

# BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF CENTRAL OHIO: THE CHAMPION COMPANIES MILO-GROGAN CLUBHOUSE



## New Markets Tax Credit Financing Expands Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio Facilities and Services at The Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse

Finance Fund’s New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) financing was key to the new construction of Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio (BGCCO)’s newest facility, the Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse, which will serve 300 youth with year-round programming in the Milo-Grogan neighborhood located north of Downtown Columbus.

Youth members of the Clubhouse will experience after-school programming during the schoolyear as well as all-day programming in the summer. The facility will support BGCCO staff as they endeavor to enable young people to reach their full potential.

Finance Fund provided \$8,000,000 of federal NMTC allocation for the project. The new Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse will feature learning labs, a full-sized gymnasium, a kitchen and dining area, and a career center for teens. Outdoor amenities will include bike racks, outdoor seating, and greenspace that will serve as a catalyst for neighborhood pride and development.

**“Finance Fund helped us ensure full funding a Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse worthy of the young people we serve.”**

– Doug Wolf, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Ohio

### FINANCE FUND INVESTMENT IMPACT:

- Increased Clubhouse capacity for 300 youth members
- Enables operation of year-round programming including full-day summer option
- Capital improvements including learning labs, a full-sized gymnasium, a kitchen and dining area, and a career center for teens
- 6 new FTEs, 40 retained FTEs  
113 new construction jobs

BGCCO staff plans to implement CareerLaunch at the new Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse, a job-readiness and career preparation program specifically designed for teen members. Teens will explore careers, build soft and technical skills required for entry-level positions and beyond, and ultimately find job placement with local employers through existing BGCCO partnerships.

According to the Milo-Grogan Neighborhood Plan, the neighborhood was once home to many manufacturing, automobile, and rail industry jobs due to its location along the Pennsylvania Railroad. The construction of I-71 through the neighborhood during the 1960s, coupled with the subsequent collapse in demand for products manufactured in the community, led to tough economic realities for residents that have rippled across recent decades. U.S. Census data indicates that the community served by the Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse experiences a poverty rate of 45% and an unemployment rate of 19%, which is over twice the national unemployment rate.

As a result of BGCCO programs and services in Milo-Grogan, local youth have achieved success in fulfilling careers leading to self-sufficiency. The Champion Companies Milo-Grogan Clubhouse will be a place where young people can recognize and pursue their full potential.

*Project Address: 1000 Cleveland Avenue, Columbus, OH 43201*  
3rd Congressional District  
25th Ohio House District  
15th Ohio Senate District

