

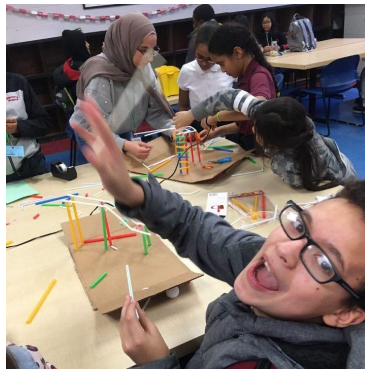


The Open Door

**GREAT
FUTURES
LOWELL**



Club members making arts & crafts in the MakerSpace with spoons and pipe cleaners



Youth creating roller coasters out of straws with [UML's Society of Women Engineers](#)



Teens working in the [Plastics Lab at UML](#) with some of the engineering professors and students

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell

[Visit our Website](#)

Important Notice on Club Closure

Club Resources During COVID-19

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell's number one priority is the safety of our community. Based on recommendations from the Lowell Health Department and local medical professionals, the Club will be closed while Lowell Public Schools are closed. We will post updates on this situation via our website and social media sites such as Facebook and Instagram.

While we cannot have our Club members in the building, we are doing all that we can to support Lowell's most vulnerable population during this difficult time. In order to make sure members are not missing the meals that they rely on, we will be distributing **both lunch**

and dinner grab-and-go boxed meals each weekday from 11:00 am- 1:00 pm. On Fridays, we will provide members with four additional meals each for the weekend. Club staff are working to provide **take-home activity kits** and **virtual programming** for members, and ways for youth to interact with our staff and get the support they need online. Our goal is to provide a focus to look forward to during a very unstructured and stressful time.

Below is a [link to our web page](#) containing all **COVID-19 resources** on for parents, **Club members, and donors**. Virtual programming access will be made available through this link in the upcoming days, in addition to the resources our members and their parents need, and how you can help support our Club members and their families.

COVID-19 Resources



Club members and staff serving soup at Lowell's Winterfest Soup Bowl Competition



Teens took a trip to Northeastern University to tour campus and learn more about opportunities after high school



The Club van has a brand new look thanks to Red Mill Graphics, Stargazer Creative, and the generous donor who made this possible

News & Impact

Coding with Kids

[Coding with Kids](#) came to the Club over February break to run coding and programming workshops with youth ages 8-12. A list of 22 youth were signed up to attend the three day workshop series. Club member, Joy, was not on the list and spends most of her time in the gym. She is highly active, has a lot of energy, and had not shown much interest coding and programming previously. Joy saw the workshop taking place and asked the instructor if she could try it out. The instructor was kind enough to set up an additional account for Joy and made space in the room for her.

Over the course of the three days, Joy excelled in all of the lessons taught by the instructors. Joy asked questions, created her own content, and even stayed in the classroom during break periods to work on her project. On the last day, Joy asked the instructor if she could teach the class, and the instructor was happy to let her lead her peers in a lesson.

Joy found a passion for coding when she was given access to 21st century programs here at the Club. Your support is helping kids like Joy experience fun and educational programs and work with positive adult role models in the community.

Learn more about [Coding with Kids](#) and what they offer [here](#).



Joy and a fellow Club member working on their projects during the break period



Joy and classmates teaching their peers a lesson in coding and web development

2020 Youth of the Year: Yvonne Welsh

The [Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell's](#) 2020 [Youth of the Year](#) was announced on Wednesday March 10th at a ceremony at [Four Oaks](#). The three finalists, Cameron Seneciame, Milad Amiri, and Yvonne Welsh are all exceptional leaders here at the Club and in the community. It was a difficult decision to say the least, but the 2020 [Youth of the Year](#) is Yvonne Welsh!

Yvonne is an extremely bright and hard working young person. This honor is well deserved. [Youth of the Year](#) is [Boys & Girls Clubs of America's](#) premier recognition program. It is designed to foster a new generation of leaders, fully prepared to thrive in a diverse economy.

The next step for Yvonne will be participating in the state-wide [Youth of the Year](#) competition. State winners receive a scholarship and advance to the regional competition. Regional winners receive an additional scholarship and then advance on to the National [Youth of the Year](#) competition in Washington D.C. for their chance to win a final \$25,000 scholarship, renewable up to \$100,000 over four years.

We are wishing Yvonne the best of luck as she moves to the next round of competition. Yvonne is backed by the support of her family and friends, and of course, her Club family.

Read more about the [Youth of the Year](#) program [here](#).



Poll: New Spring Activities

Help us incorporate more fun activities into virtual [programming](#) for our 8-12 year old Club members! Give us your opinion on which activities we should add into [programming](#) this spring at the Club below through activity kits.

Which of these spring-themed activities would you have enjoyed most as a kid?

DIY bird

feeders

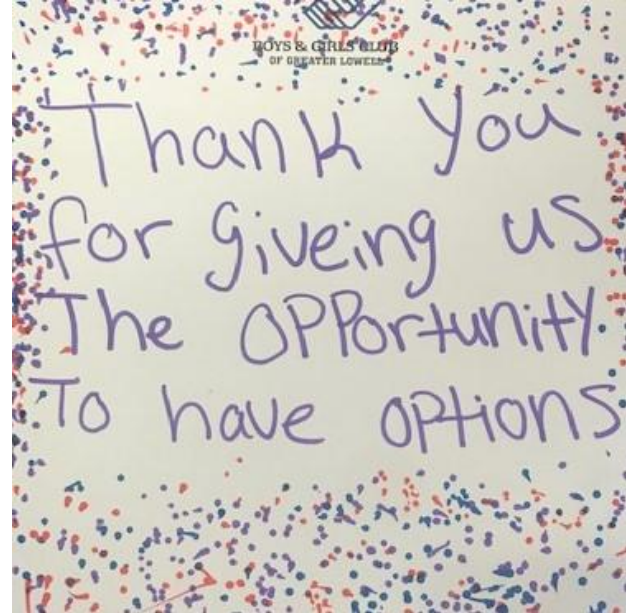
Select

Grow your own bean plant

Select

Nature scavenger hunt

Select



Employee Profile

Professional development is important and the [Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell](#) prides itself in providing ample opportunities for staff to learn. The Club invests heavily in training for staff and volunteers to ensure that our kids are getting the best care and guidance possible from the [BGCGL team](#).

Check out a [publication](#) about the importance of professional development for youth workers [here](#).

Sally Thayer- Nutrition Manager



Sally Thayer is the Club's Nutrition Manager and has been working at the Club for eight years. Before she worked at the Club, she had been volunteering to help get the [meals program](#) up and running as a [volunteer](#). As a chef, Sally feels passionately about youth having access to healthy meals each day. Her favorite part of her job is that she is able to ensure that each and every child who walks through the Club doors goes home with a full stomach at the end of the day.

Sally cooks full dinners for about 250 youth each evening. She has help from her part-time staff member, Tony, but has to arrive at the Club each morning by 7:30 am to ensure that all the food is prepped and cooked in time for the 4:00 pm dinner service. In addition to dinner, Sally prepares a teen

snack each night to make sure the growing teenagers get the food they need. During the summer, Sally serves two meals a day to the kids and holds Friday night BBQ's and Wednesday night catering from local restaurants for the teens.

The Club is fortunate to have [staff members](#) like Sally working with the youth. Sally provides youth with the support and care they need everyday. Making sure the youth are comfortable and happy is what Sally cares about the most and she provides them with that care through the love she puts into her cooking each day. Thank you, Sally, for all that you do for the Club!

Find out more about the [Healthy Meals Program](#) [here](#).

Information to Share

Job Openings

We are looking to fill a variety of part-time

and full-time positions at the Club. Below are some of the available opportunities that we encourage you to share with your family and friends, or apply to yourself. We are always looking for more dedicated and passionate individuals to join the [BGCGL Team!](#)



Full-time:

Youth Services Manager
Music Clubhouse Manager
Membership Manager

Part-time:

Facilities Coordinator- email jcrivera@lbgc.org
MakerSpace Lead- email kphelps@lbgc.org
Relief Staff- email jcrivera@lbgc.org



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF GREATER LOWELL

#GreatFuturesLowell

