

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAMS

Academic Success & Enrichment

Boys and Girls Club of Wooster's educational support model is based off of both Project Learn, a philosophy of creating opportunities for "high yield learning activities, which include leisure reading, writing activities, discussions with knowledgeable adults, helping others, homework help, tutoring and games that develop people's cognitive skills" and the 21st Century model, which has similar goals of increasing academic support and providing exposure to activities children may not otherwise be able to experience.

BGCW will enable youth to:

- become proficient in basic educational disciplines, apply learning to everyday life situations, and embrace technology to achieve success in a career.
- develop their own creativity and cultural awareness through knowledge and appreciation of the visual arts, crafts, performing arts, and creative writing.

Volunteer Ideas: Tutoring, Reading Buddies, Lead an activity aligned with a topic that you are passionate about, Robotics, STEM projects, etc.

Leadership & Service

Having the firm belief that Boys and Girls Club of Wooster is truly a community-enhanced and supported organization, children's exposure to various community members and their wide breadth of knowledge is something the Club strives to attain.

BGCW will empower youth to:

- support and influence their Club and community, sustain meaningful relationships with others, develop a positive self-image, participate in the democratic process, and respect their own and other's individual and cultural identities.

Volunteer Ideas: Work with us to develop service projects for our Club members to participate in, Life Skills, Teach our Club members about your culture, etc.

Health & Wellness

Seeing sport and fitness as a key component to the health of a child, Boys and Girls Club of Wooster offers recreation time to all members, led by an enthusiastic member of our team. In addition to participating in exciting and challenging physical activities, many of the activities played during this time are designed to teach teamwork and good sportsmanship.

BGCW will encourage youth to:

- Develop an understanding of fitness, positive use of leisure time, skills for stress management, appreciation of the environment, and social skills.
- Develop young people's capacity to engage in positive behaviors that nurture their own well-being, set personal goals, and live successfully as self-sufficient adults.

Volunteer Ideas: Fitness classes, Gardening, Healthy cooking/snacks, Bring a therapy animal to Club & educate our Club members on their benefits, etc.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY EXAMPLES

- **Fitness Classes:** Do you love kickboxing? Yoga? Walking? Help us get our Club members moving!
- **Food Service Aide:** Hand out the meal and/or snack for the day. This has limited hours; 2pm-2:45pm and 3:45pm-4:30pm.
- **Life Skills Volunteer:** Select an “everyday skill” to teach our older Club members! These skills are more hands on and can range from simple cooking skills to basic car maintenance to how to open a checking account.
- **Program Volunteer:** Facilitate an activity or program for our Club members. Bring your own materials, or discuss with us ahead of time! We love teaching our Club members something new.
- **Therapy Animal:** We see so much value in therapy animals and would love to welcome more into our facility.
- **Tutor:** Help Club members with their daily homework or other classroom assignments.
- **Van Driver:** Do you love giving back to the community, but you aren’t so sure about working directly with our youth? That’s okay! We are in need of volunteers to drive our 15 passenger Ford Transit van. A clear driving record and proof of safe driving is required.

Have an idea? We would love to hear it!

DETAILS

- **Who:** Our after school program serves youth in Kindergarten thru 7th grade. Our summer camp is open to those who have completed Kindergarten thru 7th grade.
- **Frequency:** We prefer to have volunteers on a recurring, consistent basis. If this does not work with your schedule, we are happy to work with you to find a one-time opportunity to volunteer with us.
- **School Year Club Hours:** Our after school program is open Monday-Friday when school is in session. Volunteers are welcome between 2:00pm-6:00pm.
- **Summer Camp Club Hours:** Our summer camp is 8 weeks long, typically in June and July. We will work with you to identify appropriate hours to volunteer.
- **Requirements:** A clear background check is required of all volunteers. We also complete reference checks for anyone who is interested in volunteering with BGCW. At this time, we cannot accommodate court ordered community service.