



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF MILFORD



GREAT FUTURES START HERE.



a message from
Executive Director
and
Board President



The Boys & Girls Club of Milford is proud to open its doors every day. Opening our doors means much more than being open for service, it means that we are changing the future and lives of each child that participates in our program. It means that every day we embrace our members, welcoming them to our Boys & Girls Club family. Our Club members know that when they enter the Boys & Girls Club's they will be greeted by caring staff, they will be in a safe environment and have fun at the same time.

While we are always focused on the symbolism of opening the door for our members, this year we are also very excited to be opening a new door at the Boys & Girls Club of Milford Simon Lake Unit. When Simon Lake school was closed a few years back it was upsetting to the students, the teachers and the community as a whole. The Boys & Girls Club of Milford is excited to be using this space once again to serve the youth of Milford and expand our program. With the addition of a new building we will now be able to serve more youth, offer more programs, and concentrate on the growing needs of our members.

In addition to the new Simon Lake unit we will continue to maintain use of West Shore Recreation center which will now be referred to as the Boys & Girls Club of Milford Teen Center. With the ability to separate our teens from our younger members we will be able to offer targeted programming to best suite each age group's needs. We look forward to expanding our programming, deepening our impact and continuing to open the door to great futures for many years to come.

Keeping our doors open would not be possible if it were not for the continued support, generous investments and contributions that each of our Board of Directors, individuals, foundations, corporations, the City of Milford and community partners make each day. There are challenges that the Boys & Girls Club faces every day as we continue to serve more youth and expand our program and services, however, the support and generosity of the community helps us to meet these challenges and rise above them.

On behalf of the staff, Board of Directors, and our many members we Thank You for your committed service to our Club and ensuring we continue to Open the Door for the youth of Milford.

Megan Altomare
 Megan Altomare
 Executive Director

Janice Fletcher-Yarson
 Janice Fletcher-Yarson
 Board President

EVENTS

PUMPKINS ON THE PIER • OCTOBER 12, 2013

DODGEBALL • MARCH 8, 2014

GETAWAYS GALORE • MAY 30, 2014

CUPCAKE, COCKTAILS & CIGARS • JUNE 27, 2014

Bowman Signs
 Milford, CT



MILFORD DODGEBALL
 March 8, 2014
 Jonathan Law High School



THE MILFORD BANK
Always There.



We serve youth from 15 different schools in Milford

14 Club members graduated from the Career Launch Program, during this program they created resumes, learned about time management and heard from 11 different members of the Milford Community about their career journeys

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS.

Your dedication to our members, programs, and special events is integral to making our program a success!

MISSION STATEMENT

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

2013 2014 Board of Directors

Janice Fletcher-Yarson, Board President
 Jorge Santiago, Chairman of the Board
 Thomas E. Bach, Vice President
 Dave Rodriguez, Treasurer
 Erika Shea, Secretary

Peter Berube
 Michael Casey
 Jerry Cavallo
 Wendy Gibbons
 Ralph Harrison
 Thomas Miller
 John O'Connell
 Gary Opin
 Mike Orefice
 Janet Serra
 Paula Smith
 Ila Tokarz
 Anthony Vasiliou
 Seamus Warakomski
 Michael Zabinski

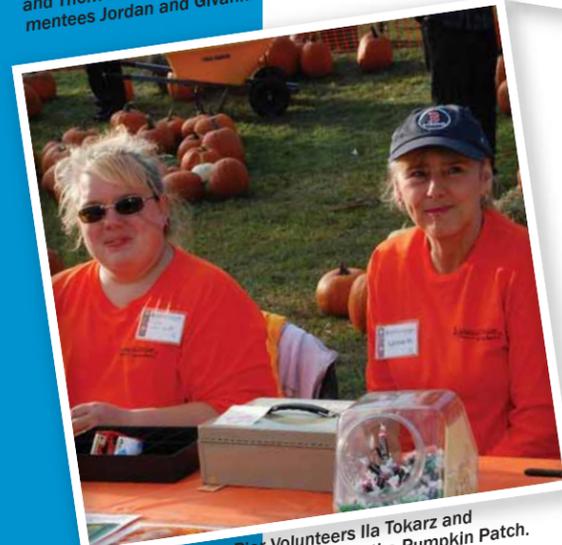
Staff

Megan Altomare, Executive Director
 Jill DeWerdt, Program Director

The Downtown Milford Business Association presenting the Boys & Girls Club with a check from the proceeds of their wine trail.



One on One mentors and Board Members Ralph Harrison and Thom Bach spending valuable time with their mentees Jordan and Givanni



Pumpkins on the Pier Volunteers Ila Tokarz and Lynn Harrison collecting money in the Pumpkin Patch.



Local Super Star and undefeated mixed martial arts champion Nick Newell spent the day with Club members talking about adversity, overcoming challenge, how to achieve your goals, hard work and determination.



We have 1 Full Time Executive Director,
 1 Full Time Program Director and
 8 Part time Youth Development Specialists

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Boys & Girls Club of Milford's afterschool program served more than 300 members between the ages of 6-18 years old this year. Following the Milford Public School calendar, the Clubhouse is open every day after school as well as opening for members during early release days and some holidays.

At the Club, our professional staff and volunteers are here to ensure a positive experience in a fun and safe environment. Our organization is dedicated to providing every Boys & Girls Club member with programs & activities in several core areas including; health & life skills, education & career development, character & leadership development, the arts, sports, fitness, and recreation.

After walking to the Clubhouse after school ends or stepping off one of the 5 school buses that have service to the Clubhouse, our members know that there will be plenty of smiles, games and programs to get involved with though out their time here. Our members are divided into age groups; K- 3rd grade, 4th and 5th grade and Middle School and High school. During the afternoon, groups rotate in to each area every 45 minutes which include the game room, program room, homework room, field and playscape when weather permits.

If homework and dodge ball were not enough, The Boys & Girls Club offers over 60 different enrichment programs to its members. Partnering with community organizations and volunteers, makes it possible to have such a wide variety of activities and programs for members to get participate in.



BIC employees engage with our members during National Boys & Girls week



Club members working hard to set their goals during Making of a Champion



Running Club members signing their contract to commit to the 8 week program.



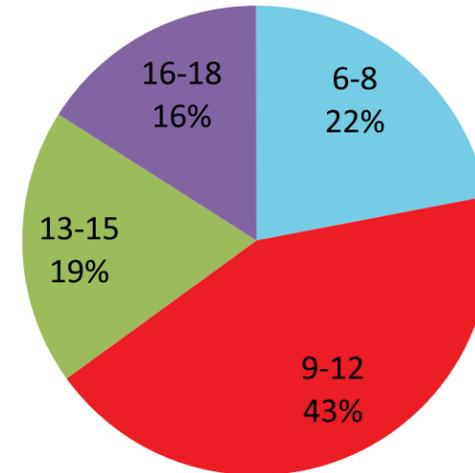
Torch Club presenting the Lagasse Family with a check for money they raised to support their family during a challenging time.

60 Youth receive one on one mentoring with a caring adult

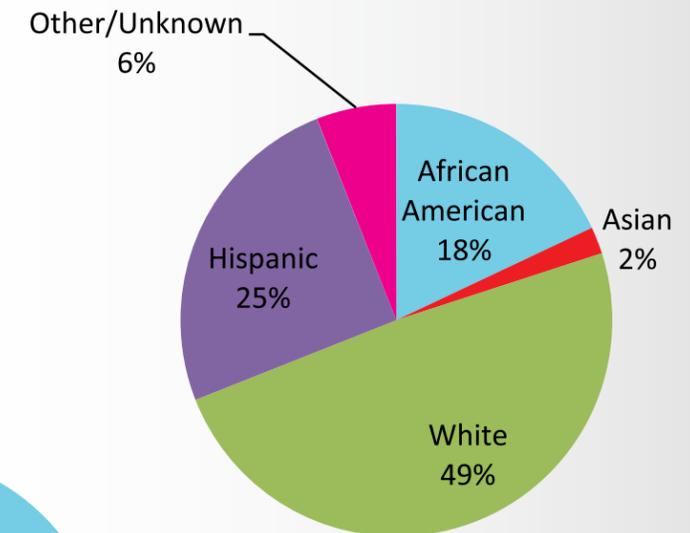
AND STATS

Over 100 of our club members participated in the Guinness Book of World record challenge alongside Boys & Girls Club of America. All Clubs throughout the country exercised at the same time to the award winning video created by the members at the Boys & Girls Club of Milford

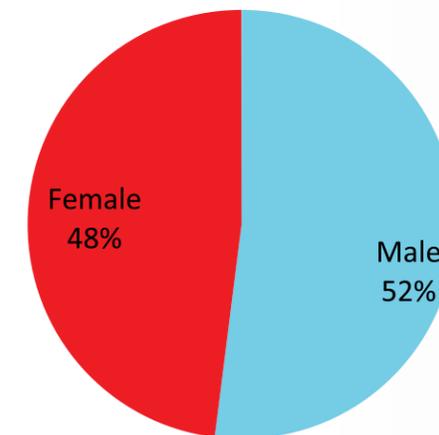
Member Ages



Race Ethnicity



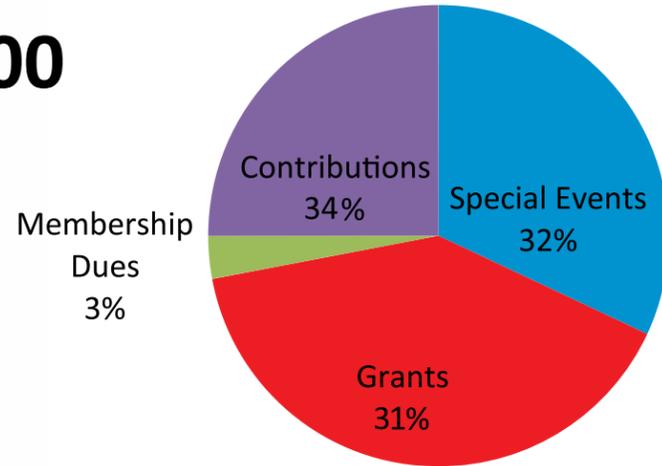
Gender



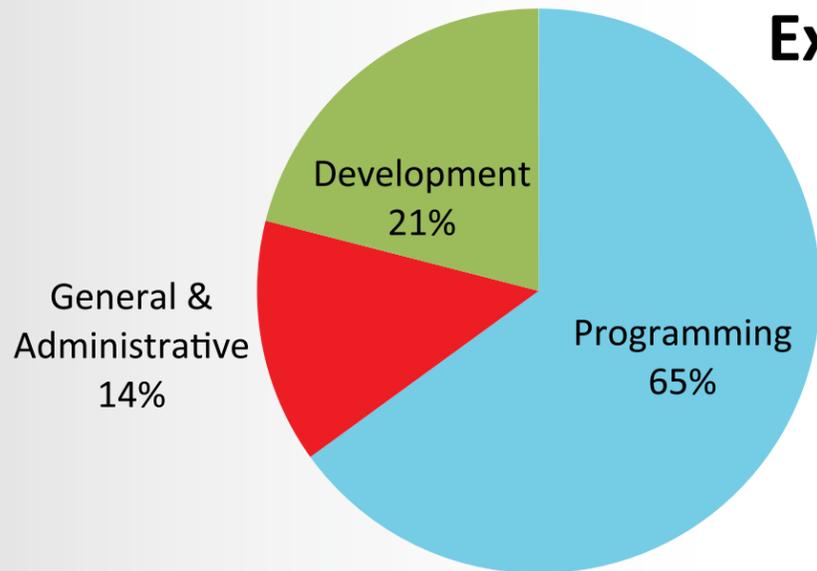
GREAT.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Income \$315,577.00



Expenses \$258,910.00



BE



Summer Program



The Boys & Girls Club of Milford was thrilled to offer a 6 week summer program to our members. Youth ages 6-16 years old participated in the summer program which ran Monday through Friday from 8AM- 4PM. Our professional, friendly and energetic staff ensured each member had a memorable experience and fun summer.

Each week the program had different themes such as sports week, or friendship week. In addition the summer membership members also traveled on several field trips both educational and recreational across the state.

For members too old to attend the program, we offered a Junior Counselor Program (youth ages 15-18) which taught teens important job skills, how to build a resume, how to dress for an interview, and financial responsibility. The Junior Counselor Program participants were also be given minor responsibilities in the execution of the Summer Program as well as a small stipend to reward their hard work throughout the week.

* From our 2012-2013 Audited Financial Statement

112 Kids took part in our first ever 6 week summer program

Character and Leadership

TORCH CLUB

The 23 members in Torch Club volunteered over 2800 hours of service giving back to the Club and Community.

KEYSTONE CLUB

8 Keystone Members created a family fun night for 35 families to engage in positive activities together.

GIRL SCOUTS

14 Girl Scouts earned 10 badges each this season as part of the Boys & Girls Club of Milford's very own Girl Scout Troop.

BE GREAT CLUB

Club members met weekly to volunteer at 8 local events. This included organizing a Club wide tag sale and spending time mentoring younger members.



BE GREAT



COLLABORATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

MILFORD'S PROMISE MENTORING PROGRAM

A Collaboration with the Milford Boy's and Girl's Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters of SWCT
16 caring adults in Milford took one hour out of their week every week to mentor their mentee.

MAKING OF A CHAMPION

10 Boys between the ages of 10 and 13 made a total of 30 long term goals to start thinking about their futures



- Beth-El Center
- BIC
- Big Brother Big Sister
- Board of Education
- Boy Scouts
- Bridges
- City of Milford
- Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
- CT Food Bank
- CT State Alliance
- Department of Health
- Department of Human Service/Youth & Family Services
- Devon Rotary
- Downtown Milford Business Association
- Education Foundation
- Fine Arts Council
- Girl Scouts
- Jamie Hulley Foundation
- Jason Project
- Kohl's
- Kiwanis Club of Milford
- Literacy Center

- The Milford Bank
- Milford Library
- Milford Police Department
- Milford Prevention Council
- Milford Redevelopment & Housing Partnership
- Milford Rotary
- Milford's Promise
- Montano Family
- OEM Sources
- Rape Crisis Center
- SBC Restaurants
- Shop Rite
- SUBWAY
- TD Bank
- Technology Marketing Corporation
- United Illuminating
- United Way of Milford
- Walnut Beach Association
- Walnut Beach Business Association
- Westfield Connecticut Post Mall
- Whole Foods
- Wildemere Beach Association
- YMCA

YOUTH OF THE YEAR

SPONSORED BY



Zanabria Cadet
Boys & Girls Club Organization: Boys & Girls Club of Milford
City & State: Milford, Connecticut
Age: 17
Number of years of Club membership: 4 years

Why/how did you join the Club:

I joined the Boys & Girls Club when I moved to Milford in 8th grade. My family and I found out about it through a friend whose kids were involved in it. The reason I joined was to have a positive place to go after school and finish my homework for the day. I have gained so many friends and learned new things while at the Club. I know that I will continue to be a part of the Club even after I graduate because I know that it has done so much for me, and I want to be a part of that throughout my life.



The Boys & Girls Club Girl Scout troop sold 528 Boxes of Girl Scout Cookies

Average daily attendance of 92 Members per day

THE ARTS



Over 100 of our club members participated in the Guinness Book of World record challenge alongside Boys & Girls Club of America. All Clubs throughout the country exercised at the same time to the award winning video created by the members at the Boys & Girls Club of Milford

MODEL CLUB
Through Model Club one of our Club members realized their special talent for creating and was inspired to take part in the Milford Invention Convention, where he showcased his Child Safety Security System invention.

FINE ART EXHIBIT PROGRAM
Sponsored by the Jamie A. Hulley Foundation, our members created over 200 different pieces of art which were showcased in the Milford Library for the community to enjoy.

**MAKING MEMORIES-
Scrapbooking Club**
12 members of the Scrapbooking Club created over 300 pages of photo memories.

**INTO FOCUS-
ImageMakers National Photography Program**
Sponsored by Milford Photo the 14 members learned how to use point and shoot digital cameras and how to edit photos.

**FRESH BEATS-
Music Therapy**
Partnering with the Department of Youth and Family Services 7 teenagers used music as a way to express themselves and their emotions creating a rap video to share with the world.

**HIP HOP DANCE
and MUSIC AND RHYTHM**
Sponsored by the Milford's Fine Arts Council 1 of our members showed true talent and the instructor worked to get her a full scholarship to attend the Performing Art School of CT, where she partakes in weekly dance lessons.

MUSIC and RHYTHM
Sponsored by the Milford Fine Arts Council 16 members learned over 35 different songs in which they performed at 8 different community events.



Education and Career

PROJECT LEARN
In this program members spent an additional 82 hours engaged in learning activities outside of a traditional classroom setting

POWER HOUR: MAKING MINUTES COUNT
38 of our middle school aged members made the honor roll. All of which participate in our Power Hour Homework Help Program.

**MONEY MATTERS:
MAKE IT COUNT**
23 members that took part in Money Matters used their new financial skills to earn and save enough money to go on a 2 day trip to Seaside Heights New Jersey.



CAREER LAUNCH
Through Career Launch 11 different non-traditional businesses professionals presented to our members inspiring them to think outside the box when choosing their career path.

JR. COUNSELOR PROGRAM
Through our Jr. Counselor Program the 5 Jr. Counselors each created their very first resume.

IMMERSION
Sponsored by the Jason Project and Community Foundation of Greater New Haven over 50 members are able to conduct hands on research along Milford's coastline.

PEN PALS
Through the pen pal program 72 letters were mailed back and forth between our Club and a Boys & Girls Club in Massachusetts.

EXPERIMENT WITH FUN
6 cups flour, 2 cups salt, 4 tablespoons cooking oil, and 2 cups of water resulted in the first ever volcano eruption in the Boys & Girls Club science lab!



This year Torch Club and Keystone Our 2 Youth Leadership Program volunteered over 3000 hours



SPORTS, FITNESS & RECREATION



SPLASH

The Boys & Girls Club of Milford in conjunction with the Milford YMCA taught 33 kids important swim safety skills.

SPORTS CLUB

Inspired by the skills they learned in Sports Club 2 members joined an organized youth football league.

TRIPLE PLAY: A GAME PLAN FOR MIND, BODY AND SOUL

Based on pre and post test results 100% of the members in Triple Play learned that being healthy is more than being active, it encompasses the whole body.

NO CHILD LEFT INSIDE- FISHING PROGRAM

During this program we had 11 kids, 11 fishing poles, 1000's of feet of fishing line, 40 different baits and lures and 0 fish in our gamesroom.



WANNA PLAY?

Thanks to our partnership with APEX Production Company the Boys & Girls Club of Milford produced a national award winning video that was viewed in over 4000 Boys & Girls Clubs throughout the country and was part of a Guinness Book of World Record challenge.

GET FIT CLUB

Based on pre and post tests 100% of the members that took part in the Get Fit Club increased their physical endurance.

YOGA

Led by a therapist from the Department of Youth and Family Services the 8 members that took part in yoga were able to hold over 20 different yoga poses

RUNNING CLUB

In partnership with the Milford Police Department and lead by Officer Mike Compare 25 kids ran over 50 miles each during this 8 week program.



HEALTH & LIFE SKILLS



SMART MOVES/ SMART KIDS

Through Pre & Post Test Results 100% of the members involved in SMART Moves learned at least one new refusal skill to use if they were ever offered drugs or alcohol.

SMART GIRLS and PASSPORT TO MANHOOD

Broken down into two separate groups 16 Girls and 11 Boys spent 8 weeks discussing issues that affect them at home, school and at the Club.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT-

Healthy Habits Cooking Program: A Triple Play Program

17 Kids planned the menu, prepared, cooked and served a 3 course healthy meal for their families with their new found skills.

GARDEN CLUB

Thanks to the Whole Foods Foundation we were able to plant a garden at the Boys & Girls Club with over 20 different vegetables and herbs for our members to take care of and harvest each week.

SNACK ATTACK

Through a partnership with the Connecticut Food Bank, our members learned how to make 10 different healthy snacks they can safely prepare on their own at home.



Somewhere to call home

It is not that often that you find somewhere to be comfortable.

Somewhere to be yourself.

Somewhere to be always accepted for who you are.

It is not often, when you need someone to talk to there is someone to listen.

It's not that often that you find that place is right around the corner from your home.

That place is MY Boys & Girls Club.

My name is Kamijah Wilkes and I am 11 years old. I am a member of the Boys & Girls Club of Milford. Although this is just my 3rd year at the Club, I know I have a long wonderful future with this place. Coming from a large family of ten, the busy Club often feels just like home to me.

The Club is where I can do my homework, hang with my friends and participate in so many different programs. Being a part of the Running Club has taught me commitment and dedication. The art class has taught me more about life around the world, and Career Launch has opened my eyes to hundreds of different career options.

I love being here because there is always so much to do. Having lots of energy has always been my biggest problem, but I love playing a game of dodge ball in the gym or a quick game of pool in the game room to stay busy and active.

The Club has given me the tools that I need to be successful. As the Secretary of the Torch Club, a youth leadership program, I volunteer in the Club and community. This year, we raised money for a family in need, held a fundraiser for a local animal shelter and volunteered hundreds of hours at Club events.

I know that when I am at the Club, I am safe. The staff are there to greet me afterschool when I arrive. They are always there to help me with my homework or play a game. And when I have a field trip at school, they even attend as my chaperone.

So when asked how has the Boys & Girls Club impacted my life, the only thing that came to my mind was that I would like to be a staff member there one day so that I could make the kids feel as loved as I do.

By: Kamijah Wilkes



100% of our members have a minimum of 1 and 1/2 hours of Physical activity a day

Over 300 youth were members of the Boys & Girls Club in 2013-14