



Teen Leaders Host Inspiring Summer Job Rally

Our teen leaders recently took center stage as they planned and hosted an inspiring Teen Summer Job Rally, demonstrating the power of youth voice and leadership. Not only did they organize the event, but they also served as hosts, MCs, and passionate advocacy speakers—encouraging their peers to pursue meaningful summer employment opportunities. We are incredibly proud of their confidence, preparation, and dedication to supporting fellow teens.

The rally featured several distinguished guest speakers who shared insights and encouragement with attendees, including State Representative Mary Keefe, Tim Garvin of United Way of Central Massachusetts, Marybeth Campbell of Worcester Community Action Council, and Jeff Turgeon of MassHire Central Career Center.

We are also grateful to the many community partners who attended and supported the event, including YMCA of Central Massachusetts, the Regional Environmental Council (REC), Ricema, and the City of Worcester Division of Youth Opportunities.

This impactful event would not have been possible without the guidance and mentorship of our youth development professionals, including Jyotsana, Tiara, and Shanika, whose support continues to empower our young leaders to shine.

Liz Hamilton honored by Worcester Business Journal

We are proud to celebrate a remarkable achievement for our organization and community. Our CEO, Liz Hamilton, has been inducted into the *Worcester Business Journal Hall of Fame*, an honor that recognizes her visionary leadership and longstanding commitment to the young people of Worcester.



Under Liz's guidance, the Boys & Girls Club of Worcester has significantly expanded its programs and services, reaching more youth and families than ever before—particularly those who need support the most. Her passion for creating equitable opportunities and her dedication to helping every child succeed have driven meaningful, lasting impact across our city.

Liz's leadership continues to inspire our staff, members, and supporters alike. Please join us in congratulating Liz on this well-deserved recognition and thanking her for leading the Club with heart, courage, and an unwavering belief in the potential of every young person.

To celebrate Liz in person, tickets to the event can be purchased on the [Worcester Business Journal website](#).

Club Members Celebrate Black History Month at SoulFest



To close out Black History Month, Club members came together for a vibrant and engaging SoulFest celebration filled with creativity, culture, and learning. Throughout the event, youth participated in hands-on activities designed to honor the contributions and legacy of Black leaders and artists.

During Art Exploration, members learned about the influential artist Jean-Michel Basquiat and his lasting impact on the art world. Inspired by his bold style and techniques, participants created their own original art pieces. Members of our Torch Leadership Club also spent time exploring the stories and achievements of notable Black leaders who have shaped history and continue to inspire future generations such as Josephine Baker, Kara Walker, and Jackie Robinson.

Other Club members, including participants in our Passport to Manhood program, took part in a cooking experience where they learned how to prepare classic comfort foods such as fried chicken and red velvet waffles. The activity combined culinary skills with cultural appreciation, making for a meaningful and memorable way to celebrate the month.
