



## **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF VENICE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF VENICE WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PROGRAMS**

**LOS ANGELES, June 8, 2007** – The Boys & Girls Club of Venice received an Honor Award for Sports, Fitness and Recreation at Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s (BGCA) 101<sup>st</sup> National Conference held recently in Orlando. MetLife Foundation sponsors the annual awards program.

The Honor Award for Program Excellence in Sports, Fitness and Recreation is presented to a Club conducting a program that is outstanding in helping young people become physically fit, positive use of leisure time, skills for stress management, appreciation for the environment and social skills. In recognition of its outstanding achievement, the club received a \$2,500 cash award.

Honor Awards for Program Excellence are presented for the most outstanding programs developed and implemented in Boys & Girls Clubs across the country. Each year, hundreds of entries are submitted in the five core program areas: character and leadership development; education and career development; health and life skills; the arts; and sports, fitness and recreation.

MetLife Foundation has provided support to BGCA since 1977, including sponsorship of the organization’s Honor Awards for Program Excellence for the past 21 years. In 1999, MetLife Foundation established the Leverage for Learning Fund which to date has awarded \$2.7 million to Boys & Girls Clubs of America to establish 37 learning centers and strengthen after-school education programs in Boys & Girls Clubs nationwide. Established by MetLife in 1976, the MetLife Foundation supports education, health, civic and cultural programs throughout the United States.