



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF BOSTON



2022 MEMBER IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

DEAR FRIENDS,



Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) has a long history of elevating young people, communities, and future generations by providing our young people with a breadth and depth of enriching programs perfected over decades of refinement. BGCB's first Club was founded in Charlestown in **1893** and today operates **nine Clubs** in Charlestown, Chelsea, Dorchester, Mattapan, Roxbury, and South Boston, serving more than **15,000** community members in Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) alone.

Today, our staff and expansive network of community partners are teaming up to establish our Commonwealth's diverse talent pipeline, equipping our members with the professional skills, confidence, opportunities, and networks they need to thrive in today's competitive world.

In addition to our Clubs, BGCB operates **YouthConnect**, an advocacy and intervention program that places licensed clinical social workers in police stations throughout the city of Boston to work with young people after interacting with law enforcement.

During one of the most challenging times in history to be a student, our investment in addressing academic learning loss is not only keeping young people on track to graduate but is providing opportunities to continue thriving in the classroom and beyond. While the cost for members to attend the Club is **\$25 per school year** for 6–12 year olds and \$5 per year for teens, BGCB's annual investment in each member is significant.

We rely on funding from individual, foundation, and corporate donors to make our life-enhancing programs possible, and we receive **80% of our \$26 million operating budget** through contributed funding. Support from our Board of Directors,

Hear more stories from
our communities, staff,
and families:



Board of Trustees, Local Advisory Boards, generous donors, and program partners helps us provide fun, high impact programming and opportunities for youth across the city.

BGCB's programs address crucial youth development needs in the areas of education; arts; life skills; leadership and character development; health and wellness; technology; and sports, fitness, and recreation. BGCB has been one of Boston's most reputable nonprofits for the past **130 years** and consistently measures results and feedback from the families we serve to continue to provide meaningful programs delivered with elements of fun in a caring environment.

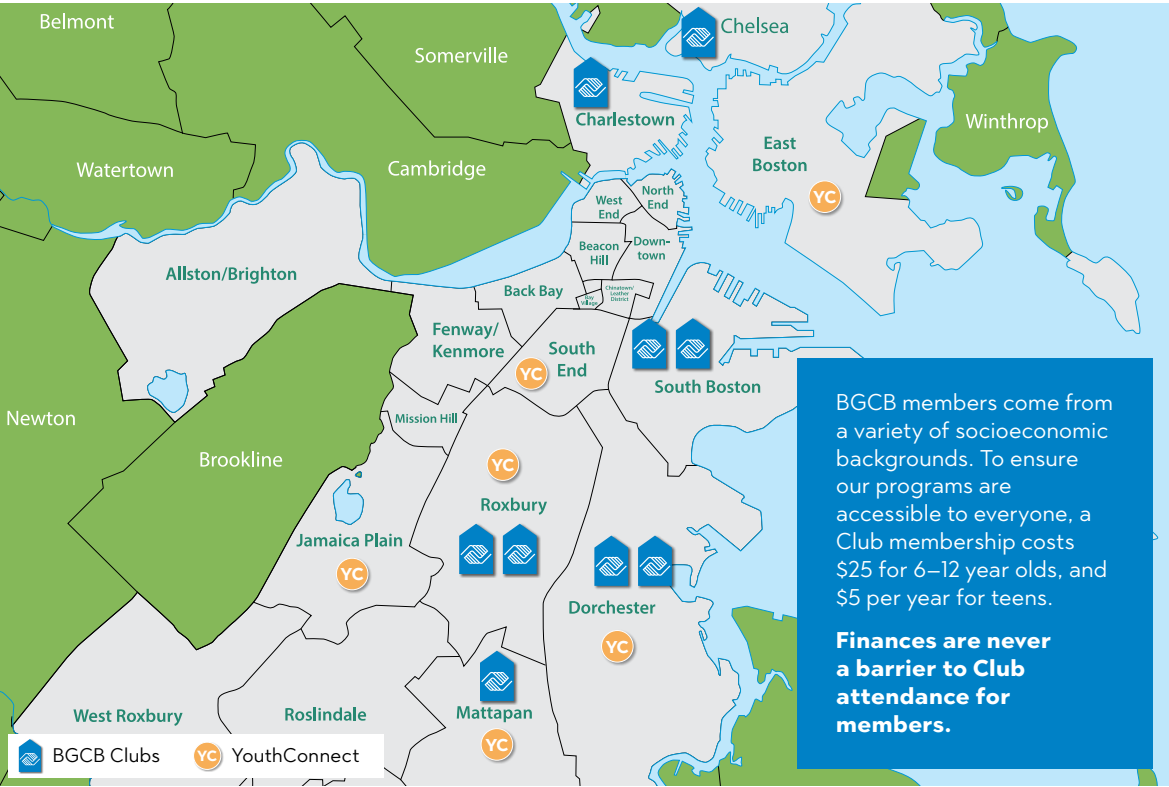
The children of Boston and Chelsea are exceptional, and Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston is the place to gather and achieve their wildest dreams.

Sincerely,

Robert Lewis, Jr.
Nicholas President and CEO

BGCB's mission is to help young people, especially those who need us most, build strong character and realize their full potential as responsible leaders. We do this by providing a safe haven filled with hope and opportunity, ongoing relationships with caring adults, and life-enhancing programs.

YOUNG PEOPLE WHO NEED US MOST

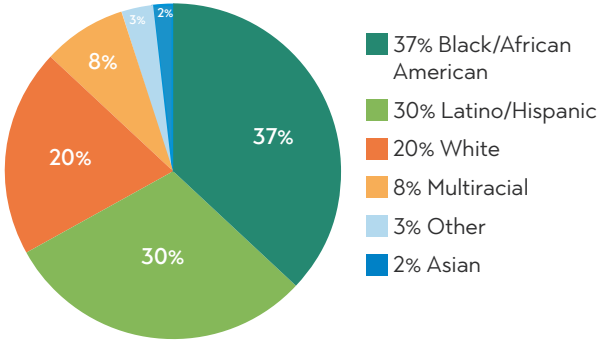


SERVING YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES

95% of BGCB members live in low or very low income households,¹ and 66% of BGCB families of four report an annual household income of \$53,000 or less.

RACE AND ETHNICITY OF YOUTH SERVED

80% of our members identify as a person of color.





“Whether it’s playing softball, Keystone Club, or the Native America Experiential Travel Program, I’ve learned so many new skills and made so many fun memories.”

- Leslie Alvarez, BGCB’s 2022 Youth of the Year

Pictured: Leslie with Omar Limas, Smith Family Teen Program Manager

CLUB EXPERIENCE

KEY ELEMENTS FOR POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

The Club experience is designed to help members reach their full potential. Research conducted by Boys & Girls Clubs of America indicates that Club members thrive when the Club ensures that safety, opportunities, recognition, and fun, supportive relationships are central to daily operations.

SAFETY

95% of members feel safe from harm at the Club.

FUN

97% of members say there are fun programs at the Club.

RECOGNITION

95% of members say Club staff encourage them when they make positive choices.

BELONGING

96% of members say people at the Club accept them for who they are.

SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS

98% of members say adults at the Club care about them.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

97% of members say adults at the Club believe they will succeed.

Watch 2022 Youth of the Year
Leslie’s Club tour and Q&A:



CLUB EXPERIENCE

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Our Clubs offer a balanced mix of innovative, effective programs established nationally by Boys & Girls Clubs of America, developed locally by BGCB staff, or delivered in collaboration with professional program partners. We provide high-impact activities and programs that teach **real skills, develop leadership qualities, and provide hope for the future.** The breadth of these programming opportunities extends from education, technology, and the arts, to leadership, health and wellness, life skills, fitness, and recreation.

Our program partners—including RISE, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston Medical Center, BlackRock, Babson College, and EY—help us consistently deliver high quality programming.

PRESIDENT’S INNOVATION FUND

The President’s Innovation Fund was established in 2006 under then-President & CEO Linda Whitlock to encourage innovative approaches to programming that support the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston. Proposals are evaluated

based on the following criteria: level of innovation, depth and breadth of impact, and potential for sustainability and to pivot to a virtual model.

This year, the awards are funding programs in social and life-skill development, technology, financial literacy, and the arts. **18** programs received more than **\$20,000** in financial support for their innovative and thoughtful applications.

Murray Bass is the recipient of the 2022 Dana Smith President’s Innovation Award, presented to the applicant whose submission received the highest score by the selection committee.

Murray’s “Yawkey Props” Drone Club teaches more than 50 members at Yawkey Club of Roxbury the basics of **drone technology and safety.** Through the use of flight simulators and clear instructions on basic flying maneuvers, members experience games, challenges, and fun. Members work independently and in teams to collaborate, strategize, and create their own drone courses.

BGCB partners with more than 185 community organizations to deliver enriching opportunities to members.

FORMULA FOR IMPACT

NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

+

CLUB EXPERIENCE

=

CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP



Proven Elements for Positive Youth Development

Intentional Programs + Activities

Regular Attendance

ACADEMIC + LIFE SUCCESS
Members gain the skills, knowledge, training, and education they need to pursue their goals and interests.

CHARACTER + COMMUNITY
Members develop healthy relationships with peers and adults while building character to be role models and leaders in their communities.

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT
Members learn to make and model healthy physical, social, and emotional choices.



YouthConnect

A RESOURCE TO RELY ON

Founded in 1996, YouthConnect is BGCB's violence prevention, intervention, and advocacy program that helps at-risk young people make positive life choices through **trusting relationships** with skilled and compassionate social workers.

Through an innovative partnership with the Boston Police Department, licensed staff are placed in police stations throughout Boston to work with youth referred to them by local officers.

YouthConnect's social workers **meet clients where they're at**, hosting sessions in schools, playgrounds, homes—wherever their client feels safest. During these sessions, social workers will address whatever the client needs, such as mental health

issues, safety concerns, trauma history, substance abuse, housing, and gang involvement.

- All sessions are **free, voluntary, and confidential**, empowering youth and families to choose to work with YouthConnect.
- In FY22, these social workers served **537** youth and more than **1,400** family members.

“ Young people are communicating to us every day that their needs aren't being met. My hope is that every young person knows that they matter, every young person experiences joy, every young person is safe.”

— Kevan Barton, Executive Director of YouthConnect

DID YOU KNOW?

Since its inception, YouthConnect has served more than **17,000** youth and families.

Hear from Davon, Annie, Kevan, and community leaders:

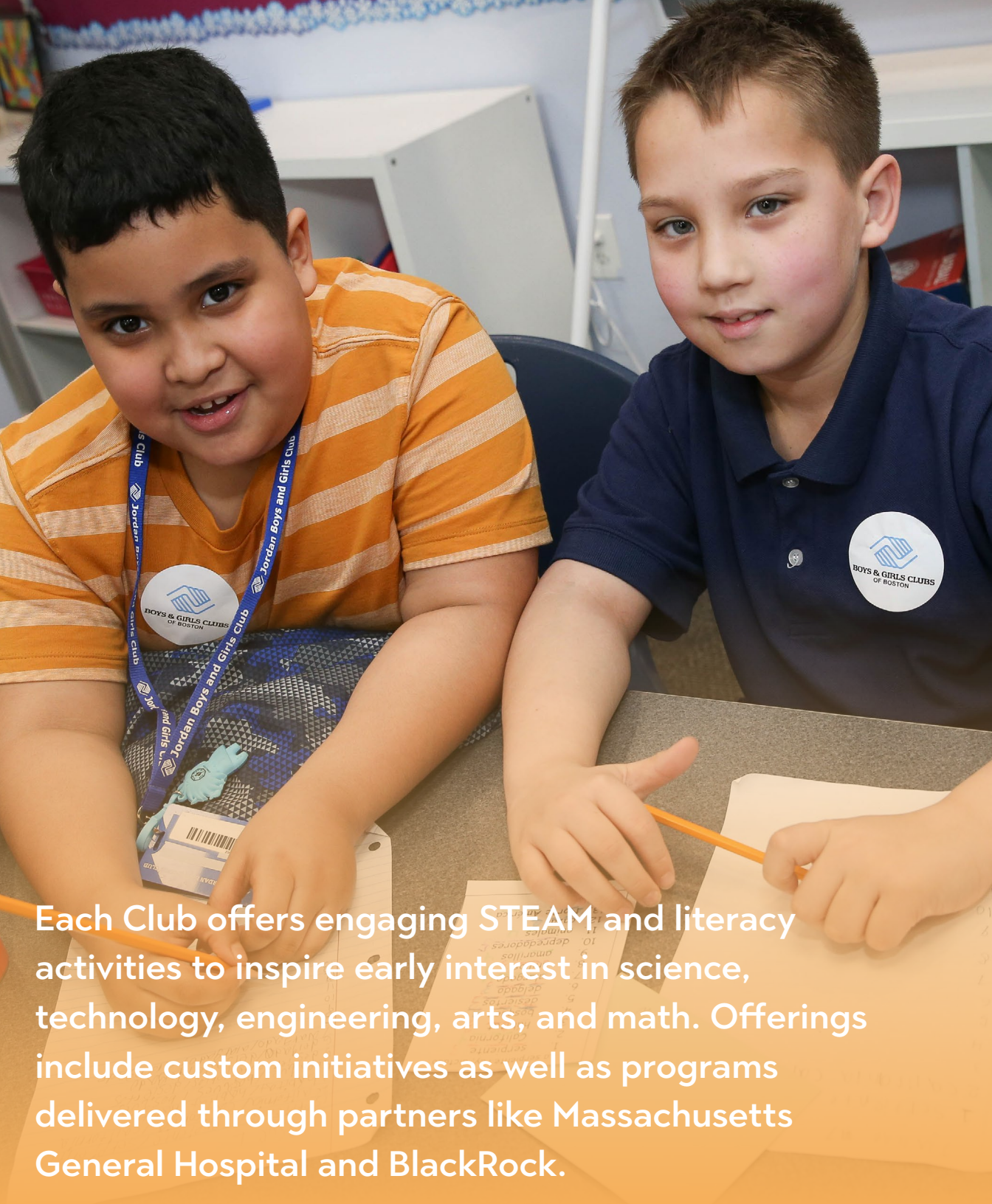


“ Annie knows how to make you feel important. Like you have a purpose.”

- Davon, YouthConnect client

Pictured: Davon with Annie Trainor, YouthConnect social worker





Each Club offers engaging STEAM and literacy activities to inspire early interest in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math. Offerings include custom initiatives as well as programs delivered through partners like Massachusetts General Hospital and BlackRock.

ACADEMIC & LIFE SUCCESS

BGCB equips members with the skills, knowledge, training, and education they need to pursue their goals and interests. We do this through homework help and tutoring, enriching learning activities and innovative programs, parental involvement, and collaboration with schools.

KEY PROGRAMS

- **Power Hour**, a homework-help program, encourages members to become self-directed learners through daily homework support and tutoring.
- **Targeted STEAM** (science, technology, engineering, art and math) and **literacy programs** are facilitated by BGCB staff based on Common Core education standards and 21st century skills.

BGCB'S RESULTS

- **95%** of 5th to 12th graders were at the expected grade level for their age.
- **97%** of BGCB seniors were on track to graduate from high school last spring. For comparison, Massachusetts' four-year graduation rate was 90%.²
- **86%** of our graduating seniors planned to attend college in the fall. The remaining graduating seniors planned to take a gap year, do YearUp, or join the military.
- **92%** of members say they enjoy learning new things.
- **27** scholarships were awarded this spring, totaling more than **\$237,000**.

DID YOU KNOW?

Participation in afterschool activities is associated with a wide range of academic outcomes including: ³⁻⁵

- Higher **educational aspirations**
- **Increased school attendance**
- **Lower drop-out rates** and greater on-time promotion

See BGCB's
customized
programming
in action:



CHARACTER & COMMUNITY

BGCB helps members develop healthy relationships with peers and adults, while building character to be role models and leaders in their communities. We do this by fostering a positive Club environment and offering targeted programs in which members build leadership skills, develop a sense of civic responsibility, and prepare for the future.

KEY PROGRAMS

- **Torch Club** members, ages 11 to 13, plan and implement activities in four areas: service to Club and community, education, health and fitness, and social recreation.
- Members ages 14 to 18 may apply to join BGCB’s **Keystone Club**, which is designed to impact participants in three areas: academic success, career preparation, and community service.

BGCB’S RESULTS

- **95%** of members say they try to help when they see people in need.
- **90%** of members say that if they are the leader of a group, they make sure that everyone in the group feels important.
- **90%** of members feel like they can stand up for what is right, even when their friends disagree.
- **86%** of members say that they have done things to help people in the community.
- **94%** of teenage members show respect to people with different beliefs, opinions, and cultures.

DID YOU KNOW?

Youth who volunteer are more likely to feel connected to their communities and, do better in school, and are less likely to engage in risky behavior.⁶

Hear from
**Nevaeh and
other Club
members:**



“I feel like I know what I want to be and I’m striving to be that, and the Club really helped a lot.”

- Nevaeh, member of BGCB’s Leadership Pipeline



“ I love eating the salads we grow at the Club. They taste way better because I made them myself.”

- Harlen, Gerald and Darlene Jordan Club member

Pictured: Tracey Marchetti, Culinary Program Manager at Gerald and Darlene Jordan Club and Edgerley Family South Boston Club alumna

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT

BGCB teaches members to make and model healthy physical, social, and emotional choices. Now more than ever, we're prioritizing mental wellness by hiring social workers across our sites. We provide safe spaces for members to practice healthy decision making, participate in physical activities, and engage in programming designed to promote social-emotional wellbeing.

KEY OFFERINGS

- Nutritious meals and snacks
- Cooking classes
- Monthly wellness workshops
- Hygiene and healthy decision-making workshops
- Social work resources
- Life skills programming
- Age-specific fitness programming
- Sports leagues
- Swim lessons and swim team
- Club gardens

BGCB'S RESULTS

- **92%** of members say they understand how their feelings influence actions.
- **90%** of members say they can think of different ways to solve a problem.
- **93%** of teens say they know what a healthy meal looks like, and **89%** say that they know how to prepare their own meals.
- **93%** of members say that when something important goes wrong in their life, they try to figure out how to do better next time.
- BGCB is committed to serving our members fresh produce, whole grains, and minimally-processed proteins. We served nearly **200,000** healthy meals and snacks during FY22.
- Each of our five freestanding Clubs has a state-of-the-art pool and a dedicated aquatics director. **325** members learned to swim in FY22.

DID YOU KNOW?

BGCB planted eight hydroponic gardens in partnership with Atlas Urban Farms, with staff finding creative ways to incorporate them into the fabric of daily life at the Club.

Read more about Harlen and Tracey:



PREPARING OUR TEENS FOR THE FUTURE

Life After the Club is BGCB's multi-faceted strategy designed to help ensure members ages 13–18 have goals for their post-Club lives, plans for how to achieve them, and the resources needed to be successful adults. Members learn and practice an array of skills, including financial literacy, self-care, planning for college, applying for financial aid, learning to drive, voting, and more.

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READY TO WORK

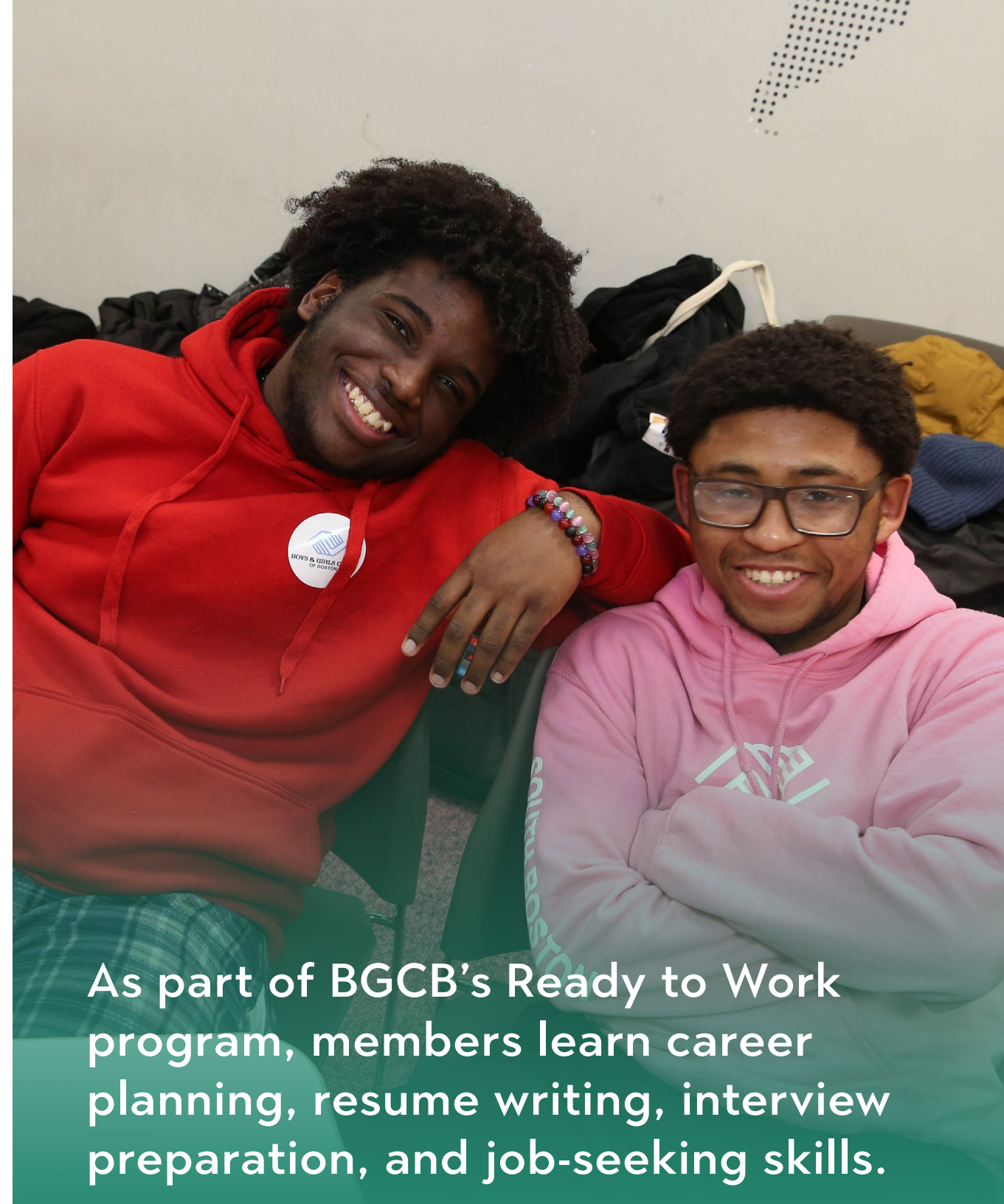
BGCB's **Ready to Work** initiative equips teens through programming that focuses on a range of skills and employment opportunities. These employment opportunities include the Teen Associate program, the Teamworks program, technical training and apprenticeships, and summer internships at locations throughout Boston. Members learn career planning, resume writing, interview preparation, and job seeking skills.

BGCB'S RESULTS

- **370** teens and recent alumni secured jobs or internships via BGCB in FY22, a testament to BGCB's members and partners during the global health crisis.
- **90%** of teenage members have identified a career they would like to pursue. The top three areas of interest are business and management, arts, and healthcare.
- **97%** of 10th-12th graders have had opportunities to develop job skills, including **83%** who have had a job or internship.
- **70%** of 11th and 12th graders participated in a career exploration program at the Club.
- This past year, our seniors planned to attend **35+** different colleges.
- **83%** of teens report that they expect to pursue postsecondary education (junior or trade school or 4-year degree).

“**Ready to Work is about matching our teens' passions to their pathways. Whatever that may look like, we're just here to meet them where they are at.**”

– Jen Medina, Dana Smith Director of Workforce Readiness



As part of BGCB's Ready to Work program, members learn career planning, resume writing, interview preparation, and job-seeking skills.

ENDNOTES

¹ United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2022). FY2022 Income Limits Documentation System. Retrieved from huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html.

² Massachusetts Department of Secondary and Elementary Education. (2022). Cohort 2022 Graduation Rates. Retrieved from profiles.doe.mass.edu/grad/grad_report.aspx?orgcode=00000000&orgtypecode=0&.

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⁵ Springer, K., & Diffily, D. (2012). The relationship between intensity and breadth of after-school program participation and academic achievement: Evidence from a short-term longitudinal study. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 40(7), 785–798. doi:10.1002/jcop.21478.

⁶ Grimm, R., Dietz, N., Spring, K., Arey, K., & Foster-Bey, J. (2005). Building active citizens: The role of social institutions in teen volunteering. Washington, DC: Corporation for National and Community Service. Retrieved from files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED493617.pdf.



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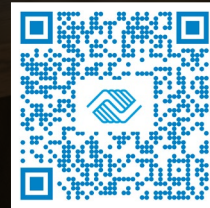


BGCBoston



BoysAndGirlsClubsofBoston

**MAKE AN INVESTMENT
in the Commonwealth's
future leaders**



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