



BETTER FUTURES

A DONOR NEWSLETTER

DONORS MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE!

1906 CLUB EVENT CELEBRATES OUR LEADERSHIP DONORS

In April, we welcomed leadership donors and honored guests from the community at our fourth annual 1906 Club donor appreciation event.

Event highlights included a building scavenger hunt for attendees to learn about the many program offerings and meet Club staff, remarks from Executive Director Javier Bristol and Board President Thea Doherty highlighting recent Club accomplishments, and the presentation of our "Champion for Youth" awards to three deserving recipients.

The 2025 Community Advocacy Award was presented to Haverhill Police Department for their exceptional efforts in serving the community's youth.

The 2025 Philanthropy in Action Award was presented to Issa Zefta in recognition for his time, talent and creativity in supporting the Club.

The 2025 Business Champion for Youth was presented to Haverhill Bank in recognition of their transformative impact on the Club's youth programs.

MAY CLUB EVENTS TAKE CENTER STAGE

On May 3rd during Walk-a-Palooza, Club members strolled through downtown Haverhill with banners and their best smiles to celebrate the Club and all it represents. They walked for their health, for their families, for the staff, for love, for peace, for a variety of great reasons to celebrate.

Upon their return families were greeted with burgers and hot dogs courtesy of Maria's Restaurant and a much needed ice cream truck!

On May 16th The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Haverhill held our Youth of the Year Banquet. Our Youth of the Year was celebrated, along with the very best of our academic Club Members.

After submitting essays and being interviewed by a panel of board and community members Justin Deveau was chosen as this year's candidate. Justice recently had the honor to compete regionally for Youth of the Year at Gillette Stadium.

Thanks to the support of Bank of New England for sponsoring our Youth of the Year program!



Program Director Eric Magee with YOY Justice Deveau

SPRING HAS SPRUNG IN OUR GARDENS!

Gardens are popping up everywhere thanks to our generous supporters!

We are celebrating the start of our third season of Garden Club at our 55 Emerson Street building thanks to Arianna Iapanni of Birch Arbor Gardens. In addition to the outdoor beds, this school year we were able to purchase an indoor hydroponic growing tower thanks to a grant from the Whole Kids Foundation!

Thanks to volunteer Camille Belmonte, we are excited to expand our garden program to Camp Tasker this summer! Camille is working with other volunteers and Club staff to help build new garden beds and plan fun garden education programming for our campers.

We would like to thank and recognize the many additional supporters who have contributed to our garden programs this past year, including Ralph Basiliere, Devan Ferreira, Melissa Cerasuolo, Mary Jo Anderson, Coast of Maine Soil, Lowe's - Seabrook, and Nunan's.

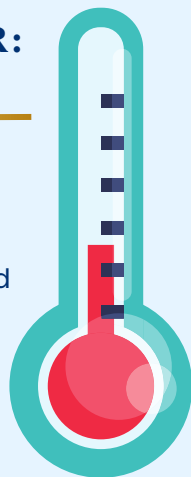
Aside from getting children excited to eat and try new vegetables, our garden programs provide an opportunity to integrate many disciplines, such as math, science, reading, environmental studies, nutrition and health.



SPONSOR A CHILD THIS SUMMER: CAMBERSHIP

We are currently raising money for our Campership fund. A donation of \$175 covers one full week of Camp Tasker for one child, providing transportation, two meals daily, and access to many exciting outdoor activities.

Donate to Campership online at haverhillbgc.org/donate or by sending a check, payable to "Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill", to 55 Emerson Street, Haverhill, MA 01830



GOAL: \$35,000

ALUMNI WEEKEND

Learn more about our upcoming alumni weekend!

Scan the QR code to view or visit haverhillbgc.org/alumni-weekend.html



UPCOMING EVENTS

Golf Tournament
Haverhill Country Club
August 4th, 2025

Alumni Weekend
BGC Haverhill
September 5 & 6, 2025

Casino Royale
Renaissance Golf Club
November 22nd, 2025

Events Contact:
Melissa deFriesse,
mdefriesse@haverhillbgc.org
978-374-6171 x102

BETTER FUTURES

A DONOR NEWSLETTER

DONORS MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE!

THE SEASON OF NOSTAGLIA

In our continued celebration of 125 years of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Haverhill, (previously known as the Haverhill Boys Club,) on September 5th & 6th we held our first ever Alumni Weekend. Previous members, staffers and anyone else nostalgic for their time at a Boys and Girls Club were invited to attend.

On the 5th there was breakfast catered by Simply Elegant Catering, where our new memorabilia case was unveiled with items from over 100+ years of club history. The display was put together by Roberta Bowman and marketing coordinator Mackenzie Simonds.

On September 6th we held a basketball tournament with some classic games like 100s, which brought out many previous staff members and recent alumni.



ALUMNI ENJOYING THE UNVEILING OF THE MEMORABILIA CASE



ALUMNI BASKETBALL PLAYERS

FULL STEAM AHEAD

This fall, our Club has been thrilled to introduce STEAM programming to our older Club members thanks to exciting new investments from our wonderful donors!

“We are using the working name STEAM Powered Teen and Tweens for the program we are doing right now. A lot of programs that the club offers to younger members (such as cooking club and the hair care lessons,) are ones that we have noticed and thought that teens could also benefit greatly from.

My goal for the program is to introduce teens and tweens to STEAM in a low-pressure environment that helps them foster interest for their specific subjects.

So far, we have focused on fun group programming such as geode cracking and cotton candy superposition while also aiming to tie the activities to interesting real-world topics such as lab grown gems for lasers and conditions for fossil formation. We have seen a steady increase in participation and hope to gather more information about our members’ interests to help inform future activities.”

-Amy Lawless, STEAM Coordinator

Our Teen STEAM program expansion was made possible thanks to generous support from the City of Haverhill’s Youth and Mental Health Grant and the Nordson Corporation Foundation.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CELEBRATE THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF HAVERHILL’S MOST EXCITING FUNDRAISER!

Casino Royale: 10th Anniversary Gala
Renaissance Golf Club
Saturday, November 22nd, 2025



BUY CASINO TICKETS HERE:



Event Contact:
Melissa deFriesse,
mdefriesse@haverhillbgc.org
978-374-6171 x102

GREAT FUTURES START HERE.

BETTER FUTURES

A DONOR NEWSLETTER

DONORS MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE!

A READING RENAISSANCE

In the fall of 2025, we brought an exciting new academic program to the Club called Renaissance Reading.

Renaissance Reading is a personalized literacy program that meets students exactly where they are by matching them with books that fit their specific reading level—ensuring they are challenged but never frustrated. By integrating everything from foundational phonics to advanced comprehension, the program provides immediate feedback through short quizzes, motivating kids to take ownership of their progress and fostering a genuine love for reading.

This program benefits our members by transforming reading into a measurable and rewarding journey, ensuring no student falls through the cracks. It allows us to track growth in real-time and helps kids sharpen their critical thinking skills while building the 'reading muscles' they need for academic success across all subjects.

We couldn't offer this program without support from Education Comes First and TD Bank Charitable Foundation.



MATH MONDAYS ARE A MUST



LEARNING CAN BE LOTS OF FUN!

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**

FULL BELLIES, WARM HEARTS



FULL BELLIES = BIG SMILES

In 2025, nearly 20% of children across the U.S. experienced food insecurity. Overall food insecurity rose 16% in November 2025 alone because of changes within the federal government.

Many of the children in our care experience food insecurities, with the meals we provide sometimes being the main source of nourishment for the day.

We were fortunate to receive not just one, but two grants from the United Way of Massachusetts Bay totaling \$20,000 to help with food insecurity during the recent holiday season.

The teens in our Keystone Club were on hand to hand out weekend bags to our families to ensure the needs of the children in our care are taken care of even when they are not in our building.

Feeding our youth would not be possible without Cedar's Foods, one of our biggest sponsors. And we have Aimee Tsakirellis, who recently won the Humanity in Action Award from the Haverhill Chamber of Commerce, to thank for that. Congratulations to Aimee on her award!



FUEL FOR THE FUTURE!

UPCOMING EVENTS

CAMP CLEAN UP: VOLUNTEER PROJECT
FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026 | 10:00AM TO 1:00PM
AT CAMP TASKER

2026 GOLF TOURNAMENT
MONDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 2026
HAVERHILL COUNTRY CLUB

Event Contact:
Melissa deFriesse,
mdefriesse@haverhillbgc.org
978-374-6171 x102

GREAT FUTURES START **HERE.**