



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF PORTLAND METROPOLITAN AREA

**BGCP TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 500: ROCKWOOD CATALYST CAMPAIGN**

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

**MIKE REESE, RETIRED PORTLAND POLICE CHIEF/CHAIR, BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**BGCP: Organizational Leadership**

My name is Michael Reese and I'm here in my capacity as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Portland. I'm also the retired Chief of Police for the City of Portland and before beginning my law enforcement career 25 years ago, I worked for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Portland as the Club Director at our Wattles Club in SE Portland. I know the organization well and have appreciated their good work in our community for many years.

Our clubs are a safe and welcoming place for kids. The staff are caring professionals dedicated to enriching the lives of every child participating in our programs. The clubs serve a richly diverse population mainly in areas impacted by economic need.

I'm really excited about the opportunity to serve the kids and their families in Rockwood with a new facility. I worked in that community as a Deputy Sheriff and as a police officer. I know the challenges facing kids in an area with little in the way of positive places for them to grow and develop into capable adults. Our new club will fill that need, providing a safe place where the kids in Rockwood can participate in programs designed around academic enrichment, the arts and athletics.

We are asking for your financial support of the new facility in Rockwood. We need your help to make this club a reality for the kids and their families.

Thank you,

Mike Reese