

### **Stopping the Summer Slide**

Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Summer Brain Gain program promotes and sustains learning during the summer months

#### **Preventing Summer Learning Loss**

In America, summer is often celebrated as a time of fun, adventure and relaxation when many families take a welcome break from the routine of school and work. For low-income families, however, summer is a time of uncertainty when the essential resources provided by our nation's schools — supervision, safety, nutrition and learning opportunities — are suddenly lost.

In fact, summer learning loss is one of the most significant causes of the achievement gap between lower and higher income youth, and one of the



strongest contributors to the high school dropout rate. Research reveals that students of low socio-economic status typically lose 20 percent or more of their previous years' learning during the summer break. Summer learning losses can stack up from year to year, creating a chasm many low-income students cannot cross.

BGCA is committed to ensuring that America's youth, especially those who need us most, graduate from high school on time with a plan for the future. To combat the long-term effects summer learning loss has on low-income kids and our nation's workforce, BGCA created Summer Brain Gain, an engaging math and reading summer program.

An evidence-informed control trial of Summer Brain Gain found that participants experienced <u>no</u> <u>significant loss</u> in early literacy, math or reading.

#### **Innovative Programming for Fun Summer Learning**

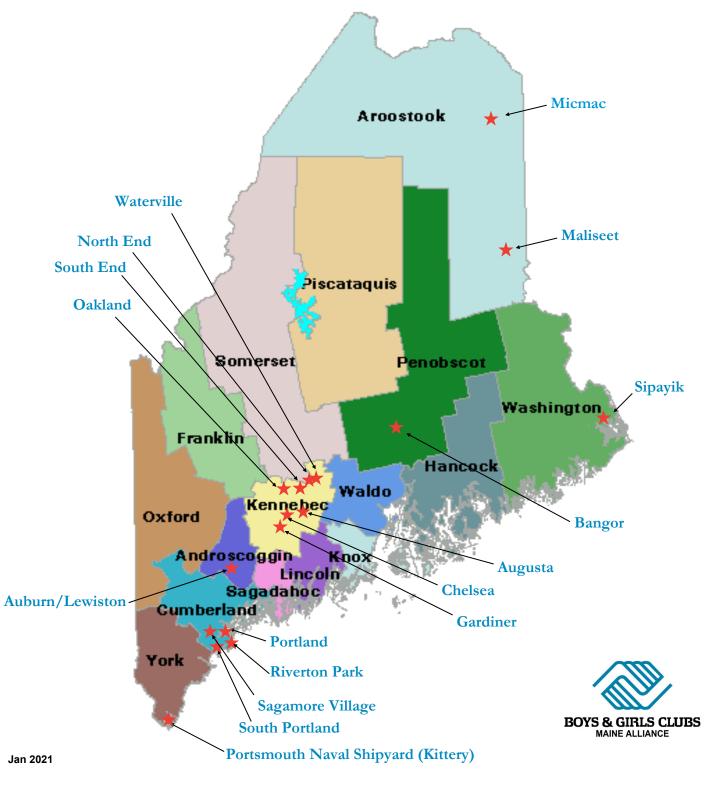
Adopted by nearly 2,000 Clubs and reaching nearly 150,000 youth nationwide, Summer Brain Gain is one of BGCA's fastest-scaled programs. The program is comprised of one-week modules with fun, themed activities for elementary school, middle school and high school students that are aligned with common core anchor standards. Each module takes a project-based learning approach: youth engage in a process of learning through discovery, creative expression, group work and a final project or production. The literacy and reading curriculum includes a new book presented each week per age group, along with supporting activities that bring the book to life. Throughout Summer Brain Gain, kids develop higher-order thinking skills while staying on track for the coming school year.



#### BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS IN MAINE CHARTERED SITES AS OF January 2021

Our mission is to inspire all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens.

- Boys & Girls Clubs in Maine currently serve 21,061 youth via membership and community outreach at 17 sites.
- More than 66% of Club members receive free or reduced price school lunches. At the Clubs, 282,544 healthy meals
  and snacks were served last year.
- The cost of providing comprehensive youth development services at our Clubs in Maine totals \$6.6 million.
- Boys & Girls Clubs in Maine are independent affiliates of Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), with local board leadership, program initiatives and revenue sources. BGCA provides a wide range of program resources and support.





#### **Our Mission**

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

# **2020 MAINE FACT SHEET**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS** 

MAINE ALLIANCE

#### **The Club Experience**

Boys & Girls Clubs fill the gap between school and home. We provide welcoming, positive environments in which kids and teens have fun, participate in life-changing programs and experiences, and build supportive relationships with peers and caring adults.



#### **The Need in Our State**

Every day 38,129 kids in Maine leave school with nowhere to go<sup>1</sup>. They risk being unsupervised, unguided and unsafe.



"Curiosity opens new doors."



**Sara D.** 2020 Maine Youth of the Year

#### **Club Locations**

Multi Club Cities are bolded, Military Bases are italicized

Auburn Augusta Bangor Gardiner Littleton Mars Hill Oakland Perry Portland Presque Isle South Portland Waterville

Every dollar invested in the Boys & Girls Clubs returns \$9.60 in current and future earnings and cost-savings to their communities

### **Our Agenda for America's Youth**

At Boys & Girls Clubs of America we believe who you are, where you're from, or the circumstances that surround you shouldn't determine your access to experiences or opportunities. Our Agenda for America's Youth focuses on solutions and policies that will have the greatest impact on the youth of this country, and the fight to strengthen them. America's youth need a voice and with your help, we will close the opportunity gap for all youth in America.

## Out-Of-School

Every young person should have access to a high-quality out-of-school time experience.

### The Need

Nationally, 11.3 million school-age children are home without adult supervision after school.

#### What We Do

Clubs across the country provide over 4 million young people with a safe place, caring adult mentors, fun and friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours.

#### **Our Impact**

**54%** of Club Alumni said the club literally "saved my life".

#### Safer Childhoods

Every young person has a right to a safe, positive environment in which to learn and grow.

#### The Need

Nationally, 49% of youth grades 4–12 reported being bullied at least once during the past month.

#### What We Do

Boys & Girls Clubs are committed to supporting communities and local Clubs ensure the safety of all youth especially during out-of-school time when statistics show youth violence escalates in communities between the hours of 3-7 p.m.

#### **Our Impact**

Older Club Teens are **41%** less likely to get into a physical fight than their peers.

### Health & Wellness

Every young person should be equipped to make healthy decisions resulting in positive social, emotional, and physical well-being.

#### The Need

Nationally, 33% of high school students report currently using alcohol and 22% using marijuana in the past 30 days.

#### What We Do

Our programs help youth engage in positive behaviors that nurture their well-being. Club members learn how to manage stress, demonstrate good teamwork, eat well, and keep physically fit.

#### **Our Impact**

Club 12<sup>th</sup> graders are **26%** more likely to abstain from alcohol than their peers nationally.

#### Education, Career Readiness & Leadership Development

Every young person deserves to be well prepared for life and career.

#### The Need

13% of young people in Maine fail to graduate from high school on time<sup>2</sup>

#### What We Do

Clubs equip youth with the soft and hard skills they need to succeed in the workforce and create access to partnerships for reallife experiences to explore career options.

#### **Our Impact**

**97%** of Club teens expect to graduate on time and **86%** expect to attend college.

## Equity & Inclusion

Every young person has the right to safe, positive and inclusive environments where everyone can reach their full potential

#### The Need

Nationally, nearly 1 in 5 children live in poverty and 50% live in lowincome families.

#### What We Do

Clubs champion opportunities for the unique challenges and circumstances in communities, while respecting and celebrating their strengths and cultures. **Our Impact** 

**83%** of Club members believe they can make a difference in their community.



## BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

For more information, please visit www.bgca.org (202)507-6670 || advocacy@bgca.org J.R. Kenny || (770) 596-1183 || jkenny@bgca.org

<sup>1</sup> America After 3PM, Afterschool Alliance, http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/
 <sup>2</sup> America After 3PM, Afterschool Alliance, http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/
 <sup>3</sup> America After 3PM, Afterschool Alliance, http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/
 <sup>4</sup> America After 3PM, Afterschool Alliance, http://afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM/