



The
Open
Door



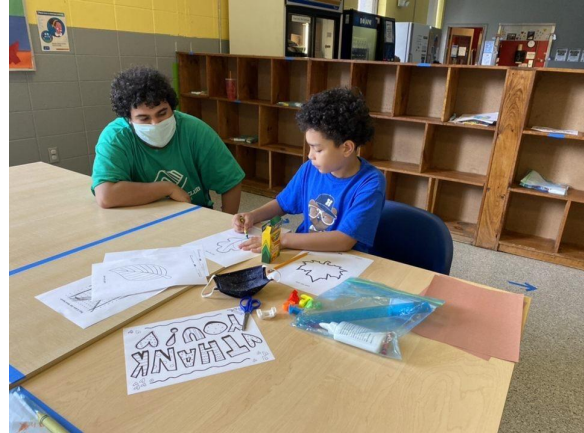
GREAT
FUTURES
LOWELL

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell

July 17th, 2020



Club members practice mindfulness and manage stress in the gym through a yoga session.



Teen staff learn leadership and job skills by working with Club members on art projects after lunch.

Summer Program 2020

Club staff were excited to see the members in person once again when the [summer program](#) kicked off on July 6th. Our members were just as excited to return to spending time with their friends and mentors playing games, socializing, and learning.

We truly appreciate the support from community members that has allowed us to make this very unique summer special for our Club members. Thank you to all who continue to send words of encouragement, donations, and assistance to the members! **Here are some of the ways you are providing educational and fun programming for the youth of Lowell this summer...**

Outdoor Fun

Members enjoyed time outdoors



exploring the garden with our friends at [Fresh Start Food Gardens](#). Club members weeded, watered, fed and tied up the tomatoes. They also explored different plants at various stages of growth, and started new beds of vegetables. One member enjoyed gardening so much, he said

he wanted to be a farmer when he grows up and asked staff to let his mother know! Gardening is a way for members to get hands-on experience learning a new skill that urban youth often do not have access to. Staff also teach the members about simple and healthy snacks and meals they can make with their families using fresh produce from the garden.

Members spent time in the sun playing Four-Square and having relay races. Part of the Club's [Healthy Lifestyles](#) curriculum includes regular exercise and activity for all youth. Staff put together games that our members can enjoy and feel comfortable playing with one another at a safe social distance. Eating right and exercising go hand-in-hand for a healthy lifestyle, and your support allows staff to find creative ways to promote both aspects to members in a fun and interactive way.



Youth getting exercise and enjoying the sunshine with a game of Four-Square outside of the Club.

What's your favorite vegetable to grow in your garden?

Tomatoes

Select

Squash

Select

Cucumbers

Select

Peppers

Select

I don't have a garden, but the kids have inspired me to start one next year!

Select

PRIME Teen Program

Our PRIME teens are hard at work in the Career and College Center where members have access to career readiness workshops like PRIME. **The PRIME (Providing Teens with Resources, Internships and Mentoring Experiences) program helps teens prepare for their futures through a curriculum focused on career readiness and mentorship.** The three teens pictured are exploring different career pathways with the Club's program staff and will attend virtual workshops each week with local guest speakers from a variety of fields.

Some of the tracks students can explore include hospitality, social services, healthcare, engineering, and more. Guest speakers come from local organizations the Club partners with, including the [University of Massachusetts Lowell](#), the [Lowell Community Health Center](#), and [Sizzling Kitchen](#). Teens are eager to spend time over the summer exploring career options and working with mentors to determine what they want to do after they graduate.



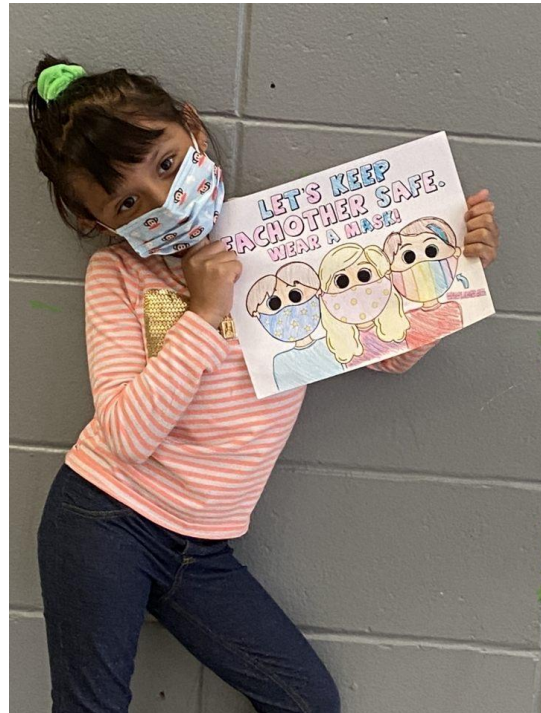
Healthy Meals & Partnerships

In addition to serving healthy meals each day to Club members and additional grab & go meals for youth unable to join us at the Club in person, we are

excited to be partnering with [Mill City Grows](#) to serve as a host site for their [Mobile Market](#) every Wednesday afternoon. The Mobile Market is one of Mill City Grows's farm to table resources that offers nutritious, locally-grown fruits and vegetables to families in the community at a very affordable rate. The Mobile Market will be at the Club every Wednesday from 3:30 pm- 5:00 pm and is open to the general public, not just Club families! Click below to access the [Mobile Market](#) flyer in [Khmer](#) or [Spanish](#).

Your support makes a direct impact...

The challenges of this past school year have created an even greater achievement gap for youth from low-income households. Thanks to supporters like you, youth at the Club have access to the resources they need to be successful and stay on track educationally during the summer. Studies from the [American Institute of Research](#) show the important role summer programs play in providing youth the necessary tools they need to grow socially, emotionally, and educationally.



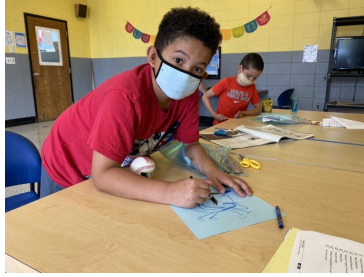
*"Research suggests that all people—children, youth, and adults—thrive in safe, supportive environments that are developmentally rich and identity-safe, characterized by positive relationships and relevant opportunities to learn and grow. **The need for safety, support, and trusting, reciprocal relationships becomes even more important** now as we work to rebuild and return stronger than before COVID-19."*

[Click here](#) for the full article from the [American Institutes for Research](#) pertaining to the role summer camps and afterschool programs play in the reopening plan.

If you have any questions or are interested in learning more about the Club's 2020 summer program, please feel free to reach out to Angel Brunelle, Director of Development, at abrunelle@lbgc.org.



This Club member is proud of the flags of various countries that he colored in the Enrichment Room



Kids work on self-portrait collages using newspapers, magazines, and art supplies



Making slime is always a popular activity at the Club

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
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