



## 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

(817) 834-4711 advancement@bgcgtc.org www.BGCGTC.org BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER TARRANT COUNTY 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

## OUR MISSION

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



## OUR CORE VALUES

- 1 tough decisions and protect all we serve
- 2 CHALLENGE ourselves and each other to imagine all possibilities
- Think and act **BOLDLY** to purposefully grow the mission

## LETTER FROM THE CEO

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County marked a year of growth. We served 76,398 youth in 2024 - a tremendous increase from 66,000 in 2023! We are proud to be the oldest and largest Boys & Girls Club in Texas, celebrating 100 years in 2026. We have grown and adapted in many ways in our 99 years, yet we consistently stand true to our core mission of serving the youth of our community that need us most.

Over one million children live in Tarrant and Denton counties, and the newest census data states that one in six youth in Texas lives in DFW. The demand for Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County is growing, so we challenge ourselves to find innovative ways to serve and support youth ages 6-18. Our Mobile Clubhouses bring the club experience directly to communities without a traditional stand-alone building. Our kids love the experience while getting the support they need to succeed.

Many of the children we serve face food insecurity, which impacts their ability to focus on academic success. Our innovative "Blue Door Kitchen" launched at the beginning of 2024 and has grown to serve over 1,500 scratch-made meals daily, making us the only at-risk food provider approved by the Texas Department of Agriculture. We have extended this service outside Tarrant County to include Dallas County club members.

Our clubs provide high-quality programs and mentorship daily that help children reach their fullest potential. We are committed to expanding our capacity to serve more kids and improve the club experience by refreshing spaces, capacity building, and enhancing safety tools.

I'm so thankful for the generous support of our community partners and look forward to sharing an even more remarkable success story in 2025.

Daphne Barlow



## **ABOUT US**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County has deep roots in the community, stemming from two historic clubs: Panther Boys Club, established in 1926, and Fort Worth Boys Club, founded in 1935. These clubs merged in 1990 to form Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth, also expanding to serve girls that year. Over the decades, the organization grew to include multiple branches and school-based programs across the region.

In Arlington, the Boys Club began in 1959, later becoming Boys & Girls Clubs of Arlington in 1990. It expanded to serve thousands of youth through multiple branches and school sites. In time, these two organizations united to form Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County, continuing a legacy of life-changing impact for local youth.



On October 1, 2018, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth and Arlington merged to form Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County, becoming the largest Boys & Girls Club in Texas. Despite challenges in 2020, including the pandemic, BGCGTC adapted quickly to meet community needs, even launching its first Mobile Clubhouse. In 2022, the organization expanded into Denton County, continuing its long legacy of empowering youth across North Texas. In 2023 and 2024, we surpassed our annual number of youth served goals and continue to grow by serving youth in new communities.

## **PROGRAMS**

All Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County programming revolves around our Four Priority Outcomes that are designed to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



Foster a love for learning, guide youth to graduation, and connect their passions to a meaningful, purposeful future.



#### **Workforce Readiness**

Teach skills like judgment, creativity, and collaboration, guiding youth to explore, develop, and apply their talents.



### **Character & Leadership**

Empower youth with social-emotional and leadership skills, fostering resilience, service, and impactful change.



### **Healthy Lifestyles**

Promote well-being through meals, fitness, and sports, helping youth make healthy choices and lead fulfilling lives. BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF GREATER TARRANT COUNTY | 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

# ACADEMIC SUCCESS



Academic Success has always been a cornerstone of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County's mission, recognizing that high school graduation is a pivotal milestone on the path to a thriving adulthood. High school graduates are more likely to achieve better financial stability, build meaningful social connections, and enjoy improved health, while also contributing to the economy through increased employment and spending and reducing societal costs like healthcare and judicial expenses. Research also underscores the link between the quality of youth programs and positive academic outcomes.

While numerous factors influence a young person's path to graduation, Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County focuses on fostering a love of learning and meaningful engagement with education. When young people are inspired to learn and actively involved in their educational journey, they are far more likely to achieve Academic Success.



of Club youth expect to graduate from high school

### Robots, Code, Confidence: A STEM Story in Action



In a room full of bright young minds, we asked a simple question: **"Who** can tell us what a robot is?"

A third grader answered, "Robots will take over the world." Maybe he's onto something. This next generation is growing up in a world shaped by technology. The real question is—will they just use it, or will they be the ones creating it?

Moments later, a scholar shouted, "I DID IT!" after successfully commanding her robot to light up via a line of code.

Many of the kids in the room were English learners, navigating core subjects in a new language. But here, no one was "behind." The robots didn't care how fluent you were—they only understood code. And these kids? They spoke it loud and clear.

This is high-quality, high-impact programming that BGCGTC knows how to scale. And now, we're scaling futures.



## WORKFORCE READINESS



At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County, we prepare youth for the future by teaching essential skills like judgment, creativity, teamwork, decision-making, communication, and more. We believe access to purposeful, out-of-school opportunities sets young people on the path to Great Futures.

Our Workforce Readiness approach supports holistic skill development from ages 6 to 18, preparing youth for success in life and work. The framework is built on three key components:

- Explore Youth discover diverse careers and envision future possibilities.
- Develop Members build life, work, and technical skills starting at age six.
- Apply Skills are put into practice through real-world work experiences.

This helps shape future leaders, innovators, and professionals across a range of industries.



of youth feel they are gaining the skills needed to succeed in a job

#### The Blue Door Kitchen: Fresh Food, Real Impact

At the Blue Door Kitchen (BDK), lunch isn't just a meal—it's a game-changer. Housed at BGCGTC's Nicholas & Louella Martin branch, BDK serves hot, made-from-scratch meals to over 3,500 youth daily.

Located in a food desert, the Blue Door Kitchen is more than just a commercial kitchen—it's a lifeline. "It's changing the way kids get access to nutritious food," said CEO and President Daphne Barlow. Gone are the days of cold, processed foods at the Club.

The initiative began during the pandemic with buses delivering meals to our branches. Now, it includes hands-on programs like Culinary Connection, where youth learn the skills necessary to be successful in the culinary world. Participants also get to explore potential culinary careers in real-world settings.

From warm meals to life skills, the Blue Door Kitchen is serving up more than food—it's serving hope, one delicious meal at a time.



## **CHARACTER** & LEADERSHIP



Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County is dedicated to providing youth with enriching experiences and opportunities that foster the development of essential social-emotional skills. These skills, combined with leadership development through service learning, empower youth to become adaptable, resilient, and impactful both within the Club and as they step into the world.

By teaching the value of giving back through service, we help young people cultivate a sense of pride in their communities. Meaningful service-learning opportunities, where youth collaborate with peers and caring adults, equip them with critical skills like communication, problem-solving, and goal-setting.

Hands-on experiences in the communities our youth live in prepare them to be confident leaders capable of driving meaningful change within themselves and their communities.

of Club youth feel they can stand up for what is right

## **NiKolas R.: A Leadership Success Story**



NiKolas R., a Trimble Tech High School junior and member of our Upward Bound program, was named Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County's 2024 Youth of the Year!

NiKolas was chosen for his incredible leadership, academic excellence, and inspiring personal growth. A future computer programmer with dreams of building spacecraft navigation technology, NiKolas is already reaching for the stars.

Through involvement in BGCGTC's programming, he gained access to leadership programs, workshops, and new perspectives that have helped shape who he is today. After being diagnosed as pre-diabetic, NiKolas took control of his health—developing a passion for fitness, healthy cooking, and sports.

"NiKolas is a remarkable individual," said CEO and President Daphne Barlow. "His transformation is proof of the power of the Club.



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## **HEALTHY LIFESTYLES**



Our Healthy Lifestyles programs empower young people to adopt positive behaviors that promote their well-being, set and achieve personal goals, and grow into self-reliant adults. Through fresh, locally prepared meals from our Blue Door Kitchen, fun fitness activities, and competitive sports, we create an environment where youth can thrive physically, emotionally, and mentally.

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County, we strive to equip youth with the knowledge and skills to make healthier choices, maintain regular physical activity, and develop a positive mental outlook. By addressing these critical areas, we prepare young people with the tools they need to lead healthier, more fulfilling lives—both now and in the future.

As of 2023, all members receive a hot, scratch-made meal from our Blue Door Kitchen during after school and summer programming.



of Club alumni have experienced a positive attitude toward fitness and health

#### **Professional Sports: A Healthy Inspiration**

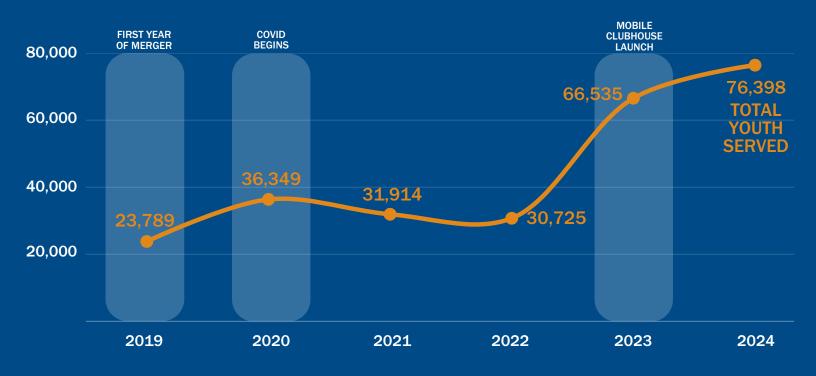
Sports and recreation are a major part of what Boys & Girls Clubs do to promote healthy lifestyles. In collaborating with key partners like the Dallas Mavericks. Texas Rangers, Dallas Cowboys, and unique opportunities are presented to our members such as meeting players, interacting with legends, and attending sports skills camps. These experiences drive youth to dream big alongside their idols.





Additionally, funding from these partners has resulted in permanent improvements to our facilities - these resources allow us to continue enabling youth to thrive physically, emotionally, and mentally.

## **DATA & INSIGHTS**





**Govt Grants 53% Contributions 28%** 

**Non-Financial Assets 7%** 

**Events 6%** 

**Program Fees 4%** 

**Membership Dues 1%** 

Other 1%

\*2023 financial audit data



**African American 53%** Hispanic/Latino 29% Caucasian 11% **Other 7%** 

\*2024 non-financial audit data



**Programming 70% Administrative 23% Fundraising 7%** 

\*2023 financial audit data

Meals Served



Members on Free or Reduced-Priced Lunch



\*2024 non-financial audit data

## **EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**

## **GOLF CLASSIC: Swinging for Better Futures**

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Tarrant County's Golf Classic is an annual golf tournament that has been held for over 30 years in benefit of our mission. Over 130 golfers competed in teams of four for first, second, and third place while raising money for youth in need by participating in various on-course activities.



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## **YOUTH OF THE YEAR: Celebrating Tomorrow's Leaders**

BGCGTC's Youth of the Year (YOY) program celebrates outstanding teens who exemplify leadership, resilience, and academic excellence. For 75 years, this prestigious initiative has helped young people build confidence, sharpen public speaking skills, and make a positive impact in their communities.

To celebrate, we host an annual gala where we showcase the talented program youth and raise funds to support our mission.



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**BNSF** Railway

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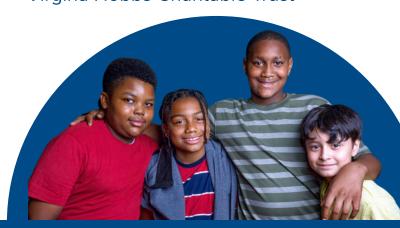
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