



Guidance to **Grow** Places to **Flourish** Skills to **Succeed**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

A Note From Our President



Thanks to the generosity of our amazing supporters, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City realized a year of fantastic achievement – filled with ribbon-cuttings, new and strengthened partnerships, and even more of our city's youth given exciting and enriching opportunities to create new paths to follow their dreams.

In my first full year as CEO, I promised to focus on growth and expansion as a way to evolve to meet the changing needs of our youth. I'm thrilled to say that, thanks to friends like you, we had a banner 2023 and I'm proud to share the good news here in our annual report.

But there is even more we can do to lift up our Club members and provide them with the confidence, skills, and enthusiasm they need to succeed.

I'm very much looking forward to continuing the momentum we've set so our youth may have all the opportunities they deserve to achieve their greatest aspirations.

Here's to 2024 and the chance to provide our youth with more guidance to grow, more places to flourish, and more skills to succeed. Thank you for supporting our work and enhancing the impact Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City will continue to have on our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Roth".

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



Meet Our 2023 Youth of the Year and Junior Youth of the Year

Sanay C. – 2023 Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City Youth of the Year and Missouri State Youth of the Year

This Thornberry Unit high school senior is a true veteran of Boys & Girls Clubs, having been a member since 2017. Sanay participates in many Club programs, including Keystone Club and SMART Girls. As part of the Youth of the Year program, she has jumped at opportunities to take on leadership roles within the Club. Sanay maintains a 3.2 G.P.A. at school and is active in softball, basketball, and student council. Her post-graduation goal is to become an athletic trainer for the National Basketball Association.



Amari M. – Junior Youth of the Year

Seventh grader Amari M. attends the Tolbert Middle School site. Amari is very active in the Boys & Girls Clubs' arts program. She is passionate about helping people, especially children. Amari's dream is to become a pediatrician. Watch out world!

A Beacon of Hope for Our Youth

Since 1912, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City (BGCCKC) has offered a safe and positive environment for youth 5-18 to discover their full potential, develop essential life skills, and build lasting relationships.

We follow a Whole Child Development model which focuses on strengthening the foundations of a full and vital life: education, character development, leadership, and healthy lifestyles. Our dedicated team of staff and volunteers provide mentorship, guidance, and support to help young people thrive academically and personally.

BGCCKC has grown to 11 locations in neighborhoods of tremendous need throughout the Greater Kansas City area, serving nearly 5,000 local kids. We actively collaborate with local businesses, organizations, and individuals to create a network of support for our youth. Additionally, through strategic partnerships and community engagement, we aim to address the unique challenges of today's youth and create a positive ripple effect throughout our community.

Three Key Strategic Priorities Continue to Drive Us

We set the following new 3-year strategic priorities in 2022 and are committed to continuing to address them through the end of 2024:

Priority One: Increase ADA (average daily attendance) and Membership by 15%

Priority Two: Elevate Program Partnership Engagement and Continuous Quality Improvement

Priority Three: Enhance and Diversify Revenue Sources

NYOI
National Youth Outcomes Initiative

Clubs Encourage Academic Expectations

71% of Club members in 10th-12th grade are in accelerated English and/or Science programs at school.

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

39% plan to pursue a master's degree or PHD.

Clubs Foster Supportive Relationships

98% of Club Members report
"The adults at this Club care about me."

Clubs Promote Good Citizenship

65% of Club teens volunteer in their school, neighborhood, or community.

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.

Clubs are Safe and Inclusive Spaces

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

93% of Club Members report
"I feel safe from harm at this Club."

88% of Club kids report *"I feel like I can stand up for what I think is right, even if my friends disagree."*

Growing Partnerships and Expanding Opportunities

Northland Unit

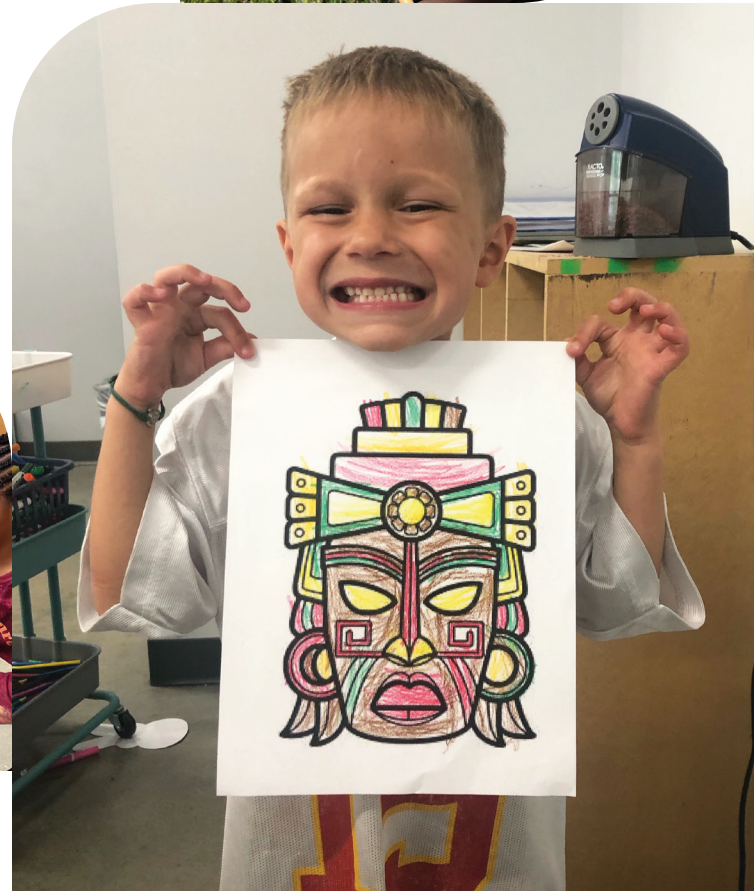
This past April, we opened a new Club with the capacity to serve up to 60 youth, ages 5-12 years old, daily. The new Unit is located at 1321 NE Vivion Road in KCMO and is directly connected to the North Cross United Methodist Church. Because of the strong partnership with the North Kansas City School District, transportation is provided from Crestview and Davidson Elementary schools. Art therapy is provided by Synergy Services.

Kansas City, Missouri (KCMO) and Kansas City, Kansas (KCK) Police Athletic Leagues (PAL)

Our great relationship with law enforcement on both sides of the state line continued to grow in 2023 with both the KCMO and KCK Police Athletic Leagues (PAL). PAL offers support and/or instruction for our A/V production program (utilizing our Breidenthal Unit Maker Space and Studio), hosts football clinics, facilitates a safe driving program, and participates in a host of Club sports leagues.

Kansas City Public Schools (KCPS) Collaboration

In 2023, we established a new integrated sports partnership with KCPS in collaboration with Della Lamb and LINC. In an effort to help rebuild their athletic programs, we created an opportunity for KCPS elementary students to participate in our recreational sports leagues which introduce athletics to youth who have never played sports on an organized level. The goal? To channel aspiring young athletes into local high school sports programs, and, ultimately, to provide them with opportunities for post-secondary education through collegiate sports participation. Participants learn the rules of play, develop the skills necessary to compete, and realize the overall mental and physical benefits of engaging in sports and healthy lifestyle activities.





Out-of-School-Time Collaborative

During seven ‘professional development’ days on the 2023-2024 KCPS calendar, BGCGKC partnered with the district to provide childcare free of charge for KCPS students – part of our promise as a member of the Out-of-School-Time Collaborative.

Gardyn Program in partnership with Saint Luke’s

Based on the nationally recognized Green Bronx Machine curriculum, our innovative Gardyn Tower program is a nine-week hands-on curriculum conducted at the Nowlin and Breidenthal Clubs and facilitated by Saint Luke’s. The Gardyn Tower is an aeroponic garden grown in a tower structure that allows kids to see and experience aeroponic gardening while teaching them about the plant growth process. The growing cycle is used to help students gain insight into food security and self-sufficiency, and helps teach them critical thinking, problem solving, communication, and creativity as they explore, discover, and create their own ecosystem. At the 9-week mark, the end goal for members is getting to taste test or create a salad from the plants they have grown.



Great Jobs KC

In 2023, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City partnered with Great Jobs KC, an adult job readiness and career training program presented by KC Scholars. Great Jobs KC offers training in four career areas: construction, healthcare, information technology, and manufacturing. With this partnership, BGCGKC was able to provide classroom space for the program’s career readiness classes at four Club locations – Breidenthal Unit, Olathe Unit, Hawthorne Unit, and Thornberry Unit. Each location offered classes one day per week, from August through December, with 25-30 adults in each class. This collaboration allowed a greater reach to the core demographic we serve, while providing opportunities to families who need us the most.



Our Program Model Generates Greater Impact

Physical Presence: We are the only dedicated youth-development organization in Kansas City offering programming in multiple brick and mortar facilities located in the neighborhoods where our kids live and learn.

Accessible & Accommodating: We offer before and after school programming and we are also open on most school out days, as well as during the summer, to fill learning, structure, and socialization gaps.

Member Diversity: Our programs serve a diverse youth population.

Care-Driven: Our programs are directed by a consistent, caring, highly trained staff.

Focus on Well-Rounded Growth: Our programming falls within four core youth development areas: Education & Career Development, Healthy Lifestyles including sports, Technology including the arts, and Public Speaking, Character & Leadership Development.

Proven Concept: Our Club programming has a track record of positively impacting graduation rates and school attendance rates, as well as healthy social, emotional, and mental development.

Affordable: Our low membership fees make our programs highly accessible to families in the communities that we serve.

Proactive & Inclusive: We don't sit back and wait for interest. Our Club staff actively reaches out and welcomes in families from the communities we serve.

Consistent: We've provided quality programs for mostly underserved communities and families for over a century.

Impacting Brighter Futures



147,166

meals served
throughout 2023



\$40,000+

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



100% of active Club
seniors who graduated
from high school with
post-secondary plans for
the seventh year in a row

Our Numbers Connect All the Dots for Success

Average Daily Attendance

812 (16% increase from prior year)

Membership

4,628 (10% increase from prior year)

Community Outreach

1,094

(Non-Club members who receive
Club services each month)

Total Youth Served

5,722

(Membership plus Outreach)

Ratio of Boys to Girls

51% male, 44% female
unknown/no answer 5%

Ethnicity:

68% African American

12% Caucasian

11% Hispanic

3% Multi-Racial/Other

6% Unknown

30%

report living in single parent households

86%

report qualifying for free or reduced lunch

Combined median household income

less than \$28,000

\$25 per month

Affordable Club membership dues
for the school year

FREE of charge

Atomic Blast Summer Enrichment Program
in our KCPS Summer Partner Clubs
(Thornberry and J&D Wagner Units)

\$125

Atomic Blast Summer Enrichment Program
in all other Clubs with scholarships
available as needed

impact



Royals RBI (Reviving Baseball in Inner Cities) Program

The 2023 summer and fall seasons for the program saw a total youth participation of 1,054 members. Our roster included 15 softball teams across 8U, 10U, 12U, and 15U age divisions and 43 baseball teams across the same age divisions. Over the summer, we had nearly 800 players in total. That included 600 registered baseball players, and 190 softball registrants. What's more, we welcomed 100 more girls to the teams over 2022. Additionally, we're proud to announce that we sent a girls softball team to the RBI Regional Tournament for the first time ever!



Year-Round Youth Sports Leagues

Basketball Program (January-March) – Included 40 teams (featuring 12 teams from the Clubs) and 446 youth participants across four age divisions for seven weeks in the regular season. The season-ending tournament sponsored by Live Like Luke and hosted at the College Basketball Experience (CBE) is a highlight every year.

Golf Program (Spring) – Teens from our Thornberry and J&D Wagner Units had the opportunity to hit the tees at Harris Park to learn the finer points of golf from local coaches. The program was coordinated courtesy of a partnership with First Tee, in conjunction with the Clubs' David Price Golf Program.

Soccer Program (Fall) – Two youth soccer teams, supported by the Victory Project, made up of 2nd grade boys and girls took to the field this past fall. The Olathe Unit boys' team was part of the Sporting Kansas City Olathe recreational league. The girls' team, made up of 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 22 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 2022, for a total of 274 participants.



Creating Strong Foundations for Success

Club Lit Program

In 2023, we launched our 3rd Club Lit program, this time at our Thornberry Unit. Over the summer, our tutors facilitated literacy intervention to 77 Club members. We retained 18 of those in the fall and added 47 more members leading to a total fall class of 65 youth. Through Club Lit, students are tested four times throughout the year for reading and comprehension proficiency. Using this data and based on each child's needs, tutors form small groups for 30-minute intensive sessions once or twice a week. The kids are always excited and enthusiastic to work with the tutors to continue their literacy progress.

Lead to Read

Utilizing Hoot Reading, an online learning solution incubated at the Sesame Workshop, we conducted a summer initiative with Lead to Read to offer 5 weeks of 1:1 evidence-based literacy instruction. Teachers from all over the country took part in this virtual program, and the result was 50 of our Club kids engaged in over 700 lessons and 200 hours of reading. Of the five skills Club kids worked to improve, they achieved gains of up to 34% toward to their mastery goal.

Entrepreneurial Mindset

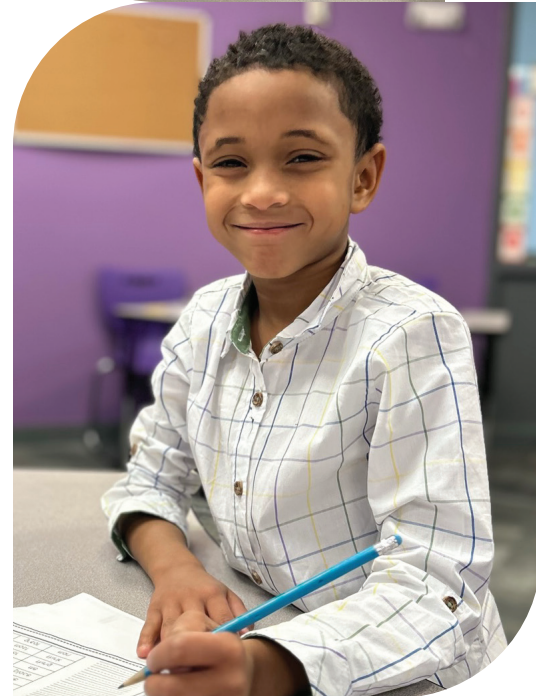
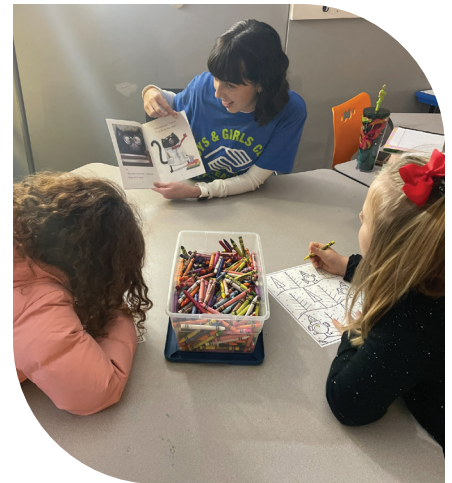
Our newest program, Entrepreneurial Mindset, was introduced this past fall. The program emphasizes building key entrepreneurial skills in our Club kids such as creativity, innovation, having a growth mindset, and finding their internal motivation.

The goal is to help them to acquire these skills so that they can be translated across all aspects of life. A cohort of 12 middle school-aged Club members from the Thornberry Unit completed two of seven skill-building sessions and participated in experiential learning through field trips to local businesses in the Kansas City community. Field trips are geared to youth interests and what is trending with Gen Z and Gen Alpha including: fitness and health, culinary arts, social media and content creation, and beauty/apparel.

YPI Program Continues to Build Positive Relationships

Youth & Police Initiative (YPI) is an early intervention and prevention approach to building trust in law enforcement while reducing existing stereotypes between teenagers and police officers. YPI offers a highly interactive, experiential, and structured program based upon evidence-based approaches which creates new levels of communication that engender sustainable relationships and reduced negative interactions.

Spring 2023 cohorts included 18 teens from the Thornberry Unit and 15 teens from our J&D Wagner Unit participating in the YPI sessions. The fall 2023 cohorts included 17 teens from the Thornberry Unit and two training officers from KCPD. Five new cohorts are planned for 2024.



succeed

Our skillset-based literacy program known as Club Lit focuses on developing literacy skills for elementary youth. The program is facilitated by trained tutors and conducted in small groups. It's been proven that improved literacy skills helps boost self-confidence, along with ability to think creatively, solve complex problems, practice adaptive thinking, and communicate effectively.



Breidenthal

Total Members Served: 174

Skillset Percentages

Up 1 Skillset: 9%
Up 2 Skillsets: 11%
Up 3 Skillsets: 5%
Up 4 Skillsets: 6%
Up 5 Skillsets: 3%
Up 6 Skillsets: 1%
Up 9 Skillsets: 1%
Enrolled as Independent Readers (cannot show further progress): 41%

Olathe

Total Members Served: 182

Skillset Percentages

Up 1 Skillset: 17%
Up 2 Skillsets: 26%
Up 3 Skillsets: 9%
Up 4 Skillsets: 11%
Up 5 Skillsets: 9%
Up 6 Skillsets: 6%
Up 7 Skillsets: 3%
Up 8 Skillsets: 3%
Enrolled as Independent Readers (cannot show further progress): 3%

Thornberry

Total Members Served: 133

Skillset Percentages

Up 1 Skillset: 38%
Up 2 Skillsets: 21%
Up 3 Skillsets: 6%
Up 4 Skillsets: 2%
Became Independent Readers (cannot show further progress): 6%

Meet a Blossoming Reader

It's possible that Elle has never picked up a book she didn't like. That's how much this bright, enthusiastic young lady enjoys reading. In working with her over just one semester, Elle jumped from 150 words per minute to 253!! She's experienced so much growth and we're excited to watch her continued progress.

Atomic Blast 2023

Atomic Blast Summer Enrichment Program powered by the Kansas City National Security Campus, managed by Honeywell FM&T – Between June 7 and August 13, more than 1,600 Kansas City youth enrolled in Atomic Blast 2023. Participants enjoyed nine jam-packed weeks filled with fun and engaging STEM-focused educational activities which included 275 field trips to venues such as the James A. Reed Wildlife Area with the Missouri Department of Conservation to learn about the outdoors and explore fishing, canoeing, and insects. We visited Kaleidoscope, the Kansas City Zoo, School of Economics, Deanna Rose Farmstead, Wonderscope, Museum at Prairiefire, and many more. As always, Atomic Blast also included a daily breakfast, lunch and snack, swimming, water safety, and making new friends.

College Tours

Thanks to our relationships with local post-secondary establishments, our 2023 schedule included 32 college tours. Club teens had the chance to visit the campuses of University of Missouri – Kansas City, Missouri State University, Pittsburg State, University of Missouri, University of Kansas, William Jewell, and House of Heavilin Beauty College, along with several other public and private post-secondary institutions. Teens engaged in student panels, admissions and financial aid presentations, guided campus tours and learned about residential life while meeting faculty. Once again, we achieved an important goal through the college tours – to equip our members with the experiences and information they need to select the best fit for the next stages of learning.

Real World Exposure

We're grateful to partners such as Opus, Kiewit, Zurich, and Summit Homes for ensuring our teens had a productive and busy summer. Through their support, members were able to engage in exclusive career exploration opportunities and discovering new talents and skills. Summit provided an especially memorable experience this year, inviting members to explore homes in various building stages and see a finished home, as well as learning about careers in marketing, architecture, finance, development, career services, and purchasing and estimating.

This Year's Fundraisers Were Stellar, Star-Studded, and Successful

28th Annual Kids Night Out with Dan + Shay

On Saturday, April 15, 2023, a record-breaking gathering of 1,600 guests enjoyed an evening of great music from American country pop music duo, Dan + Shay, along with a cocktail party, dinner, as well as silent and live auctions. Our 2023 Kids Night Out raised nearly \$2.37M benefiting local Club youth and our programs. A special thank you goes to our Presenting Sponsor, Polsinelli, and to our Honorary Chairs, Mary Jane and Michael Judy, as well as our Event Chair, Andy Burczyk.

7th Annual Brims and Bowties Kentucky Derby Party

160 enthusiastic guests were off to the races on May 6, 2023, thanks to Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City's Emerging Leaders Council. The memorable evening was made extra special thanks to the parade of Derby-worthy hats and the colorful array of bowties, dresses, and jackets. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, signature cocktails, and a front row seat (via the big screen) for the big event. More than \$22,000 was raised, all to benefit the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City Scholarship fund.

6th Annual Tour de Fork

It was another banner year for this highly-popular event benefiting BGCGKC youth served at the Olathe Unit. On September 21, 2023, nearly 375 guests gathered inside the Garmin Hangar to enjoy a cocktail reception, silent and live auctions, live music, a program featuring a culinary demonstration by Chef Hanah Winnett with Wandering Vine at The Castle, food trucks, and fun, all for a good cause! We're proud to say this year's event raised \$266,738 – exceeding our goal by nearly \$50K! Special thanks to our three presenting sponsors, Kao Family Foundation, Garmin, and Kansas City National Security Campus managed by Honeywell FM&T. And a tip of the fork to our event chairs, Teresa Keller and Laurie Minard.



The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City Alumni Hall of Fame is the highest accolade bestowed upon former Club members or dedicated supporters. It signifies outstanding personal and professional achievements, coupled with an unwavering commitment to improving the lives of children and youth in the community.

Meet Our Distinguished Honorees for 2023

Missouri House Representative Richard Brown

Richard Brown represents Southeast Kansas City in the Missouri House of Representatives and is known for his deep commitment to education and public service. A former member of the John Thornberry 43rd Street Boys Club, Rep. Brown attributes his professional success to his early experiences with the Boys Club and credits the Club with shaping his future. A devoted former schoolteacher, he spent 23 years lifting up students in the Kansas City Public Schools.



Roshann Parris, Founder and CEO of Parris Communications Inc.

Now in its 35th year of successful operation, Ms. Parris' Kansas City-based public relations and strategic communications firm is just one of several career high points for this new Hall of Famer. While managing her firm, she has simultaneously maintained an active Washington, D.C.-based national service career. Her achievements include several senior roles on 11 presidential campaign staffs and serving as Lead Advance on the International White House Presidential Advance Team for Presidents Clinton, Obama, and Biden, accompanying them to over 60 countries worldwide.

Roshann has proudly been part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City family for over 30 years. She served on the Board of Directors for over a quarter century and helped lead the charge on Kids Night Out for well over a decade. She led the all-star event for the Clubs' Centennial Celebration in 2012 when the event broke the \$1 million barrier for the first time.



guidance
places
skills

Our Mission

To inspire and enable all young people, especially those in the most need, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. The Clubs are committed to fostering a sense of belonging and creating opportunities that empower youth to overcome obstacles and achieve success in all aspects of life.



Nancy and Gordon Beaham Legacy Center

4001 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Suite 102
Kansas City, MO 64130
816-361-3600 | www.helpkckids.org

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



We Meet Kids Where They Live & Learn

Unit Locations:

Breidenthal Unit

1240 Troup Avenue | Kansas City, KS 66102

Hawthorne Unit

16995 Dover Lane | Independence, MO 64056

Independence Unit

315 South Leslie Avenue | Independence, MO 64050

J&D Wagner Unit

2405 Elmwood Avenue | Kansas City, MO 64127

Northland Unit

1321 NE Vivion Road | Kansas City, MO 64118

Olathe Unit

520 South Harrison Street | Olathe, KS 66061

Thornberry Unit

3831 East 43rd Street | Kansas City, MO 64130

7 Club Units, 3 School Sites, and 1 Partnership Site

School Locations:

Clifford H. Nowlin Middle School

2800 South Hardy Avenue | Independence, MO 64052

Lee A. Tolbert Community Academy Charter School

3400 Paseo Boulevard | Kansas City, MO 64109

S. Kiki Curls Unit at Hickman Mills Middle School 6th and 7th Grade Center

9010A Old Santa Fe Road | Kansas City, MO 64138

Partnership Site:

Synergy Services' Youth Resiliency Center

2001 NE Parvin Road | Kansas City, MO 64116



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