

MEASURING THE IMPACT OF BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Executive Summary of the 2018 National Outcomes Report

2018



NYOI
National Youth Outcomes Initiative



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF AMERICA**

BGCA works with Club organizations to build their capacity to collect and use data to measure youth outcomes and demonstrate their impact. This data enables Clubs to adjust their practices and implement quality improvements to have a greater beneficial effect on youth.

BGCA continues to enhance the data collection and reporting tools of the National Youth Outcomes Initiative (NYOI) and expand its capacity to conduct more sophisticated data analytics and program evaluation.

The key insights from BGCA's 2018 national outcomes report are:

- When youth report an optimal Club Experience and attend the Club more regularly, they are more likely to achieve positive outcomes.
- When staff and supervisors employ certain youth development and staff management practices to create a youth-centered environment, they enhance members' Club Experience.
- Regularly attending Club members tend to do better than their peers nationally on key indicators in all three priority outcome areas.

These insights are particularly useful as Clubs and BGCA work to address two of the priorities of our federation's Great Futures 2025 strategic plan, improving program quality and strengthening capacity.



Evolving NYOI's Capabilities

BGCA makes changes to NYOI to facilitate more effective use of data and a deeper understanding of how Club members are faring. In 2018, in response to Club feedback, BGCA field-tested a new platform to make the member survey more interactive and engaging for youth, and easier for staff to administer. The new platform will be launched in spring 2019.

To support continuous quality improvement, BGCA also developed new resources to help Clubs access and analyze their NYOI results using the My Data portal, available on BGCA's internal website for Club professionals and volunteers.

As of late 2018, 93 percent of nonmilitary organizations were participating in NYOI. More than 189,000 youth completed the member survey in some 3,200 sites in spring 2018.

The following findings are for regularly attending members, those who attended the Club on average once per week or more in the six to 12 months prior to taking the survey.



The Importance of the Club Experience

Since NYOI's inception, BGCA has examined the relationship between members' Club Experience and the outcomes they achieve. The findings have been consistent: **when members have a high-quality Club Experience and attend regularly, they are more likely to achieve positive outcomes** in the priority outcome areas of Academic Success, Good Character and Citizenship, and Healthy Lifestyles. In comparing members who attend the Club regularly and report an optimal Club Experience to members who report their Club Experience needs improvement, the findings show:

- Older teens (16 and older) are **40 percent more likely to be on track to graduate** from high school on time.
- Younger teens (13 to 15) are **54 percent more likely to volunteer** on a monthly basis.
- Youth (9 to 12) are **40 percent more likely to believe that school work is meaningful**.



Developing Globally Competitive Graduates

- Among Club teens, **97 percent expect to graduate from high school**, 87 percent expect to complete some kind of post-secondary education, and 69 percent expect to complete a four-year college degree or higher.
- A comparison of data from NYOI and the National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows that **76 percent of low-income Club members ages 12 to 17 report earning mostly As and Bs in school, whereas 67 percent of their peers nationally report doing so.**
- Nationally, achievement gaps across race and income persist, with low-income youth, especially black and Hispanic youth, more likely to be off track for on-time high school graduation. **NYOI data shows that Clubs help to reduce those differences. The disparities across races on school grades and attendance indicators are significantly smaller for Club members than for their national peers.**



Developing 21st Century Leaders

- A comparison of NYOI and Monitoring the Future survey data shows that regularly attending Club members in eighth, 10th and 12th grades have significantly higher rates of volunteering than their same-grade peers nationally. **By 12th grade, almost twice as many Club members report that they volunteer at least monthly (70 percent) than their peers nationally (38 percent).**
- The NYOI survey asks about Club members' level of concern for others and community: **92 percent say they try to help when they see people in need**, and 83 percent say they believe they can make a difference in their community.
- Regarding leadership behaviors, **89 percent of NYOI survey respondents say they can stand up for what is right, even if their friends disagree.**



Developing a Healthier Generation

- Data from a new survey module shows that across five domains, **the majority of members report high levels of social-emotional skills.** For example, regarding self-efficacy, 94% report there are many things they can do well.
- A comparison of data from NYOI and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System reveals that **more than twice as many Club members consume the daily recommended amount of vegetables and fruits than their peers nationally.**
- Teens who stay in the Club as they get older seem better able to resist high-risk behaviors than their peers nationally. For instance, **95 percent of Club ninth graders report abstaining from the use of prescription pills such as opioid pain killers, compared to 89 percent of ninth graders nationally. By contrast, 94 percent of Club 12th graders report abstaining from prescription pill use, compared to 82 percent of 12th graders nationally.**



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