



The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha Annual Report

2024

Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha is a youth guidance organization dedicated to promoting health, social, educational, vocational, cultural, character and leadership development.

Message From the CEO

Dear Club Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude and pride in the work we've accomplished together at the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha. The number of youth relying on our services continues to grow year over year, a testament to the vital role the Club plays in our community. This growth is only possible because of your unwavering generosity and support.

Thanks to you, every young person who walks through our doors has had access to daily snacks and meals they could count on, even as grocery bills soared and budgets were stretched thin. Your partnership ensured that youth had caring adult mentors to guide them—mentors who helped build their confidence, navigate challenges, and inspire them to pursue their dreams. In a year filled with challenges, you chose to prioritize the next generation, recognizing that they are our future and our hope.

Your dedication makes it possible for our youth to dream big and achieve even bigger. Whether enhancing their technology skills in the Teen Tech Center, staying active with sports and recreation, exploring creativity through art projects, or enjoying a healthy meal each evening, our members are building skills and behaviors that prepare them for a lifetime of success.

We know the hours after school are critical. Across the country, one in four children leaves school with nowhere to go, putting them at risk of being unsupervised and unsafe. At the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, we remain committed to ensuring that no child in our community is left without hope and opportunity. Together, we're doing whatever it takes to ensure every young person has the chance to realize their full potential.

It is an honor to serve the youth of Kenosha and to witness their transformation through the impact-driven programs we offer. Because of friends like you, there is nothing they cannot achieve. Thank you for being a vital part of our mission and for believing in great futures for all youth.



OUR MISSION

To impact the most young people possible, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

Sincerely,
Tara M Panasewicz

Our Footprint

For over 30 years, the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha has been committed to empowering youth, teens, and families in our community. We provide programs and services that emphasize safety, health, dignity, and equitable opportunities, ensuring every young person has access to the tools and resources they need to reach their full potential, no matter their background or circumstances.

Our mission is to create a welcoming space where every member feels safe, valued, and empowered, with the confidence that their voice matters. Now more than ever, we are dedicated to being mentors and advocates for our youth, working tirelessly to build a stronger, more inclusive community where opportunity is within reach for all.



My family doesn't see the value in education since they have all been raised in the street life. Over the last five years, my family has had to bury 5 family members because of living the street life.

I want to change the narrative. I am staying focused on my goals, which are, get good grades (all A's and B's), graduate from high school, go on to college, graduate and bring my mother back a college degree.

I've gone from having the expectation of being the next family member to join the street life to making it to school every day, turning in class work on time, having a consistent job (working 5-6 days a week), now driving with a license, back on track to graduate on time, and being accepted by colleges and universities.

This is what's possible when you have a Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha in your community. I aspire to be a Graduation Coordinator at the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha one day if the position becomes available when I graduate. I promise to pour back into our Kenosha community."

Be Great: Graduate/Teen Center Member

Over 18,380 youth were served in 2024

100% of seniors in the Club's teen center graduated high school in 2024

27,458 meals were served to our members in 2024

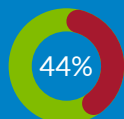
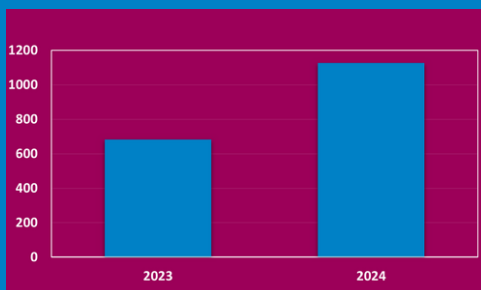
An average of 296 youth attended the Club on a daily basis

328 community members volunteered their time in 2024

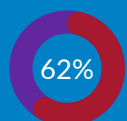
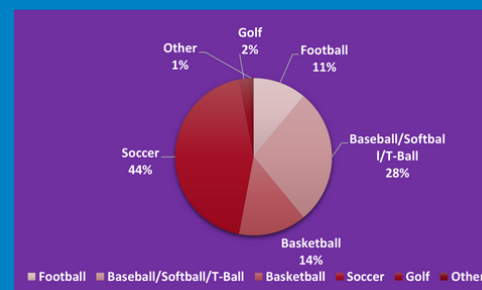
Year at a Glance



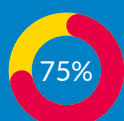
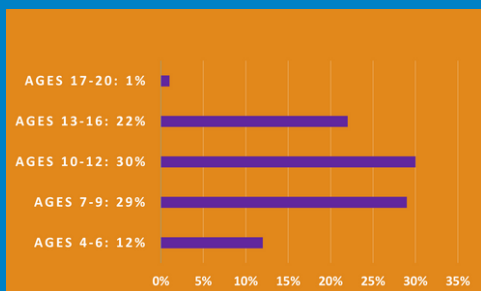
The number of youth from single parent households increased over 49% from 2023.



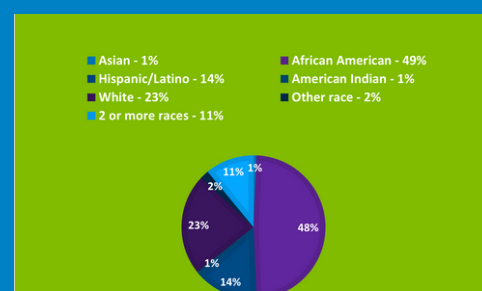
The number of youth that participated in BGC Sports programs increased 4% with 44% engaged in soccer.



The number of teen youth members increased by 62% from 2023 due to the new driver's education program.



Over 75% of Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha members come from diverse ethnic backgrounds.



“My experience being at the Club is good because they help us learn and we can do activities like Majorette, basketball, soccer, and cheer. They give us treats like ice cream, cookies, donuts, and other things.”

Na'shaya W., age 10, Frank Elementary



Youth/Tween Centers

Affordable after-school programs are vital to the success of youth and their families, and transportation to these programs is equally important. For many low-income families, transportation can be a significant barrier. The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha helps address this challenge by providing transportation to the Club from 9 local elementary schools.

Once at the Club, youth gain access to a variety of enriching activities, including homework help, mentorship, games, exercise, and a nutritious dinner. This not only offers a safe, supportive space for kids after school but also ensures they receive a healthy meal that many may not otherwise have access to.

However, demand for these services is high, and there is currently a waiting list for bus rides. With your continued support, we can work to expand these critical services, ensuring that even more youth in our community can thrive.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

86%

The Club partnered with Sylvan Learning Center to deliver individualized tutoring to youth members. 86% of participants increased their reading test scores by an average of 51% by the end of the 2023-2024 school year.

93%

Of the youth members participating in the MyFuture program reported learning at least one new skill in Arts, Leadership, or STEM.

87%

After completing the Triple Play Healthy Habits program, 87% of youth reported making healthier eating choices.

Sylvan Tutoring Program

Sponsored by



The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, with sponsorship from Jockey, partners with Sylvan Learning to provide high-quality tutoring and literacy support for young students. This program offers individualized instruction to develop essential reading skills, build confidence, and promote academic success.

A standout success story features a third-grade student who struggled to read even the first sentence of an assessment passage in October. After three months of dedicated Sylvan instruction, she read an entire 100-word passage in just 2 minutes and 44 seconds by March, showcasing the transformative power of this program.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

90%

Of youth members increased their sight word recognition by the end of the program year.

150%

Increase in youth member's listening comprehension.

88%

Of youth increased proper use of letters and punctuation.



Teen Center

The CLUB at the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha is a dedicated space designed especially for teens aged 13-18, providing them with a safe and welcoming environment where they can be themselves after school.

Whether exploring sports, arts, volunteerism, or academic pursuits, The CLUB offers teens a variety of resources and programs to help create meaningful experiences today and prepare a plan for the future.

Teens at The CLUB participate in impactful programs such as Diplomas2Degrees, Career Launch, Money Matters, and Power Hour, all aimed at building essential life skills. They can also engage in leadership opportunities through the Keystone Club and Youth of the Year programs.

Additionally, The CLUB offers a driver's license program, which integrates financial literacy as a required component, teaching teens the importance of budgeting and financial responsibility as they prepare for this important milestone.

For many teens, The CLUB is more than just a program – it's a home away from home, where they can grow, thrive, and prepare for bright futures ahead.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

88%

After participating in the Healthy Habits program, 88% of teen members report understanding that their choices now affect their future health.

86%

Of Club teens that participated in the Diplomas2Degrees program reported actively working towards the goals in their plan created to graduate high school and prepare for either post-secondary education and/or career success.

100%

Of Club seniors graduated high school in 2023-2024 school year.

Youth of the YEAR

Talib Y., a junior at Harborside Academy, has been named the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha's 2024 Youth of the Year. Talib was recognized for his remarkable resilience, positive mindset, and strong work ethic—both academically and personally—as he strives to grow and learn. Reflecting on his journey, Talib says, “When you express your opinion, you have the act of saying what you think or showing how you feel using your own words.” He credits his mentor, Gary, for helping him unlock his potential. “Gary saw something exceptional in me and gave me opportunities to grow into a strong and moral adult. He offered field trips, my first job, and even helped my family by delivering meals, driving me to school, and caring about my future. He’s changed my family’s life, and I’m proud to call him a friend.”

WHAT IS A YOUTH OF THE YEAR?

The Youth of the Year is a role model, leader and advocate for the youth members served by Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha each year

Talib didn't know what to expect when he joined the Boys & Girls Club, but it has become a transformative part of his life. The Club taught him to make positive decisions, develop communication skills, and embrace responsibility, self-awareness, and his true potential. Inspired by his experiences, Talib is committed to helping his community and continuing the mission of selflessness and determination he learned at the Club.



The Arts



The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha's arts programming strives to provide every member with opportunities to explore and engage in a diverse range of creative activities. We celebrate the creativity and self-expression of our youth, recognizing the arts as a powerful outlet for personal growth and emotional well-being. Whether picking up a pen, a paintbrush, a musical instrument, or a slab of clay, members use the arts to navigate challenges, express joy, and unleash their imagination—building skills that contribute to their journey toward becoming confident, productive adults.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

5

Five new arts programs were introduced in 2024 including photography, choir, sewing, jewelry making, and summer arts with Carthage College students.

93%

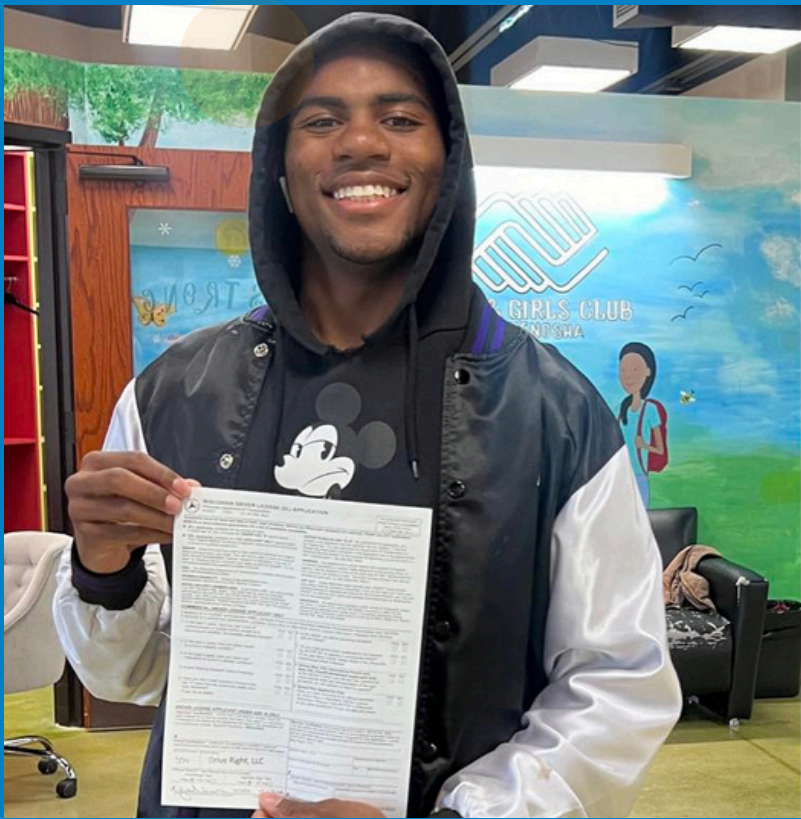
Of youth members feel the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha's arts program helps them express themselves in healthy ways.

12

With the support of the Natalie Lee and Shirley Madrigano Arts Foundation, the Club highlighted 12 of our amazing youth artists from our Teen Center on a monthly basis through the newly created Arts Member of the Month program. This initiative culminated in the selection of a new Arts Member of the Year, Josiah, recognizing his outstanding creativity and dedication.

New Programs

In 2024, the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha launched new initiatives to support youth academically and personally. The Teen Driver's Education Program not only provides driving instruction but also requires teens to complete Career Launch and Financial Literacy classes, equipping them with career and money management skills. With Aurora Health Care sponsoring the Basic Needs Closet, 13 additional companies contributed this year. Additionally, the Aurora Health Care sponsored Basic Needs Closet helps remove barriers to success by providing essentials like school supplies, hygiene products, and laundry detergent through a private, dignified system. These programs empower youth to focus on their futures with confidence and support.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

88

A total of 88 youth successfully earned their driver's permits, gaining essential skills for independence and future opportunities.

176

Total hours of Career Launch and Financial Literacy programming completed as part of the Driver's Education program.

13

With Aurora Health Care sponsoring, 13 additional companies contributed to the Club's Basic Needs Closet this year. More than 65 youth accessed essential items, including hygiene products, school supplies, clothing, and non-perishable food.

Prevention & Outreach

Youth ages 14-21 gain valuable work experience and develop critical skills by engaging in various fields across Kenosha County. The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) includes a mandatory educational component designed to enhance each participant's growth and success. Additionally, 85 youth involved in the Club's Gang Prevention Program earned a 1/2 credit toward graduation through the Kenosha Unified School District, highlighting the program's impact on academic and personal development.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

111

Disadvantaged youths worked an average of 22 hours/week for 8 weeks.

88%

Youth in the Club's Gang Prevention Program maintained or decreased their gang risk assessment score.

90%

Decrease in juvenile arrests since program inception.

Sports & Scamps

We're committed to delivering great sport and athletic opportunities to all kids and adults looking for quality and affordable programming close to home. Our mission is to promote sportsmanship, healthy lifestyles and team building, while providing a safe and positive environment for competition.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

9

BGC Sports offered 3 afterschool sports programming to 9 local schools. This is a free program for these students so they can participate without any cost barriers.

20%

BGC Sports provided almost \$28,117 in discounted rates to low-income participants so they could participate in a sport of their choice. This is a 20% increase from 2023.



“The coaches and staff do a great job at building confidence in their athletes. I’ve witnessed so much growth in Alessandra over the past few years and I’m very grateful and excited for the journey we’re on here at Scamps.”

*Parent of Alessandra, 9yrs old Scamps Xcel
Bronze Athlete*

Onsite After School Programming

The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha aims to provide a meaningful after school opportunity to every youth in Kenosha, assuring success is within the reach of every person who enters our doors. We'll keep members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, while demonstrating good character, and living a healthy lifestyle.

Why We Care

- Wisconsin has the largest racial achievement gap among students in the country
- Juvenile crime escalates between 3pm to 7pm
- 3 out of 10 children are obese or overweight
- 3 out of 5 Club members live in poverty

72% of Club members believe they can make a difference in Kenosha

51% of Club youth have expressed an interest in a STEM career

86% of Club teens expect to attend college

We provide targeted programs relevant to youth today

- STEM, Literacy, & Math Skills
- Career & Workforce Development
- Leadership, Values, & Character

“

The first time I came to the Club I was shy. I am happy I joined. I love it here because we have fun and during the holiday we got gifts. We eat good, we have sports. I love soccer and we have it. They have good coaches and they help me learn. We go outside and play games. Sometimes we get good treats.”

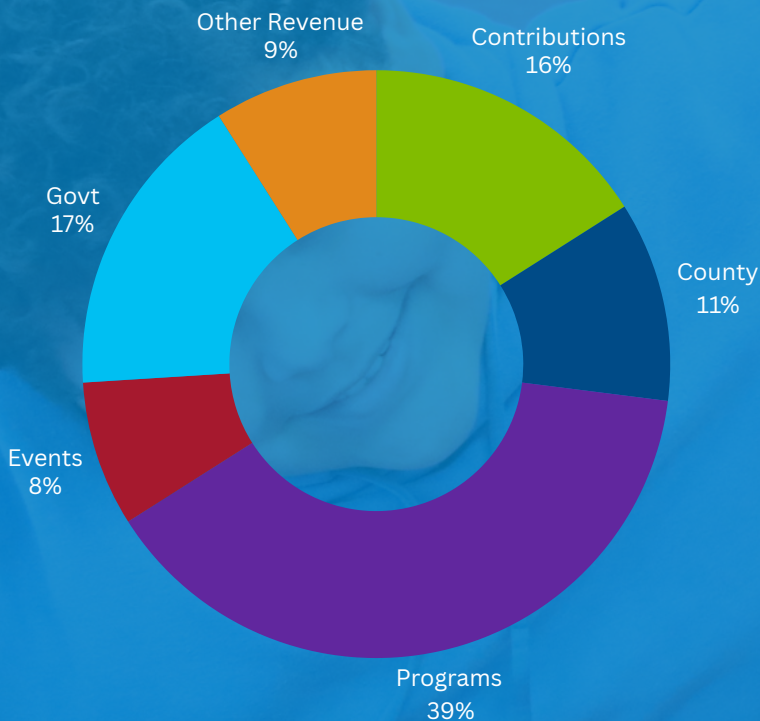
Nova C., 10 years old, Frank Elementary



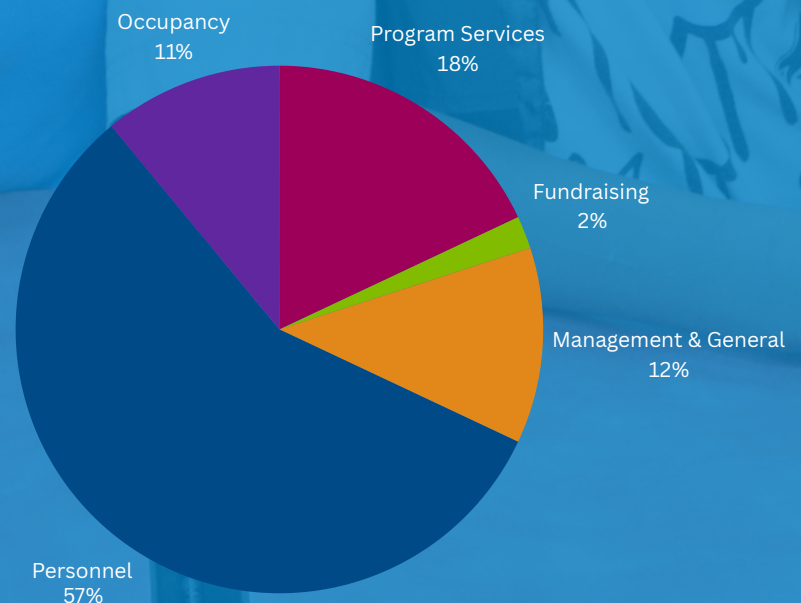
Financials

The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha has been serving youth in low-income, distressed areas of the city for over 30 years, providing after-school programming at the Troha Center. It costs the Club \$600 per month to provide services for one youth member, while an annual membership is just \$20—and teen memberships are free. However, securing funding to sustain these vital programs is becoming increasingly challenging. With your help, we will continue to provide life-changing services and empower youth to reach their full potential.

REVENUE



EXPENSES



Future Greatness Begins with Future Planning

At the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, our donors are the heart of our mission, empowering the next generation and shaping great futures for local youth.

Each year, we provide a safe and supportive environment for over 18,380 young people, giving them the tools, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive.

We recognize that giving is a deeply personal choice. That's why we're here to help you find a donation option that aligns with your philanthropic goals. Together, we can create brighter futures for Kenosha's youth.

Join us in making a difference. Donate today!

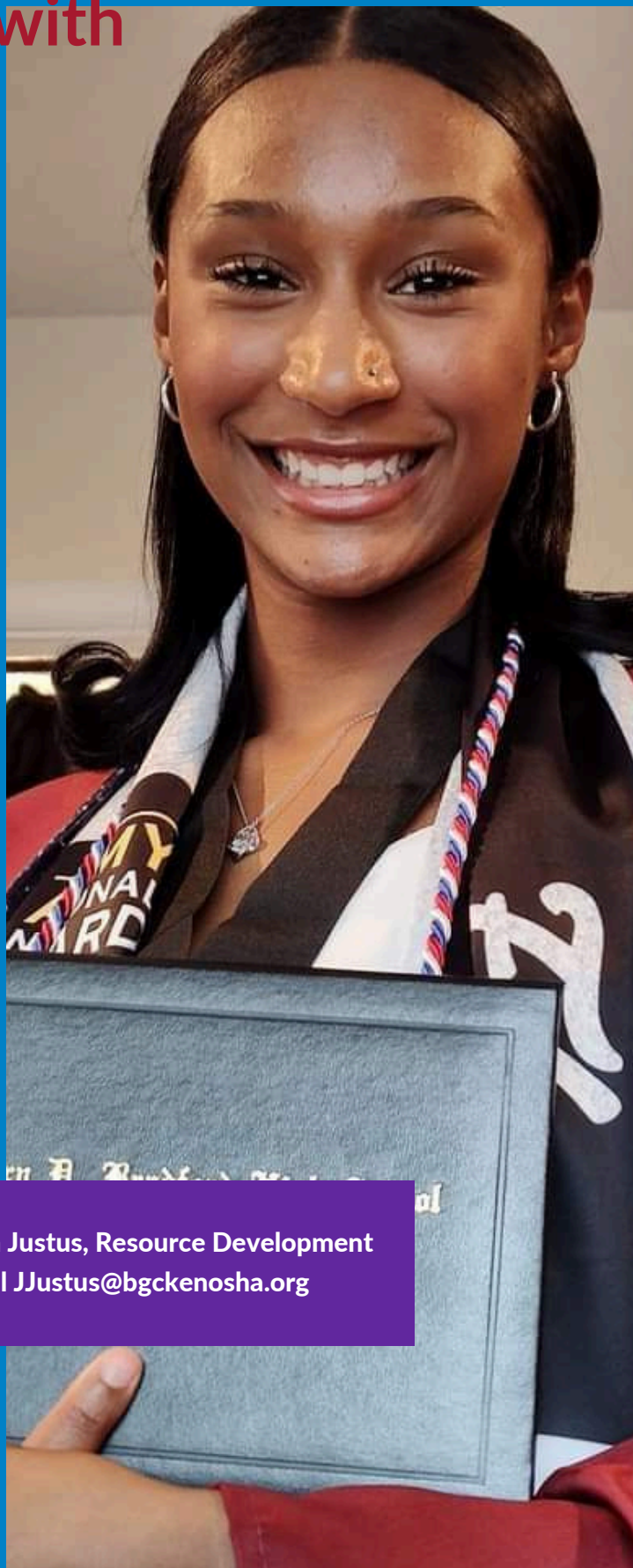
CREATE YOUR PLAN

What plan is best for you? We can help you explore a variety of planned gift options (including stocks, real estate, insurance, and more) to help maximize your tax benefits as well as the impact on our mission for future generations.



For more information, please contact Jason Justus, Resource Development Coordinator, at 262.653.7302 or email JJustus@bgckenosha.org

Whether you give a gift, sponsor an event, or volunteer, you'll be putting opportunity in the hands of youth in Kenosha County. We could not make the same impact in our community without all of you. Thank you!



2024 EVENTS

Events play a vital role in supporting the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha, helping to keep membership costs low while providing essential programs and resources for our youth. Through generous community participation and sponsorships, these events ensure that every child has access to life-changing opportunities.



ANNUAL MEETING

◆ Net Profit of \$3,500

The community came to learn about the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha's programs, youth, and took tours of our building. Presentations were given by our staff and members throughout the night.



DAIRY STATE CHEESE & BEER FESTIVAL

◆ Net Profit of \$40,500

This fun-filled event featured a variety of Wisconsin cheeses, some of the most sought after beers from Wisconsin and beyond and awesome live music! This was a "don't miss event" that was a lot of fun while raising funds to benefit the programs and services that the Club offers.



ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

◆ Net Profit of \$32,600

A day to enjoy meaningful relationships, the outdoors, and the great game of golf while also supporting the Club's mission. The outing included 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, hole challenges, social hour/dinner, prizes, unlimited beer, water, and soda while golfers were on the course.



2024 EVENTS



BARNES & JOHNSON GOLF OUTING

◆ Net Profit of \$34,675

For over 10 years, friends and family of Dave Barnes and Corey Johnson have been supporting the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha through this annual golf event. Enjoy a day of family, friends, and fun while supporting the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha.



BRAT TROT RACE

◆ Net Profit of \$6,100

The 'Wurst' runners from all over were welcomed to walk, skip, jog, run, roll, or crawl through a grueling 100-yard course. Participants were encouraged to wear Oktoberfest swag and prizes were given for the first and last place runners, and the best dressed.



YOUNG AT HEART GALA

◆ Net Profit of \$174,400

The Club's signature event of the year, we celebrated our impact we've had on the lives of youth in Kenosha. The event featured a three course dinner, performances by Club members, and awards.



Board of Directors

President & Chief Volunteer Officer: Ashley Noble

Treasurer: Frank Pacetti

Chairman of the Board: Matt Troha

Members

Devon Borst

Danny Carlson

Michael Coleman

Rade Dimitrijevic

Jennifer Dooley-Hogan

Dennis DuChene

Jens Emerson

Abigail Hanna

Dr. Jeff Hill

John Hotvedt

Michelle Lahey-Reed

Glenn Madrigano, Jr.

Jeff Milkie

Vince Montemurro

Tricia Nelson

Mike Pitts Jr.

Julie Rittmiller

Charlie Skendziel

Peter Valeri

Christian Venegas

Professor Wilhoit

Mike Worcester



BOARD MISSION

Board members are the fiduciaries who steer the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha towards a sustainable future. The Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha's board members are our most important advocates, serving as the 'face' of our organization and vocal supporters of our cause.

Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha Foundation Board Members

President: John Camosy

Vice President: Matt Troha

Treasurer: Frank Pacetti

Secretary: Andrew Tenuta

Rade Dimitrijevic

Colton Lee

John Madrigano

Jeff Milkie

Jeff Valeri



Past Presidents/Lifetime Board Members

David Barnes

Cindy Boelter

Everett Butler

Tom Cucciare

Tim Geraghty

Gary Hutchins

Cassell Lawson

Katherine Marks

Joanne Mitchell

Cory Ann St. Marie-Carls

Ronald Stevens

Dennis Troha

Sandy White

David Wilk

Thank You

Our journey would not have been possible without you. With your dedication and support, we have been able to make an impact on over 18,380 youth in Kenosha this year.

Now more than ever, our youth need us—to support them, to guide them, and to help build their future. This is your moment to make a difference. Join the Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha and be the change. Whether you donate, volunteer, attend events, or simply share our message, every action matters. Stand with us and create a brighter future for Kenosha's youth.



 www.bgckenosha.org

A large group of diverse children and teenagers are smiling and raising their hands in a group photo. They are wearing blue and white Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha t-shirts. In the background, there are large murals of athletes. The image has a blue overlay, and a purple circular graphic is in the bottom left corner.

Boys & Girls Club of Kenosha
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