



**1. Why is NAR getting involved with BGCA?**

BGCA is the largest youth serving organization in America, with more than 4,600 Clubs located throughout the country and on military bases across the world. There are BGCA Clubs in every state and practically every community. Just as REALTORS® are integral part of their communities, so too are Boys & Girls Clubs.

REALTORS® are actively engaged in their communities, volunteering their time to several worthy causes and organizations. NAR is providing members with an easy way to stay connected with their communities by giving back to a youth organization in need.

**2. How does my Association get involved?**

First, find a local Club in your area. Then, reach out to the Club director to start a dialogue with him/her about how your Association can get involved and what the Club's needs are. From there, you and the Club director will organize a formal meeting to get the ball rolling and start coordinating volunteer activities for the year.

BGCA has created a toolkit for Associations that walks you through the entire process, from talking points for the initial phone call to planning the first meeting to tips for working with youth. This toolkit, along with a Club locator and marketing materials, can be found at [www.realtor.org/BGCA](http://www.realtor.org/BGCA) under "Information for Associations."

**3. What types of volunteer activities can my Association be a part of?**

As an Association, you can coordinate large-scale activities for your members, like hosting a clean-up day, donating items for an upcoming toy/coat drive or hosting a holiday party at your office, to name a few. It's important to remember that every Club will have specific needs, so be sure talk with the Club director first to find out what the Club's needs are and how you can help.

For additional inspiration, [read the success stories](#) submitted by Associations that have already supported or are currently supporting a local Club.

And remember, if your Association chooses to work with a local Boys & Girls Club, you will not only be giving back, you'll be completing a [Core Standards requirement](#), specifically the community outreach initiative of investing in the community.

**4. The only Clubs in our local area are on Native Lands and/or military bases. Can my Association still get involved?**

Yes! In cases such as this, there are additional clearances that may need to be obtained, however. Reach out the local Club to find out more.



**5. Is there a way for a State Association to obtain a list of all the clubs in the state rather than having to search by zip code?**

There are different nuances to working with a local vs. state organization, but BGCA is drafting introductions to the State BGCA Organizations of the NAR State Associations. When this communication is cleared and instructions worked out, it will be posted to the Association section of [www.realtor.org/BGCA](http://www.realtor.org/BGCA). In the meantime, please reach out to your local Club.

**6. I'm already involved with another not-for-profit. Do I have to end my relationship with that organization?**

Absolutely not. NAR encourages all Associations and members to volunteer and give back to their communities in whatever way they see fit. The new affiliation with BGCA is just one way they get involved, but is by no means, the only way.

**7. For volunteer projects, is there any required training or an application process?**

This is on a case-by-case and Club-by-Club basis, depending upon the nature of the volunteer project. For things such as mentoring or leading the youth in a program, there is definitely training. Almost all Clubs will have some form of orientation for volunteers.

All volunteers will have to undergo a criminal background check before working at a Club. This is a measure all Clubs take as of part of their charter with BGCA. Each Club has a different background check policy, depending on its needs; therefore, the type of background check, length of time for the process and/or the cost of background checks may differ depending on the Club.

**8. Is NAR or BGCA keeping track of Association or member involvement?**

In order to track the successes and contributions the REALTOR® Family is making to BGCA, we are asking that Associations and members share their volunteerism efforts via email at [narbgca@realtors.org](mailto:narbgca@realtors.org). BGCA is also asking their Clubs to notify them of their work with members of the REALTOR® Family.

**9. What types of resources are available from NAR to help Associations?**

NAR and BGCA's co-branded website, [www.realtor.org/BGCA](http://www.realtor.org/BGCA), provides audience-specific information and resources for Associations, members and consumers. You'll find a Club locator, success stories from REALTOR® volunteers and Associations already working with Clubs, a toolkit for getting involved, as well as a list of sample volunteer activities, web banners, videos and more.

**10. Is there an informational brochure Associations can use with leadership and/or to get members engaged?**

Yes! You can access the brochure at [www.realtor.org/BGCA](http://www.realtor.org/BGCA) under "Get Involved."



**11. What do you recommend a State Association do since a Local Association has stronger ties to a community?**

State Associations could identify one major focus for the entire state and then local REALTORS® could focus on a single activity statewide accordingly. It may involve a little more coordination with Local Associations and Clubs, but it's definitely worth exploring.

**12. Many real estate firms already do things with a local Club. How can an Association get involved without directly competing with their efforts?**

Local and State Associations can expand upon those individual efforts by getting more individual members involved. One suggestion would be to work with the real estate firms to determine if any local activities could be expanded and then the Local or State Association could coordinate large-scale volunteer activities.

**13. What information is available about starting a local Club in our area? Can NAR and BGCA help bring a Club to our community?**

While there are certainly youth across the country who need support, starting a Club involves long-term planning with executives at the local level and national BGCA organization. It's something that must be sustained and there are a whole host of requirements to start and keep a Club running. Additionally, the community must be able to raise large sums of money to support the Club and ensure that there is a sufficient number of youth able to attend the Club over a number of years. For more information or to have a conversation at the local level, email [narbgca@realtors.org](mailto:narbgca@realtors.org) and we will put you in contact with the appropriate team at BGCA.

**14. We tried to find a local Club, but there are none in our area. How can we get involved when no club is accessible to us?**

There's at least one Club in every Congressional District in the U.S., so, there is probably one in your area that serves the market, but it may be in a neighboring town. You may want to consider hosting a few special activities throughout the year rather than weekly or daily activities.

**15. Can we make a financial donation to our local Club?**

Absolutely! All donations, even to a local Club, should be made through the [national BGCA website](#), where you will be able to direct your donation dollars appropriately. No matter the size of your donation or how it was collected (e.g., via a fundraiser or individual contribution), the funds should be made through the national BGCA organization donation site so they can properly track all donations and NAR can add you to our online "Honor Roll of Contributions."

Please note: Making a financial contribution does not meet the Core Standards requirement.



**16. My Association just made a donation to a local Club. Can we get recognition even though we donated it directly to the local Club and not through the national BGCA organization?**

NAR and BGCA are keeping track of all contributions made by the REALTOR® family, financially and otherwise. If you made a donation directly to a Club, please email [narbgca@realtors.org](mailto:narbgca@realtors.org) outlining the amount of money donated and what Club the donation was made to. Once we can verify the donation was received, your Association will be placed on the Honor Roll.

**17. Does historical involvement with a local Club qualify for Core Standards?**

Associations must certify compliance with the standards by June 30 of each year. Therefore, any efforts must have occurred within the 12 months prior to the June 30 deadline.

**18. Does holding a golf tournament count towards Core Standards if the proceeds collected benefits our local Boys & Girls Club?**

Yes, hosting a fundraiser that benefits a local Club, or any organization for that matter, does fulfill the Core Standards requirement. What does not fulfill Core Standards, however, is merely making a financial donation directly to an organization. An Association cannot simply write a check without there being any actual member involvement in the Association-conducted activity. [See Core Standards FAQs, Question 7.6 for more information.](#)

**19. If an individual member of our Association supports a local Club, does that qualify for Core Standards, even though it's not organized by our Association?**

In order for an activity to fulfill the Community Investment Core Standards requirement, it must be organized and completed by the Association, not an individual member.

**20. Is this a one-year initiative or will NAR continue to work with BGCA for years to come?**

NAR and BGCA have agreed to a multi-year initiative. Creating a lasting presence in local Clubs is beneficial in a variety of ways. Not only do the communities and the Clubs benefit from the increase volunteer resources, but most importantly, REALTORS® can create an ongoing relationship with the kids who have come to rely on them.

**21. Is there any grant funding through NAR available?**

There is no grant funding available through NAR to assist with your volunteer engagement at a local Club.

**22. Who do I contact at NAR with questions or comments about working with BGCA?**

Please direct your questions and comments to the following NAR staff:

Breanne Gingerich - Manager, Marketing Strategy & Promotion  
312.329.3278  
[BGingerich@nar.realtor](mailto:BGingerich@nar.realtor)