

## National Night Out at Boys & Girls Club

National Night Out will be celebrated once again this year at the Asylum Hill Boys & Girls Club at 170 Sigourney St. It's been an annual tradition here at the Club practically since it opened nearly 15 years ago.

Begun in 1984, the annual event has continued to grow nationally from a start of 400 communities to a recent 16,000. The intention is primarily to bring neighbors out of their houses, to meet one another and strengthen their neighborhoods. It is also intended as an opportunity to meet with and get to know local police officers. Increasingly nationally, and especially here in Hartford, crime is reduced when residents trust the police, and building that trust has been increasingly a major effort.

The stats seem to show it's working. While there is rarely any one effort or plan that can lead directly to a specific result, the combination seems to be working. It's just human nature to trust a friendly face you've met before.

So if you have a chance, come out to the Boy's & Girl's Club on Tuesday August 6<sup>th</sup>. Meet with your neighbors, your local police and local service providers. This event is not just for kids, we all need to get to know one another.

Photos from past events can be seen at <http://bit.ly/NNO-past>

