the effectiveness of program delivery and increasing the level of positive impact made in their members' lives. It is meant to be used in conjunction with outcome measurements, enabling Clubs to increase their contribution to young people and the number of young people served.
- WHEN:** The monitoring of the Club's deepening impact action plans takes place throughout the year. Results are compiled at the end of a 12-month period. Clubs are required to complete this process annually, however, each Club determines the time of the year this annual assessment takes place.
- WEB SITE:** [www.bgca.net](http://www.bgca.net) Click on: 1) Programs; 2) Deepening Impact; 3) Impact Assessment
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