



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS  
OF THE TWIN CITIES

# GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC AFFAIRS



## YOUTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Much is underway in Public Affairs! Our plan is in action to renew the Youth Workforce Development Initiative grant through DEED.

We have set a goal to double our grant from \$1.5 million over two years ago to \$3 million! This requires lots of strategy from the MN Alliance members--and community support from people like you.

We will be sending requests for our supporters to submit an email of support for this funding to their legislators on our behalf. Please help us with this task!



## TEEN PATHWAYS: INTERNSHIPS

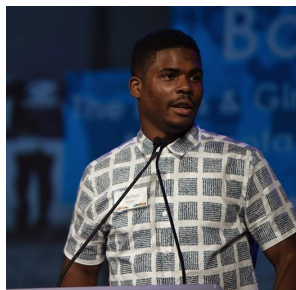
As part of Teen Pathways and in preparation for our annual Youth Day at the Capitol, we officially launched our Public Affairs Internship recruiting. Seven youth from the Mt. Airy and East Side Clubs were invited to attend a movie viewing of *Hidden Figures* followed by a lively political and social commentary over pizza. Guided by Haile Tegegne, our Public Affairs Coordinator, our youth had quite a lot to say about how the movie affected them and how their lives remain challenged by some of the same aspects addressed by the theme of the movie.

We think they will have strong voices for us as they begin to hone their public speaking skills for upcoming legislative sessions and hearings at the state capitol.

If you would like to participate in our legislative process, please contact:

**Lori Peterson**, Sr. Director of Public Affairs

by calling 651-200-4113 or by emailing [LPeterson@bgc-tc.org](mailto:LPeterson@bgc-tc.org).



# FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS



## THANK YOU, ALLIANZ FOUNDATION!

We would like to offer a HUGE thank you to Allianz Foundation for providing

**\$50,000**

in funding for Teen Pathways!

## TEEN PATHWAYS PROGRAM

There is interesting data to support this program's goal. The Teen Pathways program is designed to give disconnected youth the opportunities that they need—and deserve—in order to become productive, caring, and responsible citizens. This not only benefits themselves as individuals, but also their communities.

In 2015, the Pohlad Family Foundation and Wilder Research partnered in order to assess the need specific to the Twin Cities community's disconnected youth. In the 7-county metro, Wilder Research used a 5-year estimate to gauge the total number of disconnected youth.

They found that **approximately 31,803 youth are disconnected from opportunities**. Of these youth, those who are people of color experience disconnection at nearly 3 times that of their white peers. Some of the communities that the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities serve are the communities that will benefit most from this strategic, teen focused programming.

The study goes on to say that, "A 20-year old disconnected youth can expect to earn \$392,070 less throughout their lifetime, impose a net tax-burden of \$235,680, and cost the community a total of \$704,020." From a financial standpoint alone, when looking at ROI, if only one currently disconnected teen becomes connected as a result of this program, then it will be successful. Imagine the comprehensive impact of over 200 youth being given opportunities they need to success in life following high school.

In addition to this financial impact, we also capitalize on the youths' optimism and energy. This enables them to dream big; and to see themselves as community organizers, youth workers, legislators, lawyers, artists, police officers, physicians, and nurses.

## BEST BUY CAPITAL GRANT



We have recently applied for a new Best Buy Capital Grant to create a state-of-the-art Teen Tech Center at the Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club. If we are awarded, it not only will enhance our ability to provide high quality tech learning for our members, but will also attract other teens to the Club. Another result should we be funded is the opportunity for increased ongoing support from Best Buy to sustain the center and increase staffing.



## STEM PROGRAM

### East Side Boys & Girls Club

This month, we began working with the WeDo 2.0 set and the Chromebooks. The kids were highly engaged in the lessons where they got to build motorized lego models. It was great to see all of the teamwork and problem solving that went on during these lessons!



## WNBA FIT CLINIC

### Jerry Gamble Boys & Girls Club

On March 14, 2017, the Jerry Gamble Boys & Girls Club hosted the WNBA Fit Clinic presented by Kaiser Permanente. This event also featured special guest speaker Lindsay Whalen of the MN Lynx, who conducted a basketball clinic and held a leadership talk to youth from the Jerry Gamble and Olson Beacon sites.

Youth had a great time engaging in the “Total Health Station” where they learned dribbling, passing, shooting, and defending; as well as participating in physical exercises that included speed, agility ladders, hurdles, and a shuttle run. Kaiser Permanente staff also spent time speaking to youth about the importance of developing listening skills, self-control, cooperation, and teamwork.





# PROGRAM UPDATE



## STEM PROJECT

### Southside Village Boys & Girls Club

While the Southside Village Club is housed in a Minneapolis Parks & Recreation building, we are rarely able to partner with the MPRB. This month marked the first programming partnership with the MPRB in quite some time. The partnership is focused on teaching our Club members about nature and the eco-system through the Naturalist program. Our first visit included learning about reptile hibernation, and the instructor even brought a turtle!



## SMART GIRLS FROM THE POWERFUL HEALING TRADITION

### Little Earth Boys & Girls Club

Last Thursday, we had an elder come in and speak to our SMART Girls about bear bundles. Though the girls were too young to make their own bundles, they learned why it was important to let go of things and how to deal with stress. Our elder also gave them a deeper understanding about why we go to Full Moon Ceremonies (women's ceremony) and how women are viewed as the water protectors of the Earth. The girls got to ask questions and were surprisingly attentive during the entire discussion. The girls were respectful and excited to gain this cultural knowledge!



## GOALS FOR GROWTH - FIND YOUR FIT



### Patrick Henry Beacon Boys & Girls Club

Over the past several weeks we have been facilitating Find Your Fit sessions with our Goals for Growth group. This group is particularly quiet (mostly introverts, which is always unsettling for an extroverted facilitator), so we weren't quite sure if they were actually learning anything from these Find Your Fit sessions.

One afternoon, as we were wrapping up a session on Values-- when we were certain that we had completely lost them. We had attempted to explain personal values and career values several different ways. We still felt like they were not really taking the bait. Feeling slightly defeated, we started heading back to the office after the end of session, when six scholars flagged us down the hall. "Wait, Ms. India and Ms. Amy! I just wanted to thank you for speaking to us today about our values. I never really thought about how the things I believe in relate to my interests or possible career choices and why they mean so much. It makes sense now." That was EXACTLY what we were hoping for at the end of session!







## KEYSTONE PROJECT

### East Side Boys & Girls Club

Eastside teen members steered the keystone project. The purpose of this project was to set up a Dialogue Series with Law Enforcement to promote dialogue and understanding between teens and law enforcement. It was/is designed as a way teens at our Clubs can interact with local law enforcement to collaborate and encourage positive relationships and community-building. Through discussion, increasing awareness, understanding and respect, this teen-led dialog served as an open conversation and first step towards strengthening the relationships between our teens and law enforcement. About 8 keystone members lead the planning of these dialogues, 34 teen members participated in the dialogue and about 72 service hours was accounted for.



## GROVES LITERACY

### Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club

Molly Barrett, Communications Coordinator, was able to spend two weeks teaching literacy to our STARS at the Mt. Airy Boys & Girls Club. To ease groups into working with a new adult, Molly has been making the learning very game focused, and has come up with a few great ideas that are reading centered, and fun for the kids without causing so much commotion that they are distracting each other.

**Heads Up Game:** This is an app that costs a few dollars, but works really well for our content. To use it you need to pay an extra dollar to make your own "deck" but then you can load your own word lists.

This is great because it promotes repeated reading of word lists, and students don't have to sit and wait because multiple players can be reading the words simultaneously. The kids were begging to play this again.

**Word Search Game:** Molly also made some word searches using word lists. Students read a word list from the top of the page first (we guided them to support accuracy) then they went on to the word search. The thing that was great about this, is that they read the words over and over again as they searched, putting on tons of repetitions. We were also giving a lot of hints to make sure it stayed fun and kept moving!

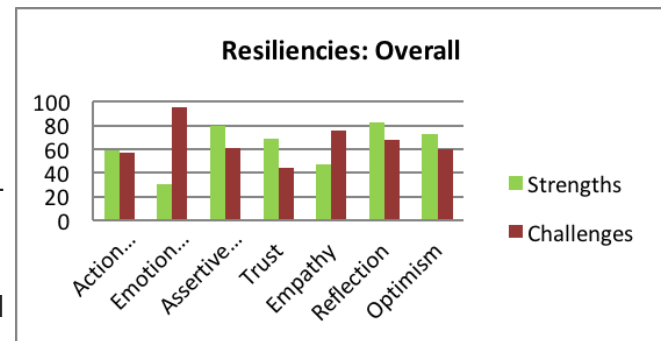
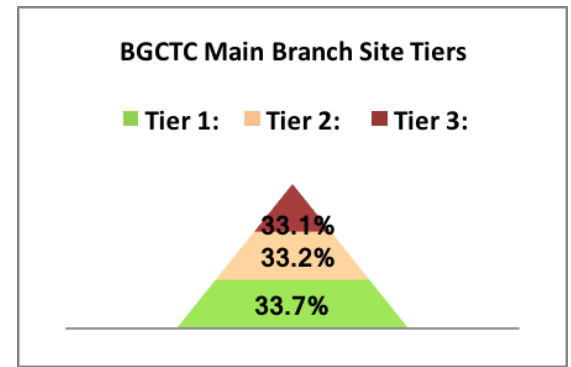


# PROGRAM UPDATE

## Integrating Program Quality in Programming

### Social Emotional Learning Framework

For FY17, BGCTC embarked on a journey to add consistency and intentionality in our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) programming. With the help of Harvard University's PEAR Institute, we conducted an initial "Holistic Student Assessment" (HSA) of our Club's youth members key SEL indicators in November 2016. The goal of this assessment was to better understand the SEL development stages of young people and how life experiences affect those developments. As shown on Tiers graph, two thirds of our youth club members are in Tier 3: higher emotional needs; and Tier 2: moderated emotional need. The Resiliencies chart shows areas where our Club members have challenges and, more importantly, the strengths they bring into the programming. By knowing the SEL of our youth clubs, we are now better equipped with essential information to redesign and design programming with purpose and intentionality to meet the SEL needs of youth Club members as well as maximize their individual learning experiences.



## Strategic Implementation Plan

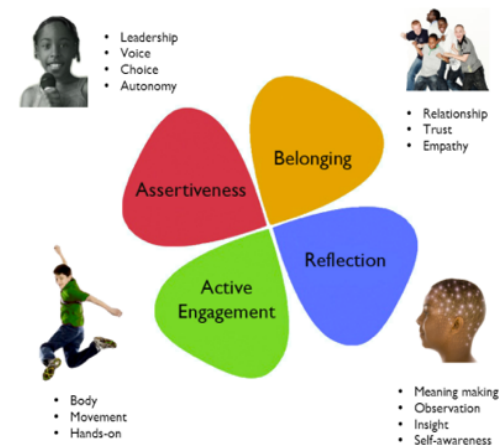
The Holistic Student Assessment tool provides the program staff with a better understanding of the SEL needs of each individual youth and each individual age group. This understanding guides us to better plan for targeted intervention strategies in order to maximize the learning experience of all youth club members.

Staff are being trained to learn how to:

- **Interpret HSA portrait of each individual youth and age groups**
- **Learn/identify appropriate interventions**
- **Design program structure and process to develop a climate for success.**

With the support of SPROCKETS and PEAR Institute, all Club sites have participated in the interpretation sessions of the Holistic Students Assessment portraits of their respective youth Club members. The next step is to learn and identify appropriate interventions to meet the SEL needs of members.

The final step is to design program structure and process to develop and maintain best practices that drive successful SEL youth outcomes in all BGCTC programs. To achieve this goal while maximizing staff learning, we have established strategic program staff meetings across all Club departments. This structure will ensure that we are building a community of learning among our BGCTC staff as well as making the learning consistent and uniform across all club sites.



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## SPRING THAW

### NET PROFITS

**2017: \$75,000**

**2016: \$71,000**

**2015: \$62,000**

### SILENT & LIVE AUCTION

**2017: \$39,000**

**2016: \$34,000**

**2015: \$26,000**

### DONATIONS

**2017: \$12,500**

**2016: \$4,800**

**2015: \$3,900**

### ATTENDEES

**2017: 605**

**2016: 520**

**2015: 425**



This was an exciting year for Spring Thaw, as it has continued to grow to over 600 attendees! Spring Thaw took place on Saturday, March 4, 2017 at International Market Square in Minneapolis.

The event was filled with excitement and class with a live performance by Consolation Champ during the cocktail hour, over 150 amazing silent auction items, engaging youth performances, live auction, and a delicious meal followed by a DJ dance party.

Spring Thaw is presented by the Associate Board, whose goal each year is to increase engagement and awareness of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities with young professionals in the community. This year at Spring Thaw, the Associate Board introduced a variety of new people and companies to the organization and raised \$75,000 for the Clubs!

The Associate Board is a thriving and motivated group of young professionals looking to give back to their communities. In 2016 alone, the Associate Board volunteered over 1,600 hours with the Clubs!



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## KNICKER OPEN

The Knicker Open will take place this year on **Monday, July 17, 2017** at the Minnesota Valley Country Club. We are excited to host another Knicker Open at this beautiful golf course located in Bloomington, MN.

The Knicker Open had an amazing year in 2016, selling out all of the foursomes! In 2016, we also celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Knicker Open and hosted a dinner with Aaron Stewart, the son of Payne Stewart, at Hazeltine Golf Club.

We hope to continue the excitement this year as we work on selling sponsorship foursomes once again!

If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship, visit [www.knickeropen.org](http://www.knickeropen.org). If you have any interest in being part of the planning committee, contact Alex Westman at [awestman@bgc-tc.org](mailto:awestman@bgc-tc.org).

## FOR THE KIDS!

For the Kids! will be held at the Depot in downtown Minneapolis on **Saturday, November 11, 2017**.

This year, we will be celebrating *100 Years of Service* in the Clubs by honoring our Branch Directors with the Legacy Award. We are so excited to look at the history and dedication our staff have put into the Clubs during their time serving the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities.

The evening will be filled with celebration as we host an amazing silent and live auction, hear from our Youth of the Year speaker, experience performances from our youth, and more!

We hope that we can surpass our achievement of \$500,000 raised in 2016, but we need YOUR help! If you would like to purchase a table/sponsorship, or contribute any auction items, please contact Alex Westman at [awestman@bgc-tc.org](mailto:awestman@bgc-tc.org).



# SPECIAL EVENTS

## KIDS IN THE CITY

The 13th Annual Kids in the City will take place on **Tuesday, May 2, 2017.**

Guests will enjoy celebrating our FOX Sports North All-Stars at our Fulton Brewery Tailgate Party featuring a happy hour, silent auction, tailgate games, Buffalo Wild Wings, and a Youth of the Year presentation by Mr. Anaa Jibicho.

The Boys & Girls Clubs will be spotlighted throughout the night, as guests watch the Twins take on the Oakland Athletics from the Skyline Deck at Target Field.

If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship please visit [www.boyandgirls.org/kidsinthecity](http://www.boyandgirls.org/kidsinthecity), or if you have any questions about this event, please reach out to Carryn Schram at [Cschram@bgc-tc.org](mailto:Cschram@bgc-tc.org)

## GRAND SLAM DINNER

We are pleased to announce that the Grand Slam Dinner will be held on **Sunday, August 6, 2017** at The Capital Grille in Minneapolis.

The event will be hosted by Brian & Renee Dozier and features members of the Minnesota Twins family, past and present, as servers in benefit of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Twin Cities.

This fun event begins with a cocktail reception and silent auction followed by a delicious three course dinner served by current and former Minnesota Twins. The evening will also consist of an engaging program, exciting live auction, and the chance to win autographed aprons from the players themselves!

If you are interested in purchasing a sponsorship or tickets for this event please visit [www.boysandgirls.org/grandslam](http://www.boysandgirls.org/grandslam).

If you have additional questions please reach out to Carryn Schram at [Cschram@bgc-tc.org](mailto:Cschram@bgc-tc.org)

