

For Immediate Release

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Bridgestone Retail Operations Donates \$25,000 to Boys & Girls Club of Manchester to Support Area Children Experiencing Homelessness

- **Donation will help enroll area kids who are at-risk of or currently experiencing homelessness into Boys & Girls Club of Manchester.**
- **Participating kids and families will have access to academic support, healthy meals and snacks, transportation and a safe place to go before and after school.**
- **Since 2015, the Bridgestone *Driving Great Futures* initiative has helped kids and teens gain access to high-impact programming from Boys & Girls Clubs nationwide.**

NASHVILLE, TN (June 1, 2021) – [Bridgestone Retail Operations](#) (BSRO), a subsidiary of [Bridgestone Americas](#) (Bridgestone), announced it has donated \$25,000 to Boys & Girls Club of Manchester to provide local kids who are at-risk of or experiencing homelessness access to critical resources and enrichment opportunities. The gift is part of the Bridgestone *Driving Great Futures* campaign where customers and teammates can donate to support Boys & Girls Clubs at any of the 2,200 BSRO locations nationwide.

With this donation, Boys & Girls Club of Manchester will continue partnering with the Manchester School District and its homeless liaison to identify and enroll displaced children at no cost to their families. Enrolled Club kids will be provided academic support, healthy meals and snacks, transportation, a safe place to go before and after school, and other personal essentials.

“With the growing number of Manchester residents and children experiencing homelessness, we knew we had to step up to serve our community,” said Bridgestone Area Manager Bryan O’Kelley, who oversees 10 area Firestone Complete Auto Care stores, including the Manchester location. “Boys & Girls Clubs of America is doing important work to address issues like food insecurity and homelessness, and we are proud to make this donation, so they can support more local families in need.”

“The Boys & Girls Club of Manchester is committed to addressing inequities and opportunity gaps plaguing our families,” said Diane Fitzpatrick, CEO of the Boys & Girls Club of Manchester. “Thanks to Bridgestone, we will be able to expand our services to support families in need. We are grateful for their continued support for our kids and their families.”

Last year, Bridgestone raised \$3.6 million for Boys & Girls Clubs of America to help Club kids and teens gain access to high-impact, out-of-school support amid the COVID-19 pandemic, including bridging technology and transportation gaps. Since 2015, Bridgestone has contributed a total of \$15.3 million to Boys & Girls Clubs of America. *Driving Great Futures* is part of the Bridgestone *Our Way to Serve* corporate social responsibility (CSR) commitment to improve the way people move, live, work and play.

For more Bridgestone company news visit [BridgestoneAmericas.com](https://www.BridgestoneAmericas.com).

About Bridgestone Americas, Inc.:

Nashville, Tennessee-based Bridgestone Americas, Inc. is a subsidiary of Bridgestone Corporation, a global leader providing sustainable mobility and advanced solutions. Bridgestone Americas develops, manufactures and markets a diverse portfolio of original equipment and replacement tires, tire-centric solutions, mobility solutions, and other rubber-associated and diversified products that deliver social value and customer value. Guided by its global corporate social responsibility commitment, Our Way to Serve, Bridgestone is dedicated to shaping a sustainable future of mobility and improving the way people move, live, work and play.

About Bridgestone Retail Operations, LLC:

Bridgestone Retail Operations, LLC (BSRO) is headquartered in Nashville, Tenn. and operates the largest network of company-owned automotive service providers in the world — more than 2,200 tire and vehicle service centers across the United States — including Firestone Complete Auto Care, Tires Plus, Hibdon Tires Plus and Wheel Works store locations. Credit First National Association and Firestone Complete Fleet Care operations are also part of BSRO. BSRO is a member of the Bridgestone Americas family of companies.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of America:

For 160 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America ([BGCA.org](https://www.BGCA.org)) has enabled young people most in need to achieve great futures as productive, caring, responsible citizens. More than 4,700 Clubs serve over 4.6 million young people through Club membership and community outreach. Clubs are located in cities, towns, public housing and on Native lands throughout the country, and serve military families in BGCA-affiliated Youth Centers on U.S. military installations worldwide. They provide a safe place, caring adult mentors, fun and friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours. Club programs promote academic success, good character and citizenship, and healthy lifestyles. In a Harris Survey of alumni, 54 percent said the Club saved their lives. National headquarters are located in Atlanta. Learn more about Boys & Girls Clubs of America on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

About Boys & Girls Club of Manchester

The Boys & Girls Club of Manchester is one of the 53 founding organizations of Boys & Girls Clubs of America. The Manchester Club was incorporate in 1907 and currently has an annual membership of more than 2,000 boys and girls. The organization operates programs at four sites throughout the greater

Manchester area, including Camp Foster, their summer camp facility. For more information visit, www.BeGreatManchester.org.

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