

# DIVISION V

## FORMS

### LIASON REPORT

AGENCY: Boys and Girls Club LIASON: Jonathan Kirner

#### **1. Need for program**

Boys and Girls club helps kids in need from ages 7 to 18 and its attendance is growing. For the past few years the agency has had more membership requests than they could fill so the organization is planning an expansion. This organization fulfills Story County's goals of ensuring the safety, health and well-being of children by providing the students with after school meals, a place to stay while their parents are at work, and outlets for them to be active, social, and learning. It also fulfills the United Way's education priorities by providing opportunities for after school learning and a comfortable environment to do homework for students. Students are given a sense of belonging and learn to interact with others in appropriate ways which is invaluable for the rest of their lives.

#### **2. Program Strengths**

Boys and Girls club has a very comfortable environment as well as engaging activities for students. There are also opportunities for students to improve their leadership skills by running their own organization with the guidance of adults as well as the freedom of fundraising their own budget to support causes that they find worthy.

#### **3. Program Weaknesses**

Boys and Girls club has a great amount of space for quite a few students but it is also currently the limiting factor. To be able to serve more students, it is working toward expanding with the assistance of other community organizations. Boys and Girls club is also located within the flood plain and has to combat floods when they occur. They have been fortunate enough, however, to avoid any major damage.

#### **4. Financial Outlook**

Boys and Girls club's board has many people who are very fiscally conscious and responsible. They work to ensure that the organization is not and will not be in financial trouble. Reductions in funding would result in reductions in staff which would prevent them from serving as many students. It would also either slow or stop their attempts to expand further.

## **5. Internal Management Practices**

The board is a well-run group that controls policies and finances of the organization to ensure that the organization is run safely and efficiently.

### **General Assessment:**

Boys and Girls club has been serving children in need for many years and routinely has to turn children away. The service that is provided is invaluable for students to excel in their academics and personal lives. The board of directors run the organization well, ensuring that money is not wasted and that their activities are within budget. It would be very beneficial to the community of Ames and Iowa for ASSET to continue funding Boys and Girls Club as best it can because children are the future.