



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF METRO SOUTH**

**KIDS
THESE
DAYS...**

**WILL CHANGE
THE WORLD!**

FY25 ANNUAL REPORT





A MESSAGE FROM OUR **President & CEO** *Derek Heim*

As another fiscal year comes to a close, I am filled with immense pride and purpose, inspired by the young people who represent our organization in their communities every day and give all of us at Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South faith that the best days of our nation's history surely lie ahead.

You may have heard the old adage **"kids these days"** often accompanied by a sigh and a shake of the head. This familiar phrase paints a picture of today's youth as distracted, entitled, or lacking direction. However, this notion couldn't be further from the truth and truly misses the big picture.

Today's youth are navigating a world filled with unprecedented challenges: rapid advancements in technology and communication, widespread social turbulence, and a changing global economy. They are not just passive recipients of these challenges; they are actively engaged in addressing them. They are advocates for change, using their voices to stand up for their beliefs in ways never before seen. We invite you to join BGCMS in challenging the narrative that kids these days are anything less than modern marvels.

The reality is that kids these days – especially Club kids – are creating bold new avenues for connection and collaboration, uniting across boundaries, and sparking movements that matter. **There is no doubt about it, kids these days are promise-filled and future-ready!**

As we proudly present our **FY25 Annual Report**, I would be remiss if I did not gratefully acknowledge our Board of Directors, President's Council, Emerging Leaders, volunteers, and staff for their time, energy, talent, and passion. We are also profoundly grateful for the generosity of our sponsors and donors, at every level of support, for their partnership and unwavering belief in the mission and impact of Boys & Girls Club of Metro South.

Most importantly, I want to thank the boys and girls who breathe life into our Clubs each day – filling our STEM labs, classrooms, art studios, gymnasiums, Teen Centers, summer camps, and lives with such hope, happiness, and purpose. Our Club kids are the reason why I know the best is yet to come for our community, our country, and our world.

Sincerely,

Derek W. Heim

President & Chief Executive Officer
Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South

BGCMS is fueled by a critical mission **"to nurture strong minds, healthy bodies, and community spirit through youth-driven, high-impact programming in safe and fun environments"** to ensure every child in need has a positive place to spend their out-of-school hours. We hold an intrinsic belief that every young person deserves a chance to pursue the American Dream—to have a genuine opportunity to realize their full potential and achieve a great future.

To ensure we're living out this critical mission and bold vision, our recently launched **"BLUEprint for Great Futures"** strategic plan charts our plan for impact through 2030. Our **BLUEprint** centers around a commitment to **Build, Lead, Understand, and Engage**.



**SCAN TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT OUR
BLUEPRINT 2030
STRATEGIC PLAN!**

KIDS THESE DAYS **STAND UP FOR WHAT'S RIGHT.**

Our programs in **Health & Well-Being** nurture our members' well-being and develop their capacity to **set and reach personal goals, make meaningful contributions to their community, and build strong foundations for healthy futures.**



Learn more about our programs in **Health & Well-Being!**

80% of BGCMS members agree that they **stand up for what they think is right, even if their friends disagree.**

KIDS THESE DAYS **TURN OBSTACLES INTO OPPORTUNITIES.**

Our programs in **Character & Leadership** empower our members to **discover their values, build strong relationships with peers, and make a positive difference in their communities.**

80% of BGCMS members state that **when they have a problem, they work to figure out a solution!**

Learn more about our programs in **Character & Leadership!**



KIDS THESE DAYS ARE **BUILDING #GREATFUTURES.**

As part of our commitment to supporting youth through their transitions to adulthood, we provide comprehensive **Life & Workforce Readiness** programs designed to prepare our teens to **achieve their goals and become successful, productive young adults.**



Learn more about our programs in **Life & Workforce Readiness!**

80% of BGCMS members have had an **internship or paid job experience in the last 12 months.**

KIDS THESE DAYS **HAVE LIMITLESS POTENTIAL.**

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South, members engage in educational enrichment programs and receive support services that improve their academic performance while fostering their existing passions and encouraging them to discover new ones. Our programs in *Academic Success* provide our youth with the **skills and resources they need to thrive within and beyond the classroom.**

80% of BGCMS members state that **they choose activities that push them to learn new things.**

Learn more about our programs in **Academic Success!**



STEM PROGRAMS

- Coding & 3D Design
- Tower Garden Hydroponics
- Outdoor Garden Beds
- Microscope & Cell Study
- Robotics & Drone Aviation
- Tech Goes Home Digital Literacy
- Building Electric RC Vehicles



Our Clubs offer an average of **15+ hours** of STEM programming per week through more than 50 homegrown and BGCA-developed STEM programs!

We provided **1,200+** hours of hands-on STEM learning experiences in our Freight Farms in FY25!



We know **opportunity is the foundation for a successful future**, and we work to provide our youth with equitable access to modern technology and relevant educational enrichment throughout *all* programs in our Clubhouses.

Our Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) programs do just that – provide opportunities to engage in topics and activities that empower members to envision, plan for, and pursue successful futures through exposure to both immersive and experiential learning.

This fiscal year, we've doubled down on our commitment to utilizing every square inch of our upgraded STEM Labs and MakerSpaces to create innovative programs that attract and engage youth of all ages. Our STEM suite has expanded to include a wide variety of programs designed to match youth interests and expose them to new concepts.

Our Academic Success enrichment programs, especially our STEM exploration programs, open doors for our members to bravely try and learn new things. This confidence supports our members' abilities to identify, understand, and solve complex problems today and in the future.

“

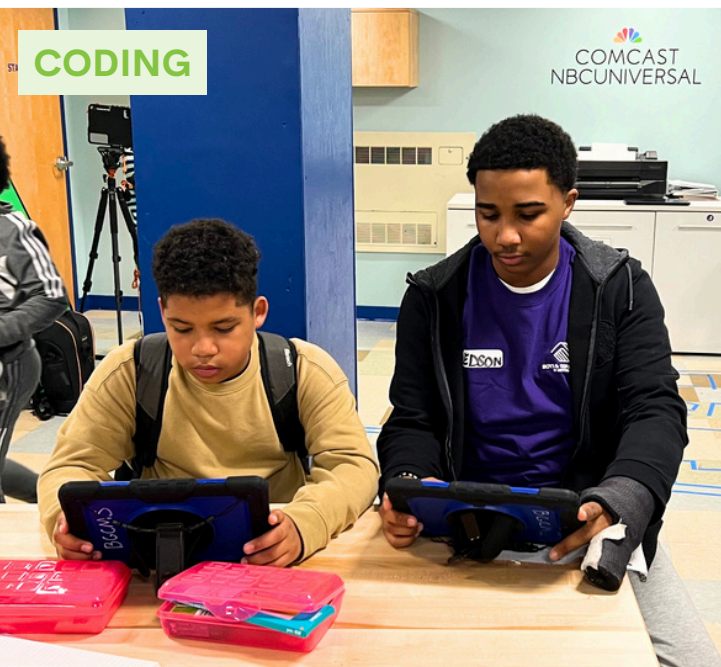
“Whether I pursue a career as a scientist, a college professor, or a swim coach like my mentor here at the Club—the ability to assert myself, communicate ideas effectively, and lead others will be crucial. Shaped by my time at Club, these skills will be valuable in careers that require not just technical expertise, but also the ability to mentor, collaborate, and inspire others!”

~ Rachel M. | Age 17, Taunton Clubhouse Teen Member & Staff

”



LIFE SCIENCE



CODING

COMCAST
NBCUNIVERSAL



ROBOTICS



DIGITAL LITERACY



HYDOPONICS

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Learn more about our programs in **Health & Well-Being!**

80% of BGCMS members agree that they **stand up for what they think is right, even if their friends disagree.**

BGCMS provides safe environments for youth to explore societal and personal values, develop new ways of communicating their perspectives, and increase their capacity to understand others. That's why, in addition to providing healthy meals, wellness education, and daily physical activity, we provide our members with targeted **social-emotional learning and developmental support** while embedding "SEL" strategies into all of our programs.

While **we strive to ensure our Clubs are safe havens for youth, both physically and emotionally**, we recognize that the hours our youth spend outside of our Clubhouse walls are often marked by uncertainty and rapid change. That's why it's also crucial that our Clubs work to teach our youth how to make healthy decisions beyond our blue doors.

This year, our **Youth Resource Directors** provided Club members with critical support services and programs designed to enhance their Club experience and support their overall well-being, while also providing essential training to our staff team to ensure that all Club staff are equipped with the principles of trauma-informed care.

Our goals for our youth go beyond academic achievement, focusing on cultivating essential life skills like emotional intelligence, teamwork, perseverance, communication, problem-solving, and engagement. At BGCMS, we believe that **true youth development encompasses the social and emotional growth of our young people, supporting the holistic well-being of each child!**

"The impact I've made as a youth leader at the Club is to help encourage others to stand up and fight for what they think is right, but to do so respectfully and in a peaceful way."

~ AJ D. | Age 14, Brockton Clubhouse
2024 Junior Youth of the Year



87% of BGCMS members say they **can identify their feelings, and understand how their feelings influence their actions.**





IMAGINATION PLAYGROUND



PEER CONNECTIONS

“

“Here at the Club, I can talk about my feelings and everything about my week. That makes me so happy.”

~ Amir H. | Age 8, Taunton Club Member

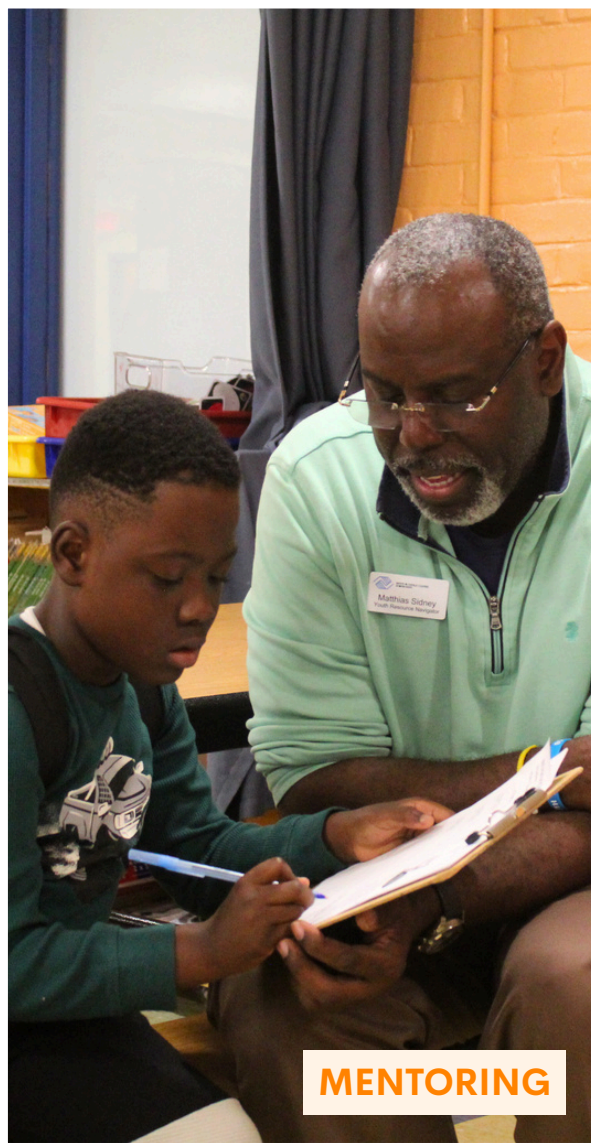
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COMMUNITY SERVICE



TEAMWORK



MENTORING



KIDS THESE DAYS **DESERVE THRIVING COMMUNITIES.**

We've doubled down on our commitment to expanding our impact beyond our Clubhouse doors by launching our new **Blue Spoon Community Kitchen**, a hub for meal service, nutrition education, and community collaboration located adjacent to our Taunton Clubhouse in downtown Taunton.



On September 11th, we officially cut the ribbon on our new 2,700 sq.ft **Blue Spoon Community Kitchen** in the heart of downtown Taunton, which provides a central space for our Clubs to prepare and serve nearly 150,000 healthy, nutritious meals to youth and families each year!

BGCMS operates a robust suite of nutritional assistance programs and initiatives – many of which are blazing new trails of innovation and setting the pace for partnership to drive collective impact. The Blue Spoon greatly expands our capacity to collaborate and innovate – helping us further connect our Clubs with other organizations working to reduce food insecurity and build healthy, resilient futures.

Rental options also ensure this game-changing commercial kitchen facility is available to local nutritional assistance organizations, culinary entrepreneurs, students, and other members of the community who we can empower through our "rising tides" approach to collective impact.

Representing a profound investment in our region's long-term health and resilience, the Blue Spoon also provides unique educational opportunities to Club kids and teens as the new home for our "Young Chefs" program, wherein youth learn key principles about nutrition and practice preparing delicious, balanced meals that can be replicated at home.

We continue to rely on our committed volunteers who lend their time and talents to these critical programs. Thank you!



80% of BGCMS members report eating fruits and vegetables on a daily basis, compared to just **48%** of youth nationally.



We are proud to officially dedicate the new **Blue Spoon Nutrition Office** to our beloved longtime Nutrition Coordinator, Joanne Nixon, in recognition of her many years of dedicated service to our youth.

Thank you and congratulations, Joanne!



FREIGHT FARMS



MONTHLY MARKETS



GARDENING



LEAFY GREEN MACHINE



CULINARY EDUCATION

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80% of BGCMS members state that **when they have a problem, they work to figure out a solution!**

Learn more about our programs in **Character & Leadership!**



Youth of the Year (YOY) is a year-round journey here at BGCMS, through which teens in grades 8–12 are engaged in a comprehensive suite of programs and activities aimed at promoting their *Character & Leadership Development* by providing mentorship, empowerment, and opportunities to serve our Club.

Kizzy N'gola Lopes' time as a Club member has guided her personal growth in more ways than she can count. Over the course of her 10-year Club journey, right up through her high school graduation this June, Kizzy's engagement in various programs helped her to push beyond the limits of what she thought possible – to get out of her comfort zone and feel free to try new things, with the confidence that her mentors and peers would be there to support her and pick her up if ever she fell.

From learning to play chess and volleyball at the Club to exploring future educational and career paths to stepping into leadership and part-time staff roles as a teen, Kizzy embodies what's possible when our youth lean in to all that we have to offer them – from those first days of kindergarten through high school graduation and well beyond as they dream of and pursue great futures.

It came as no surprise to anyone at our Clubs who has known Kizzy over the past decade that this spring she emerged as our 2025 BGCMS *Youth of the Year* – a role she's leveraged to serve as a volunteer and a mentor.

Beyond her deep involvement at our Taunton Clubhouse, at Taunton High School, Kizzy was a dedicated National Honor Society member and an active participant in a wide range of extracurriculars, including the African American Club, Jazz Band, Brass Choir, Drama Club, Choir, Wind Symphony, and Symphonic Band.

As she heads off to college this fall, Kizzy will continue her Club journey on school breaks and in the summer as a lifeguard, swim instructor, and camp counselor!



“

“Going to Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South has never failed to be a light in my day. I've never not been able to find somebody that I can lean on for support or a friendly face to look to when I feel gray.”

~ Kizzy N'gola Lopes | Age 18
Taunton Clubhouse Member &
2025 BGCMS Youth of the Year

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SCHOLARSHIPS



YOUTH COUNCIL



ADVOCACY



SELF-EXPRESSION

"Six years ago, I became a member of BGCMS, and throughout the years, it has shaped me in ways I never imagined. Growing up, I was always asked the same question: 'What do you want to be when you grow up?' And my answer was always the same: 'I'm not sure.' Having a future at all didn't seem like a guarantee to me, and I struggled to find motivation. The only thing I was confident about was that I didn't believe I would go far on my own.

But, Boys & Girls Club of Metro South extended a helping hand when I needed it most, providing me with countless opportunities that have allowed me to grow into an upstanding, confident, ambitious, and leading young woman."

*~ Lilly C. | Age 16, Taunton Clubhouse
Teen Member & Youth of the Year Finalist*

KIDS THESE DAYS ARE BUILDING #GREATFUTURES.



As part of our commitment to supporting youth through their transitions to adulthood, we provide comprehensive **Life & Workforce Readiness** programs designed to prepare our teens to **achieve their goals and become successful, productive young adults.**



Learn more about our programs in **Life & Workforce Readiness!**

More than 20 teen members complete paid internships in our Brockton Clubhouse each year.

In our **Work-Based Learning & Education (WBLE)** program, cohorts of teen members receive a rich skills-focused learning experience that combines college prep, career exploration, financial literacy, and personal development to ensure Club youth are **#FutureReady.**

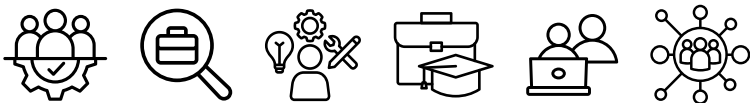
Upon completing a dynamic skill-building educational curriculum, program participants are placed in age-appropriate stipend-based internships within our Clubhouses where they support and learn directly from Club staff they know and trust. As members gain transferable skills and experience, the program shifts to external placements with corporate and community partner placement sites where they will receive real-world, paid experiences outside of the Clubhouse.

Our Clubs are constantly working to forge and strengthen dynamic partnerships with local schools, businesses, and community organizations. We call upon our vast network of existing community partners, including our local school districts and area colleges and universities like Stonehill College, Bridgewater State University, and Massasoit & Bristol Community Colleges to help create real-world experiential opportunities for our youth.

We also work closely with local businesses across a wide variety of sectors to cultivate opportunities for guest speakers, "Lunch & Learn" industry trek field trips, job shadowing, and other career exploration experiences that foster skill development and networking for our members.



60% of internship opportunities completed by our teens this year were facilitated as part of our Clubs' Life & Workforce Readiness programming.





CAREER EXPLORATION



INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



WBLE INTERNSHIP SHOWCASE



CEO FOR A DAY



INDUSTRY TREKS

KIDS THESE DAYS **ARE INSPIRED BY CLUB ALUMNI!**



Twin sisters Lionelle (left) and Lise (right) are proud alumnae of Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South's Brockton Clubhouse. From their days as members in the '90s and evolution to Club staff as teens to their present-day roles as volunteers and philanthropists — we are so fortunate to have these leading ladies continue to share how our Clubs helped meet their needs, support their dreams, and set them on paths to [#GreatFutures!](#)

A national survey found that 80% of alumni said their Club experience had a positive impact on their attitude towards fitness and health and 77% said they developed good leadership skills as Club members.

"In my teenage years, the Brockton Clubhouse served as a safe space to meet up with my friends, play basketball, and just be a kid. Of course, I also cherished the awesome swag like back-to-school supplies and holiday gifts that came my way—not to mention the endless supply of snacks!

Transitioning from a member to Club employee opened my eyes to invaluable professional lessons that I carry with me today.

I learned essential skills in managing a busy schedule, building relationships within the community, communicating effectively, and — most importantly — how to be part of a team."

~ **Lionelle Demosthene**

"If I could offer advice to a current Club kid, it would be this: First, don't be afraid to ask for help. Whether it's with school work, college applications, or personal challenges, the staff genuinely cares about you and your future. I know this because when I struggled as a first-generation college student, it was the Club staff who pointed me in the right direction and connected me with the resources I needed.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South changed my life, and it continues to change lives every day. I am forever grateful to be part of this incredible extended family, and I look forward to seeing how the next generation carries this legacy forward."

~ **Dr. Lise T. McKenzie**



**Meet More of our
Amazing Alumni!**



**Join our Alumni &
Friends Network!**

FY25 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

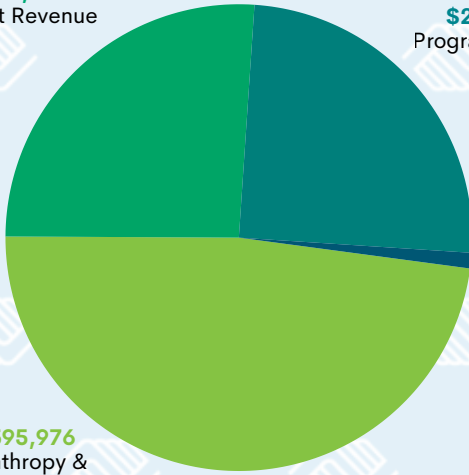
\$2,490,642
Contract Revenue

\$2,392,595
Program Revenue

\$103,179
Sales & Other
Income

\$4,595,976
Philanthropy &
Capital Investments
(Net)

Total Revenue:
9,136,962



\$464,880
In-Kind Expenses

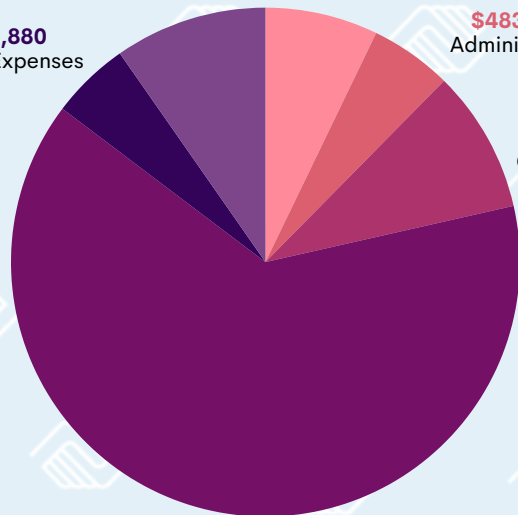
\$900,000
Capital Investments

\$665,332
Program Expense

\$483,985
Administrative

\$841,844
Occupancy

\$5,925,603
Staffing Costs



464



New Donors

1,032



Total Donors

1,502



Total Gifts

Total Expenses:
\$9,281,644

FY2025 DONORS

The support of the following individuals, foundations, and corporate partners is vital to our ability to carry out our mission for youth we serve year after year. We humbly and sincerely thank every donor recognized here.

\$100,000+

Amelia Peabody Foundation
Boston Children's Hospital
Gil & Eileen Lopes & The Lopes Companies*
MA Service Alliance
United Way of Massachusetts Bay

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Bristol County Savings Bank & Foundation
CVS Health Foundation
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Taunton South Shore Foundation
The Pilgrim Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Anonymous (2)
BJ's Wholesale Foundation
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MA Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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\$5,000 - \$9,999

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Siobhan & Tom Quinn
Raynham Athletic Club
Ania Russo
John & Theresa Santos*
The Cigna Group Foundation
UMass Memorial Medical Center
USI Insurance Services, LLC

\$1,000 - \$4,999

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Taunton Federal Credit Union
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A special thank you to our many in-kind donors who have given their services, time, and expertise to our Clubs over the past year!



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Beginning in Fall 2025, we are proud to announce a bold and inspiring new effort to ensure that the life-changing benefits of Club membership are within reach for every child in need of support, opportunity, and belonging by launching our **"Free to Be"** commitment to offering **100% FREE annual memberships** at Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro South!

Free to Be @BGCMS

FREE MEMBERSHIP MEANS CLUB KIDS ARE...

FREE TO **LEAD.**



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Caring mentors
who help develop
character and
leadership skills



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Access to quality
elective programs
in a variety of areas



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opportunities



College prep
support, career
readiness training,
and personal
finance classes



A safe place to
explore new things,
hone skills, and
build friendships



**SCAN HERE TO LEARN
MORE ABOUT FREE
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