# THE JOURNEY AT THE BOYS' CLUB OF NEW YORK

**Introduction**

## BCNY

Since 1876, The Boys' Club of New York (BCNY) has engaged boys and young men in a wide range of afterschool, weekend, and summer programs that have supported their growth and development.

All boys are welcome, regardless of zip code, immigration status, or family income.

## The Journey

BCNY thinks about impact holistically as a journey that members undergo as they mature from Explorers to Juniors to Teens and eventually join BCNY's Alumni community.

On their BCNY journeys, members acquire tools to discover their rich characters, connect to their communities, and feel confident.

## BCNY Impact

To strengthen BCNY's commitment to making sure every member can grow and flourish, the Journey's Theory of Change focuses on three areas of members' lives that help us assess
our impact:

1. Developing interests and skills for the future.
2. Relationship building and fun.
3. Engaging with community and the larger world.

## BCNY AGE GROUPS

**Members are grouped by age to ensure that they are surrounded by peers and participate in age-appropriate activities.**

BCNY The Boys' Club of New York

### Explorers

**In many ways, Explorers (grades 2-5) are the foundation of BCNY.**

**The clubhouses provide an array of activities and services in a fun environment, setting the stage for Explorers to build friendships and spark curiosities, which can inspire**

### Juniors

**BCNY strives to help Juniors (grades 6-8) develop a sense of belonging, build life-long friendships, gain a sense of independence, and start to build their social networks among fellow BCNY members.**

### Teens

**As Teens (grades 9-12) encounter greater responsibilities at home and at school, take on paid employment, and consider their futures, BCNY creates a safe space for them to explore who they are, what they value, and who they want to become as they move into adulthood.**

**As Teens transition out of The Boys' Club, they join a community of Alumni, many of whom retain ties to BCNY and offer mentorship, connections, and support to their younger counterparts.**

# THEORY OF CHANGE

BCNY The Boys' Club of New York

## Developing skills, preparing for the future.

**BCNY creates a fun and supportive environment that empowers members and builds community.**

## Interpersonal: Relationship building and fun

**BCNY's staff focus on developing long-term, supportive relationships with and among members. BCNY provides a wide range of challenging, youth-centered, culturally responsive programs that meet members where they are, and referrals to other organizations that provide further enrichment.**

## Members' engagement with community and the larger world

**Members aged 7-21 attend programs regularly, participate actively in a broad range of activities, and connect with each other, with BCNY staff and alumni, and with their communities.**

## THEORY OF CHANGE

BCNY The Boys' Club of New York

**Together with families, schools, communities, and the members themselves, BCNY contributes to youth development outcomes...**

### Developing interests and skills for the future.

### (1-2 years of participation)

- Expand and discover interests (sports, arts, science, cooking, etc.)
- Build new skills and setting goals
- On-time, school grade-level progression
- Foster academic self-confidence
- Discover new academic and vocational resources
- Greater understanding of high school options and application process

### (3+ years of participation)

- Develop beliefs and values
- Maintain physical and mental health
- Grow independent, responsible, and self-directed
- Build resilience and learn to bounce back from setbacks
- Identify and apply for post-high school options
- Advocate for their needs and interests

# THEORY OF CHANGE

**Together with families, schools, communities, and the members themselves, BCNY contributes to youth development outcomes...**

## Interpersonal: Relationship building and fun

### (1-2 years of participation)

- Feel a sense of safety and belonging at BCNY
- Develop friendships with peers
- Create strong mentorship relationships with BCNY staff
- Learn to approach all relationships from a place of compassion and respect

### (3+ years of participation)

- Grow to appreciate and value their strong network of relationships
- Prepare to leave their Boys' Club clubhouse
- Connect with BCNY's vast Alumni community

## THEORY OF CHANGE

BCNY The Boys' Club of New York

**Together with families, schools, communities, and the members themselves, BCNY contributes to youth development outcomes...**

### Members engagement with community and the larger world

### (1-2 years of participation)

- Learn about multicultural communities
- Deepen their appreciation and respect for diverse cultures
- Grow awareness of their own cultural and racial/ethnic values

### (3+ years of participation)

- Continue to learn more about the world around them
- Grow a sense of responsibility and critical consciousness around social and political issues
- Deepen their understanding of race and gender inequities
- Appreciate and enjoy the environment through exposure to nature
- Become informed agents of environmental stewardship