

GREAT FUTURES START HERE

65 TANTER STREET



Foundation
for the Future



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF WORCESTER

“The Boys & Girls Club has given me my future.”

Giovani Dulcio,
Boys & Girls Club of Worcester &
Massachusetts Youth of the Year, 2012

For over a century, the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester has helped local youth discover their potential, working alongside as they grow into well-rounded, contributing members of society.

We have a long and rich history, and through it all, our mission of helping the youth who need us most has remained deeply rooted in our foundation. We are kicking off our Foundation for the Future campaign—only the second campaign in our history. The goal is to raise \$3.5 million to ensure that our Club will be around for another century, serving future generations of Worcester’s youth. We invite you to join us in securing a bright future for our youth and our community.



OUR FOUNDATION



As one of the founding Boys Clubs, the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester was established in 1889 as a safe place that offered fun activities for neighborhood youth. We have a long list of accomplished alumni, who entered the doors of our Club as youth simply looking for a safe place to enjoy being a kid. Our Club serves more than 6,000 children a year, but there are many more who need our help. We keep our membership costs low in order to welcome all children. The support of our generous donors allows us to offer scholarships to kids who can't afford to pay the annual membership fee.

"Your gift will give a kid like me a chance to overcome challenges and pursue her dreams." Amanda Jubin, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2011, is a junior at Quinnipiac University. She is majoring in occupational therapy and works at Fallon Rehab during the summers.



Foundation for the Future is kicking off with a bang after receiving the biggest single donation in our Club's history. The Francis A. and Jacquelyn H. Harrington Foundation invested \$3 million to retire our construction debt, giving the Club some great momentum heading into the campaign. Jim Harrington, trustee of the foundation and member of the Club's Board of Directors, said, *"It's very simple. It's about more than building the Boys & Girls Club ... it's about more than building the Main South neighborhood. It's about building the future of an entire city, because the future of Worcester lies in the hands of our kids who come through our doors every day. This money is an investment in our children, and our future."*

ADDRESSING TODAY'S CHALLENGES

Our three Clubhouses (Main South, Great Brook Valley, and Plumley Village) are located in the poorest neighborhoods in Worcester, where we serve some of the city's most underprivileged kids: 64% of them live in single-parent households, and 80% are under the poverty line. Our youth are in danger of falling behind in school and dropping out, being targeted by gangs, and of poor health outcomes.

- ▲ We assist 95 at-risk youth every year, many either court or gang-involved, through our Targeted Outreach programs.
- ▲ We have matched over 120 youth with staff and trained volunteers, who provide academic and emotional support. Many of our children rely on their mentors as the only positive and encouraging role models in their lives.
- ▲ We serve a hot, nutritious dinner to over 250 youth every weeknight during the school year. Too many of our kids would go to bed hungry without our Kids Café program. Good nutrition is linked to improved academic performance, emotional stability, and positive physical and mental development.

Our youth are strong, bright individuals, motivated to learn and grow into contributing members of their community. The Club offers them a safe place, where they can participate in educational and fun activities, with support from friends and trusted adults.

The Club is:

"Enriching" Lance Evans, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2009

"Family" Theresa Pickens, Worcester and Massachusetts Youth of the Year, 2007

"Memorable" Jewel White, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2006

"Home" Richelle Gray, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2013



OUR FUTURE

OUR PLAN: The Foundation for the Future Campaign

Our flagship facility, the Francis A. & Jacquelyn H. Harrington Clubhouse, located in Main South, opened in 2006. In order for our Club to be a resource for the entire community, we must build a strong financial foundation to ensure that it will be around for another 125 years. We will expand our outreach work at the Plumley Village and Great Brook Valley sites, assuring that all members have access to a safe, fun and up-to-date learning space. Our varied programs encompass academic support, athletics, leadership, and the arts.

The money we raise will:

- ▲ Establish a stability fund for a 6-month operational reserve (\$1.1 million)
- ▲ Create a planned maintenance fund to preserve the Club facilities (\$1 million)
- ▲ Enhance and expand programs to help Club kids achieve their full potential (\$1.4 million)

Our plans include:

- ▲ Music room renovation: We will double the size of the recording studio and practice room, while expanding our dance and music programs. Cuts to school budgets have meant less money for arts, and music and dance lessons are far beyond the financial reach of most of our Club kids. Our music program is a proven draw for our hard-to-reach teens.
- ▲ Upgraded educational & interactive technology: A recent study showed that 92% of Club kids have no access to a computer outside of school. The Club is their only resource outside the classroom. If Worcester's low-income kids are looking to compete in today's job market, the Club *must* provide access and instruction.
- ▲ Equip and staff Clark University's NCAA-regulation field, a shared space with our Club (adjacent to our Harrington facility): The field will more than double the footprint of our Harrington Clubhouse in Main South, we will offer sports such as flag football, soccer, track & field, and cross country skiing. These are an unheard-of-resource for inner-city kids. Estimated completion date is fall, 2015.
- ▲ Workforce training: Many of our kids have few meaningful role models outside the Club, so we need to support and prepare them for GREAT FUTURES. This means more job shadow days, resume writing workshops, job readiness trainings, in addition to more college tours and college prep workshops.
- ▲ Develop talented staff: In order to recruit and retain quality staff, we need to offer adequate compensation and professional development trainings. Investing in our staff means investing in our kids' futures.
- ▲ Targeted Outreach: We will invest more in our Great Brook Valley and Plumley Village sites, so all Club kids are given equal opportunities. We will focus on attracting teens who are at-risk of joining gangs or court-involved, providing them with opportunities to lead healthy and successful lives.



"Kids need a place to go to feel safe. The Club is a place where you can do or be anything."
Damian Almazraawi, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2008

STRONG FOUNDATION BUILDS GREAT KIDS



OUR FUTURE

With over a century of service, the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester is one of the largest youth development agencies in central Massachusetts. We are proud of our kids' accomplishments:

- ▲ 97% of our Club's 2013 high school graduates are in college, as are 90% of our grads from the last four years.
- ▲ 90% of the kids who participated in our homework help programs last year improved their grades by at least one full letter in at least one subject.
- ▲ Our dance team, In Da Zone, has won several local and regional competitions, and won a national talent contest two years in a row. Our dance program received the National Merit Award for Program Excellence, from the Boys & Girls Club of America.
- ▲ One of our Club kids is a National Junior Olympian boxer. Our alumni include a three-time World Boxing Champion, as well as a professional boxer recently featured at Madison Square Garden.
- ▲ In 2006, 2012, and 2014 our Club's Youth of the Year was selected to represent all of Massachusetts.
- ▲ Our teens have a voice in the governance of their community, serving on committees within the Club, their schools, and city-wide.



DANCE

"The Club taught me the importance of giving back. It becomes ingrained in you, wanting to make a difference in a person's life."

Lance Evans, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2009

It's a brand new day at the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester. Years of planning and hard work have resulted in a beautiful facility made just for Worcester's youth. Although our progress in recent years has been extraordinary, our work is not done. With your help, we can maintain the strength of our facility, secure our financial stability, and enhance the quality programs that have transformed at-risk youth into community leaders for more than a century. Our kids' success—and countless opportunities—are made possible by the combined efforts of caring staff, volunteers, and our generous donors. Our Foundation for the Future campaign will provide a strong base for generations of our youth. Our children are our community's future, and we must act now.

"When you give to the Club, you are bringing hope to kids and giving them a place to call their own."

Jewel White, Worcester Youth of the Year, 2006

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF A CHILD

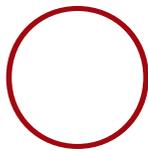


Although we only charge \$25 for an annual membership to our Harrington Clubhouse and \$10 to our outreach sites, it costs on average \$460 per child to provide the Club's programs each year, including:

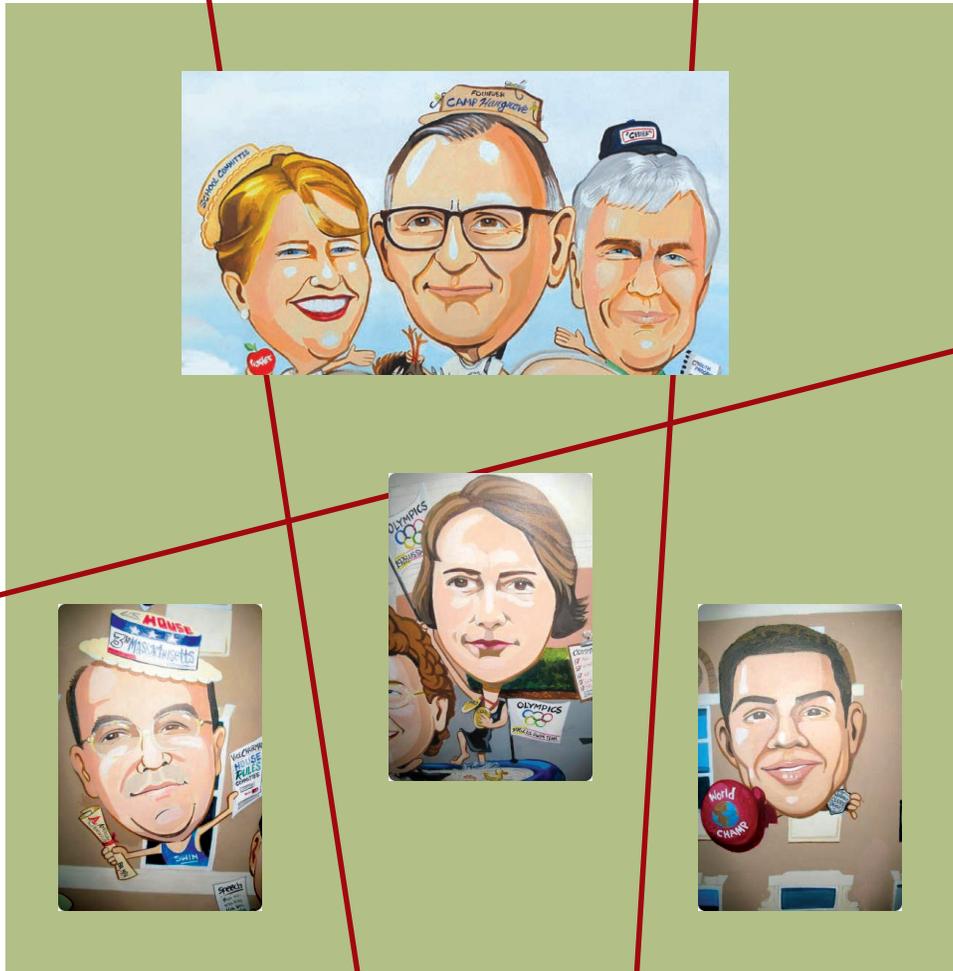
- ▲ Kid's Cafe
- ▲ Homework Assistance/ College Prep
- ▲ Job Readiness
- ▲ Leadership & Community Involvement
- ▲ The Arts
- ▲ Athletics & Social Recreation
- ▲ Individual and Family Therapy
- ▲ Mentoring

Our goal: **"Serve More Kids, More Often,"** by increasing the number of kids we serve on a daily basis from 320 to 550 by 2016. Imagine the impact we can have on our community by opening up a world of opportunities for more Club members. We invite you to invest in the life of a child, and the future of our community.

CHANGING LIVES FOR OVER A CENTURY



Our kids and alumni are the foundation on which our organization was built. We are proud of the success achieved by our alumni, who have had rich and varied careers, including a World Champion boxer, an Olympian, a congressman, local school board members and many more.



ALUMNI

Dottie, Gordon Jr., and Gordon Sr. Hargrove - Former School Board Member and Educator, Executive Director of Friendly House for fifty years, and Former Building Superintendent of Boys & Girls Club of Worcester

Jim McGovern - Congressman

Albina Osipowich - 1928 Olympic Gold Medalist in Swimming

Jose Rivera - Three-Time World Champion Boxer

"The Club saved my life. I can't even explain what a difference it made to have staff who cared about me, challenged me, and saw my potential. I wouldn't have the success I have today if not for the Club and staff," stated Jose Rivera.

Theresa Pickens: Youth of the Year, 2007 *(back row, right – front cover)*

Theresa overcame many barriers as a young teen, and learned to channel her anger into positive energy. She began filling her life with positive activities. Theresa excelled academically, earning a scholarship to Clark University. She is also a talented basketball player, and played throughout her college career. Theresa is fulfilling her dream of being a teacher at South High School in Worcester. She volunteers in our SMARTGirls program in addition to mentoring young Club members.

Damian Almazraawi: Youth of the Year, 2008 *(back row, left – front cover)*

As the child of a staff member, Damien grew up at the Club, where he made a name for himself early on by singing at several Club events. He also founded the video game and avatar club after he and a few friends became interested. Damien graduated from Wheaton College with a degree in biochemistry, and is now employed at our Plumley Village site. "My advice to kids in the Club today is to be whatever they want to be. Be what you are inspired to be and use the Club to harness your potential."

Lance Evans: Youth of the Year, 2009 *(front row, right – front cover)*

Lance began attending the Club at seven years old, and explored his many interests during his time here. He credits the Club with helping him through a difficult period in his life: "Just knowing that you have people who care about you and want to see you do well is a great feeling." Lance earned a B.A. in history from Emmanuel College, and hopes to teach in an urban setting.



Giovani Dulcio: Youth of the Year, 2010 & 2012 *(at left)*

After overcoming several obstacles early on in his life, Geo began attending the Boys & Girls Club at our Great Brook Valley outreach site. He flourished during his time here, participating in our academic success and job readiness programs, as well as captaining our dance team, In Da Zone. Geo is now a sophomore at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and intends to become a pharmacist. He returns to the Club during school breaks to volunteer and mentor younger members.

Amanda Jubin: Youth of the Year, 2011 *(at left)*

As a first generation Ghanaian-American, Amanda works hard to strike a balance between her heritage and her everyday life. While at the Club, Amanda was the secretary of our Keystone Club, president of our dance team, In Da Zone, and sat on several community youth committees. One of her projects included organizing a benefit to raise money for victims of the Haiti earthquake. As a senior at Quinnipiac University, Amanda is working towards her goal of becoming an occupational therapist.

Richelle Grey: Youth of the Year, 2013 *(front row, left – front cover)*

Richelle credits the Club with "making me more open to people, and teaching me different things about people, such as their culture, their beliefs, and things they like." When she's not excelling academically at the Advanced Math and Science Academy, Richelle spends her time helping out in Kid's Cafe, as a member of In Da Zone, and volunteering in the community.

Jewel White: Youth of the Year 2006 *(back row, center – front cover)*

Jewel attributes the Club to helping her build a strong foundation. "The Club gave me good friends who care about me and want me to succeed." As a graduate of Franklin Pierce College with a degree in social work and Women/Leadership, Jewel is currently working at a girls' secure treatment facility in Westboro, with the hope of one day becoming a supervisor and attaining her Master's degree.

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To support the Foundation for the Future campaign, please contact Liz Hamilton, Assistant Executive Director, at lhamilton@bgcworchester.org or 508/754-2686, x 205. Thank you!



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