



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF BOSTON**

CHARLESTOWN CLUB

Keane Children's Center
Ansin Youth Center

Opened in 1893

15 Green Street

Charlestown, MA 02129

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Membership:

- ⇒ The Club annually serves more than **850 members**, ages 6-18.
- ⇒ Nearly **60%** of members attend the Club at least once a week.
- ⇒ Membership is composed of: 12% African American, 4% Asian, 56% Caucasian, 24% Hispanic, 1% Caribbean, 1% Native American, 1% multi-racial and 1% 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 addition to the core programs offered to all members, teens are engaged in activities geared towards their 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:

Keane Children's Center (Green Street)

Monday to Friday 2-6 p.m. (Ages 6-12)

Monday to Friday 6-8 p.m. (Ages 9-12)

Ansin Youth Center (High Street)

Monday to Friday 1-8 p.m. (Teens)

Community:

Charlestown has experienced gentrification in its population and industry over the past two decades, which has fueled civic engagement, greater socio-economic diversity and contributed to a higher standard of living for all. Yet despite this gentrification, many poverty stricken residents continue to experience the challenges that have plagued its neighborhoods for generations, including poverty, inadequate education, unemployment, prevalent crime, and high levels of substance abuse. Located within one square mile of the Charlestown Club are three housing development projects, including the largest housing development in Boston. In response to an increasing substance abuse problem in the Charlestown community, the Club provides **violence prevention workshops** and **anti-substance abuse education** including: “Just the Facts,” a day which educates young members, ages 6 to12, about the dangers of drug use, on-going workshops for all members, including teens, and a newly-formed support group for members whose lives are impacted by substance abuse in their families.

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 **\$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** almost **85%** of its annual operating budget through private donations.
- ⇒ The Charlestown Club thanks our many **local supporters**, including: Keane, Inc.; Caturano and Co.; and Charlestown Neighborhood Council.

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 Charlestown Club Staff:

- ⇒ Greg Jackson, **Executive Director**
- ⇒ John Killoran, **Director of Operations**
- ⇒ Russell Groggett, **Membership Director**

Club Alumni:

The Club is proud of its many successful members, including: Steve Foley, a commander of the Navy’s Blue Angels flight demonstration team who was inducted into Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s Alumni Hall of Fame; Corey Gallagher, a graduate of Bentley College who works in Media Sales and Advertising for a local TV station; and Christine Locke Healey, an employee in the Office of Child Advocacy of Children’s Hospital Boston who runs the College Club.