



2024

IMPACT

REPORT

Since 1998, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan has been helping kids aged 6–18 create **Great Futures.**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF GREATER SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN



FROM THE CEO

“Together, we are providing safe spaces, caring mentors, and life-changing opportunities for young people across Southwest Michigan. On behalf of our members, families, staff, and board, we thank every supporter for believing in our mission.”



CEO Alloyd Blackmon was recognized as the **2024 Michigan CEO of the Year**.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is my honor to share with you our 2024 Impact Report for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan. As you'll see in these pages, this was a year of growth, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to preparing our young people for Great Futures.

We know our responsibility goes beyond providing a safe place after school. Our mission is to ensure every child in our community is Future Ready—equipped with the academic, social-emotional, and workforce skills they need to succeed in school, work, and life. In 2024, we saw that commitment in action.

We also made bold investments in workforce readiness. This year we launched Level Up at The Club, our ambitious project to transform our Benton Harbor Teen Center into a next-level hub for career exploration and real-world learning. With help from dedicated partners—including Best Buy Foundation and Whirlpool Foundation, who are helping us build a state-of-the-art Teen Tech Center—we're creating new pathways for teens to develop critical employability skills and connect to future careers.

All of this is part of our shared commitment to the Future Ready vision—every young person to leave our Clubs ready for whatever comes next—whether that's college, trade school, military service, or the workforce. That means providing safe spaces, caring mentors, and the opportunity to build the knowledge, skills, and confidence they need to thrive.

None of this would be possible without you. Thanks to the generosity of public and private partners—including continued support from the Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event—our annual revenues reached \$5.4 million.

Together, we are creating a Southwest Michigan where all young people have the chance to learn, grow, and become Future Ready. On behalf of our members, families, staff, and board, thank you for believing in this mission. Your support ensures that Great Futures truly start here.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alloyd Blackmon".



Board Chairman Michael Todman
speaks at the Club's Teen Center.

BOARD

OF

DIRECTORS

3

Michael Todman

BGCSWMI Board Chairman
TMA Limited, LLC

Ann Dahmer

BGCSWMI Board Treasurer
Smith Dahmer Associates, Retired

Taleah Adams

Stryker
Human Resources Business Partner

Jason Beckrow

Caring Circle, Spectrum Health Lakeland
Medical Director

MSU College of Osteopathic Medicine
Assistant Professor

Maurice Burton

Michigan State Police, Retired

Melissa Kamara Liggins

Corewell Health South
Senior Director, Marketing and
Communications

Pamela Klyn

Whirlpool Foundation, President

Ray Lipscomb

Berrien Community Foundation Board
U.S. Military Combat Vet, Retired

Ruth Ludlow

Whirlpool Corporation, Retired

Michael Neiss

Michael T. Neiss & Associates
Founder & President

Terry O'Rourke

United Federal Credit Union
President & CEO

Steve Pierangeli

Passaro, Kahne, Taylor, DeFrancesco
& Thompson Law Offices, PLLC

Bruce Piekarski

Horizon Bank, Market President

Eleanor Reece

Whirlpool Corporation
VP of Global Communications

OUR NUMBERS



3,342
Youth Served

68,923
Meals Served

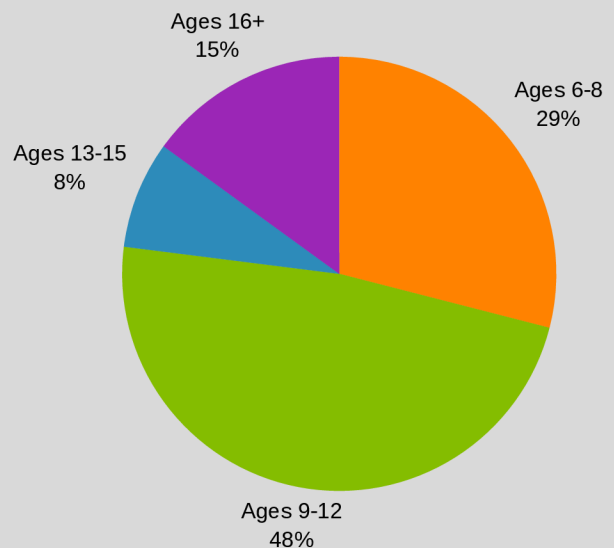
116
Adult Staff

217
Volunteers

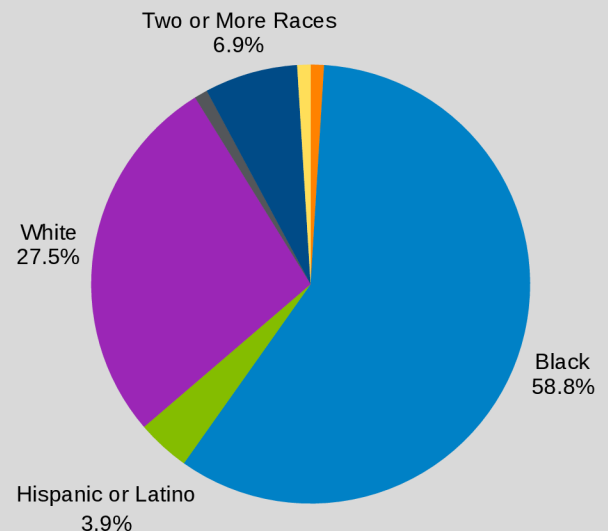
13
Summer Sites

7
School Year Sites

Registered Members by Age



Registered Members by Ethnicity



OUR

FINANCIALS



5

ANNUAL REVENUE	
Contributions	\$2,654,289.00
Grant Income	\$3,184,477.00
Membership Fees	\$16,494.00
Program Income	\$147,177.00
Miscellaneous	\$492,171.00
Total Annual Revenue	\$6,494,608.00

ANNUAL EXPENSES	
Program Services	\$3,700,592.00
Management and General	\$823,347.00
Fundraising	\$481,431.00
Total Annual Expenses	\$5,005,370.00

BALANCE SHEET - ASSETS	
Current Assets	\$5,167,016.00
Accounts Receivable	\$726,073.00
Long Term Assets	\$3,714,139.00
Fixed Assets (Less Depreciation)	\$5,306,996.00
Total Assets	\$14,914,224.00

BALANCE SHEET - LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	\$482,615.00
Long Term Liabilities	\$210,231.00
Total Liabilities	\$692,846.00
Total Equity	\$14,221,378.00
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$14,914,224.00



Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan's sound fiscal management practices and commitment to accountability and transparency have earned a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator. 2024 was the 12th time the organization has earned this top distinction, exceeding industry standards and outperforming most charities in its cause.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Empowering Futures in 2024

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan, we know success starts with education.



In 2024, our Clubs remained safe, engaging spaces where youth built the skills and confidence they need to thrive in school—and in life.

We believe all young people deserve the opportunity to graduate from high school on time, ready for college, trade school, military service, or the workforce. This year, that vision drove every academic program and partnership we offered.

Helping Youth Learn, Grow, and Achieve

Our focus on Academic Success is about more than homework help—it's about nurturing curiosity, building skills, and inspiring lifelong learners. In 2024:

88%

of members say
they choose
activities that
push them to
learn new things

91%

of our members
said they expect
to graduate from
high school

Building Brighter Futures Together

Our Clubs partnered with local schools, libraries, and community organizations to offer programs designed to meet the unique needs of our youth. We connected students with resources to strengthen reading and math skills, explore technology, and develop critical thinking.

Thanks to supporters like you, in 2024 we continued to close opportunity gaps for young people in Southwest Michigan. When our members walk through our doors, they find caring adults, positive peers, and experiences that help them dream big—and achieve even bigger.

Together, we're building a generation ready to graduate, lead, and shape our community for the better.



Sparking Curiosity, Honoring a Legend

This year, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan launched an exciting new tradition: our inaugural STEAM Dream event.

The event was held on July 12, 2024, at our Fettig Youth Campus in Benton Harbor. STEAM Dream 2024 brought nearly 500 Club members together for a full day of hands-on learning dedicated to Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. The event was designed to show our youth that big dreams are within reach—and to help them see themselves as future scientists, engineers, artists, and innovators.

The event was held in honor of Dr. Ann St. Amand, a respected local scientist whose legacy of environmental research and community impact continues to inspire. By naming the event for Dr. St. Amand, we underscored for our youth that success in STEM isn't abstract or far away—it's something people from our own community achieve and give back through.

Throughout the day, members rotated through interactive workshops and stations led by Club staff, educators, and community partners, including Whirlpool Corporation, LECO, Abbott Laboratories, Wightman & Assoc., Lake Michigan College, Ghostlight Theatre, and more!

Beyond just fun, these experiences were designed to reinforce core academic skills, nurture curiosity, and help members discover new interests they can keep exploring at the Club all year long.

STEAM Dream 2024 was more than an event. It was a promise to our members that we will keep investing in their futures, helping them expand their horizons, and supporting them as they reach for academic success every day.



CHARACTER & LEADERSHIP

Growing Tomorrow's Leaders in 2024

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan, we know that academic skills alone aren't enough.

Our members need strong character, confidence, and leadership abilities to shape the future of our communities.

In 2024, our Clubs continued to prioritize Character & Leadership Development, giving youth safe, supportive spaces to find their voice, practice responsibility, and build the values that will guide them for life.



Building Leaders Who Care and Act

This year, our programs helped members develop empathy, decision-making skills, and the courage to do what's right—even when it's hard. We saw remarkable results:

90%

of members tell us that, when they lead a group, they make sure **everyone feels important**

88%

of members said they **will stand up for what they believe is right, even when their friends disagree**

At the Club, leadership isn't about being the loudest voice in the room—it's about lifting others up. Through activities like Torch Club and Keystone Club, service projects, and peer mentoring, youth learned to include, encourage, and support one another.

Our staff and volunteers created safe spaces to talk about values, choices, and integrity. Programs like Youth of the Year and SMART Moves encouraged members to think critically, speak honestly, and act with courage in the face of peer pressure.

In 2024, thanks to our supporters, we helped hundreds of young people strengthen their character, stand up for what's right, and become leaders who will shape a better tomorrow.



Youth of the Year 2024

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan, we believe in recognizing and empowering young people who lead by example.

That's why Youth of the Year is our premier leadership program, celebrating members who demonstrate outstanding character, academic excellence, service, and leadership inside and outside the Club.

This program is about more than awards. It helps youth find their voice, share their story, and develop the confidence to lead. Youth of the Year participants learn to advocate for themselves and their communities, strengthening the leadership skills they'll use for life.

Celebrating Our 2024 Youth of the Year: Brianna Spencer

In 2024, we were proud to name Brianna Spencer as our Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan Youth of the Year.

A dedicated Club member, Brianna is known for her integrity, compassion, and determination to make a difference. She's a true role model for her peers—someone who stands up for what's right, listens to others, and encourages those around her to believe in themselves. After winning at the local level, Brianna went on to represent our Club in the Michigan Youth of the Year competition, where she delivered her powerful personal story and placed third in the state.

Her journey is proof of what's possible when young people have the support, mentorship, and opportunities they need to grow into strong leaders.

“My Club is my safe place. It's where I learned to be myself, to help others, and to lead.”

– Brianna Spencer, 2024 Youth of the Year



HEALTH & WELL-BEING

Building Resilience in 2024

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan, we know healthy habits go beyond food and fitness.



True well-being means helping young people build the skills, confidence, and resilience to navigate life's challenges and make positive choices for themselves.

That's why our Health and Well-Being programs in 2024 focused on supporting the whole child—mind, body, and spirit. Every day, our staff provided safe spaces, caring mentorship, and activities that helped members learn to manage emotions, stay active, and make healthy decisions that will last a lifetime.

93%

of members say
when something
is hard, they
keep working at
it

90%

of our members
say they
understand how
feelings
influence actions

Teaching Perseverance and Emotional Awareness

Our programs built grit and perseverance through team sports, fitness challenges, art projects, and problem-solving games. Staff encouraged youth to see setbacks as opportunities to grow, fostering a mindset that says: "I can do hard things."

A Safe Space to Grow Strong

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan, health and well-being mean more than avoiding problems - it means helping every child build a strong foundation to handle whatever life brings. In 2024, thanks to our dedicated staff, volunteers, and generous supporters, we gave our members the tools to persevere, the skills to manage emotions, and the confidence to choose healthy paths.



Spotlight on Health & Well-Being

One of the most powerful examples of our commitment to youth health and well-being in 2024 was Unity Day—a summer tradition that brings together hundreds of Boys & Girls Club members from across Southwest Michigan for a day of fun, friendship, and shared learning.

On July 26, 2024, we hosted Unity Day at our Fettig Youth Campus in Benton Harbor, welcoming youth from all our summer sites for a day filled with field games, music, team-building challenges, and healthy activities.

Building Community Through Play

At its heart, Unity Day is about showing young people that healthy lifestyles include more than physical fitness—they're also about emotional well-being, social connection, and belonging. Members participated in team sports and relay races designed to encourage cooperation, communication, and good sportsmanship.

Fostering Inclusion and Belonging

True to its name, Unity Day is designed to celebrate diversity, promote inclusion, and strengthen a sense of shared community among our members. For many youth, it was a chance to meet new friends, learn from others, and see that they are part of something bigger.

This culture of inclusion is at the core of our health and well-being programming. When youth feel safe, welcome, and valued, they're more likely to take healthy risks, try new activities, and build the confidence they need to thrive.

A Community Effort

We're especially grateful to United Federal Credit Union for serving as title sponsor and providing medals for all participating youth since the event's inception. United FCU ensured that Unity Day 2024 was more than a field day—it was a living example of what happens when a community invests in young people's health, happiness, and hope for the future.



LIFE &

WORKFORCE

READINESS

Investing in Success

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan, we believe every young person deserves the opportunity to dream big—and to be prepared for life’s next steps.



In 2024, we doubled down on our commitment to help youth build the skills, confidence, and experiences they need to be life- and workforce-ready.

Today’s young people face big challenges. Many feel unprepared for the responsibilities of adulthood or the demands of the modern workforce. At the same time, local employers report difficulty finding skilled, qualified talent. We see that as an opportunity—and a responsibility.

Our Clubs are closing this readiness gap by:

- Offering safe spaces where youth can learn, grow, and practice essential life skills.
- Providing positive mentorship from caring adults who help them set goals and stay on track.
- Engaging youth in real-world learning, career exploration, and hands-on work experiences.

Level Up at The Club: Investing in the Future

In 2024, we launched Level Up at The Club, an ambitious initiative to transform our Benton Harbor Teen Center into a next-level hub for workforce development and life-readiness programming.

With the help of committed investors and partners, we reimagined our 190 W. Empire Avenue location to create new opportunities for teens—particularly those in Benton Harbor—to explore career paths, build employability skills, and prepare for a successful future. With the support of our donors, partners, and community, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan is investing in our youth today so they can meet the challenges of tomorrow. Together, we’re preparing them not just for their first job—but for a lifetime of success.



A Community Effort for Long-Term Impact

Level Up at The Club officially launched at our spring event on April 25, 2024, where we invited partners and supporters to invest in the next generation of workers and leaders.

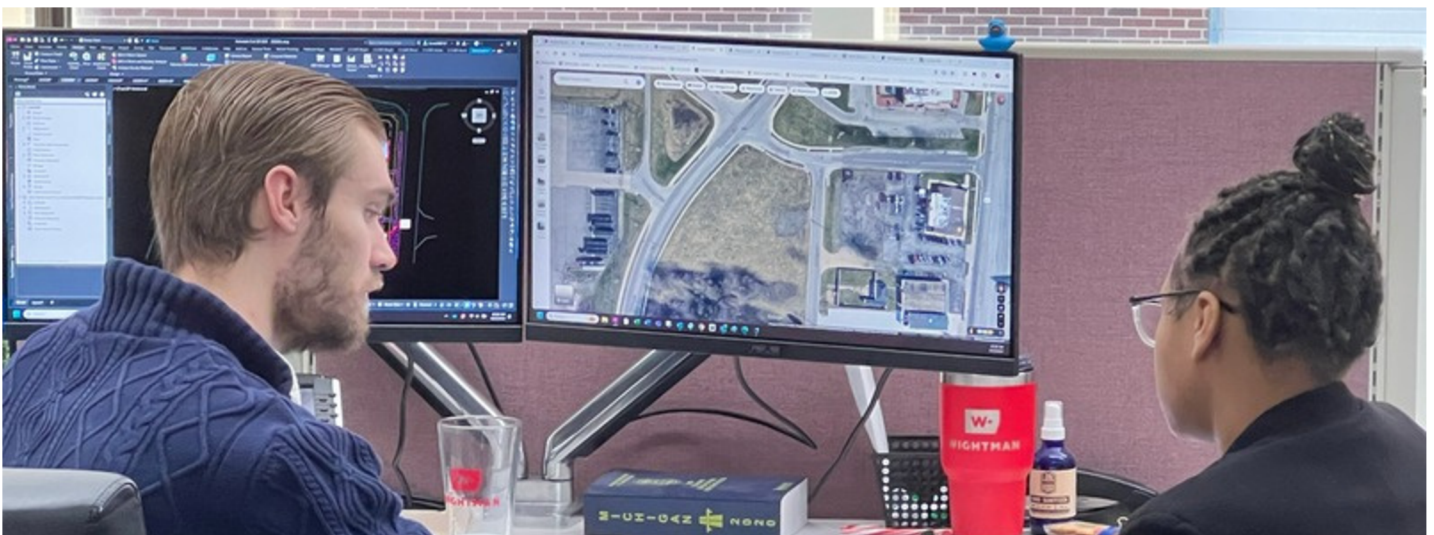
By working together, we're creating new opportunities for hands-on learning, internships, apprenticeships, and mentorship helping teens develop clear pathways to careers.

We know kids start thinking early about their futures. That's why our workforce readiness programs serve members from elementary through high school, helping them:

- Explore interests and passions
- Build employability skills such as communication, teamwork, and adaptability
- Apply their knowledge in real-world experiences

As workplaces continue to evolve, skills like collaboration, problem-solving, and adaptability are more important than ever. Our Clubs help young people strengthen these essential skills while imagining the futures they want—and building plans to achieve them.

With the support of our donors, partners, and community, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan is investing in our youth today so they can meet the challenges of tomorrow.



OUR

PARTNERS

Great Futures Partners



BEST BUY
Foundation



Lakeland and Niles Hospitals
Legacy Fund



Be Great Partners



Advocate for Change Partners

BOSCH
Taco Bell Foundation

United Federal Credit Union
Whiteford Wealth Management

Friends of the Club

Aisle Rocket
Buffalo Wild Wings
DJ Construction

Fully Alive Chiropractic
Honor Credit Union
I&M (Cook Nuclear)

Sturgis Bank
Wales Wealth Management

**See a full list of donors at bgcswmi.org.*



The Guardian Club is an association of donors who have committed to supporting Club sustainability with a five-year pledge of \$1,000 per year or more.

Ramsey Aljahmi
Kenneth F. Ankli & Ann R. Miller
Michael & Penny Ault
Jason & Kate Beckrow
Alloyd Blackmon
June & Larry Bowman
Rich & Jan Brandt
Ron & Dani Brown
Megan Capiak & Andrew Laing
Todd & Elizabeth Christy
Ronda & Doug Collier
Barry & Jody Conybeare
Ann Dahmer & Kevin Geiser
Scott & Jennifer Davis
Richard & Pamela Dyer
Clarence Eddie
Dr. Ken & Wendy Edwards
The Fettig Family
Joyce & Karl Finley
First Presbyterian Church

Jon & Aimee Gable
Micki & Larry Gess
Alan & Mary Golichowski
Dirk & Angie Handlin
Julie & Brian Heine
The Hodgson Family
Dan Hopp -
In Memory of Lupe Hopp
Dwana & Sam Jones
Pamela & Steve Klyn
John & Jan Kuklenski
Randy & Ruth Ludlow
William & Jane Marohn
Kevin & Megan McLoughlin
Meryle Merritt -
In Memory of Lawrence H. Merritt
Terry & Wanda O'Rourke
Tim & Lee Passaro
Doug & Anne Petersen
The Pfaff Family
The Powers - Nance Family
Jeff & Lillian Priebe

Adam & Eleanor Reece
The Saran Family Foundation
Erika Schreiber
Matt Schrock
Gregory Seaman & Heather McNamara
Pamela Smith
Kathy Stady
The Starks Family
The Todman Family
Sherri Ulleg
The Ulrey Family
Jennifer & Dedrick Valentine
Dana & Dawn Wales
Kevin & Mary Whiteford
Melinda & Steven Whittington
ZOY! Adventure

Additional Anonymous Members



Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event

Making a difference ... one child at a time

15

Driving Impact for Our Youth

In 2024, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Southwest Michigan continued to benefit from one of our community's most extraordinary traditions of generosity: the Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event. This year, the event raised an incredible \$3.2 million to support youth-serving organizations across Southwest Michigan—including our Clubs.



This record-breaking result speaks to the power of a community that believes in investing in its young people.

Supporting Our Mission

Funds from the Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event help make our mission a reality: providing safe spaces, caring mentors, and life-changing programs to youth across our region.

Thanks to this support in 2024, we were able to:

- Expand academic success programs, helping youth stay on track for high school graduation.
- Offer leadership development opportunities like Youth of the Year, Torch Club, and Keystone Club, empowering youth to lead with integrity and compassion.
- Provide daily meals and snacks to ensure no child goes hungry at the Club.
- Maintain safe, welcoming facilities where all youth feel valued and supported.
- Hire and train staff who deliver high-quality programs and build trusted relationships with members.

A Legacy of Partnership

The Whirlpool Community Charity Golf Event isn't just about golf—it's about decades of commitment to the next generation. Whirlpool Corporation, its employees, and event sponsors have shown what's possible when businesses and communities work together for kids.



**OUR MISSION IS TO INSPIRE AND
ENABLE ALL YOUNG PEOPLE,
ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO NEED US
MOST, TO REACH THEIR FULL
POTENTIAL AS PRODUCTIVE,
CARING, AND RESPONSIBLE
CITIZENS.**



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF GREATER SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

600 Nate Wells Sr. Drive
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

(269) 926-8766
www.bgcswmi.org

