



CASE STUDY

"Great Plains Communications has been a great partner for us. Boys Town has different types of facilities — from Youth Care Homes to Behavioral Health Clinics — throughout the U.S., and we need Internet that's flexible and reliable."

CHRISTOPHER WREN
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
BOYS TOWN

COMPANY

Boys Town

LOCATION

Boys Town, NE

INDUSTRY

Healthcare

SERVICES

As one of the largest nonprofit child care agencies in the country, Boys Town provides compassionate treatment for the behavioral, emotional and physical problems of children and families.

888-343-8014

gpcom.com/enterprise



Boys Town had humble beginnings. In 1917, a young Irish priest named Father Edward J. Flanagan borrowed \$90 to pay the rent on a boarding house in Omaha, Nebraska that became Father Flanagan's Home for Boys. Father Flanagan later purchased Overlook Farm on the outskirts of the city, and his Home for Boys eventually became known as the Village of Boys Town, growing to include a school, dormitories and administration buildings.

Today Boys Town has nine campus locations across the U.S. where boys and girls come for help to live healthy, positive lives. Its national headquarters is in Omaha, as are Boys Town's two hospitals, specialty healthcare clinics and primary and secondary data centers. These facilities require extremely fast and reliable Internet connections, and in 2019, Boys Town was exploring an upgrade to its existing network. The plan was to connect the hospitals together and provide large transport bandwidth between them.

Great Plains Communications was selected to take on this network upgrade in 2019, and so began a successful partnership that's rooted in a mutual willingness to discuss future projects and ideas.

"Great Plains Communications could provide a more flexible solution for Boys Town than other carriers. Due to rapid growth of their facilities, Great Plains Communications was also able to start the project, build fiber routes, install equipment and complete the project more quickly."

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SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
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The Boys Town Mission Statement is this: "Changing the way America cares for children and families." In its 100-year history, Boys Town has given new hope to many at-risk children and their families. As the need grows for its life-changing programs and services, Boys Town stands ready to accommodate it. This help may come in many forms, from a new Pediatric Clinic or Youth Care site

to a new research grant. Boys Town is internationally recognized as a research leader in hearing, language and related communication disorders and conducts pioneering research in childhood neurobehavioral disorders.

Behind the scenes, information technology supports all of these efforts, and Great Plains Communications works closely with Boys Town to provide customized solutions. In addition to adding large transport bandwidth between the hospitals, Great Plains Communications built links between the Boys Town data centers.

"With two dedicated 40 GB links between our data centers, it gives the IT department a lot of flexibility. Since the links are high bandwidth and low latency, we can move resources between data centers seamlessly. This allows IT to adjust to the changing needs of Boys Town."

CHRISTOPHER WREN
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
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Wren appreciates the strong relationship that Great Plains Communications has developed with Boys Town. He said, "The account team is great to work with, and they help us understand the capabilities of Great Plains Communications and how the company can help Boys Town stay connected today and tomorrow."

"Every year our goal is to help more children and families. With this growth comes increasing reliance on connections to services in the cloud or data centers. Great Plains Communications provides dependable fiber to connect our two data centers as one."

CHRISTOPHER WREN
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