



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tracy Clow, Marketing & Communications
Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley
Phone: 701-235-2147
tracyclow@bgcrrv.org

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY ANNOUNCES \$20,000 GRANT FROM
PANDA CARES® FOUNDATION TO BRING ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAMMING TO CLUBS**

September 29, 2022, Fargo, ND – Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley (BGCRRV) has received a \$20,000 grant from the Panda Cares® Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Panda Express®, which will support the nonprofit's mission of enabling and enriching the lives of young people. Through this partnership, Panda Cares and BGCRRV empower youth at Boys & Girls Clubs in the Fargo, ND area to excel in school, character, and leadership.

Specifically, this grant supports these Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) academic success programs:

- **Project Learn** – reinforces the academic enrichment and school engagement of young people during the time they spend at the Club.
- **Power Hour** – provides Club professionals with the strategies, activities, resources and information to create an engaging homework help and tutoring program that encourages Club members of every age to become self-directed learners.
- **Summer Brain Gain** - comprised of one-week modules with fun, themed activities for elementary school, middle school, and high school students that are aligned with common core anchor standards.
- **DIY STEM** – a hands-on, activity-based STEM curriculum which connects youth to science themes they encounter regularly.
- **BGCA's MyFuture.net platform** – skill-building platform with digital programming encouraging youth to learn new skills, earn career certifications, share creative projects, and participate in events and contests.

"Panda's partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs of America furthers our commitment to impact and inspire a brighter future through health and education, creating powerful learning pathways and focused care for the holistic well-being of youth nationwide," said Dr. Peggy Cherng, Co-Founder and Co-CEO of Panda Express.

"We're so excited to partner with the Panda Cares Foundation, who so closely align with our mission and values. This grant helps provide our youth quality academic success programming that makes a difference in kids' lives both now and in the future," Robin Nelson, Boys & Girls Clubs of the RRV CEO.

About Panda Express

On a mission to inspire better lives, Panda Express® is the largest Asian dining concept in the U.S. Family-owned and operated since 1983 by co-founders and co-CEOs Andrew and Peggy Cherng, Panda Express is best known as a trailblazer for creating a wide variety of industry-first recipes, including its best seller the Original Orange Chicken® and award-winning Honey Walnut Shrimp™, which have defined the category of authentic American Chinese cuisine. Each dish at Panda Express, including the Wok Smart® selections, is thoughtfully crafted with quality ingredients and inspired by bold Chinese flavors and culinary principles. The restaurant brand has more than 2,200 locations and has introduced American Chinese cuisine to twelve international countries.

Powered by this global family of associates, Panda Cares®, the philanthropic arm of Panda Express, has raised more than \$237 million and dedicated countless volunteer hours in bettering the health and education for over 12 million youths, as well as supporting communities in need since 1999. In 2020, the organization established the Panda Cares Scholars Program to provide the necessary funding, academic support and leadership development to help high school and college students learn, lead and thrive towards a bright future. For more information, visit pandaexpress.com or pandacares.org.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley is a non-profit organization celebrating 50 years of serving Fargo area youth. Our youth development programs are offered before school, after school, and school-out days at 12 Fargo locations for youth in grades K-5, and after school and school-out days at The CLUB Teen Center for grades 6-12. BGCRRV also offers full day programs at various locations during the summer. Our programming helps youth achieve in three priority outcome areas: Academic Success, Good Character, and Healthy Lifestyles.

Our Mission: To provide a safe, caring, and fun environment for youth to learn, grow, and prepare for a great future.

Learn more about Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley at BGCRRV.org, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).

###