



The Open Door

**GREAT
FUTURES
LOWELL**



Volunteers from [Kronos](#) lead games with Club members



Teens enjoying a cookout during [Summer Nights](#)



Playing cornhole during [PUMA](#) Field Day

Making Summer Magic...and meaningful

The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell's mission includes serving 'the youth who need us most' – and it is through the support of individuals, businesses and foundations like you that this is possible. Keeping our membership fee low ensures that all families are able to join the Club, but only provides about 4% of the income required to provide Club services. **In fact, 82% of the funds needed to provide after school and summer programming at the Club are generously donated by individuals, businesses and private foundations.***

Every person who supports the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell has an impact on youth in Lowell, whether you attend an event, make a donation via an appeal letter, represent a family or private foundation, volunteer or donate program supplies – **you've made a difference.**

Here are a few of the ways kids and teens in Lowell were impacted by your generosity this summer:

- **127 teens** were placed on teams in our summer Peace League – giving them a productive place to spend the evening while interacting in positive ways with other teens.
- **88 Club members** participated in the annual [PUMA](#) Field Day Frenzy, and had a blast playing games, making art and getting to know PUMA staff members.
- **22 teens** completed the [Signal Success](#) training with Lowell High School teachers in partnership with Project Learn.
- **37 teens** gained paid work experience and completed work-based learning this summer.
- **29 young ladies** in grades 4-6 participated a week long [GirlStart STEM Camp](#).
- [DCR Teen Summer Nights](#) served over **150 teens** with programs that included:

- FREE dinner every Wednesday with catering provided by: [Old Court Irish Pub](#), [Burtons Grill & Bar](#), [Ninety-Nine Restaurant](#), and [YouthBuild](#).
- Dungeons & Dragons Club
- Photography Club
- Career Launch Workshops
- Music Clubhouse Recording Studio
- [FlickWish](#) Movie Trivia Competition
- Club members learned to paddle board with [Chill Boston](#), worked on their entry for the [Lowell Kinetic Sculpture Race](#), read books for [Bookworm Wednesdays](#), and took fun field trips to Canobie Lake Park, Hampton Beach, and to see the [Lowell Spinners](#).
- **Over 20,000** healthy meals (breakfast and lunch) were served

It is clear that our community cares about its kids and teens. Our staff, Club members and their families truly appreciate the many opportunities made possible with your support.

*For more information check out our [2018 Impact Report](#)



Visiting the [Tsongas Industrial History Center](#)



Teens take a tour of [NetScout](#)

Cultural Awareness Club

The Boys & Girls Club strives for all members to understand how essential cultural awareness is, especially in Lowell's diverse community. Our Enrichment Room is dedicated to increasing cultural awareness for our Club members every day through learning activities. Each week, members learn about unique facets of culture by exploring traditions, music, dance, games, and food. The Enrichment Room offers members a place to explore their own cultural identities through geography, history, social studies, and to embrace diversity by learning from others about cultural identities that may be different from their own.



This past spring, Enrichment Coordinator Kady Phelps started a Cultural Awareness Club that met weekly. Each week, the group discussed upcoming holidays or traditions that their family may participate in. Their discussions might lead them to find similarities among cultural traditions celebrated in their homes, or to discover a new tradition that they didn't know about. For example, around the time of the Cambodian New Year, a member shared an important tradition in her family where younger family members make cards and small gifts for their elders. Each person in the Cultural Awareness Club then made a card and chose a small trinket to share with one of their own elders. This gives them the opportunity to discuss this custom, and explore similar customs in other cultures. Dialogue can really be guided by what the members share about their own identity.

Destiny was one of our younger Club members who, when she first came to the Club, was reluctant to become involved in programs and would sit in the café, sighing "I am bored" (which our staff know is really a catch phrase for "I am nervous/anxious/shy/etc."). Kady was able to convince Destiny to join the Cultural Awareness Club. Kady shared that Destiny brought insightful conversation once she got over her shyness. She stuck with the program (14 weeks) which is a significant commitment, most likely because she enjoyed being with others that had a shared interest in the community, and she could bond with other

Club members over things they had in common **and** things that made her unique. **Destiny felt needed because she represented her cultural identity and this grew her self- confidence.**

The Enrichment Room and Cultural Awareness Club help members realize that there are differences within the world – but others who seem different may be more similar than they think.

Starting the school year right

"It may seem like a small thing, but that 99 cent box of crayons, package of paper or notebook means the world to our families that struggle to make ends meet." - Program Director Alisha Harrison

When students don't have adequate school supplies, or go to school with tattered backpacks, they can feel isolated and embarrassed - which impacts their learning. Students who don't have the confidence to ask their teacher for help, might pretend everything is okay while they slip behind in their school work. Older students may be too embarrassed to show up for class at all. These donations are helping many kids and teens start the school year off right, and will help make sure they continue to have the supplies they need throughout the year.



Thanks to so many folks who donated supplies to the Club this summer, Alisha and the Club staff were able to put together school supply kits for families at the Club who might not otherwise be able to afford the school supplies kids are required to bring to school. Extra supplies are kept in a closet, so that when Club members run out of supplies, they know they can come to a trusted Club staff member who will help them out. Several drives for supplies were generously hosted by [Staples](#), [Michaels](#) and [Building Impact](#) – each drive had an impressive turnout.

When asked which school supply is in the most demand, Alisha exclaims “Glue sticks. Glue sticks are like gold!”



Justice visits [iheart Radio](#) station



Testing out the entry for the [Lowell Kinetic Sculpture Race](#)



Teens who participated in workforce development programs this summer

Upcoming Events



300 Drivers needed!

September 28th ,2019

Join us at [Gervais Lincoln](#) on Saturday, September 28th from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM and help raise up to \$8,000 to support the Club.

All you need to do is take a quick test drive of a brand new Lincoln, and complete a short survey, and Lincoln will donate \$20 to the Club!



There will be snacks, raffles and lots of familiar faces, so be sure to stop by.

[Click here](#) for more details and to let us know you're coming!

And don't miss...

Boys & Girls Club month at local [99 restaurants](#)- the entire month of October is Boys & Girls Club at the Ninety Nine! Stop by the Lowell, Westford or Tewksbury restaurants for special meals and events that support the Club.

Our [22nd Annual Holiday Auction](#) - [Tickets and sponsorships](#) are now available for our annual Holiday Auction which will take place on December 5th, 2019 at Lowell Memorial Auditorium. [Click here](#) for more information, or contact Yesenia Maysonet at ymaysonet@lbgc.org or 978-458-4526 x 13.



[Visit our Website](#)



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF GREATER LOWELL

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