Florida Boys & Girls Clubs
2021 IMPACT REPORT

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
FLORIDA ALLIANCE

Executive Summary

INTRODUCTION

For over 80 years, Florida's Boys & Girls Clubs have specialized in afterschool and summer learning programming that engages the state's youth in fun, positive experiences to promote social-emotional, physical, and cognitive development. Thirty-three Club organizations serve Florida's youth at 243 sites, encouraging them to thrive by instilling a sense of purpose and belonging through safe environments and supportive relationships. Clubs offer high-quality programs related to academic enrichment, mentoring, character development, and work and life readiness skills, building the necessary foundation for children to become successful in life. Florida's Boys & Girls Clubs are creating the next generation of healthy, strong, adaptive leaders.

The Florida Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs supports member organizations to enable all young people, especially those who need them most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring and responsible citizens. The Alliance and its member organizations are a catalyst for the success that is within reach of every child.

Both nationally and here at home, participation in Boys & Girls Clubs' educational and enrichment programming has long been associated with higher levels of school attendance, academic performance, grade promotion, and decreased incidents of delinquency and risky behaviors.

IMPACT STUDY

The purpose of this study was to examine the recent trends in personal and systemic benefits related to participation in educational and enrichment programs within Florida Boys & Girls Clubs. The study focused on the following goals:

Goal 1: Measure educational experience and academic performance outcomes of students participating in Florida Boys & Girls Clubs and compare those to a peer group of Florida students not participating in Boys & Girls Clubs.

Goal 2: Measure juvenile delinquency outcomes of Boys & Girls Club members enrolled in Club prevention programming and compare the outcomes with all Florida youth.

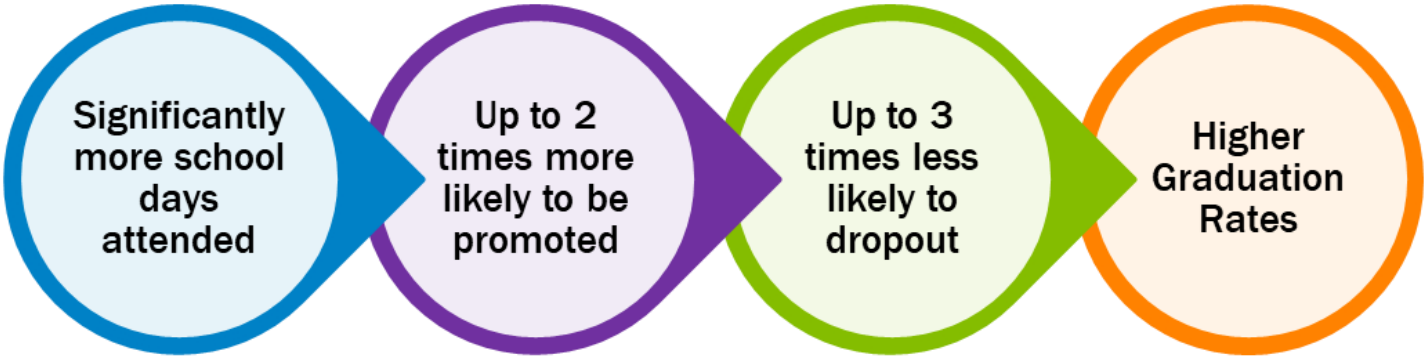
Goal 3: Conduct an economic analysis to determine how participation in Boys & Girls Clubs results in public sector cost avoidance and higher personal economic benefits.

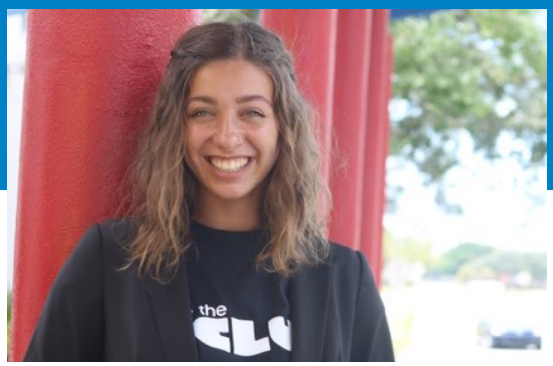
EDUCATION OUTCOMES

Overall, the Boys & Girls Club members performed better on many of the education outcomes in this study including significantly less absenteeism from school, more school days attended, more likely to be promoted and less likely to drop out of school across all five school years considered in this study. These education outcomes are statistically significant across all five years included in the study. In addition, research demonstrates that all these metrics are correlated to high school graduation.

In this study, a small cohort of 12th grade Club members was observed; these Club members had a higher graduation rate than the non-Club students. The 12th grade Club member average graduation rate over the five years was 84 percent compared to 78 percent for non-Club students.

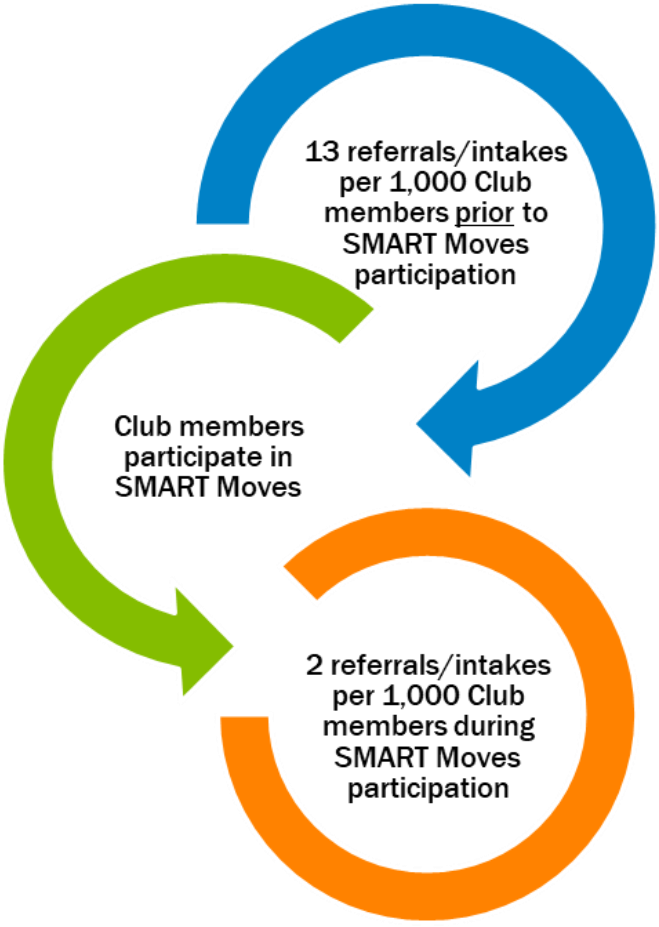
The study compares the median achievement levels of the Club members and non-Club students on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) subtests for English Language Arts, FSA Mathematics and End-of-Course (EOC) Mathematics. Club member performance was higher than non-Club students on the EOC Algebra 1 and Geometry tests in 2018-19 and the FSA Math test in 2017-18. In other years, Club member performance was equivalent to non-Club students on all subtests across the five years.





JUVENILE DELINQUENCY OUTCOMES

In 2019-20, Florida Boys & Girls Clubs offered services to youth across Florida through a contract between DJJ and the Florida Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs. Thirty-three Clubs received funding to provide the Skills, Mastery, and Resistance Training (SMART) Moves program. SMART Moves promotes substance use prevention and avoidance of early sexual activity. Club members acquire better decision-making skills, become more assertive and recognize negative peer and media influences. Youth are equipped to excel in school, act as good citizens and cultivate healthy life habits.



This study used DJJ data for 12,429 Club members for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020. Of this number, 57 percent were 10 years of age or older. The DJJ 2019-20 statewide referral/intake rate for youth (age 10 -17) was 13.1 per 1,000 youth. Prior to participating in SMART Moves, Club members had a similar rate (13 per 1,000 youth) to the statewide rate. The Club member referral/intake rate dropped dramatically during participation in SMART Moves (2 referral/intakes per 1,000 youth).

ECONOMIC IMPACT

This economic analysis identifies opportunities for avoidance of public sector costs and increased Club member economic benefits. The methodology uses costs avoided and personal economic benefits based on statistically significant differences between Club member and non-Club comparison group outcome findings. The costs avoided results are related to lower grade retention rates and higher grade promotion rates, lower school dropout rates and lower juvenile justice referral/intake rates.

Lower Grade Retention and Higher Grade Promotion

$1,565,550 annually in public sector costs avoided per 10,000 Club members

Club members have favorable performance for 8th—12th grade retention and grade promotion. The cost avoidance is $1,565,550 annually per 10,000 Club members compared to the non-Club comparison group, using data from 2018-19.

Reduced Juvenile Justice Referrals/Intakes

$488,290 annually in public sector costs avoided per 10,000 Club members

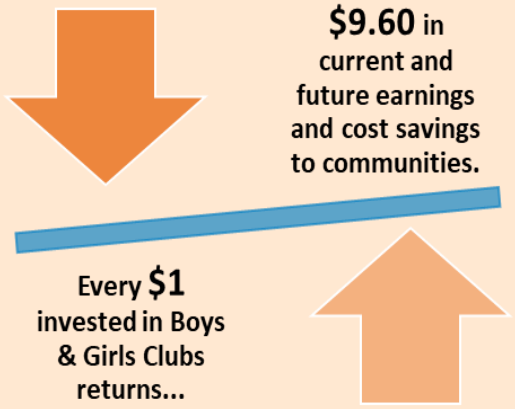
Fewer Club members receive juvenile justice referrals/intakes than youth in Florida. If the fewer Club member referrals/intakes result in secure detention, the annual cost avoidance is $488,290 per 10,000 Club members using data from 2019-20.

Higher Percentage of High School Graduates

$1,322,400 more annual income per 10,000 Club members

Comparing the five-year graduation rates for Club members (84%) and non-Club students (78%), the annual economic benefit for Club members is $1,322,400 per 10,000 Club members using data from 2018-19.

Florida Boys & Girls Clubs are included in the Boys & Girls Clubs of America 2015 National Outcomes Report. The study reports a $9.60 return on investment (ROI) in current and future earnings and cost savings to American communities for every dollar invested in Boys & Girls Clubs. The Institute of Social Research and the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan conducted the study.



To estimate lifetime economic benefits of overall Club impact, the study compares Club member National Youth Outcomes Initiative data to comparable national data sets,[1] adjusting for demographic and socioeconomic factors. Overall, researchers found that Club members have higher physical activity and grades and lower cigarette, marijuana and alcohol use compared to matched comparison samples.

The study also estimates the impact on parental earnings, using results of a previous local Club ROI study, in which 36 percent of parents strongly agreed that Clubs allowed them to keep their jobs.[2] These findings from Club parents are corroborated by a national survey of parents in which 55 percent completely agreed and 28 percent agreed that afterschool programs help them keep their jobs.[3]

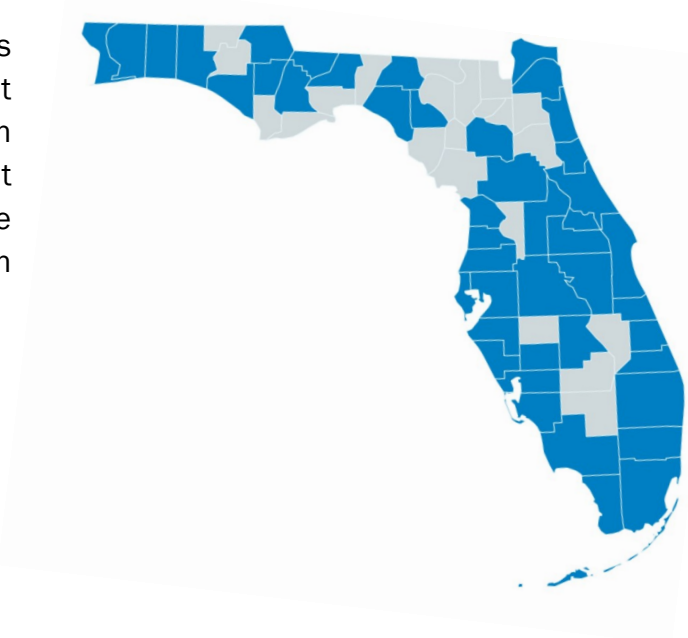
[1] The Center for Disease Control and Prevention's 2013 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's 2013 National Survey of Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) are the national data sets, the most recent available, used for this comparison.

[2] Damooei, J. and Damooei, A. (2011, Economic Impact of the Boys & Girls Clubs within the Valley of the Sun (Metropolitan Phoenix, Greater Scottsdale and East Valley, Arizona), (Thousand Oaks, California: Damooei Global Research).

[3] Afterschool Alliance, (2014), America After 3PM, http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/documents/AA3PM-2014/AA3PM_National_Report.pdf

Florida Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs

The Florida Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs represents 33 Clubs and 243 sites throughout Florida. The Florida Alliance collaborates with local and state government officials and for-profit companies to advocate for and connect with the Clubs statewide to help children and youth reach their full potential regardless of circumstance.



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THE Ounce of Prevention Fund OF FLORIDA

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