



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley Announces \$10,000 Grant from Panda Cares® Foundation to Bring Academic Support Programming to Clubs

October 2, 2023 Fargo, ND – Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley has received a grant of \$10,000 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 will empower thousands of youth at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley to excel in school, character and leadership.

"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. "This donation brings us one step closer to achieving our long-term vision of building strong communities and fostering the growth of our young leaders."

The national partnership will build on Panda Cares mission to support children and families in underserved communities under the pillars of health and education. With a mutual commitment to helping more youth reach their full academic potential through learning initiatives that are responsive to the unique needs of each young learner, Panda Cares monetary donation to local Boys & Girls Clubs will ensure more than 500 Boys & Girls Clubs will receive funding to provide high-quality in-person and virtual learning opportunities. The donation will also help pilot Panda Cares Centers of Hope, dedicated areas at BGCA that foster equity by delivering high-quality Club experiences that fuel the holistic needs of learning.

"We are grateful for the continued support from the Panda Cares Foundation and our local Panda Express restaurants in supporting our mission to provide a safe, caring, and fun environment for youth to learn, grow, and prepare for a great future", Robin Nelson CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley.

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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 the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley

Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley is a non-profit organization celebrating over 50 years of serving Fargo area youth. Our programs are offered before school, after school, and school-out days at 11 Fargo elementary school locations and two youth centers. We also offer full day programming at various locations during the summer months. Our programs help youth succeed in three priority outcome areas: Academic Success, Good Character and Leadership, and Healthy Lifestyles.

Learn more about Boys & Girls Clubs of the Red River Valley at BGCRRV.org.