

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

75 Years of Progress



*Pathways of Care for
Children and Families*

75 years of progress

A lot changes in 75 years, but our commitment to creating better futures for children and families remains constant.

In three-quarters of a century Boys & Girls Village (BGV) developed from a 'boys village' to a leader in specialized care and education for emotionally troubled children. Our dedication to offering a wide range of progressive behavioral health services and utilizing innovative trauma and evidence-based treatments has transformed over 30,000 lives, building brighter futures for at-risk children and families across the state.

This year has been a year of great change. On our Milford campus we broke ground on the expansion of Charles F. Hayden upper school to include 11th and 12th grade, and celebrated our very first graduating class. Construction began on a new program and administrative building offering expanded space for our services, and we opened a new outpatient site in Norwalk to provide services to a growing lower Fairfield County client base.

While we are excited about these accomplishments and thank the State of Connecticut for their generous grants, we are most proud of the lives we are changing, including the 811 clients served this year. The children and families we work with are facing immense challenges brought on by the endless cycle of poverty, abuse and hopelessness. We're committed to consistently providing a comprehensive range of programs so that each child can be given the specific help that they need.

BGV's innovative programming is focusing more than ever on older children who need specific and tangible skills to allow them to become self-sufficient and emotionally stable. Our Work to Learn program has trained nearly 200 young adults from the foster care system in job skills, life skills and financial management, teaching them the value of saving and purchasing assets for the future.

Our advances in improving the well-being of at-risk children and families could not be possible without you. Thank you for supporting our commitment to improving the lives of those that need our services most. Together, we're building stronger communities and greater futures for us all.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven M. Kant
President & CEO

Carol Smith Harker
Chair, Board of Directors



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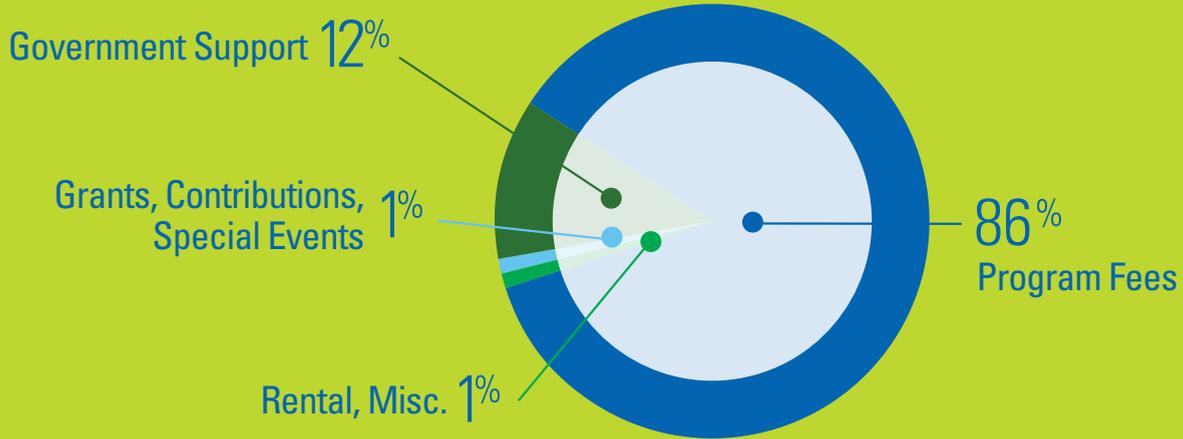
* Joined in FY2018

† Term ended in FY2017

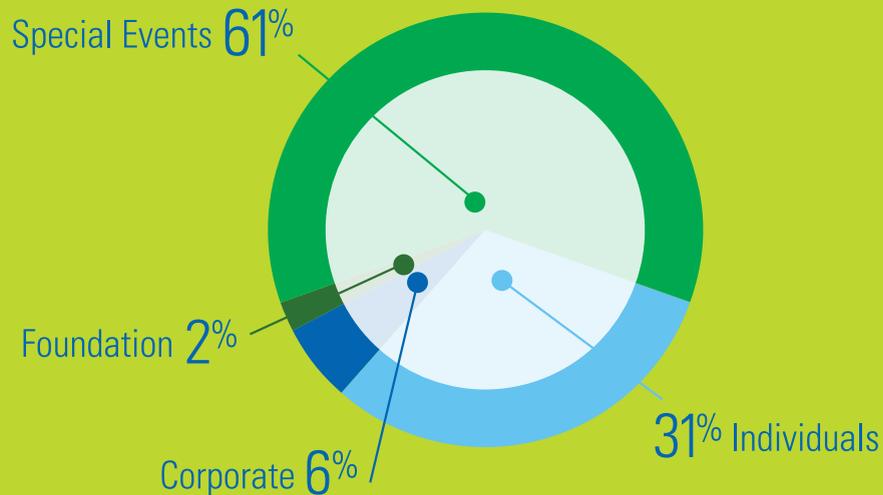
Boys & Girls Village serves children and families in at-risk situations by strengthening their ability to succeed in life.

Financials: Total Revenue - \$22,516,479

(10% increase over previous year)



Grants, Contributions, Special Events

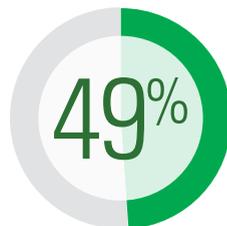


"I struggled with the past and my traumatic abuse history. I felt so unwanted and rejected by everyone around me. Boys & Girls Village has been a major part of my life since I've been in foster care. The support they've provided has been very helpful to me as I tried to figure out where I belonged in the world. My Boys & Girls Village social workers listened to me and cared about me! My input was something that they used to help me reach goals that I didn't think I could achieve. Boys & Girls Village has opened many doors for me that would otherwise be closed." — *Former BGV client*

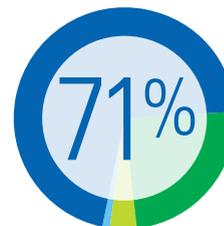
370 clients are served each day

811 clients served each year

261 staff members



clients come from Bridgeport

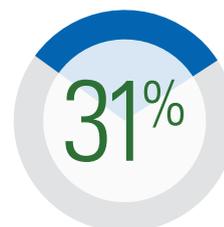


of clients are from Fairfield County
24% New Haven County
4% Hartford County
1% Other CT Counties

BGV's Work to Learn program has helped 181 young adults so far with a **93%** satisfaction rate



of clients are between 5-17 years old



In 2017, 31% of Hayden School's students graduated or were able to return to their local community and school district

94% of families surveyed are likely to recommend our services to someone else

150 students served by Hayden School last year

\$20,000 the amount of student savings matched by BGV to help young adults purchase assets

Fundraiser

On June 5, 2016, more than 200 people attended BGV's golf and tennis fundraiser. The event, underwritten by the BIC corporation, raised more than \$200,000 to support the growth of Charles F. Hayden School. The event was highlighted by a moving speech from Kimone Facey, a high school senior who was a BGV foster child and was headed off to attend her top choice college in the fall.

Other BGV alumni were in attendance and spoke to the crowd about the powerful influence BGV had over their lives and futures.

Thank you to all who attended and supported this important event.



Master of Ceremonies, Chris Velardi, and speaker, Kimone Facey, at 2017's fundraiser.

"My foster mom has become my forever family and I know I can always depend on her. I am living my motto, 'Don't let the past dictate the future' ... I WAS at risk. I'm not anymore. BGV changed that for me."

— Kimone Facey

Staff

BGV is proud to have been recognized by Hearst Media for two years in a row as one of Connecticut's top workplaces and we recognize that none of our success in 2017 would have been possible without our extraordinary staff. With 220 full time staff members, who speak more than 10 languages, BGV's residences, clinics, school, and offices are bustling with energy and enthusiasm every day. BGV's VP of Education and Vocational Services, Jon Oddo, sees firsthand the dedication of his staff. **"It is so impressive to see effort happening 24 hours a day to help save the lives of our families. Since being at BGV for five years now, I have never met a more flexible group of people who will sacrifice their personal lives to continue to find creative ways to help others taste success for the first time."**

In September, BGV held its annual Staff Appreciation Day where staff members are treated with a day of fun including food trucks, raffles, a chance to use the high ropes course, and lots of games. This celebration is certainly well-deserved. **"The dedication and care our staff provide for our clients is remarkable,"** says Carra Conlan, Vice President of Community Services, **"BGV truly has the best staff around."**



Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health services continue to be the cornerstone of BGV's mission. With seven distinct programs, we can offer the best evidence-based and individualized treatment for each child. We offer both in-home and outpatient services, as well as residential care, and after-school programs. With a focus on building opportunities to create new and better futures, BGV helps a wide range of clients including children who have experienced severe trauma, children with problem sexual behavior, children who would otherwise be institutionalized, and families with children at risk of substance abuse.

This year, in order to provide more convenience and better services to our growing client base in lower Fairfield County, BGV opened a new site in Norwalk. We operate a clinic in Bridgeport and offer multiple programs at our Bridgeport and Milford campuses.

Permanency Planning

BGV's Permanency Planning programs are dedicated to keeping children with their families when possible, and otherwise providing them with a safe, permanent home. Through our statewide Therapeutic Foster Care, our Intensive Family Preservation program, and our Reunification and Therapeutic Family Time Program, we are able to fulfill an essential component of a child's life: a consistent place to call home.



Over the past five years, more than one-third of all children receiving services through BGV's Therapeutic Foster Care have been reunited with their families or adopted into a permanent home



Our Foster Care
program serves

155

individuals each year

"Living apart from your family — especially your mother — is a heart-wrenching experience, as is having to call a house filled with strangers "home". I've spent countless days and nights worrying and worrying over the meaning of life and whether or not I was good enough for anyone or anything, but I wasn't alone. The wicked beasts of trauma, depression, addiction, shame, and hopelessness are very real, but organizations like Boys & Girls Village provide the tools that will assist us in teaching our demons who's boss."

— Former BGV foster child

School

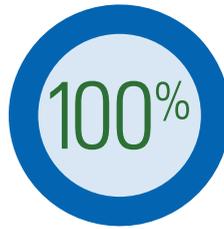
Charles F. Hayden School, BGV's K-12th grade state approved special education school, helps children grow academically while also learning how to manage their own emotional and behavioral challenges. Hayden School uses the most up-to-date technology and curriculum, a full treatment team for each child, and diverse experiential activities to ensure every student's individual success. Our goal is to guide students to high school graduation or to return them to their own schools back home.

Vocational Programming

BGV prepares young adults who come from challenging backgrounds with the skills needed to successfully enter adulthood. Hayden School has a pre-vocational and vocational program that begins to train students in job and life skills as early as age 14.

We are also one of three agencies in Connecticut that offer the Work to Learn program for kids and young adults in the State's foster care system. This innovative program offers youth-run businesses and teaches on-the-job skills training. Participants also learn life skills and financial literacy and are encouraged to open their own savings accounts. As an incentive, BGV provides a 100% savings match upon completed classes to support the purchase of assets.

The goal of Work to Learn is to give underprivileged children, who would otherwise be entering adulthood with little hope for success, the building blocks to achieve a steady job, savings, and a safe, healthy future.



of high school graduates in the Work to Learn program are enrolled in post-secondary educational or vocational programs

Spotlight on Success

Work to Learn client Theo Wilson earned a small role in an episode of the hit drama, EMPIRE. When the show's creator, Lee Daniels, heard Theo's story about his challenging childhood and his interest in getting into show business, a star was born. Congratulations, Theo!

What is Success?

BGV asked students in its Charles F. Hayden School to define what success means to them. Here are some of their answers:

Success is:

- ✔ Going back to public school
- ✔ Being back at school after being hospitalized
- ✔ Getting along with peers and staff
- ✔ Graduating from high school
- ✔ Becoming a hair stylist and make-up artist
- ✔ Doing well at whatever I do like trying to get a good, well-paying job
- ✔ Moving out of the group home and going to a foster home
- ✔ Going to school and my family being happy
- ✔ To be the best son, boyfriend, and (maybe) father I can be in life
- ✔ Surviving another year
- ✔ When you accomplish a goal, like leaving BGV, so you feel good about yourself



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Thank you to all our donors and sponsors over the past year!

We could not continue to expand our programs at such a high quality of care year after year without the extraordinary support we receive from our friends and neighbors. If you would like to support BGV's mission to create new pathways to the future for Connecticut's most at-risk youth, please visit www.bgvillage.org/support, email development@bgvillage.org, or call (203) 877.0300.

