

The average cost to families for a week of summer programming in Massachusetts is \$300 per child, a fee well out of reach of most of our families.

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell is committed to keeping our weekly fee accessible to the families who need us most at just \$30 per week, meals included.



The Club's summer program serves youth ages 8 - 18. Our Teen Center programs serve about 100 teens per day, giving them a safe, productive alternative to hanging out on the streets during the summer when crime rates rise by 10%.



The Peace League, now in its 15th year, is focused on teaching conflict resolution skills to teens, with the goal of reducing violent crimes among teens.



Many teens have first-job experiences through the Club. Work-based learning experiences that include positive relationships with adults often result in high job quality in adulthood, and have shown to reduce crime rates as well.



In the summer of 2018, 44 Club teens provided 511 hours of community service in Lowell. Volunteering has been shown to build self-esteem and resilience among teens, as well as help them build stronger resumes for college and job applications.

Sources:

National Summer Learning Association  
[www.summerlearning.org](http://www.summerlearning.org)

Annie E. Casey Foundation  
[www.aecf.org](http://www.aecf.org)

Afterschool Alliance  
[www.afterschoolalliance.org](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org)

Summer break is a time for playing with friends, taking trips to fun spots, and not having a care in the world.

However, for low-income youth and families, summer break can create a stressful situation — without the security of meals provided at school, kids can go hungry; the high cost of child care and summer programs can result in children being left at home sitting in front of a television, bored and alone; without a productive place to be during the day, teen violence and crime rises.



But it doesn't have to be this way. Read on to learn how the Summer Program at the Boys & Girls Club impacts youth in Lowell.

By 5th grade, summer learning loss can leave low-income youth up to 3 years behind their peers. The Club offers many programs and field trips designed to lessen this learning loss in our members.



Cookouts are a staple of summertime memories; at the Club, a cookout every Friday is a highlight for many members.



Partners like GirlStart — a week-long program to empower girls in science, technology, engineering and math, and PUMA — which offers an exciting field day experience for 100 of our Club members each summer, help make our summer program even more enriching for our Club members.



Club members have opportunities to gain an appreciation for the natural environment through field trips and our gardening program.

