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## Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh Holds Groundbreaking Ceremony for Building and Community Center Project

{Oshkosh, WI} – The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh held a Groundbreaking Ceremony on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, to celebrate the beginning of construction for its building expansion and community center project. The building at 501 E. Parkway Avenue in Oshkosh is undergoing a \$16 million-dollar expansion in order to better serve the needs of children and families.

"Today is a big day for all of us - a milestone for the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh. A milestone that has required countless hours of hard work and coordination by the board, the staff and many partners, partners that are here today to share in our celebration, "said Tracy Ogden, CEO at Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh. "This expansion and renovation will create so many opportunities for the kids of Oshkosh. It will allow us serve more kids in a more impactful way."

The 5-part capital project, led by contractor and long-time friend CR Meyer, will include an expansion of the classroom space in the Radford Center side of the building (ages 6-10) that will double the number of children the classrooms can serve to 80. The Club's current Teen Center will be renovated along with the current administrative offices to double the middle school program space (ages 10-12). A new addition will include a second-floor teen space (for ages 13-18) separate from the elementary and middle school age children, a new administrative wing, and a community center for other local agencies to come together and collaborate to better serve families. A second gym and a new outdoor space, including a new playground, a courtyard, and an all-purpose field, will be added to better accommodate the 300 plus children the Club serves daily.

The Club serves about 1,800 children each year through direct service and is one of the largest agencies in Oshkosh that provides basic needs to Club members and their families. With the new expansion, the Club will be able to serve an additional 150 youth daily.

For tours of the Club or to make a gift contact CEO, Tracy Ogden, at (920) 233-1414 ext. 116 or <a href="mailto:tracyo@bgcosh.org">tracyo@bgcosh.org</a>. Gifts to the building project can also be made online at bgcosh.org. We welcome community visitors and encourage you to tour our Club and see first-hand how on a daily basis we are changing and improving the lives of children in our community. We plan to do Whatever It Takes to continue our mission of improving the lives of children and families, and with your help we can make it happen.

**About the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh:** For over 50 years, the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh has provided young people with a safe place to learn and grow and currently serves over 3,000 local youth through membership and outreach. The Club offers a dynamic learning environment that includes many age-appropriate programs, mentoring by caring adult





professionals and outstanding facilities, all for an annual fee of only \$25 per child. By providing safe facilities, caring adults, and engaging activities, we help each young person realize their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

For more information on the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh, please contact the Club at (920) 233-1414, visit the Club online at bgcosh.org or find the Club on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or YouTube (@BGCOsh).

As always, the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh is a United Way Agency.

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