



Case Statement: Physical Safety & Emotional Development

The best way to predict the future is to create it. At the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket, we are creating a new and brighter future for thousands of young people. We help young people ages 6-18 to reach their full potential through a program of youth development that emphasizes career and academic preparedness, healthy lifestyles, confidence through the arts, and character and good citizenship. Our vision is to inspire and enable the young people of Pawtucket and surrounding communities, especially those with greatest need, to realize their full potential as healthy, productive, responsible, and caring citizens. We offer programming each weekday after school to a membership that is approximately 4,000 strong. Each day anywhere from 300 to 450 kids come to our Club. Membership is open to all young people and costs only \$40 per child, per year.

The need for an Out-of-School Time Program that supports the physical and emotional development of local youth is strong.

- **31% of children in Pawtucket and 42% in Central Falls live in poverty.**
- **In 2018, 68 children in Pawtucket and 113 children in Central Falls were identified by public schools as homeless.**
- **Per every 1000 children living in Pawtucket, 250 of those children suffer from child abuse or neglect.**

Meet Kendra, an inspiration within the program.

“Usually, when I am home, there’s nothing to do. This typically results in me feeling very bored and unhappy. Since coming to BGCP for the past 3 years, I’ve put my dark side away and adopted a calmer personality in order to hide my negativity. When I’m at the Club, I tend not to focus on the negative aspects of my life. The Club has helped me not only put my dark side away, but also shown me a new perception of the world. None of this would have been achievable without the help and guidance of the staff. They have shown me how to be able to express myself and my emotions.”

The data analysis of our statistical outcome measures demonstrates the Club-wide impact that staff and programs have on our members. **Since 2018, all of our members feel more physically and emotionally safe at the Club, with 95% of our teens feeling that if someone wanted to hurt them, someone at the Club would stop them.**

When you make an investment in the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket, you change the future for thousands of young people like Kendra. Please consider joining us as a catalyst for community change with your thoughtful investment in youth. Every child deserves a great future – with a safe place to go and the support to successfully progress through school and graduate with a viable plan. Your gift to the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket makes this possible!