

A CLUB FOR LIFE

FY24 Annual Report



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF CHICAGO

MOMENTS MADE POSSIBLE BY YOU!

RUSU-MCCARTIN CLUB RIBBON CUTTING

BGCC held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the Rusu-McCartin Boys & Girls Club, our first newly built Club in over a generation. This brand-new, three-story, 27,000+ square-foot facility will offer programming for youth in the Austin, West Garfield Park, West Humboldt Park, and surrounding communities.

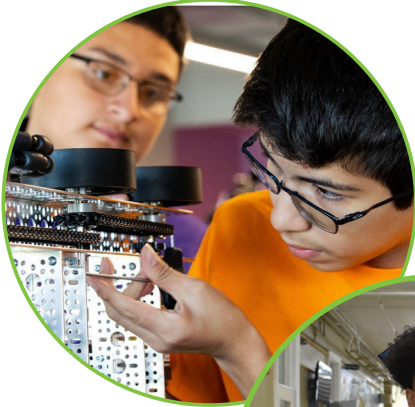


ABERCROMBIE & KENT "JOURNEY TO THE WEST" TRIP - YEAR 3

For the third year, thanks to Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy, 16 teens embarked on a "Journey to the West," exploring Wyoming and Idaho. During the trip, participants were challenged both physically and emotionally through hiking, whitewater rafting, meditation, and yoga, while also gaining insight into local businesses and agriculture. The experience encouraged resilience, curiosity, and leadership among our youth.

STEAMBASSADORS SHOWCASE WITH TRUMAN COLLEGE

BGCC partnered with Truman College (City Colleges of Chicago) to deliver a two-week STEAM camp, connecting middle school members from nine Clubs with college mentors. Participants expanded their STEAM skills through hands-on projects and cutting-edge technology. The program culminated in a STEAM showcase at the college, featuring robotics races, 3D printing challenges, and friendly competitions, empowering youth with confidence and practical experience.



JUNIOR YOUTH OF THE YEAR

BGCC proudly recognized Liliana from the Little Village Club as the 2024 Carol A. Walter Junior Youth of the Year, honoring her leadership, character, and potential. She was selected from an impressive group of 13 candidates participating in this year's leadership development program. Part of BGCC's premier Youth of the Year initiative, the Carol A. Walter Junior Youth of the Year celebrates emerging leaders in grades 5-8 by providing pre-teen members with opportunities to develop leadership skills, share their voices, and showcase their unique perspectives.



BGCC COLLEGE "SIGNING WEEK"

Signing Week at BGCC was a proud moment as we celebrated our graduating seniors and the next chapter of their academic journeys. This year's class will head to colleges and universities across the country to pursue a wide range of majors, including arts, neuroscience, business, cinematography, criminology, nursing, and engineering, to name a few, reflecting both their diverse interests and ambitious goals. Their achievements exemplify the power of opportunity, mentorship and perseverance, and we can't wait to see the impact they will make!



STARTUP LAUNCHPAD

Startup LaunchPad, BGCC's new entrepreneurship program, empowered 12 Club members to turn bold ideas into real-world startups. Over four months, participants developed business concepts, built teams, and refined every aspect of their ventures with support from Club staff and expert guidance from Uncharted Learning. The program culminated in a pitch day, where five teams presented their business plans to a panel of successful Chicago entrepreneurs. Each team was awarded seed funding ranging from \$2,500 to \$5,000 to bring their ideas to life and move forward with the next stage: launching their businesses.



ROOTED AND RADICAL

Members of BGCC's Writers' Collective and Write It Out program participated in Rooted & Radical, the world's largest youth poetry festival produced by Young Chicago Authors. Members wrote and performed original poems, with vulnerable topics ranging from body image and practicing self-love, finding joy in the present, and treasuring the memories of loved ones who have passed. This year, Chris, only 13 years old, advanced to the festival's final showcase as a special performer and recited his poem, "Rooted in Joy," in front of an audience at the Ramova Theatre.



MCCARTIN CLUB RENAMING CEREMONY

BGCC celebrated the renaming of the Louis L. Valentine Boys & Girls Club as the Bartlett J. McCartin Boys & Girls Club, honoring Bart McCartin's extraordinary commitment to youth. McCartin began volunteering at this very Club more than 20 years ago as a youth mentor and has since expanded his impact through leadership at the highest levels of BGCC, including service on the Board of Directors and a term as Chairman of the Board.

SMARTGIRLS SUMMIT

BGCC hosted the annual SMART Girls Summit for girls ages 7-14, celebrating individuality, creativity, and empowerment. The event emphasized health, fitness, self-esteem, and personal growth through activities including boxing, meditation, and beauty empowerment classes, inspiring participants to build confidence and embrace their strengths.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACKS

To prepare members for the new school year, BGCC distributed 3,500 backpacks filled with essential school supplies. Starting the year with the right tools not only sets the tone for academic success, but also reinforces a sense of belonging and empowers our young people to walk into their classrooms ready to thrive.



CFD FIREFIGHTER FOR A DAY

60 teens participated in the Chicago Fire Department's "Firefighter for a Day" event at the city's Public Safety Training Center, gaining hands-on exposure to careers in public service. Youth experienced the physical and technical demands of firefighting by donning 75 pounds of protective gear, swinging sledgehammers, and rappelling from a second story during simulated rescue exercises. The immersive experience offered participants a firsthand look at firefighter training while inspiring interest in public safety and civic leadership careers.

OUR MISSION:

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

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*Ex Officio

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FY24 OPERATING EXPENSES BREAKOUT

Program Services	\$ 17,660,152
Management and General	3,682,879
Fundraising	2,398,438
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 23,741,469

FY24 OPERATING REVENUE BREAKOUT

Donor Support	\$ 10,994,570
Government Grants	9,154,004
Investment Income and Perpetual Trusts	524,107
Membership Dues	177,048
Other	327,413
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 21,195,142

