



**BETTER
BIGGER
BOLDER**



**OUTCOMES
QUALITY
GROWTH**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF GREATER KANSAS CITY**

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

A Note From Our President

We've achieved so much this past year, but there's much more to be done to help our kids and teens build their paths to success after high school. I think the theme for this annual report says it all: Future Ready. Our goal going forward is to create the programs, networks, emotional support, and unique opportunities that ensure today's youth are prepared to be the next generation of leaders and doers. In the communities we serve, we have stood as a strong voice and a reassuring presence, trusted and relied upon to inspire greatness in the next generation and beyond.

There are, and always will be, challenges for Kansas City youth. In the Kansas City metro area, 11% of youth under the age of 18 live below the poverty line. In the 64130 zip code, where our Thornberry Unit is located, 47% of youth under the age of 18 live below the poverty line.

Despite the dire statistics, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City (BGCGKC) has persevered in providing as many young people as possible with exposure to jobs and careers and guidance to prepare them for a rapidly evolving workforce—and we will continue to do so. We will give them opportunities to lead and serve. We will instill in them the confidence and freedom to raise their voices on issues they care about and to have fun with their friends in a place where they know they will be accepted and supported.

This is who we are. It's why parents turn to us for support, and kids and teens turn to our Clubs and staff for guidance and mentorship. All of us on the BGCGKC team are proud to take on these roles and look forward to nurturing even more new leaders in the coming year.



Jason Roth, President & CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City

Our Three-Pronged Approach to Becoming Future Ready: Do It Better, Bigger, and Bolder

Better – Enhancing the Club experience in new and creative ways to always be relevant for today's youth and teens.

Bigger – Growing our reach far and wide to address unmet needs across Kansas City's neighborhoods.

Bolder – Creating a ripple effect of positivity and opportunity for all young people by expanding our influence across Greater Kansas City.

**BETTER
BIGGER
BOLDER**



Creating Brighter Futures Has Always Been Our Goal



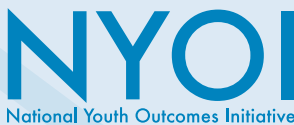
Since 1912, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City (BGCCKC) has dedicated itself to transforming the lives of youth ages five to 18 in the Greater Kansas City area. Our Clubs provide a safe, positive, and welcoming environment, offering kids and teens growth opportunities they might not otherwise encounter.

We ascribe to a Whole Child Development model, which offers the ideal platform for nurturing and strengthening the foundations of a full and vital life: education, character development, leadership, and a healthy lifestyle.

Through this model, and with compassionate guidance from a caring, mentoring staff, Club members can thrive academically, explore their full potential, develop essential life skills, and build lasting relationships.

As of December, BGCCKC has grown to 11 locations in neighborhoods of tremendous need throughout the Greater Kansas City area, serving nearly 5,000 local kids. Our ultimate goal is to ensure 100% of Club seniors graduate high school with post-secondary plans in place. We're proud to say we've accomplished this important goal for eight years in a row.

Additionally, we actively collaborate with local businesses, organizations, and individuals to create a network of support for our youth. Through these strategic partnerships and neighborhood engagement, we aim to address the unique challenges of today's youth and create a positive ripple effect throughout our community. We're doing it better, bigger, and bolder in every way – and our members are becoming Future Ready because of the Clubs.



The National Youth Outcomes Initiative (NYOI)

helps the Clubs measure and improve the Club Experience, program quality, and youth outcomes. We administer the NYOI Member Survey annually, which measures the degree to which Club members are achieving the outcomes of Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles. Here are the results from 2024:

Clubs are Safe and Inclusive Spaces

92% of Club Members report that they *"feel safe being themselves in the Club."*

95% of Club Members report *"I feel safe from harm at this Club."*

91% of Club kids report *"I feel like I can stand up for what I think is right, even if my friends disagree."*

Clubs Foster Supportive Relationships

97% of Club Members report *"The adults at this Club care about me."*

92% of Club Members report *"I can talk to an adult at this Club if I have a problem."*

Clubs Stress Recognizing Others' Value

93% of Club Members report *"Adults here encourage me when I make positive choices."*

93% of Club Members report *"Adults at this Club ask my opinion on things."*

Clubs Encourage Civic-Mindedness

68% of Club teens volunteer in their school, neighborhood, or community.

Clubs Celebrate Academic Expectations

96% report *"The adults at this Club believe that I will be a success."*

95% report *"Adults here encourage me to do my best."*

75% of Club members believe they will graduate from college.

29% of Club teens plan to pursue a Master's or PhD.

81% of Club members receive mostly A's and B's.



A Year of Bold Moves & Big Collaborations

Renaming of Our Independence Unit

In late October, we celebrated the renaming of our Independence Unit which is now known as the *15 and the Mahomies Unit!*

The renaming honors our amazing partnership with the 15 and the Mahomies Foundation, led by three-time Super Bowl MVP and Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes and his wife, Brittany.

This partnership underscores a profound commitment to the future of our youth, and the new Unit name is an important reflection of the shared commitment to providing quality resources and mentorship for our youth for generations to come.



The Opening of Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy Site

In October, we celebrated the opening of our 11th site at the Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy charter school (KCGP). Situated on the corner of East 17th Street and Van Brunt, KCGP is an all-girl school that focuses on preparing young women to use their voices, succeed in college, and lead impactful, meaningful lives.

Serving young ladies in 5th through 8th grades, this pilot site aims to provide experiences and opportunities to foster that mission and encourage them to support and challenge one another in true sisterhood.

As our 11th location, Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy extends our reach even further. We're thrilled about this new partnership and look forward to the opportunity to positively impact these talented young women as they grow and chart their own paths.



Saint Luke's Partnership Programs

Five years ago, the Clubs embarked on an exciting partnership with Saint Luke's Health Systems. As we conclude 2024, we're proud that this strong partnership now includes three exciting programs aimed at improving the health and well-being of our Club members and their families.

Healthy Food Program: Along with Saint Luke's, this program represents a partnership with Kanbe's Market and Prospect KC. The new initiative provides our Club youth and families with access to fresh produce and health-related resources. The program has added healthier options to our sporting league concession stands; it has also led to the development of onsite Club food pantries. In 2024, more than 3,000 people were reached through the program.

Gardyn Program: This successful youth-centric STEM program combines elements of agriculture, horticulture, botany, and nutrition into one superb hands-on learning experience. Using a nationally recognized curriculum created by the Green Bronx Machine, Gardyn immerses Club youth in the art and science of aeroponic gardening, helping them understand the science of growing food in compact spaces using 90% less water. Club members also learn grade-level academic content and skills. Four total cohorts were completed in 2024, reaching a total of 348 Club members.

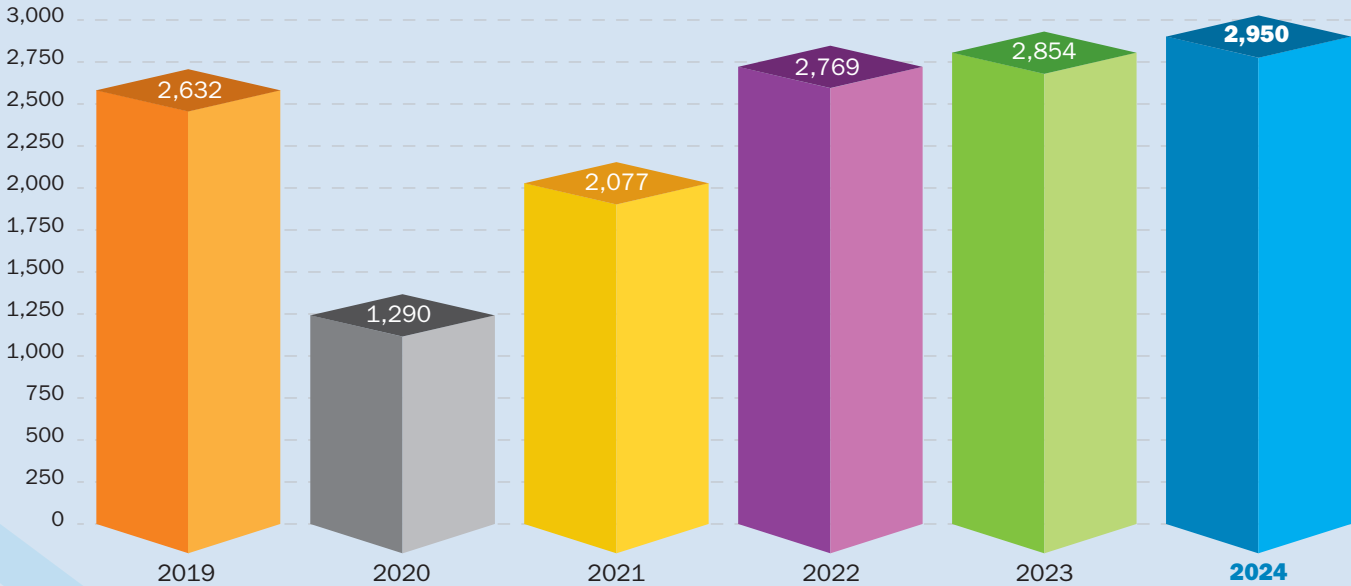
Project Power: The curriculum for this national, youth-centric program was developed by the American Diabetes Association. It offers a fun way to promote good health and prevention of childhood obesity and Type II diabetes through nutritional education, increased physical activity, and family involvement. Along with education and physical activity, the program promotes healthy social skills and independence with healthy eating/active lifestyle choices. Three cohorts were completed in 2024, reaching a total of 292 Club members.



Year After Year, Impressive Growth, Greater Reach

Our rebound following the pandemic illustrates the power of our programming and the extent of our reach in nurturing local youth:

Total Club Membership:



Another successful year of reaching and serving the needs of Club members and non-members alike:

Community Outreach

1,083 Non-Club members who receive Club services each month

ADA (Average Daily Attendance)

823

Total Youth Served

5,500 Membership plus Outreach

Ratio of Boys to Girls

52% Male

48% Female

92% Qualify for free or reduced lunches

55% Report living in single-parent households

Combined median household income

Less than **\$28,000**

**OUTCOMES
QUALITY
GROWTH**

**Investing in
Future Ready
Youth**

142,713 Meals served throughout 2024



\$43,000+

Scholarships awarded to Club youth in 8th grade or above for any educational purpose.



100% of our active Club seniors graduated from high school with post-secondary plans for the 8th year in a row.



Teaching Life Skills Through Teamwork

In 2024, more than 1,700 metro area youth enjoyed participation in a variety of sports thanks to collaborative partnerships with Della Lamb, KCK PAL, KCMO PAL, KCMO Parks & Recreation, LINC, and the Elementary School Divisions of both KCPS and USD 500. The leagues also present a valuable opportunity to introduce even more youth to our Club programming.

Basketball Program (January-March) – Included 65 teams and 783 youth participants across four age divisions for seven weeks in the regular season. Presenting sponsor for our 2024 basketball league was Live Like Luke. The season-ending tournament at the College Basketball Experience (CBE) is a highlight every year.

Girls Soccer Program (Spring-Fall) – The girls' team, made up of 23 Club members from the Breidenthal and Thornberry Units, played in the Kansas City, Kansas Sporting Kansas City League.

Flag Football Program (Fall) – A total of 29 teams in four age divisions had the opportunity to compete in flag football this past year. We saw an increase of close to 100 new players for the season compared to 2023, for a total of 336 participants.

RBI (Spring & Fall) – A total of 1,277 youth participated in our RBI program which included both baseball and softball teams. The total participation reflected an increase of 18% over the 2023 season.

David E. Price Jr. Golf Program (Summer) – A select group of Thornberry Unit Club members learned golf through First Tee of Greater Kansas City. They traveled to the Heart of America golf course each week of our Atomic Blast Summer program. Through First Tee's proven curriculum, participants received instruction on essential golf techniques, including swings, putting, and course etiquette, while also developing life skills like confidence, resilience, and respect.

Coaches Council – In 2024, we created the Coaches Council to strengthen our connection with five of the leading local youth recreational programs. These programs have consistently participated in all of the BGCCK Sports Leagues through the years. Recognizing the significance of their participation and support, we extended an opportunity for those programs to join us in our strategic planning process leading up to league play. The impetus for the Coaches Council is to fortify those partnerships and give these partners a greater sense of belonging to our sports initiatives.



Programs That Foster Future Readiness at Every Age

Club Lit Program

This year-round literacy program, aimed at elementary school-age Club members, is designed to increase reading proficiency under the guidance and encouragement of trained tutors and via individualized intervention and small group lessons. In addition to Club Lit programs at the Breidenthal, Olathe, and Thornberry Units, we added a fourth location at the J&D Wagner Unit in Summer 2024 in conjunction with Atomic Blast.

During that period, we taught nearly 400 Club Lit members across all four locations through ‘get-to-know-you’ activities, first-round testing, small group literacy interventions, and one final test to track our Club members’ progress. Our Club members’ hard work paid off, their reading skills improved, and their confidence in their abilities increased!

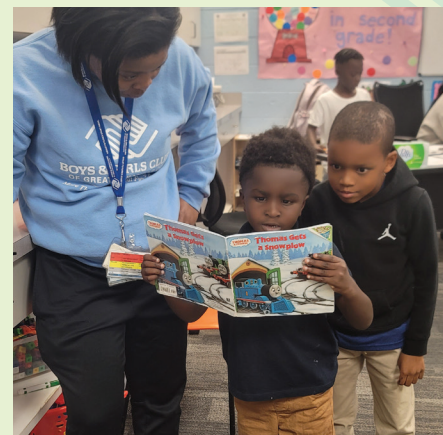


Meet Two Future Ready Readers

Meet Jelani M., a 1st grader at the Thornberry Unit. In just one year, Jelani went from below target (SS3) to above target (SS9). For perspective, first graders typically read at SS4-SS7. With tutoring, Jelani has begun reading at home. He used to struggle with word pronunciation, but not anymore. In fact, he can even read some SS10-12-level words! Jelani will soon be graduating to independent reader status. (Achieved once they master Skillset 13).

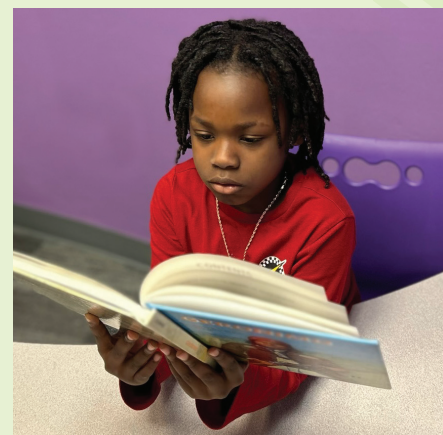
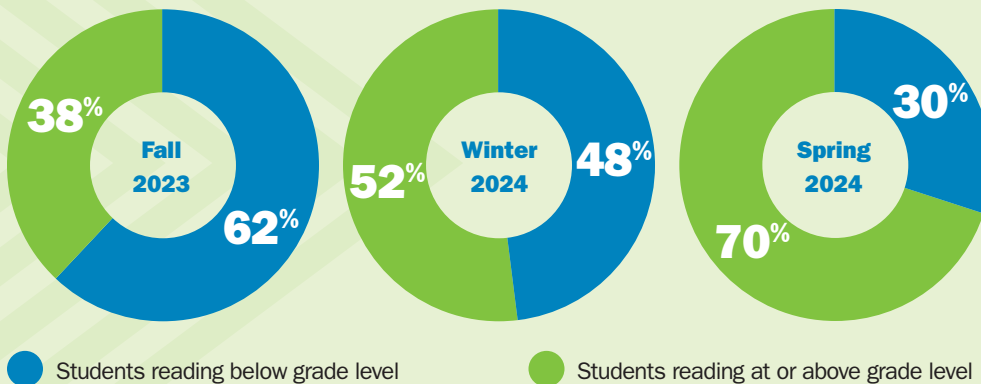


Meet Maria J., a kindergartner at the Olathe Unit. She’s been making big strides as a reader, going from SS1 to SS4 before the end of the school year. Kindergarteners typically read at SS1-SS4, so Maria remained on target but still vastly improved. At SS4, she can read many beginning and ending sounds and consonant digraphs (ex. duck, fish, ring, chip). Maria excels both in reading speed and accuracy and is always eager to be pulled to work on her literary skills, bringing a bright attitude and excitement for learning.



School Year 2023-2024 Club Lit Results (Briedenthal, Olathe, and Thornberry):

32% increase in students reading at or above grade level over the course of the school year.



Summer 2024 Results (J&D Wagner):

71% showed improvement of one or more skillsets

41% reading at or above grade level at the beginning of summer

56% reading at or above grade level at the end of summer – that’s a **15% increase in just 9 weeks**

14% improved one or more grade levels

Atomic Blast 2024

Our nine-week Atomic Blast Program, powered by the Kansas City National Security Campus, managed by Honeywell FM&T, kicked off in June with 1,469 kids registered for this STEM-focused summer enrichment program. Club kids came ready to explore, discover, and learn something new each day, engaging in more than 400 field trips, teen college and career exploration trips, and even dental check-ups. To the delight of our K-8 members, our popular Science Fair program returned as part of Atomic Blast. From determining which beverages are most harmful to your teeth to discovering whether the acid in lemons can create electrical currents similar to batteries, our young scientists had an amazing time testing their hypotheses by learning how to follow the Scientific Method. Judges from a variety of local companies volunteered to help select the top project(s) in each grade.



UMKC Teaching Methods Training Course

In the Fall of 2024, six of our Youth Development Professionals (YDPs) engaged in a professional development venture brought to us by UMKC TalentLink – UMKC Teaching Methods Training Course.

The eight-week program explored and edified concepts in effective classroom management, including how to engage students in hands-on learning, how to adapt teaching methods to diverse learning needs, gaining a deeper understanding of child development, how to manage student behavior, and how to develop culturally responsive teaching practices.

By the end, our YDPs gained critical knowledge in how to create welcoming spaces for students, focus on character development, and enlist strategies for providing effective Club member feedback, all to help them skillfully execute productive classroom outcomes.



KC Learn

An exciting collaboration between BGCCKC and KC Learn completed its second year in 2024. KC Learn is a collaborative community where secular homeschoolers can connect, find meaningful support, and cultivate lasting relationships within an inclusive ecosystem. We empower families with the resources, guidance, and refuge they need to pursue their educational journey with confidence and joy.

BGCCKC welcomed approximately 70 KC Learn students to the J&D Wagner Unit on Wednesdays, during non-Club hours between 9:30 am - 2 pm. From the classrooms to the gym to the cafeteria, KC Learn used the spaces within the Club for recreational education, traditional classroom facilitation, and social interface. We look forward to continuing this collaboration in 2025.



Programs That Prepare Future Leaders

Youth Police Initiative Program (YPI)

YPI continues to be an impactful Club program for teens. This early intervention and prevention program focuses on building trust in the law while reducing stereotypes that exist between teenagers and police officers. YPI offers a highly interactive, experiential, and structured program for our Club members. Its evidence-based approaches create new levels of communication that foster sustainable relationships and reduce negative interactions between youth and police, bringing enormous benefits to the community at large. The program is especially effective at breaking down the negative stereotypes that often color relationships between youth and police, and helps humanize the challenges that each group faces.

2024 YPI Impacts:

- 5 cohorts, each consisting of 10-15 youth and 7-8 police officers
- At least 12 cohorts will be run in 2025



The THRIVE Research Lab at Emory University

The THRIVE Research Lab at Emory University, in collaboration with Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City - Thornberry Unit, launched a local YEAH (Youth Empowered Advocating for Health) program in 2024.

The YEAH curriculum, developed by THRIVE, guides youth through identifying factors that influence health inequities in their community. It uses photovoice, a participatory research methodology that uses photography to examine community concerns, generate ideas to address them, and translate those ideas into social action.

BGCGKC's 2024 YEAH program consisted of three focus groups that culminated in an impactful Club youth-run community event. 30 teens attended the forum, sharing feedback on their action steps. They also created and shared an original film they recorded on the sensitive and highly important topic of youth mental health.



esports Lounge Design Challenge

esports is more than just fun, it promotes critical thinking, teamwork, collaboration, and problem-solving skills, while also offering pathways to STEM-related careers for our Club members. It also provides opportunities for students to earn college scholarships through competitive gaming, similar to traditional sports.

Thornberry teen members were challenged to design an esports Lounge for their teen center. Teens learned how to use Revit, a modeling software used by architects and engineers to design buildings. Not only did they learn new design skills, but they were exposed to a variety of careers in the engineering and architectural fields. Three designs were pitched, and the winning design will be brought to life at the Thornberry Unit in 2025.



National Keystone Conference

At the end of July, six of our Club teens attended the Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Keystone Conference in Atlanta, GA. Each year, teens from across the country attend the leadership conference to participate in thought-provoking workshops that address teen issues and promote community service. They learned key leadership skills and how to take their Keystone group to the next level. Our teens participated in a community service event where they built eight wheelchairs. The teens had a great experience and loved getting to network with other youth and adults from around the country.



Summit for America's Youth

Several of our Greater Kansas City teens visited Washington D.C. for Summit for America's Youth, Boys & Girls Clubs of America's (BGCA) premier youth advocacy event. Teens from across the country gathered in our nation's capital to advocate for issues affecting their community. Our teens created a project titled "#SaveYourMental," addressing teen mental health and gun violence. They are advocating for these issues to be more openly discussed and to provide teens with tools to address their mental health. Our teens shared their project with members of the Senate and House of Representatives staff. This event equips teens with skills to not only join but lead conversations so that their issues are heard in the nation's hall of power.

G.I.F.T. Teaches Teens About Entrepreneurship

From young scientists to business owners, teens from our J&D Wagner Unit participated in a 5-week crash course in Entrepreneurship. In collaboration with (G.I.F.T.), Generating Income for Tomorrow, teens engaged in sessions covering:

- Business Basics – what is entrepreneurship plus types of business models
- Choosing your business – evaluate and select a business idea; start initial market research
- Understanding business pitches and planning
- Practicing your pitch – anticipate questions from potential investors and customers
- Final pitch – teens presented their business plans to a group of mock investors and others in the audience

The teens' pitches were well thought out and researched. Among their business ideas were:

1. A downtown gathering spot equipped with parking and an onsite chef
2. House flipping – furnishings included
3. Custom athletic apparel

Our young entrepreneurs answered questions regarding differences between their businesses and their competitors, marketing, and their business goals.

G.I.F.T. offers a unique and valuable learning experience for these budding business executives and city leaders. As adults, it will be their contributions to society that will help lift up and strengthen our community.



Funding for the Future

Club Hero Program

Heroes don't always wear capes! We are fortunate to have many heroes among our community neighbors, thanks to their monthly donations to BGCGKC. These dollars sustain our daily programs and services and positively impact the current and future lives of our youth members.

We consider our Club Heroes key partners in the success of our Clubs. Thanks to their generous gifts, we're able to provide our members with:

- A safe place to socialize, dream, and learn
- Caring adult mentors to look up to and emulate
- Consistent hot meals and healthy snacks
- Sports programs that instill confidence and camaraderie
- Access to technology and a chance to learn new skills
- Enlightening field trips and exposure to community leaders
- Homework help, fun activities...and so much more.

The Numbers Add Up to Success

The donations accrued through our Club Hero program generate much-needed monthly and yearly revenue, which is used to maintain our programs and improve the lives of our members. The newfound confidence, career training, and social skills that members gain through our programs have positive and valuable impacts on the health of our community.

Club Hero Program

\$9,284.27 Monthly revenue

\$111,411.24 Yearly revenue

\$38.85 Average gift amount

78 Club Heroes added in 2024



David A. Smith Legacy Society

The doors to Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City open a world of possibilities for young people across our community. Day after day, year after year, the Clubs serve as an unwavering beacon of stability, hope, and opportunity for our youth.

To ensure our enduring presence and support our current and future programs, the David A. Smith Legacy Society provides friends and supporters of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City the opportunity to make a commitment to the Clubs in perpetuity with a designation in their estate plan.

This ongoing financial commitment can serve as a lasting legacy to help ensure that future generations of youth will have access to the programs, resources, and guidance to help them achieve their greatest aspirations.

Endowments

The Clubs' endowments consist of a donor-restricted fund and a board-designated fund, both of which are used to provide college scholarships, membership dues, and other operating expenses.

Legacy gifts are restricted to our endowment, as defined by our organizational bylaws. Annually, the entirety of the endowment yields a 4% payment toward organizational expenses. The donor can direct the specificity of any portion of a planned gift.

As such, planned gifts can be restricted to support specific programs, specific Club sites, post-secondary scholarships for Club members, endow a position, or support other aspects of work in the Clubs into the future.

Spending Policy

The Club has a combined 4% maximum spending policy. Each year, the donor-restricted portion of the endowment's fair value and the board-designated portion are appropriated for distribution.

The Club has established the following ranges for investment return objectives, risk parameters, and strategies shown here by investment type:

- Equities – 40% to 70%
- Fixed income – 15% to 60%
- Cash and equivalents – 0% to 30%
- Alternative assets – 0% to 15%

Endowments as of 12/31/24

\$2,725,000

(up from \$2,118,000 in 2023)



Fundraisers Keep Our Mission Moving Forward

28th Annual Kids Night Out with Thomas Rhett

On Saturday, April 13th, more than 1,600 supporters turned out for the 28th Annual Kids Night Out. The event, which was headlined by country singer, Thomas Rhett, also included a Super Silent Auction, cocktail party, an exciting Live Auction with priceless packages, and the funny and entertaining auctioneer Harry Santa-Olalla. Also featured were Fox 4's Abby Eden and an inspiring message from our Missouri State Youth of the Year, Jayden H. Thanks to the generosity of our community, we raised a record-breaking \$2.75 million for local Club youth and programs (which included a special donation from Rhett himself.) A special thank you goes to our Presenting Sponsor, Summit Homes, and our stellar event committee led by all-star Corporate Board member Andy Burczyk.



8th Annual Brims and Bowties Kentucky Derby Party

On May 4th, over \$21,000 was raised at Brims & Bowties, an event put on by BGCGKC's Emerging Leaders Council. Inspired by the opulence of the Kentucky Derby, attendees showcased their finest Derby-themed attire, complete with stylish hats and bowties, creating an atmosphere of elegance and excitement. The money raised was used to fund scholarships for Club youth, furthering our mission of empowering young people and providing them with the tools and opportunities for a brighter future.



7th Annual Tour de Fork

On September 26th, our community came out in full force again this year for the 7th Annual Tour de Fork. Nearly 400 guests filled the Garmin Hangar and enjoyed cocktails, silent & live auctions, and a live chef demonstration from Jeremy Vesper, award-winning Executive Chef at Nick and Jake's. Also featured were emcee Abby Eden (Fox 4), the Nigro Brothers auctioneers, a lively game of culinary trivia, and inspiring messages from Club families. A record-breaking \$270,000+ was raised for our Olathe Unit youth and programs. A special thank you goes to our Presenting Sponsor, Subaru of Olathe, as well as our fabulous Honorary Chair, Kevin Kight, for stepping up for our Club youth. He was supported by the amazing teams at Garmin, Sysco, and TVH Parts as well as a stellar event committee.



Putts Fore Kids

On November 21st, BGCGKC held its inaugural Putts Fore Kids event in support of our local Club kids. Nearly 120 guests filled Sinker's Lounge in the Power & Light District and enjoyed an evening of mini golf, tasty bites, cocktails, a silent auction, and some friendly competitions and games. A special thank you to our lead sponsors: Kansas City National Security Campus, managed by Honeywell FM&T, Walmart, Lead Bank, NBKC, Raising Cane's, and Whataburger. In addition, we are grateful that this event was supported in part by the City of Kansas City, Missouri Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund. We raised nearly \$60,000 at this first-time event and look forward to more golf-focused fun next year.





2024 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City and Missouri State Youth of the Year

Jayden H., a high school senior at Ewing Marion Kauffman School and an 11-year Club member. Jayden attributes much of his growth and development to Boys & Girls Clubs, citing programs like Passport to Manhood as instrumental in shaping his character. With a 3.7 GPA and active involvement in sports, including baseball, basketball, football, and track, Jayden aspires to pursue a degree in sports management following high school.



2024 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City Junior Youth of the Year

Dalayne J. is a 13-year-old 7th grader attending Clifford H. Nowlin Middle School. She is currently a member of the Nowlin Site but has been a part of the Clubs for 7.5 years. Dalayne's favorite programs are SMART Girls and participating in the Art Club. Her favorite subject at school is Band, and she enjoys playing softball outside of school. After high school, she plans to attend college; she is still considering her future career path.

2024 Alumni Hall of Fame Honorees: Whitey Kuhn and Michael Walker



Whitey Kuhn – Whitey is a graduate of the University of Kansas, where in 1971, he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in advertising and editorial art. Along with Dale Wittenborn, he co-founded Kuhn & Wittenborn in 1978, following a successful seven-and-a-half-year career with

Hallmark Cards. Under his and Dale's direction, Kuhn & Wittenborn grew from a staff of three to become a full-service agency with a staff of more than 70 and annual capitalized billings of \$38 million.

Whitey is committed to many philanthropical causes and has served on several nonprofit boards, including Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City, the Kansas City Chapter of Young Audiences, Midwest Bioethics Center, Visiting Nurses Association, and the Advisory Boards of the Stowers Institute for Medical Research and Little Sisters of the Poor. He has also been recognized with numerous prestigious awards. In 2015, Whitey retired after merging his agency with Trozzolo. He continues to serve on Trozzolo's Board of Directors.

In 2020, Whitey and his wife, Fran, established The Dale Wittenborn Memorial Scholarship program in honor of his late business partner. To date, there have been nine scholarships awarded to college juniors and seniors who are majoring in creative arts. Several of those recipients are now working in the Kansas City Advertising industry.



Michael Walker – Michael is a proud Central High School alum and former basketball player at the University of Missouri. His journey to success began at the Thornberry Unit, formerly also known as the 43rd Street Boys Club, where he became a member in the 5th grade and remained active until he finished college.

For Michael, the Boys Club was a pivotal part of his upbringing, providing not only a safe space but also valuable life lessons and mentorship. It also opened doors for him to travel and play in basketball tournaments, building memories and skills that would last a lifetime and instilling core values such as teamwork, determination, discipline, and dedication. These principles guided him through college and ultimately shaped his career.

He fondly remembers the countless hours spent at the Club and the influential role models like Al Winder and past Alumni Hall of Fame Honorees, Alvin Clark and Larry Peeler. These three role models and former athletes gave back to the community and shaped Michael's outlook on life.

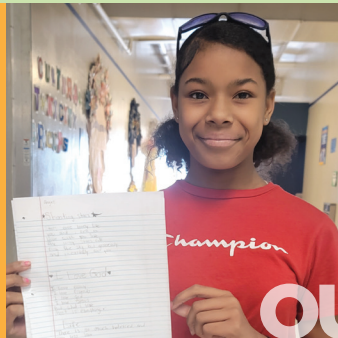
Michael is now the proud owner of a successful janitorial company, which he has operated for 22 years. He attributes much of his success in business to the lessons he learned at the Boys Club, crediting those formative years for helping him overcome obstacles and build something meaningful.

Our Commitment to Safety

While a seemingly endless schedule of high-octane and super fun activities and programs happens consistently in the Clubs, our primary focus is always the safety and security of the young people in our facilities. With this focus in mind, we are thrilled to share that at the Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Conference in Atlanta in May, our organization was highlighted for achievement in and commitment to safety. Two of our team members, Alison Clothier and Michelle Ruffin, were recognized as Certified Praesidium Guardians – a distinction that only 600 individuals across over 1,000 autonomous Clubs in the USA have achieved. Ms. Ruffin also received a Safety Superstar Award which acknowledges Michelle's achievement of the aforementioned certification and the completion of Safety Peer Consultants training. Michelle stands as one of only 21 individuals across the country with this level of achievement.



Jason Roth and Michelle Ruffin



OUTCOMES QUALITY GROWTH

We Meet Kids Where They Live & Learn | 7 Club Units, 4 School Sites

Unit Locations:

15 and the Mahomies Unit

315 S Leslie Ave, Independence, MO 64050

Breidenthal Unit

1240 Troup Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102

Hawthorne Unit

16995 Dover Ln, Independence, MO 64056

J&D Wagner Unit

2405 Elmwood Ave, Kansas City, MO 64127

Northland Unit

1321 NE Vivion Rd, Kansas City, MO 64118

Olathe Unit

520 S Harrison St, Olathe, KS 660611

Thornberry Unit

3831 E 43rd St, Kansas City, MO 64130

School Locations:

Clifford H. Nowlin Middle School

2800 S Hardy Ave, Independence, MO 64052

Lee A. Tolbert Community Academy Charter School

3400 Paseo Blvd, Kansas City, MO 64109

Kansas City Girls Preparatory Academy

5000 E 17th St, Kansas City, MO 64127

S. Kiki Curls Unit

9010A Old Santa Fe Rd, Kansas City, MO 64138

Our Mission Statement

Promote the development of self-esteem, values and skills for boys and girls, ages 5-18, with special emphasis on youth from disadvantaged circumstances.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City (BGCGKC) is a **charter member** of Boys & Girls Clubs of America and is a United Way agency.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

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