

WHAT OUR TEENS SAY ABOUT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB - 2012

The Club is such a safe place for kids to go. It **keeps them off the streets and out of trouble especially when you are a teen because of peer pressure.**

There are **so many bad habits and negative influences out there and the Club provides a place to escape from it all.**

Most of **the kids who are already into those things don't come to the Club**, so the rest of us can come here and just have fun.

The Club gives us a safe and **supervised place to hang out without the pressure of making bad choices.**

Throughout my youth, the Boys & Girls Club has **played a critical role in building who I am today.**

the Boys and Girls club is not just a place to hang out; it's a group of people who **I know will be there if things fall apart.**

I can honestly say that the club has...**kept me out of trouble and off the street.**

I am 14 years old and live with (my dad's girlfriend) and her three kids who are around my age. I made the decision not to associate with them because of the wrong choices they make. So for me, the **Club is a safe place for me to go. It helps me forget about the things I dislike about home.**

the staff treat the kids like their own family. If a member has a problem, staff listen and help however they can. The staff make everyone feel welcome and offer a sense of belonging. They **taught me that I don't need to be any one but myself**

the Club brings everyone closer together in a different way. **At school, kids are not always nice to each other. There are constantly bullying issues. But the Club enforces a no-bullying rule, and everyone has become like family.** It may not be the best, well put together family, and some kids are closer than others, but in the end, we are all Club kids and we would all be there for each other, no matter what.

The Club is a place where I can go and **not worry about things that have been causing me sadness or anger. Being a teen can be overwhelming, but the Club allows me a chance to relax and just have fun.**

I enjoy going to the Club **because it is one of the few places where I feel I am safe in the community.**

For me, the Club is a **home away from home.**

I **go to the Club to get away from my problems** because I know they will not follow me through those doors.



When I am at the Club, I **don't worry about what sort of drama I am dealing with**, I stay focused on having fun with my friends and the staff.

The people at the Club are a big help ..., **because they are people I can talk to when I need help with certain situations.**

the Club is a place where **you can always find someone to offer help.**

The Club keeps me motivated and **pushes me to be a better person as a whole.**

The Boys & Girls Club has been a part of my life for almost as long as I can remember. Many of my fondest memories involve the Club.

When I was in elementary school, I was never the cool or popular kid. I did not feel that I fit in. I **kept to myself and was shy. That changed when I started to go to the Boys & Girls Club of Cape Cod.**

The counselors **made everyone feel welcome, including me. I felt acknowledged and truly cared about.**

The Boys & Girls Club has helped me grow in so many ways... **I learned ... about problem solving, working together as a team, sharing and learning to compromise.**

I was always encouraged by other campers and counselors to keep trying to get better and **I was never excluded.**

I have **made many friends of different cultures and diversities.**

I have **learned about commitment, responsibility and leadership.**

