



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF NORTHERN RHODE ISLAND



BUILDING GREAT FUTURES

Capital Campaign



GREAT F

We're excited that the Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern Rhode Island will celebrate its 65th anniversary next year and also the opening of its new Clubhouse at 600 Social Street in Woonsocket. Both are pivotal accomplishments that have been long in the making and reflect our commitment to the children and youth in the community. We are excited to now kick off a capital campaign and invite you to help us complete renovations and open the new doors in the fall of 2021. **With a goal of \$1.25 million,** your generosity will ensure its timely completion and capacity to serve more of Woonsocket's most deserving children and youth.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern Rhode Island resulted from the 2018 merger of the Boys & Girls Club of Cumberland-Lincoln and the Boys & Girls Club of Woonsocket, and, thanks to our staff's community outreach,

FUTURES START HERE.

membership and attendance significantly increased. So much so, that the Woonsocket Clubhouse quickly reached capacity and a waitlist was created. Our team and the rest of the Board of Directors agreed that a physical expansion of the Club was in our immediate future.

The 600 Social Street building serendipitously became available, and, after thoughtful deliberation, we purchased the facility at the beginning of 2020. When the \$3.7 million renovation is complete, this facility will encompass 34,000 square feet and allow us to serve as many as 500 children and teens daily, roughly three times the capacity as our current Woonsocket Clubhouse. Walking distance from the present Clubhouse on Kendrick Avenue, and Woonsocket Elementary, Middle and High Schools, this brand-new space will include state-of-the-art resources and technology and will support our programs and services that focus on academic success, healthy lifestyles, and

good character & citizenship. It will also be a place for teenagers to find opportunities for employment, career development, and college preparation. This will be an empowering, meaningful space in an area that needs some uplifting.

Additionally, this building will give a permanent home to the Club's food pantry. During this pandemic, our food program has served as a resource for members, their families and other food-insecure residents in our service areas. From the March shutdown, through December 2020, the Club has provided 65,000 and 2,800 bags of groceries, and the demand remains steady.

We hope you join the Club and the entire Board of Directors in contributing to this campaign. Your gift will cement our presence in Woonsocket and enable us to place more kids on the path to success as we "Build Great Futures."

Sincerely,

Gary Rebelo
President & CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern RI



Michael O'Connell
Chairman
Board of Directors



A MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS



Governor Daniel McKee,
Emeritus board member of the club, Honorary Chair of the Campaign

“The commitment we make today is going to make a big difference to the community. This [600 Social Street Building] use is far better, and it meets the needs of the community in a way that’s going to make it far better. This place helps kids reach their potential and that’s what makes the community stronger.”



Gary Rebelo,
President and CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern Rhode Island

“Our current clubhouse serves youth who every day, face poverty, domestic and school violence, higher than average dropout rates, gang violence and substance abuse. Because of our dedicated staff and the programs we offer, our members are able to get the support they need in a safe environment that will make a positive impact on their lives for decades to come. As parents and guardians are going back to work, they need us for after school child care and virtual learning help during the school day. The community needs the Club now more than ever.”



Mayor Lisa Badelli-Hunt,
City of Woonsocket

“This is a huge investment and this is exactly what we need to invest in. We have known for quite a while that the Boys & Girls Club on Kendrick Avenue has been bursting at the seams and we have been looking forward to this expansion. The Club helps send our youth on the right path in life by providing them with a safe place where they can learn social skills under the direction of positive role models. The Club involves young people with interesting, meaningful and fun activities that perfectly fill the time gap between home and school.”

Our Programs Work

To help kids circumnavigate these challenges, BGCNRI provides a positive environment with a focus on three core areas - academic success, healthy lifestyles, and good character and citizenship. Our programs and services help young people most in need to acquire the tools and awareness to break out of the cycle of poverty, thrive in life, and succeed in the future. They are designed to ensure that all Club members graduate from high school on time, ready for a post-secondary education or prepared for a career, and with strong character, citizenship and healthy habits. We are proud to report that it works:

- Over the past two years, **100%** of our seniors **have graduated** from high school
- **98%** of our members **expect to graduate** from high school
- Woonsocket Clubhouse’s Keystone Club **received a 2020 Community Service Award** from the national Boys & Girls Clubs of America in recognition of its work addressing juvenile violence in the City of Woonsocket
- **84%** of members surveyed **report a sense of belonging** at BGCNRI
- **100%** of members in the after-school program **participate in physical activity**

WHAT “THE CLUB” MEANS TO ME



“Working at my local Boys & Girls Club is the best job I’ve ever had.

It connects me with the youth and I can steer them away from bad decisions.”

– Manny, staff member

“They’re not just a club and not just a daycare center or after school or before school program - they are more of a home. When I walk through that door, they know who I am. I am who I am because of the Boys & Girls Club, too. Being a single mother, their parents group has helped me. My daughter’s father passed away, and when she has her moments and has breakdowns or acts up, I reach out to the staff to give them a heads up and we check in with each other. It helps me as her mom to try to cope with helping her, but it’s a team effort. It takes a village, and the Boys & Girls Club is my village.”

– Maria, mother of Cici (left)

“When I first came here, I was always nervous to talk to people. I was really quiet, and when I started to talk to the staff more, I started becoming more talkative and becoming friends with more people. And that’s how I met my friend group. Staff would help me get involved with all the activities, too. I like Torch Club because I get to help with community service, and I really like the sports because they help me be active and get out there. There was one time when I was having a really rough day, because my dad had passed away, and I needed to talk about it, so I went to one of the staff and she just heard me out and would listen to me. I think its really important how close the staff are with the kids, and if one of them messes up the staff doesn’t just yell at them, they hear them out as to why they did it and think about what the next step should be.”

– Cici (right)



ABOUT US



Mission

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Northern Rhode Island's mission is "to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens."

At our facilities and through outreach, the Club constantly strives to provide a positive environment for children and youth ages 5 to 18 with programs and services focusing on three core areas – **academic success, healthy lifestyles, and good character and citizenship** - that are integral to these Northern Rhode Islanders.

Profile of BGCNRI's Woonsocket Clubhouse Members (2019 data)



Approximately **87%** of members represent several minority races and ethnicities, including **Black 9.3%**, **Latino 24.4%**, and **multi-racial or some other race 36.4%**



The Clubhouse enjoys **548** total members, and **158** average daily attendance



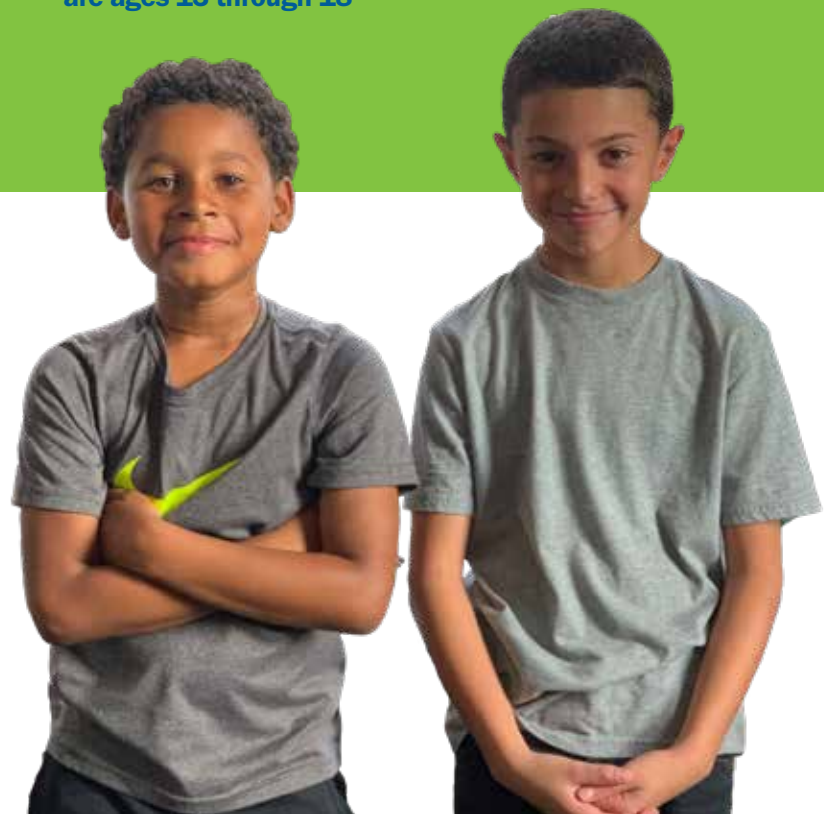
57.6% are ages 5 through 12, and **42.4%** are ages 13 through 18



28,018 meals and **18,656** snacks were served in 2019

Whatever It Takes to Build Great Futures

There is no silver bullet to success. It takes an army of people, a safe environment, high-quality programs and unique experiences to level the playing field for all kids. Boys & Girls Clubs don't just do one thing, we do whatever it takes to build great futures for America's young people.



THE NEED

City of Woonsocket Data (2020 Rhode Island Kids COUNT Factbook)

- The **median family income** in Woonsocket in 2018 was **\$31,914**, the second lowest in the state.
- Only **74% of Woonsocket students graduated** from high school in 2019, as compared to the 84% state average.
- The **15% dropout rate** is the 4th highest in the state.
- **49%** of high school students are **chronically absent**.
- According to the RI Comprehensive Assessment System:
 - **18% of third graders met expectations in literacy**, and **15%** met expectations in **math**.
 - **12% of eighth graders met expectations in literacy**, and 8% met expectations in **math**.

RI Kids Count 2019 reports that children who live in poverty are more likely to earn less or be unemployed as adults. Also,

research shows that these children are more likely to be enrolled in schools short on resources and afterschool activities. At home, their caregivers might not be able to guide them on accessing job or educational resources because of their own limited knowledge, or they find it too complex to navigate.

“We were at capacity and turning away kids from entering the building in the dead of winter”

- Bonnie Piekarski,
Woonsocket Clubhouse
Unit Director



Rendering of 600 Social Street Facility

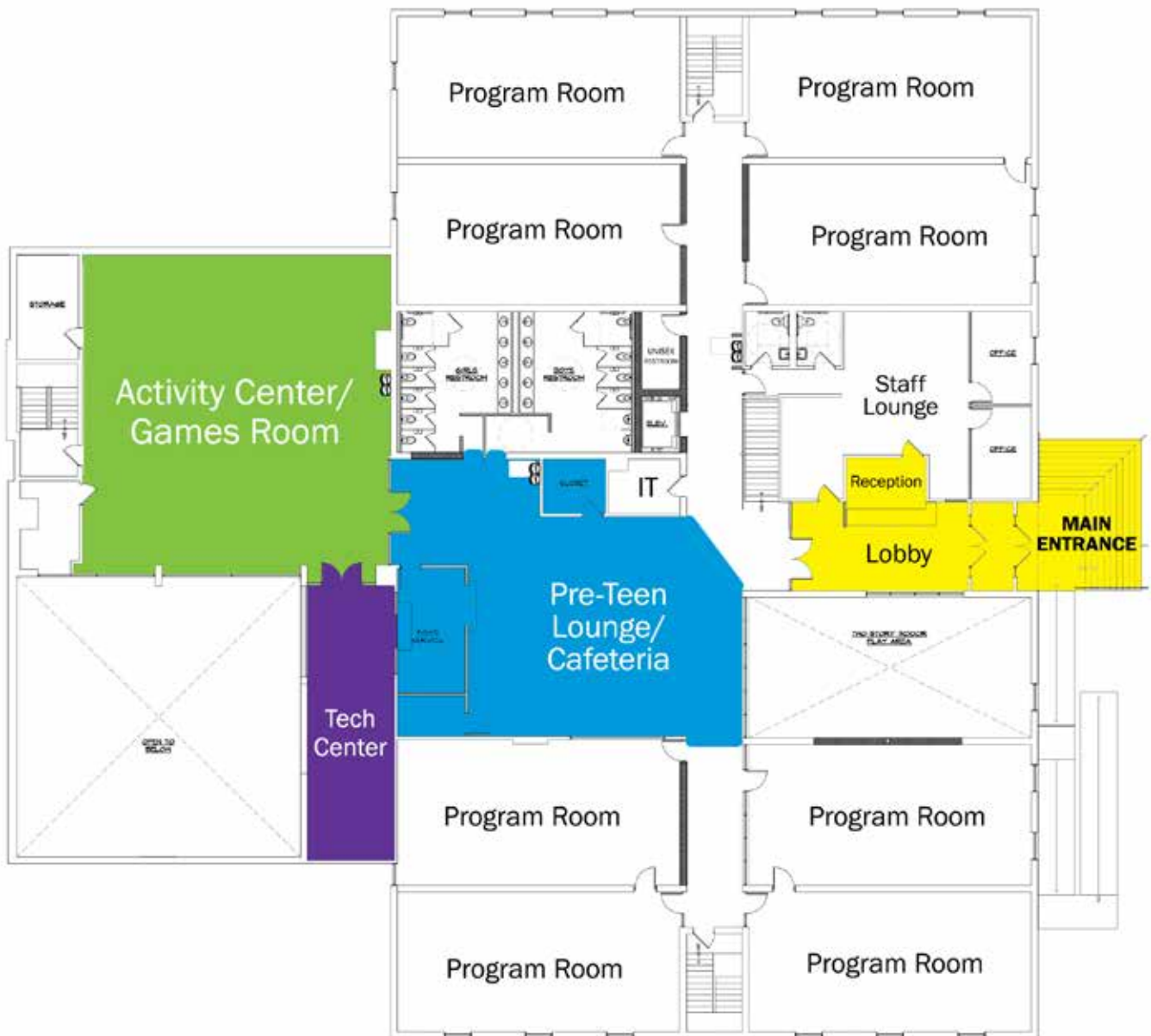
The need for a larger space to accommodate more members is evident.

Woonsocket’s diverse community faces longstanding challenges that have impeded success in adulthood, including abject poverty, street gangs and violence, and rampant substance abuse. Out of our current Woonsocket members, **95%** receive free or reduced lunches, and **85%** are in single family households.

BUILDING GREAT FUTURES

Main Level Features

- Licensed Child Care for over 200 Children
- **2,350 sq.ft. Activity Center / Games Room**
- **Tech Center**
- **Pre-Teen Lounge/Cafeteria: Food Service Area with Lounge & High-Top Seating**





Lower Level Features

- Licensed Child Care for over 120 Children
- **7,000 sq.ft. Teen Center Suite**
- **Indoor Half-Court Basketball**
- **Teen Music Room & Recording Studio**
- **Teen Tech Center**
- **Two Story indoor play area**
- **Culinary Learning Center and food pantry for members and their families**
- **STEAM Enrichment Center**



WOONSOCKET CLUBHOUSE MEMBER SURVEY REPORT

150 Woonsocket Clubhouse members surveyed illustrates strong results:

I feel like I belong here.
92%

How far do you think you will get in school?

(Youth) College degree or greater **95%**
Expect to Graduate High School (Youth & Teen) **95%**
On Grade Level for Age (5th to 12th Grade Only) **100%**

What were your grades
like last year?

Mostly As and Bs | **95%**

If I'm the leader of a group, I
make sure that everyone
in the group feels important

Agree/Strongly Agree | **95%**

When I make a decision, I try
to think about how other
people will be affected.

Agree/Strongly Agree | **82%**

I want to help when I see
Someone having a problem

Agree/Strongly Agree | **94%**

I have done things to help
people in my community

Agree/Strongly Agree | **94%**

When something important
goes wrong in my life,
I try to figure out how to do
better next time.

90%

If I try my best,
I can do most things.

89%

I want to help when I see
someone having a problem.

94%

How many staff could
you talk to if you are
upset about something?

92%



Lounge/Cafeteria of the new building.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN PROJECT COSTS

To ensure renovations are completed by the fall of 2021, we have embarked on a Capital Campaign to support this \$3.7 million project and have targeted a campaign goal of \$1.25 million.

The Club is amply experienced to take on this investment. We have increased our revenue from \$590,000 in 2014 to \$2.8 million in 2020. This shows our ability to fund growth, and emerge from a deficit in 2015 to operating in the black in 2016. A significant portion of our earned revenue comes from RI Department of Human Services' reimbursement for child care for low-income families. As we grow membership in our child care, we expect DHS reimbursement to increase proportionately and cover a portion of our operating costs.

Estimate Costs

The total cost for this project will be \$3.7 million including the purchase price of the property (\$980,000).

Renovation and budget highlights will include:

- High efficiency HVAC system with ultraviolet emitters that destroy airborne viruses and bacteria (\$430,000)
- All new plumbing including washrooms with showers, designated gender neutral restrooms and fire suppression system (\$395,000)
- All new electrical including wireless access points throughout (\$300,000)
- Interior build-out and furnishings including a State of the art security system to provide the ultimate in safety to our members (\$1.6M)

“We are long-time supporters of the Boys & Girls Clubs and when the opportunity presented itself to make a lasting impression in the Woonsocket community, we of course said yes. Navigant Credit Union is a firm believer in Rhode Island. Gary Rebelo, spoke to us about the project and gave us the tour of 600 Social Street, the impact was tangible. This new Clubhouse will not only be better equipped to serve the kids, with a learning kitchen and much larger Teen Center, but it will also revitalize the downtown area of the city. We are honored to be part of the Club’s transformational campaign.”



**– Gary Furtado, President and Chief Executive Officer
Navigant Credit Union**



This picture is the future lower level reception area that will provide access to the Teen Center, Culinary Learning Center, and Food Pantry.

HELP MAKE THIS VISION A REALITY

As we did in 1956, we are once again joining together to put more children and youth who need help most on the path to “Great Futures.” Join us in this capital campaign and be part of the movement for positive change for Woonsocket, Rhode Island, and beyond.

Through your philanthropy, you can help us build great futures for kids by supporting the Building Great Futures Capital Campaign. Contact us today to make your charitable gift and make a positive impact on hundreds of Woonsocket kids and families.

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“I am very confident that I can send children there, and I can recommend to families, that the Boys & Girls Club is a good place to go.

I am very thankful for this venture, I pray God’s blessing on it, and I know that it does do and will continue to do some marvelous work.”

– Reverend Jeffrey Thomas, Pastor, St. James Baptist Church, Former Club member in Connecticut

BUILDING GREAT FUTURES



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