



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF BOSTON**

BLUE HILL CLUB

George Robert White
Youth Development Center
Smith Family Teen Center

Opened in 1995 ♦ Renovated in 2007

15 Talbot Avenue
Dorchester, MA 02124
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Membership:

- ⇒ The Club annually serves more than **1,500 youth**, ages 6-18.
- ⇒ Nearly **72%** of members attend the Club at least once a week.
- ⇒ Membership is composed of: 77% African American, 8% Hispanic, 5% Caribbean, 5% multi-racial, 1% Caucasian, 1% Native American, 3% Other.

Programs:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) offers high-impact and innovative programming to meet the needs of every child and teen through our **core program areas** of:

⇒ **Arts**

Allowing members the means to develop new art skills, express talents, and expand their creativity.

⇒ **Education**

Promoting members' academic success and encouraging them to explore career options.

⇒ **Leadership & character development**

Developing members' skills and potential through community building and service projects.

⇒ **Life skills**

Providing a forum and a safe place for youth to talk with peers and adults about issues that concern them.

⇒ **Sports, fitness & recreation**

Encouraging every member to maintain physical and mental health.

⇒ **Technology**

Building technology literacy through hands-on training in our Computer Clubhouse.

Teen Programs in the Smith Family Teen Center:

In addition to the core programs offered to all members, our Clubs offer activities geared towards teens' unique interests and development. Teen members enjoy a wide variety of options that engage them in positive learning experiences — from **Keystone Club**, which develops teens' leadership skills and civic involvement, and **Junior Staff**, which teaches responsibility by employing teens as assistants to Club program staff, to **College Club** which offers teens the opportunity to visit colleges and universities.

Normal Hours of Operation:

Monday to Friday 1 – 6 p.m. (Ages 6-12)
Monday to Friday 1 – 8 p.m. (Teens)

Community:

The communities of **Dorchester** and **Mattapan** are both served by the Blue Hill Club. Covering nine square miles, these two neighborhoods represent the quintessential urban community of mixed income, broad ethnic diversity, and active political involvement. The Blue Hill Club was opened in 1995 in response to escalating violence in the community. As a safe haven for youth to develop skills and positive relationships with peers and adults, the Club continues to meet the challenges of gang violence, poverty, inadequate education, unemployment, prevalent crime, and high levels of substance abuse and addiction.

Partnerships:

Throughout our history, BGCB has leveraged the expertise and resources of other organizations to broaden our reach and deepen our impact. Our reputation for exceptional program delivery has, in turn, made us a sought-after partner for organizations seeking to provide beneficial programs or services to children and teens. BGCB's partnerships and collaborations, with organizations as diverse as the MFA, MIT, Boston Public Schools, the Boston Police Department, and The Greater Boston Food Bank, play a vital role in serving members, and in helping them develop the skills necessary to become responsible citizens and leaders.

BGCB meets the needs of more than 14,000 at-risk youth annually in Clubs located in Charlestown (Charlestown Club), Chelsea (Jordan Club), Dorchester (Blue Hill Club and the Franklin Hill Club at the Franklin Hill Housing Development), Roslindale (the Sumner Club at the Charles Sumner Elementary School), Roxbury (Yawkey Club and the Dearborn Club at the Henry Dearborn Middle School), and South Boston (South Boston Club and the James F. Condon Club at the Condon Elementary School) and Mattapan (the Mattahunt Club at the Mattahunt Elementary School), and through our YSPN social workers based in police stations across the city.

Fundraising:

- ⇒ Club members pay just **\$25 per school year (\$5 for teens)**, but the actual cost per member for program services is more than **\$2,500 annually**.
- ⇒ **BGCB must raise** nearly **85%** of its annual operating budget through private donations.
- ⇒ The Blue Hill Club thanks our many **major supporters**, including: John Hancock Financial Services, Inc.; Verizon; Ronald M. Ansin; George B. Henderson Foundation; and Copeland Family Foundation.

Summer Program:

BGCB's Summer Program serves youth ages 6 to 18 in the communities of Charlestown, Chelsea, Dorchester, Mattapan, Roxbury and South Boston. There are separate programs for teens and for younger children. All programs, including Camp Harbor View, are designed to keep young people off the streets, to educate them during the non-school months, and to provide recreational experiences to which they might not otherwise have access.

Members of Blue Hill Club Staff:

Scott McLellan, **Executive Director**

Hector Alvarez, **Director of Operations**

Ocie Brown, **Membership Director**

Club Alumni:

Hector Alvarez – Hector was part of the inaugural teen membership population when the Club first opened in 1995. During his tenure, he held numerous positions including Junior Staff, Social Recreation Assistant, and Athletic Director. Hector currently serves as the Blue Hill Club's Director of Operations.

Nicole McNair – A Club member since 1996. Nicole was involved with Keystone, played on the award-winning Lady Dolphins girl basketball team, and served as a Junior Staff member. She went on to attend the University of North Carolina in Charlotte.