



GREATER WASHINGTON
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

1320 Fenwick Lane, Suite 800
Silver Spring, MD 20910

PROGRAM INFORMATION PACKET

**PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION**

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs work — for young people like Natalie Kennedy and for our community.

A Boys & Girls Club is a positive place filled with guidance, love and attention. It is a place where young people learn about who they can be, what must be done to reach their goals, and how to survive once they get there. I believe all of these factors are essential to any child's well-being and development.

As I get older and my health continues to improve, I am thankful for all my experiences with the Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs. To those of you who have supported the Boys & Girls Clubs through your contributions of time and money, I cannot thank you enough. To those of you who want to make a difference in the lives of other children in our community, I encourage you to give generously to the Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs. There are so many children, each with their own unique set of circumstances, who benefit greatly from all that the Boys & Girls Clubs have to offer. Your support does make a difference.



Natalie R. Kennedy

Natalie R. Kennedy

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs Youth of the Year

Member, Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Toll Free 1-800-587-8120

Phone 301.587.4315

Silver Spring, MD 20910

1320 Fenwick Lane, Suite 800



GREATER WASHINGTON
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS



GREATER WASHINGTON
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Does it work?

“It did for me.”

—Denzel Washington

Academy Award Winning Actor

Boys & Girls Clubs Alumnus and National Spokesperson



“Today, more than ever, young people need a positive influence. They'll find it at the Boys & Girls Clubs.”

Hello, my name is Natalie Kennedy and I have written this letter to tell you how much the Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs mean to me.

As a result of severe asthma, I spent the first nine years of my life sitting on the sidelines, watching the other kids play. I remember coming home from school feeling lonely and upset because I felt so different from the other kids at school. I was rarely invited to sleep-overs, picnics, swimming parties and other social activities. So when my parents enrolled me in the Boys & Girls Club Day Camp five years ago, I was both excited and afraid of what I might find. Like many young people and adults I know, I believed that the Boys & Girls Club was only a place where kids went to play sports and use the gym.

Within days of starting day camp, my fears quickly disappeared. The staff, volunteers and older club members really seemed to care about each new member. They structured the activities so that everyone could participate in some meaningful way, regardless of their skills or abilities.

During my five years as a member of the Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs, I have discovered my individual talents and strengths and made many new friends. I have used computers, read new books, gone on exciting field trips, and learned about the environment. Some of my most satisfying experiences with the club involved organizing projects which have helped others in my community.

What Makes Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs Work?

Every club member is proof positive that Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs work. For more than 100 years, Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs have helped children, especially those at risk, build confidence, develop character, and acquire the skills needed to grow into productive, civic-minded and responsible adults. With 11 branch clubs, 9 prevention outreach sites and 10 group homes and shelters, we are one of the largest networks of Boys & Girls Clubs in the nation. Each day, our clubs and programs serve more than 5,000 young people in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES THAT INTEREST YOUNG PEOPLE

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs offer much more than sports. Our clubs are positive places for kids. We offer cultural arts and environmental education programs, computer labs, field trips, business and entrepreneurial projects, dance and gymnastic troupes, and much more.



PREPARATION FOR A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs teach young people how to set goals, develop plans, make decisions and communicate ideas — skills they will need to improve their own lives and the lives of others in their communities. Through counseling, tutoring, before and after school programs, job training and scholarships, Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs help young people overcome obstacles and achieve their full potential.



FACILITIES MANAGED BY YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS

Our professional staff members bring years of youth development experience to the job. By serving as positive role models and mentors, they create strong bonds with club members that foster trust, confidence and growth.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT

Now more than ever, kids need a positive influence. With your help, they'll find it at the Boys & Girls Clubs.

- Please designate all or part of your United Way or Combined Federal Campaign gift to Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs.
- Use the enclosed pledge card for direct donations. Your support helps our clubs and programs in your community.
- Consider volunteering. A few hours of your time could make a real difference for our club members.
- Donate furnishings, vehicles, trips, theater or game tickets, professional services, physical fitness and computer equipment, etc. Your help is always appreciated!



Special Services Offered for Children and Families at Risk

- **Drug and Teen Pregnancy Prevention.** Our nationally acclaimed *SMART Moves* prevention program teaches young people the skills they need to resist drug and alcohol use and premature sexual activity. The program also features a unique parental involvement component.
- **Delinquency Prevention.** With four branch clubs and nine drug and delinquency prevention outreach sites located in public housing, Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs have pioneered the effort to provide positive alternatives to young people in high-crime areas.
- **Job Training for the Homeless.** Our *Project Uplift* program for homeless teens and adults provides job training and placement services in printing, culinary arts/food services, computer applications, and building repair/maintenance. Counseling, educational remediation and social service referrals help provide participants

with the skills and resources to find good jobs, locate housing and build productive lives.

- **Early Childhood Development.** Targeting young families in public housing, *Project Right Start* provides socialization and education programs in a pre-school setting for children under five. Special parental workshops focus on nutrition, child development, parenting techniques and household/budget management.
- **Youth Crisis Intervention.** Our network of 9 group homes and shelters provides short and long-term residential development services to more than 300 abandoned, neglected and abused young people each year. We also operate a group home for teen mothers and their babies that provides on-site day care, educational assistance, and classes on parenting, nutrition, career planning and independent living.



We build men and women, one kid at a time.



GREATER WASHINGTON
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

1320 Fenwick Lane
Suite 800
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-587-4315

**Project Uplift
Administrative Office
IBM Computer
Training Center**
301-587-7960

**Project Uplift
Eastern Branch Office
Culinary Arts/Print
Shop Center**
202-543-3887/3888

Project Right Start
1701 Montana Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20018
202-832-0813

MARYLAND BRANCH CLUBS

**Annapolis Bywater
Branch**
1903 Copeland Street
Annapolis, MD 21401
301-261-1810 or
410-269-7648

**Annapolis Gardens/
Bowmans Court Branch**
665 Croll Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-263-4331

**Montgomery County
Police/Sheriffs' Silver
Spring Branch**
1300 Forest Glen Road
Silver Spring, MD 20901
301-593-4600

**Montgomery County
Police/Sheriffs' Mid-
County Branch**
1010 Grandin Avenue
Rockville, MD 20851
301-424-3058

VIRGINIA BRANCH CLUBS

**Alexandria-Olympic
Branch**
401 N. Payne Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-549-3077

**Dumfries/Woodbridge
Branch**
110 Stagecoach Road
Dumfries, VA 22026
703-441-0611

Prince William Branch
5070 Dale Boulevard
Dale City, VA 22193
703-670-3311

WASHINGTON, D.C. BRANCH CLUBS

Eastern Branch
261 17th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
202-546-0949

Jelleff Branch
3265 S Street, NW
Washington, DC 20007
202-462-1317

**Langston-Carver
Terrace Branch**
2107 H Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
202-396-6693

**Montana Terrace
Branch**
1733 Montana Ave., NE
Washington, DC 20018
202-529-9560/7222

OUTREACH SITES

Benning Terrace
4450 G Street, SE
Washington, DC 20019

East Capitol Dwellings
5725 East Capitol St., SE
Washington, DC 20019

Edgewood Terrace
635 Edgewood Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017

Freetown Village
7820 Darrell Henry Court
Pasadena, MD 21122

Greenleaf Gardens
201 N Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Hopkins Apartments
1430 L Street, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

Kentucky Courts
1332 D Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Meade Village
1710 Circle Road
Severn, MD 21144

Potomac Gardens
1225 G Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

GROUP HOMES AND SHELTERS

Main Office
1320 Fenwick Lane
Suite 800
Silver Spring, MD
301-587-7875

GROUP HOME & SHELTER LOCATIONS

Arkansas Avenue Home
Washington, DC 20011
202-726-3856

Eastern Home
Washington, DC 20001
202-234-4362/4368

Harvard Street Home
Washington, DC 20009
202-234-4467/4610

Irving Street Home
Washington, DC 20018
202-526-5067/5605

Jelleff Home
Washington, DC 20009
202-234-4609/4667

Lanier Place Home
Washington, DC 20009
202-234-5717/2849

Monroe Street Shelter
Rockville, MD 20852
301-424-6790

9th Street Home
Washington, DC 20001
202-234-5140/5163

S Street Home
Washington, DC 20001
202-234-4750/4920

**Teen Mothers Support
Program**
Washington, DC 20002
202-529-4467

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Annual Report 1993

We

build

men and women

one kid

at a

time.



Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs





GREATER WASHINGTON BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS



1320 FENWICK LANE • SUITE 800 • SILVER SPRING, MD 20910-3514
PHONE: (301) 587-4315 • FAX: (301) 587-8120

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June 15, 1995

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Mr. Gaynor McCown
Senior Policy Analyst
Domestic Policy Council
Room 218-OEOB
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Mr. McCown,

It was great sharing ideas at the National Forum on Youth Violence with so many leaders throughout the country. It was an excellent conference and I was very pleased that Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs was one of the organizations selected to participate.

I am sending along some information on the Boys & Girls Clubs and a recent video which was completely donated by Rowland Productions of Knoxville, TN. I believe that after you view this video you will understand the depth and breadth of our organization in meeting some of the critical needs of the Washington/Baltimore region.

We will be contacting you shortly to see how our organizations may work together to better serve the region.

Very truly yours,

Archie H. Avedisian
President

"We Build Men and Women One Kid at a Time"

Clubs Race Ducks For Bucks!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, November 19, for the 1994 Greater Washington Duck Derby. Over 10,000 yellow, non-toxic rubber duckies will race down the Potomac River at Washington Harbour in Georgetown to benefit the area Boys & Girls Clubs.

Racing ducks can be adopted for a \$5 donation per duck. Each donor will receive a corresponding lucky number that matches a number on the racing duck. Those adopters whose lucky ducks cross the finish line first win thousands of dollars worth of prizes including a spectacular California vacation at the Four Seasons Hotel with roundtrip business class air transportation by American Airlines, a tropical getaway including nonstop flights for two to the Bahamas Princess Resort and Casino, courtesy of Princess Vacations International, an Executive Suite for the Capitols vs. Mighty Ducks game, a \$500 Hechinger Gift Certificate, circus tickets for four, and news and dinner with WUSA-TV's J.C. Hayward. Listen to XTRA 104, the official Duck Derby station, for details or call (301)587-3302.

Clubs Welcome New Board Members

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs announces the following additions to the Metropolitan Board of Directors:

Michelle D. Bernard - *Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge*
Dr. Robert L. Bowles, Jr. - *D.C. Chartered Health Plan*
Ronald S. Cooper - *Steptoe & Johnson*
Virginia Dollard - *HealthPlus*
Julie Finley

Thomas Hook - *Fannie Mae*
Daniel L. Korengold - *Orisman Automobile of Virginia*
Robert Y. Lider - *Citicorp (Washington, D.C.)*
Burton M. Lustine - *Lustine Automotive Enterprises*
Riley Repko - *The Repko Group*
Rynthia Manning Rost - *GEICO*
Richard Miller - *American Chiropractic Association*
B. Francis Saul, III - *B.F. Saul Company*
William J. Sim - *PEPCO*
William G. Tompkins, Jr. - *The Washington Post*
Emily Durso Vetter - *Hotel/Motel Association of Washington, D.C.*

Lance Barclay
Chairman - Elect

Branch Presidents

Ken Barnett - Alexandria
Anthony Catalano - Prince William
Walter L. Jones - NE/SE Clubs

Marshall Bykofsky - Jelleff
Richard Fedalen - Montgomery County
J. Wayne Stephenson - Annapolis

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs

Administrative Offices
1320 Fenwick Lane, Suite 800
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301.587.4315

Capital Connection

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Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs is a multi-service youth development agency serving 14,000 young people in twenty-one full-service facilities and ten outreach centers throughout the metropolitan area. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.



CAPITAL CONNECTION

GREATER WASHINGTON BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Fall 1994

Attorney General Visits Boys & Girls Club

Montana Terrace Boys & Girls Club members and staff welcomed U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno and U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia Eric Holder. The staff hosted a tour of the club to demonstrate Club programs to over 300 inner-city city housing residents.

The U.S. attorneys observed a teamwork skit performed by the young ladies of Project Right Start, a family self-sufficiency program targeting inner-city teenage mothers, fathers and their families. Janet Reno and Eric Holder continued their tour by speaking with Keystoneers and Boys Girls Club members about the impact the Club programs have had on their lives.

Reno Talks with Youth of the Year

Montana Terrace Youth of the Year Ezekial Peebles told Reno, "The Club saved me from all the negative influences out on the street. The Club gives me a safe place to go after school." The Montana Terrace branch is one of two Boys & Girls Clubs in the District of Columbia that offers programs to public housing residents and youth. The Club is a recent recipient of a \$20,000 D.C. Public Schools Grant for the enhancement and expansion of their Project Right Start program.

Both Janet Reno and Eric Holder commended Branch Executive Director Edgar Reese and Project Right Start Coordinator Carol Witherspoon and their staffs for the scope of the programs they provide to youth and their families.



United States Attorney General Janet Reno poses with members and a parent from the Boys & Girls Clubs

"I so enjoyed learning about the Women in Transition and Wee Care Programs and the positive impact that these efforts have on people's lives. I commend you for your dedication to the community."

-Janet Reno
U. S. Attorney General

Prince William Club Expands

The Dumfries/Woodbridge Boys & Girls Clubs have purchased the American Legion Building on Stagecoach Road in Prince William County. The facility, which the Club had been renting, will undergo a major renovation including a new 7,000 square foot gymnasium. The Club will also add another section to the main building that will house a game room, offices and reception area.

The acquisition and addition will allow Boys & Girls Clubs to serve an additional 1,000 Dumfries children and will be the second largest Boys & Girls Club in the Washington area.

The purchase and renovation was funded by a Prince William County Block Grant of \$50,000 and a large donation from the American Legion. The Legion will reimburse the Club for the past two years' rental.

John Walvius, immediate past President, stated, "We are very grateful to the American Legion Post for their generous contribution worth over \$40,000."

We also appreciate the dedication of Board Members and Prince William County Supervisors Hilda Barg and Maureen Gaddigan for their help with the building purchase. Walvius added.

Remember
Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs
in your will

For more information, call the Development Office at 301.587.4315 ext. 1332

E V E N T S
November 19... Duck Derby
December 27... Automotive Trade Show Gala



GREATER WASHINGTON
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

CAPITAL CONNECTION

1320 FENWICK LANE, SILVER SPRING, MD 20910



United Way

CAPITAL CONNECTION

is published by Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs. Your comments and questions are welcome. Please write or call for information: Marketing and Development Department, Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs, 1320 Fenwick Lane, Ste. 800, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 301.587.4315.

Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs is the only local affiliate of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Now more than 100 years old, we serve more than 14,000 young people at 21 facilities: 11 branch clubs and 10 emergency shelters and residential group homes located in the District of Columbia, Northern Virginia, Montgomery County, Anne Arundel County and Annapolis.

Our mission is to help children, especially those at-risk, build confidence, develop character, and acquire the skills needed to grow into productive, civic-minded and responsible adults. Our programs include substance and alcohol abuse prevention, delinquency intervention, educational and college preparation assistance, career and job training, counseling for teen parents, recreational and cultural opportunities, community awareness and leadership development.

Our programs are administered by professionally trained staff and supervised by individuals experienced in the Boys & Girls Clubs movement as well as in education and counseling.

1994-95 Metropolitan Board of Directors Officers

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A Message from the Chairman: *Let's Get Smart*



Michael P. Bentzen

If someone said to you, "Start smart, smart moves, stay smart and keep smart," would you understand?

Those directions are the four compelling guidelines of the program that makes a difference in the lives of at-risk youth. That is, youth who are lucky enough to intersect with the "SMART MOVES Program."

What is it? Where is it?

"SMART MOVES," the nationally-tested and award-winning program of Boys and Girls Clubs of America, works in the nine public housing projects located in and adjacent to Capitol Hill area and the high-crime community surrounding Merritt Elementary Extended School in Northeast Washington. The drug and alcohol prevention program has worked...until the money ran out.

Funding has run out

Counselors in the SMART MOVES program report personal frustration and disappointment. Why? Because they make contact with these needy kids, get them involved in Boys & Girls Club activities—even get a parent in the picture—then they can't follow-up "because the funding has run out for this program."

HUD and CEAD fueled the engine

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the agency's Community Efforts Against Drugs and Drug Elimination (CEAD) grant funded the program between January '93 and April '94.

Cuts jeopardize service

Boys and Girls Clubs continues to fund a modified version of the program, but the recent 19% cut in allocated United Way Campaign funding severely jeopardizes continuing these services that are critical to the well being of the youth involved.

What can we do?

What can we do? We are applying for grants to assist in keeping the "SMART MOVES" program alive. What we are doing is working at the front end—rather than the back end in the juvenile criminal justice system.

What can you do?

How can you help? First, just think about a program that touches every aspect of a young person's involvement with Boys & Girls Clubs. We have 700 young people selected. Prevention and early-intervention services have already lowered their favorable attitudes toward drugs, alcohol, school truancy, teenage sex and adolescent violence.

Then, you can take out your check-book and write out a check to Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs. Make the notation "SMART MOVES." Your donation can help to change 700 lives.

United Way Campaign Donors
Please designate
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington
Combined Federal Campaign
Check 3047

Pictured from left to right are outstanding scholar Sheila Hunter of BGC Group Homes and Shelters, '94 Congressional Dinner Co-chair and '95 Congressional Dinner Chair Warren Belmar, outstanding scholar Shawn Thomas of BGC Group Homes and Shelters, Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison, outstanding scholar Nathaniel Brown of BGC Group Homes and Shelters, GWBGC Youth of the Year Natalie Kennedy of the Alexandria Branch and '94 Congressional Dinner Chair Shepard Burr, III at the GWBGC Annual Meeting held at Congressional Country Club.



Eastern Branch and Levine School of Music are in Harmony

A partnership continues that began during summer camp. The Eastern Club and the Levine School of Music operate the "Public Housing Orchestra" that offers vocal, instrumental and musical theater instruction every Tuesday from 4 until 7 p.m.

Mark your calendars--Eastern Keystone Club Plans Talent Show on November 19. For information call (202)546-0949

After School Club Fills Need at Merritt Elementary

Sixth-grade teacher at Emma Merritt Extended Elementary School, Judith Gee, saw that students needed to fill the time after school. An alternative had to be found to replace dangerous streets and empty homes.

She and principal Nancy Shannon sought help from Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs. In late January the Merritt School and Boys & Girls Clubs collaborated by offering activities between 3:15 and 6:00 p.m. The winter program involved 150 youth members.

Summer activities continued for 60 children. Fall and winter programs include games, sports, arts and crafts, educational and cultural activities,

tutorial and homework assistance and field trips. *U.S. News and World Report* is organizing an after-school journalism program to complement the current schedule.

The good news for the future of the program is extension of operations from three to five days a week. Schedules may soon include a sixth day. And, youth who are not Merritt School students now may become members.

Boys & Girls Club staff includes program coordinator Debra Phillips and program assistants Carl Douglas and Denise Terrell.



In the photograph to the left, 14 campers from the Prince William Branch Summer Day Camp pause during a day that started at 6 a.m. and ended at 6 p.m. The 10-week camp enrolled 196 youth.

There Are 5,000 Reasons A Day To Give To The Boys & Girls Clubs Of Greater Washington

Here's what they look like.



✓ Giving to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington helps children build confidence, develop character, and acquire the skills needed to grow into responsible and productive citizens.

✓ Each day, the Boys & Girls Clubs provide **5,000 metropolitan Washington-area young people with positive places, programs, and activities** to help them grow. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington offer much more than sports!

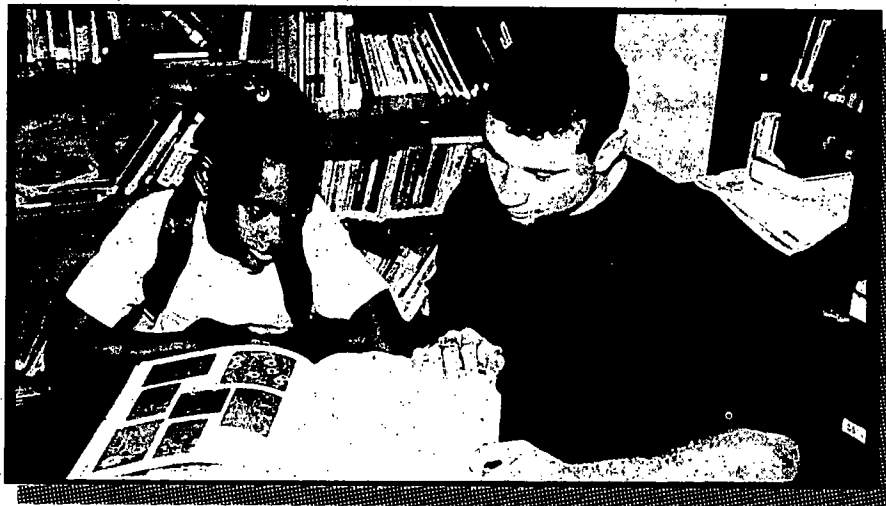
- ◆ anger management & conflict resolution
- ◆ arts & crafts
- ◆ career exploration
- ◆ college preparation and selection
- ◆ community service projects
- ◆ computer labs
- ◆ conflict resolution
- ◆ crisis intervention
- ◆ cultural and performing arts
- ◆ drug and alcohol prevention
- ◆ entrepreneurial projects
- ◆ environmental education
- ◆ field trips
- ◆ gang intervention
- ◆ HIV/AIDS awareness & prevention
- ◆ hobbies
- ◆ homework help
- ◆ individual and family counseling
- ◆ job training
- ◆ journalism
- ◆ mentoring
- ◆ photography
- ◆ public speaking
- ◆ reading resource rooms
- ◆ scholarships
- ◆ structured games and recreation
- ◆ summer day camps
- ◆ supervised social events
- ◆ teen pregnancy prevention
- ◆ tutoring

✓ **No other youth development agency in the area serves as many children in as many places, in as many ways, as does the Greater Washington Boys & Girls Clubs.** The clubs are especially important to those children who are at risk of not achieving their full potential.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
of Greater Washington

✓ Your gift to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington will go to programs for young people in the communities where you work and where you live. Our 12 branch clubs, 9 public housing outreach sites, and 10 group homes for abandoned, neglected, and abused children serve city and suburban communities in Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia.



✓ The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington are staffed by dedicated and experienced professionals who are there when our young club members need them the most.

✓ Today, more than ever, young people need a positive influence. With your help, they will continue to find it at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington. **Your gift will make a real difference!**

✓ For more information about the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, or for the location of the Boys & Girls Club nearest you, please call 301-587-4315, ext. 1314.



Please Designate Your Gift to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington



✓ #3047

Smart Move: Help 'Smart Moves'

MOST NEWS coming out of the city's public housing developments is grim. Crime, drugs, school dropouts, teenage pregnancy—name the problem and public housing developments have their share and more of it. But every activity in public housing isn't associated with heartbreak and failure. Take, for example, the outreach program, Smart Move, established by the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs in eight D.C. public housing developments in January 1993. According to club officials, that community-based effort to deal with drug and alcohol use and pregnancy seems to be getting through to teenagers. The problem, however, is a familiar one. As the first real signs of success appear, Smart Moves is out of money.

Thanks to a \$353,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Boys and Girls Clubs were able to set up full-time programs in locations such as Potomac Gardens, Kentucky Courts, Edgewood Terrace and Benning Terrace—all places seen often on the evening news cordoned off with yellow police tape. For the better part of a year, hundreds of youths have participated in Smart Moves programs that offer help with a range of needs, stretching from schoolwork to learning how to handle peer pressure. The "Smart" in Smart Moves, incidentally, stands for "Self Manage-

ment and Resistance Training." And if resistance to the lure of the streets is any measurement, club officials say, youths in the program refused in impressive numbers to join in what's out there. "Kids started going to school on a regular basis. . . . The use of drugs decreased. We cut down the dropout rate," said Tyrone Moorer, executive assistant to the clubs' president. In speaking of the program, however, Mr. Moorer used the past tense. That's because on April 8, the money was all gone.

Since then, the Boys and Girls Clubs—which serve the region—have been trying to keep the city's programs going with the organization's own limited funds. That means the programs have been cut to about half of what they once were. Even sustaining that reduced level isn't easy. The amount—only \$200,000—seems small when compared with the multimillion-dollar social programs tossed around in Congress. But for the kids in the public housing projects, that small cost is the difference between having something healthy and constructive in their lives and being left to fend off the dangers that lurk all around them. Area foundations and private corporations can expect to receive fund-raising appeals for Smart Moves from the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs. Sending a check in response would seem to be a smart move too.

Washington Post Editorial
May 2, 1994

DISTRICT

WEEKLY

Classified
& Home

THE WASHINGTON POST

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 1994 D.C. 3

Boys and Girls Clubs Struggle to Keep Effort for Poor Youths Alive

By Martin Weid
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs have installed an outreach program called Smart Moves in eight of the city's grimmest public housing developments to try to get through to teenagers a message aimed at curbing drugs, alcohol and pregnancy.

The program started in January 1993, at locations such as Potomac Gardens, Kentucky Courts, Edgewood Terrace and Benning Terrace, and by all the standards that they know about, club officials say that it has been a success.

"We cut down the dropout rate," said Tyrone Moorer, executive assistant to Archie

Avedisian, president of the Boys and Girls Clubs. "Kids started going to school on a regular basis. . . . The use of drugs decreased."

But on April 8, the money that paid for the Smart Moves effort at the eight developments ran out. The grant of \$358,000 from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development expired, Moorer said.

The Boys and Girls Clubs decided to keep the program going.

"We know it works," Avedisian said in an interview. "The kids keep coming back. . . . We feel we can really impact these housing developments."

The Smart Moves programs have drawn a total of about 500 youths, most of them between the ages of 11 and 18, Avedisian said. Rather than shut the outreach programs

down, he said, the nonprofit Boys and Girls Clubs decided to put some of the organization's own money into them, he said.

Right now, he said, the programs are operating on a scaled-back basis, at about half the full-time level.

While the programs were in full swing, Moorer said, a full-time staff member was assigned to each development, along with a part-time person recruited from the site. Now, he said, one staff member may cover two sites.

At present levels, the program would cost about \$200,000 a year. The clubs are trying to raise at least that much through an array of means that include a congressional awards dinner held this week.

Avedisian believes that the fund-raising ef-

fort, which includes appeals to foundations and corporations, may bring in enough to restore full-time staffing. Another possible source of support, he said, is federal legislation targeted at preventing youth crime.

Meanwhile, he said, the program has won a national award, to be presented next month by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, which developed the Smart Moves program.

"We've been putting all our efforts into going back to where we were and expanding it," Avedisian said.

Available facilities at the various housing developments vary: at some an apartment is available for the leaders to meet and work with youths, Avedisian said. At others it may be only a room.

Staff members help with school work and help develop what Moorer called "resistance skills" that could help youths avoid succumbing to destructive peer pressures.

The program also involves trips and excursions and use of more elaborate Boys and Girls Club facilities elsewhere.

In addition to the youthful participants, Avedisian said, the programs have been endorsed by the heads of residents councils at the housing developments.

The developments involved also include the Hopkins Apartments, Greenleaf Gardens, East Capitol Dwellings and Montana Terrace. The residents' leaders "are all behind it," Avedisian said. "They are 100 per cent behind us."

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Editorial

Associations, Congress: Unite to Fight Hill Crime

Crime as a whole may be down on Capitol Hill, but over the past six to eight months it has become a more frightening place to live and work because of a few extremely violent incidents: the armed robbery of the wife of Sen. Kent Conrad (D-ND), the murder of a staffer to Sen. Richard Shelby (D-Ala), the mugging of Rep. Bob Traxler (D-Mich), the murder of a young man attending a party thrown by a staffer a few blocks from the Capitol, and the robbery at gunpoint of two young female interns. (The last four crimes are still unsolved.) Is there anything we can do?

Executives at the American Chiropractic Association have an excellent idea. They have launched a Joint Association Capitol Hill Anti-Crime Initiative that's aimed at improving the safety of residents, Members, staffers, and folks who visit the Hill frequently — including lobbyists and tourists. The ACA has recruited other associations for its effort, and it's joined forces as well with local and federal law enforcement officials and the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs, an organization that has set up a program in eight public housing communities around the Hill to prevent drug and alcohol abuse and to intervene to stop juvenile crime. This is not some sloppy whack-the-criminals pep rally. It's a sophisticated attempt to get at the root of the crime problem on the Hill, which, unfortunately, begins with kids who, without strong family guidance in a chaotic world, descend into the vicious and immoral depths of the drug trade.

Tomorrow morning, the Anti-Crime Initiative holds its first steering committee meeting. The group recently sent letters inviting every Member of Congress to attend or send a representative, and we urge them to do so. Associations throughout the area have also been invited to the meeting and to back the effort, with time and money. As Richard Miller, director of governmental relations at the ACA said last month, "Whether an association's national offices are located in Maryland, Virginia, DC, or elsewhere, Capitol Hill is our symbolic home. We all send staff and members there to work with our government and we all must work to solve the problems." Among the associations that have already committed to the initiative are the Independent Insurance Agents of America, the Association for Women in Science, the Greater Washington Society of Association Executives, the Orphan Foundation of America, and the International Association of Refrigerated Warehouses.

This newspaper has been urging Congress to get involved in fighting crime on the Hill and in the District itself through legislation, but we understand the home-rule sensitivities of DC's elected officials. Here's a way to accomplish some of the same ends through private-sector and volunteer efforts. It's a great idea. You can put it into action by attending the meeting: Friday, July 24, at 10 a.m. at the Independent Insurance Agents of America Building, 412 1st St., SE, Suite 300. Call Susan Lexter at the ACA for details at 703/276-8800, ext. 224.



Photo by Dan Preiner/The Washington Times

Jay McKinney helps Leo Smith, 9, with a computer program that teaches spelling at a D.C. Boys and Girls Club.

Kids seek an end to crime

City youth are full of ideas

By Janet Naylor
and Anne Gowen
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

They want respect for the good they do. They want peace in their schools and homes. They want more cops on their streets and some of them want a new mayor at One Judiciary Square.

These things are what the children in the District and Prince George's County want, mostly because they would like to see an end to the crime in their neighborhoods.

Talk to the kids at the Langston-Carver Terrace Boys and Girls Club, an afterschool haven for learning and fun in Northeast. They can tell you all about the crime they've seen, and what they think should be done about it.

"Most of the time, when you sleep, you don't get much rest because of all of the gunshots," says Allen Richardson, a fourth-grader at Charles Young Elementary School. "That's all I hear, gunshots, gunshots, gunshots."

Allen and two fellow club members — Kevin Smith and Amir Green, both 12 — would like to see more police in their neighborhood.

That's what they say as they work on their homework before heading out to football practice.

"They should get a police building out here," Kevin says.

"People should call the police when they hear the shots," Allen chimes in.

"A lot of kids [who turn to crime] don't have a lot of fathers in their homes. I think they need more fathers," Amir says.

ON THE COVER

Amir Green (left) and Kevin Smith, both 12, do their homework at Langston-Carver Terrace Boys and Girls Club in Northeast.

Stop killing kids

Last week, the kids at the club were abuzz over a drive-by shooting a block away, in which the shooter hit a man once, drove around the "horseshoe" of circular one-way streets and returned to shoot him again.

This week, they all talk about the death of Laurence Smith, the 4-year-old Southeast girl who died after being shot in the head while watching a pickup football game at a playground near her home.

Tiffany Johnson, a fifth grader at Charles Young, says she would tell the young people who commit crimes that "they should stop killing kids like that little girl."

Tiffany, who's 10, thinks the city needs to get a new mayor.

"She don't do nothing," she says, and several other children shout out their agreement.

"They should put drug dealers and stuff like that in jail. If they see anyone with a gun [they ought] to arrest them," Tiffany says.

Most of the kids who showed up at the club yesterday are young, between 6 and 12 years old. Some come from supportive homes, where their parents or grandparents make them do their homework after school. Others don't.

The two full-time staffers here — program director Dorothy Phipps and education director Jay McKinney — would like to lure in more older students, the ones most likely to get involved in youth crime.

The program stresses doing homework, because getting their assignments done right, and on time, gives the kids self-confidence in school, Mr. McKinney says. That in turn gives them better self-esteem.

The program also gives children a place to learn how to settle arguments over things as simple as who-hit-whom. They are given a chance to air their feelings, rather than let them fester for years before turning into a punchant for violence.

"I wouldn't want to be 14 in this city and see," Mr. McKinney says.

"Back then it was fistfights. Now it's guns."

Program changes kids

What the kids who do attend get from the club — which is run by the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs — is consistency and support. Although the program has only been around since April, leaders say that already they can see changes in some kids.

And some of the students aren't shy to talk about how they've changed.

Koreen Dixon is 11, a seventh grader at Browne Junior High with bouncing braids and a beautiful smile. She used to like to talk on the phone all the time, she says, or roam the streets near her Northeast home, getting in "a little bit of trouble."

At age 11, that trouble usually amounted to girlish mischief, or maybe to mauling a neighborhood dog. But for the children who live in and near the Langston and Carver Terrace public housing projects, hanging out on the streets with nothing to do puts them that much closer to becoming a statistic.

Like some boys Koreen knows: "I try to get them to come down here [to the club] because they get in a lot of trouble, they sell drugs."

Koreen says she doesn't know what can be done about the city's crime problem. But she does think that having a place to go after school, a place where homework and learning are stressed but are also made fun, can help other kids.

For older students, crime also often means trying to avoid becoming a victim of it. In many schools in crime-plagued neighborhoods, there's the First Commandment of Survival:

Keep your eyes to yourself.

Pey no mind to common sights like school drug dealers taking athletic bags filled with crack cocaine and marijuana, six-packs in lockers and thugs playing with 9mm semiautomatic handguns in bathrooms during class breaks.

"Nowadays, you're afraid to go to school," says Antonio Smallwood, 16, an earnest, soft-eyed junior at Bladensburg High School in Prince George's County.

When school violence reached a new high last weekend — after Laurence Smith, 4, and Kervin Brown, 26, were fatally shot on the field of Weatherless Elementary in Southeast — the mayor and D.C. Council members called for more police, and perhaps military protection, to help stem the violence.

Officials miss target

But two local towns from troubled high schools say the officials are off target.

Both Antonio of Bladensburg High and Manuel Jimenez, a Costa Rican immigrant and 17-year-old student at Wilson High School in Northwest, believe more should be done to help the hard-working teens often ignored in the struggle to keep schools violence-free.

As good kids in a bad town, they're getting a bum rap.

"Instead of focusing on the stu-

dents who are doing drugs, they need to be focusing and complimenting the ones that aren't," Antonio says.

Mattel, youth leader at the Latin American Youth Center in the District, agrees. But she adds that she and her fellow students live in fear of being "jumped" by drug dealers.

According to a 1990 survey conducted by the National Drug Institute of America, 4.9 percent of youths aged 12 to 17 in the D.C. metro area reported having used one or more illicit drug in the past month.

But what about the ones who don't?

Some programs are in place to help. Antonio participates in the statewide program SHOP — Students High on Prevention — that has chapters in 15 Prince George's County schools, with about 30 students each. The students talk about career and job training, and participate in movie nights and bowling parties.

Langston kids no longer forgotten

By Brian Reilly
The Washington Times

The children of the "forgotten" Northeast neighborhood of Langston-Carver Terrace may now have something to remember.

The Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs yesterday opened a branch in the Langston Dwellings, the latest in a series of law enforcement and social programs aimed at taking back the community from the drug dealers who have flourished there for years.

"I never thought I would live to see the day that we would see something like this in our community," said Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner James Booze. "We didn't have something such as this when I was growing up. For so long, this neighborhood has been a forgotten area."

Club officials said they will continue reaching out to public housing like Langston, developing drug prevention programs at seven new complexes and improving the branch at the Montana Terrace neighborhood, also in Northeast.

The Langston club, built in a renovated basement just north of Benning Road, was initiated with a \$75,000 Justice Department grant. Housing employees drained the flooded rooms and stripped the walls of harmful asbestos.

The club and the new drug prevention programs at other low-income housing sites will be expanded with the help of private contributions raised by the clubs' board.

"We're shooting to make them all clubs just like this," said Archie H. Avedisian, executive vice president of the area boys and girls clubs.

The greater Washington organization — not to be confused with the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club — has 12 branches and 10 group homes throughout the area, including two new prevention programs in Anne Arundel.

The revitalization of Langston-Carver Terrace is part of a joint federal and local "Weed and Seed" program that includes the "weeding" out of criminals in the area and "seeding" new social programs.

The neighborhood was targeted by a joint federal and Metropolitan Police sting that led last week to the city's largest single-day bust, netting more than 30 suspected dealers.

"This area has been devoid of any kind of recreational, social or learning setting for children," said Deputy Chief Donald Christian, commander of the 5th Police District, which includes the Langston-



Students from the Langston Preschool attend the grand opening of a branch of the Greater Washington Boys and Girls Club in Langston-Carver Terrace. From left are Josephine Ulakanye and Lakeiska Rollins.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS

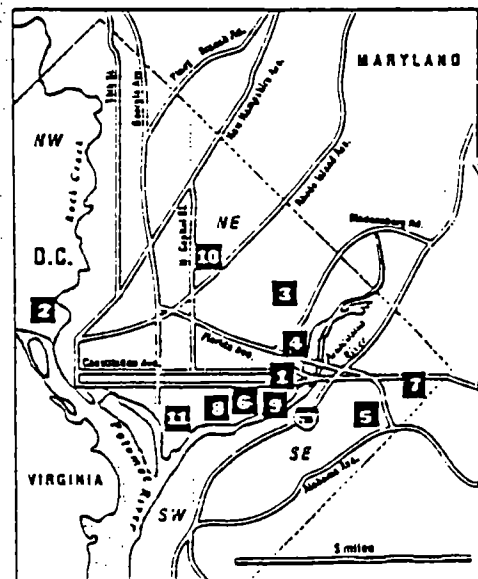
The Greater Washington Boys and Girls Clubs christened its newest branch yesterday in the Langston Dwellings public housing complex. Seven new outreach programs are planned at other complexes.

Current sites

- 1 Eastern Branch, 251 17th St. SE
- 2 Jelliff Branch, 3265 S St. NW
- 3 Montana Terrace Branch, 1733 Montana Ave. NE
- 4 Langston/Carver Terrace Branch, 2107 H St. NE

Future sites

- 5 Benning Terrace, 4450 G St. SE
- 6 Kentucky Courts, 1332 D St. SE
- 7 East Capitol Dwellings, 5725 East Capitol St. SE
- 8 Potomac Gardens, 1225 G St. SE
- 9 Hopkins Apartments, 1430 L St. SE
- 10 Edgewood Terrace, 635 Edgewood St. NE
- 11 Greenleaf Gardens, 201 N St. SW



Carver neighborhood. "Some of these kids have never left the Langston-Carver area."

Eight officers will be assigned to patrol beats and a satellite office will be opened in the club, he said. Many of the officers have already begun planning off-duty jaunts for up to 15 children to the Baltimore aquarium, the Smithsonian Institution and the circus.

"We spend so much time with victims of crime, that it is really very nice to have the opportunity to come out in the community with something tangible like this," said J. Ramsey Johnson, acting U.S. attorney for the District.

The Langston club will offer tutoring, job and computer training, anti-drug and sex education programs and, as Mr. Johnson put it, a place to

"goof off" other than the street.

The Langston club has a play ground and a few indoor games, and a preschool that was opened in June as part of the Weed and Seed program. Langston staffers will also run regular van trips to the nearby Eastern Branch, where there is an indoor pool, gymnasium, library and weight room.

DISTRICT

WEEKLY

A Place to Hang Out

Boys & Girls Club Program Offers After-School Sanctuary

By Anthony D. Diallo
Senior to The Washington Post

Sixth-grade teacher Judith Gee got tired of pushing students out the door every day at 3:15 p.m. when school closed, sending them into the sometimes dangerous streets or back to an empty home.

So the social studies teacher at Emma Merritt Elementary Extended School called on the Greater Washington Boys & Girls Club for help.

Merritt, with 440 students, has become the first D.C. public school to form an alliance with the Boys & Girls Club. It opened its doors on Monday in the school at 50th and Hayes streets NE. The goal of the program there is to offer a facility

where children can do homework, study with tutors, play games and take an occasional field trip.

"Some of the children had nothing to do after school and would just hang around," Gee said. "Some really couldn't go home, because they had single parents who might be working late or they might just have some problems at home."

The opportunity enticed Kianna Scott, 14. "I wanted to do something [fun] after school. I was tired of going home and watching TV with nothing to do. There are no parks around here, so you really can't hang out. It was always the same routine," the eighth-grader said.

According to Gee, who has been teaching at Merritt for 30 years, there had been periodic talk about opening a youth facility nearby. But none of

See CLUB, Page 4, Col. 1

School Gives Children a Place to Go

CLUB, From Page 1

the plans ever came to fruition. "And we just sort of got passed by ever since."

D.C. Council member Kevin P. Chavous (D-Ward 7), who represents the area, said, "After 3 o'clock, we should be using our schools for our children. [At the elementary level], we need to start to instill certain qualities in children before they reach a stage where they might be at risk."

Gee and others said the Boys & Girls Club seems to be an answer. In 1886, the club serves 15,000 youths in the Washington area, said Ken Darden, director of operations. Of the 14,000 Boys & Girls clubs in the country, the Washington area organization is the second-largest.

Besides giving youngsters a place to play basketball and a chance to compete at such board games as Monopoly and Scrabble, the Boys & Girls Club provides 10 group-home shelters that open 24 hours to youngsters by the D.C. Department of Human Services, Darden said.

The program at Merritt is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:15 to 7 p.m. to Merritt students from the second to eighth grade. All they need is a \$2 annual fee and a completed application from their parents.

The idea of a joint venture with came two years ago from Terrell Jones, a family friend of Gee's who is a former member of the Boys & Girls Club. "If there are kids living in a problem, there should be some place for them to go to get away at least temporarily," Jones said.

Corey Francis, 14, doesn't have to escape from his problems. The eighth-grader is student government president.

"I signed up because I thought it would be great to have something in my own school that would be this positive," Corey said. "For me, it wasn't a matter of someplace to feel safe. I'm never out when it's dark anyway."

Eventually, Merritt plans to extend the opportunity to children outside the school. Pat Mason, a Boys & Girls Club coordinator, said she hopes to extend the program to six days a week.

"After we go six days a week, I hope that even more children join the club, because it can only help them," Mason said. The native Washingtonian was a professional basketball player in Europe and has a degree in criminal justice, a unique combination to bring to her job. "Yes, hopefully, those skills will help me," she said.