



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF LAWRENCE

2024

IMPACT REPORT

POSITIVE ROLE MODELS • RESPECT • INTEGRITY • DIVERSITY • EMPATHY

Building Great Futures For 50 Years



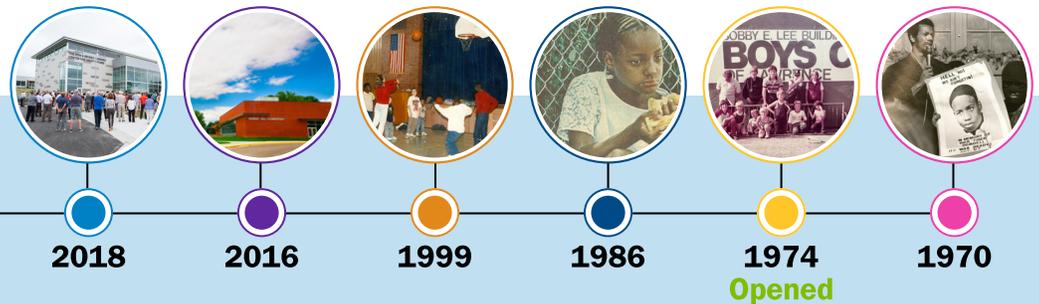
A Message From Our CEO



As I look back on 2024, we have a lot to celebrate! I am deeply thankful to our dedicated employees, Board of Directors, community partners, families, and funders who have driven our success. We are especially proud of securing 21st Century funding for the Don & Beverly Gardner Center for Great Futures to provide free services, increased family engagement events, and supplies to support academic enrichment programming. As we embark on 2025, we strive to add to our successes, but know that our resilience will be tested. After experiencing funding decreases in 2024, we anticipate even more significant funding cuts that will jeopardize the essential services we provide for working families. More than ever, we need to come together as a community to overcome this challenge. Together, we can ensure that the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence is strong and sustainable well into the future.

Laci Maltbie

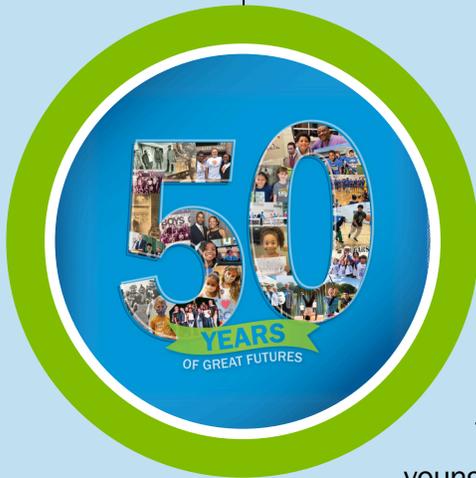
Laci Maltbie, CEO



From 1974 To 2024

50 Years of Growth, Guidance, and Great Futures

The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence has reached an important milestone, celebrating 50 years of empowering youth in our community. Founded in 1970 by Bobby Lee in response to challenges within the community, The Boys Club, as it was then called, initially served as a safe haven for young boys, growing rapidly and needing frequent expansions. In 1974, the Club officially opened, and by 1986, the first girl member enrolled, leading to its official name change to the Boys AND Girls Club four years before the national shift. A partnership formed with Lawrence Public Schools in 1999, allowing the Club to occupy each elementary school by 2016 to offer after school programming in the spaces familiar to our kids. The opening of the Don & Beverly Gardner Center for Great Futures in 2018 marked a significant upgrade for our teens, accommodating the growing need for teen services in Lawrence. As we commemorated our 50th anniversary in 2024, we honored the legacy of our founders and the generations of families who have been part of our story, looking ahead to continuing our mission of building productive, caring, responsible citizens.



By The Numbers

The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence has remained a vital community resource, providing a safe and nurturing environment where every child is empowered to succeed — especially those who need us most.



1,331

kids are enrolled at the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence

40%

of Lawrence Public Schools elementary students are members at the Club



ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO NEED US MOST

44%

of students enrolled at the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence receive financial assistance to attend



48%

of students within the Lawrence Public Schools system qualify for free or reduced lunch

BGCLK SCHOLARSHIPS: \$650,000

Scholarships are provided to any members and families that need assistance with before and afterschool programming, spring break and summer programming. These scholarships are funded exclusively through corporate contributions and donations from people like you.

21STCCLC GRANT FUNDS: \$725,000

The Nita M. Lowey 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program grant helps us provide academic enrichment opportunities during non-school hours to seven out of 12 of our sites. It also allows us to provide tuition-free programming to members from three of our sites.*



*Tuition is free for the academic school year only for Schwegler & Prairie Park; free year-round at the Center for Great Futures.

Our Mission

To enable all young people—especially those who need us most—to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens.

2024 LAWRENCE YOUTH OF THE YEAR: LA'RON WILLIAMS

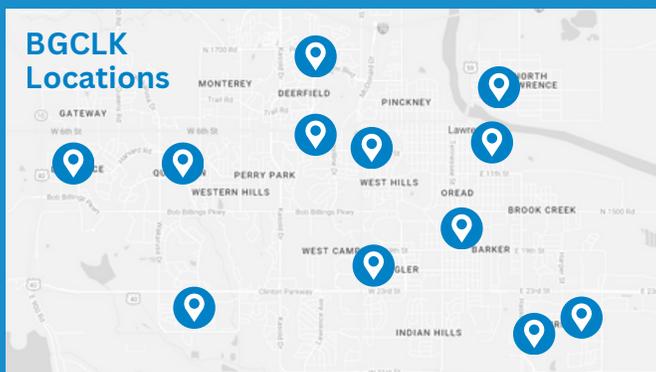


I wouldn't have gotten this far if it wasn't for the people in my life who truly care about me and push me every day to be the best me that I possibly can.

Each January, the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence holds its most important event of the year: Youth of the Year. In 2024, La'Ron Williams earned the coveted 2024 Lawrence Youth of the Year title with his speech about the enormity of graduating high school. He showed vulnerability with the crowd about how daunting it is to leave the comfort zone he had built at the Club. La'Ron attended the state competition in March, and ultimately earned second place! La'Ron joined fellow Lawrence nominees Alex Johnson and

Abby Benally, who also delivered powerful speeches, highlighting the impact of the Boys & Girls Club on Lawrence and its future leaders.

WE MEET YOU WHERE YOU ARE



With 11 elementary locations and one teen location at the Center for Great Futures, the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence holds programming all over the city — right in the schools that your kids are comfortable in.

SOUTHWEST TRAINER OF THE YEAR: ALEX HILLIARD



The National Trainers Initiative (NTI) provides opportunities for every Boys & Girls Club Organization to have certified in-house trainers. Alex Hilliard, LMSW, earned the 2024 Southwest Trainer of the Year award in May at the National Conference in Atlanta! As the former Director of Social Emotional Learning at BGCLK, Ms. Alex has since moved on to making change at a national level with the Boys & Girls Clubs of America! This event celebrates the outstanding contributions of trainers within our Movement who are helping to create a high-quality experience for our youth by building staff capacity, supporting ongoing learning, and demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement.

Our Vision

To be the leading youth development organization in Douglas County by focusing on our Priority Outcomes of academic success, healthy lifestyles, and good character and citizenship to better prepare ALL kids and teens for their Great Futures.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS



1,981

elementary and teen Club members participated in Project Learn, a targeted program from Boys & Girls Clubs of America to engage kids in academics outside of the classroom.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES



315

Club kids played in a lineup of BGCLK sports, including basketball, flag football and volleyball, plus summer field days to enjoy multiple avenues of physical activity.

GOOD CHARACTER & CITIZENSHIP



1,981

members learned about making healthy choices with their relationships, friendships, mental health, positive self-talk and self-care through our prevention programs.

NYOI National Youth Outcomes Initiative

The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence administers the NYOI Member Survey annually, which measures the degree to which Club members are achieving the priority outcomes of Academic Success, Good Character & Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles.

Safe & Positive Spaces

93% of Club members feel safe being themselves at the Club.

98% of members agree that the Club has rules for treating each other with respect.

Supportive Relationships

95% of members feel that adults at the Club care about them.

89% of members feel that adults take the time to talk to them.

Academic Success

93% of Club members expect to graduate from high school.

82% of teen Club members expect to graduate from college.

Engaging Activities

92% of members enjoy coming to the Club.

92% of members find there are fun programs available.

Opportunities and Expectations

87% of members feel encouraged to try new things.

91% of members believe adults at the Club think they will be successful.

Recognition

93% of members feel that adults at the Club ask for and value their opinions.

93% of members feel recognized when they make positive choices.

Defining Moments

From our signature events to new projects, BGCLK is committed to providing meaningful experiences to inspire and support local youth through teamwork, mentorship, and community engagement.



CELEBRITY SOFTBALL

At our annual Celebrity Softball event, the Grandstand Growlers battled the CEK Insurance Bat-itudes in a close 7-inning game, ultimately capturing the championship. Alongside the exciting on-field action, our first outdoor Fanfest Fundraiser, featuring appetizers, kids' games a dunk tank, helped us raise over \$55,000 in total to support Great Futures.



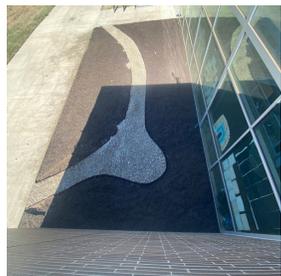
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Our community enjoyed two standout events at the Center for Great Futures. In November, Club Connections celebrated different cultures with creative activities, while December's Snowflakes & Service united us through service projects, games and holiday cheer. Both events enhanced community ties and family engagement with the Club.



LIGHTS ON! IN MY Y2K ERA

The 2024 Lights On! event showcased all 12 Club sites, each performing dance routines to some of our favorite Y2K hits. Cordley won first place with a Jennifer Lopez and Will Smith medley. This annual event, part of the national Lights On Afterschool celebration, highlights the creativity and teamwork of our youth and the importance of afterschool programs.



SLOCUM FAMILY MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence broke ground on our new Memorial Garden at the Center for Great Futures. Turf Masters laid the foundation in September, so we can continue to plant beautiful flowers and shrubs to serve as a memorial for those who have made a lasting impact on our Club.

ALLY FOR IMPACT

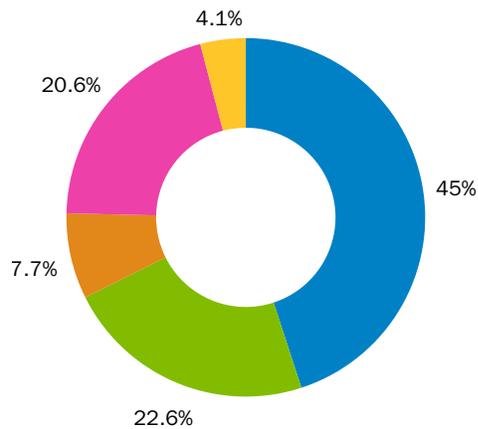
The Lawrence Arts Center

A treasured partnership in our community, the Lawrence Arts Center offered year-round enriching artistic opportunities for our Club members. From painting to bracelet-making, screen printing to sculpting, LAC provided a variety of creative activities that engaged and inspired our kids and teens.



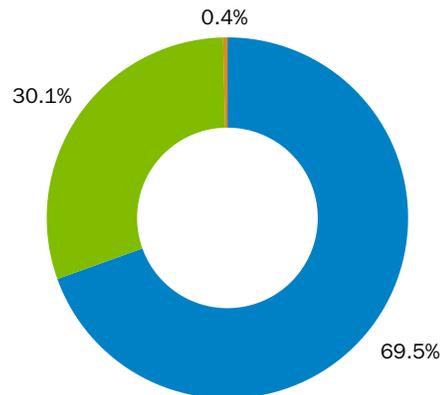
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

TOTAL INCOME \$5,390,425



Grants	\$2,425,020	In-Kind	\$1,107,995
Program Fees	\$1,220,243	Other	\$220,280
Donations	\$416,887		

TOTAL EXPENSES \$6,588,382



Youth Program Services	\$4,579,691
General & Administrative	\$1,982,783
Fundraising	\$25,908

2025 will be focused on expense reduction, increased donor engagement & community support, increased fee structure, and outstanding balance collections to close the gap between revenue and expenses. It will take all of us, as a community, to keep the Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence strong and sustainable.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

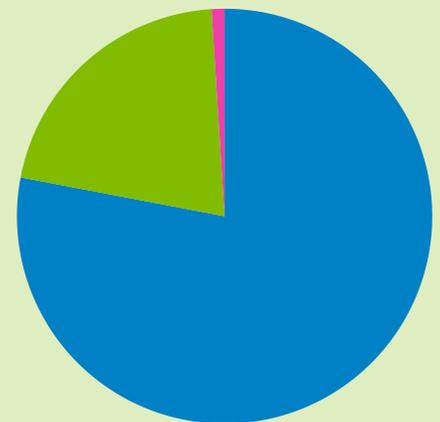
Beyond Our Youth

Quality, accessible, and affordable before and after-school care contributes to the prosperity of Lawrence today and tomorrow.

In 2024, our program supported 2,218 working parents and guardians.

Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence continues to be a lifeline for working families by allowing parents to fully participate in the workforce, leading to increased labor force participation, higher productivity, and ultimately, a boost in economic activity.

When services are not available, it limits a parent's ability to participate in the workforce, and in many cases, a parent chooses to exit the workforce to care for their child. Others don't have the option to quit or reduce their hours, which results in rising absenteeism, lost productivity, and high turnover rates for employers.



78% two-parent households

21% single-parent households

1% legal guardians

Thank you to our supporters!

\$5,000 - \$10,000



\$2,500 - \$5,000



Edwards Tax & Accounting, Inc.

\$1,000 - \$2,500

A-Team Home Improvement
Bank Midwest
Great American Bank
Haskell Indian Nations University
Lied Center of Kansas

Mar Lan Construction
Risley Chiropractic
Stephens Real Estate
Treanor

For more information on our Club and how you can get involved, visit bgclk.org



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF LAWRENCE**