

From: Jim Clark, President and CEO, BGCA [<mailto:noreply@bgca.org>]
Sent: Monday, October 02, 2017 1:05 PM
To: Rashell Brobst <RBrobst@bgcnv.org>
Subject: Las Vegas Shooting

Crisis response email written on behalf of President/CEO. See next page for comments/replies.



A Statement from Jim Clark

Like many, the first news I heard this morning was about the mass shooting in Las Vegas yesterday evening. The crushing news brought about many emotions. But my reaction can't possibly approach the depths of despair of those directly affected by the shooting... families and friends of the hundreds of victims. My thoughts and prayers go out to each and every one of you.

This incident is so fresh, it's hard to know what to say or do to offer any comfort, or if that's even possible at the moment. At the least, it's important to remember how traumatic a mass shooting event can be for children. With this in mind, the following resources may prove helpful in discussing last night's devastating violence with your Club members.

- **[Supporting Children After a Tragedy](#)**
- **[Age-related Reactions to a Traumatic Event](#)**
- **[Support for a Traumatized Child](#)**
- **[Talking to Children about Terrorism](#)**

This latest horrific incident is another reminder of our imperative to provide safe spaces for kids and teens in communities across the country. As the effects of this tragic event unfold, we will continue to monitor the situation in Las Vegas, especially in relation to our Clubs, staff and anyone impacted, and contribute our support in whatever way we can. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jim

You are receiving this e-mail because your leadership role with Boys & Girls Clubs of America requires you to receive specific high-level communications. If we have sent this to you in error or if you are no longer with the Movement, please contact us at unsubscribe@bgca.org.

Encourage all Club staff and board members to

Internal Comments

- From: Jim Clark
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2017 2:02 PM
To: John Collins <jcollins@BGCA.ORG>
Subject: RE: Response to Las Vegas

Excellent job.....some of the finest narrative!
Thank you---this is how I like to talk and communicate---BRAVO!
Send as soon as possible
Jim

- Sr. V.P., Marketing & Communications: "Wanted to take a minute and say great job on Jim's letter. These situations are often hard to 'translate' into words but you crafted it so well with a sincere voice. Truly an art."

Replies from field

- "Thanks for taking a stand and sharing the resources. I wanted you to let you know that our Club was directly affected. The sister of our 2015 California State Youth of the Year, Russell Wilson, was there and is now recovering in a hospital. Russell took a leave from the army and is with her now- she too is a trooper and knows how to overcome adversity. She should be released today hopefully. Such a tragedy all around- something needs to change on a big level. Keep fighting the good fight."
- "I am so sorry you had to send this out. Truly words cannot express the heartbreak - it has horrific and unreal. My family has been personally affected by this shooting and my cousin is in critical condition fighting for her life. At 5pm today we finally got the clearance from the doctors that she is going to make it. She was shot in her back and face. Her husband intubated her and kept her alive until they could get to emergency responders. She is in an induced coma and they can't stop her facial bleeding. Once they get the bleeding under control they can start to try to reconstruct her jaw and face. She is a mother of 3 young children, a school teacher and was enjoying a great concert with her husband. Everyone has been reaching out to find out what they can do and donating blood is something that we were told to tell everyone."

"Change needs to happen and we have so many broken people that cannot cope with their circumstances and it crosses all social economic lines. It is no longer an issue of lack of education and poverty! The work we do every day with kids in trauma is so important to give kids a safe place to receive the social emotional support they need to navigate this complicated world we are living in. Hug your loved ones a bit tighter today and make sure those you care about know how much you love them."