

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further Information, call Administration Office at (815) 972-5973

### **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF ROCKFORD HELPING MILITARY FAMILIES**

Times of national crisis can dramatically disrupt a military family's life. But children of military families can be a part of an organization that knows all about their needs – Boys & Girls Clubs of Rockford. Serving over 9,000 young people throughout the area with trained, caring staff and nationally recognized programs, Boys & Girls Clubs are "The Positive Place for Kids."

Today, children of military personnel now can go to any area Club free of charge! With five local Units and one satellite location at Jackson School, Boys & Girls Clubs offer programs designed to develop good character, build leadership and provide guidance for kids that spend time with a professional staff who truly care and are vested in realizing the full potential of each young person. And now, through a Department of Defense initiative, military family members can get free programs and services through the Boys & Girls Clubs.

The Boys & Girls Club of Rockford is a place that offers a unique and wide variety of educational, recreational, cultural and social activities for youth between the ages of 6 and 18. Clubs nurture and enrich young lives by giving boys and girls opportunities for personal growth and achievement. Each Unit has an arts and crafts area, computer learning centers, gymnasium, library, games room and a multi-purpose room. All Boys & Girls Clubs are supervised by trained youth development professionals –a caring staff that gives special attention to every child.

Based on the physical, emotional, cultural and social needs and interests of young people, and recognizing developmental principles, Clubs offer diversified program activities in five areas:

- **Character and Leadership Development**
- **Education and Career Development**
- **Health and Life Skills**
- **The Arts**
- **Sports, Fitness and Recreation**

At the Club, kids have the opportunity to participate in programs designed to meet their needs and interests. Club programs can include computer instruction, sports leagues, photography, tutoring, arts and crafts, social events and field trips.

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