Impact Report
Fiscal Year 2016
The YES mission is to inspire and challenge youth with physical and mental activities that foster life-long respect for self, others, and the environment.
Dear Friends,

Fiscal Year 2016 was a year of great impact and achievement at Youth Enrichment Services (YES). More than 1,600 youth explored the great outdoors with us – many for the first time. Over half of youth served were from YES’s target neighborhoods of Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. 75% of youth were from low-to-moderate income families. Perhaps most importantly, 100% of high school seniors in the YES Academy programs graduated high school and enrolled in college – for the sixth year in a row!

More than 800 youth hit the slopes with the Operation SnowSports program and over 600 youth got active as they experienced kayaking, rock climbing, stand-up paddleboarding, mountain biking, track and field, and more in YES’s Outdoor Adventure program. In the YES Academy, 220 middle and high school students participated in Career Exploration, College Preparation, Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders, and the Leadership Corps (formerly known as Junior Volunteers).

This past year, YES had impressive growth in its College Prep program. The program’s goals are to provide young people at YES with a pathway to college and ensure that they not only get accepted into college, but are prepared to succeed on campus. During 2015-16, YES successfully piloted a special College Prep initiative for 9th Grade students. 72 youth benefited from the program and YES is projecting a 20% enrollment increase for the 2016-2017 school year.

We are inspired by the progress YES has made during Fiscal Year 2016. And, we are energized to continue moving towards our goal of doubling the number of youth served in our repeat engagement programs and high impact YES Academy programs.

Thank you for supporting Boston’s young people and helping YES deepen its impact on them. We truly couldn’t do it without you.

With appreciation,

Bryan Van Dorpe                                                    Betsy Strickland Edwards
Executive Director                                                 President, Board of Directors
The YES Formula for Success

TIER 1

EXPERIENCE THE OUTDOORS

Introductory Experiences and Activities
- Skiing, snowboarding, kayaking, fishing, surfing, stand-up paddleboarding, rock climbing, hiking, biking, track and field
- Operation SnowSports
  1-day ski and snowboard trips
- Outdoor Adventure
  1-day outdoor trips

TIER 2

BUILD CONFIDENCE

Repeat Engagement Experiences and Activities
- Operation SnowSports
- Youth Excel Through Tailored Instruction (YETTI)
  Five or more ski/snowboard trips per winter
- Cross-Country Ski Program
- Outdoor Adventure
  Week-long outdoor sessions
- Outdoor Leadership Intensive
- Track & Field Program

TIER 3

CREATE PATHWAYS TO LEADERSHIP

Highest Impact Youth Development and Leadership Programs
- YES Academy
- Leadership Corps (formerly known as the Junior Volunteer Program)
- Career Exploration
- Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders (GOAL)
- College Preparation Program
Who does YES serve?

Over 1,600 young people were served by YES this year. Underserved youth are our target with a focus on the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. 75% of YES youth live in low-to-moderate income households. 3 out of 4 are youth of color.

“I hope to take the values that YES has taught me about sense of community, inclusion, and adventure with me wherever I go.”

— Aaliyah, 18
Experience

In Fiscal Year 2016, over 800 young people experienced new active outdoor adventures with YES’s Tier 1 programs through Outdoor Adventure and Operation SnowSports. Activities they participated in include: skiing (alpine and nordic), snowboarding, rock climbing, kayaking, fishing, surfing, stand-up paddleboarding, mountain biking, skateboarding, track and field, and more! Without YES, many young people would have never had the opportunity to have these new outdoor experiences.

“Today was the first time I have ever skied. This was an amazing experience that will stay with me forever. Thank you for giving me the opportunity of a lifetime.”
— Laura, 9

“I hadn’t thought about snowsports as something I could or would do. The opportunity to ski and the cost of lift tickets and equipment are a barrier for many urban kids like me. YES provides access to that experience.”
— Jason, 18

100% of Outdoor Adventure youth reported increased confidence in trying new things.

72% of Track and Field youth reported increased physical activity after program participation.
Confidence

In Fiscal Year 2016, over 600 young people built confidence through YES’s Tier 2 programs: Operation SnowSports’ season-long programs, Outdoor Adventure week-long sessions, Outdoor Leadership Intensive, and the Track and Field program. Through repeat engagement in active outdoor activities, youth gained confidence in themselves and increased their ability to succeed in school and reach their full potential.

“Today I got on a few small hills on the terrain park! I went out of my comfort zone and did pretty well.”
— Julianna, 11

“One of my favorite YES memories was when I had to instruct for the first time. I felt confident afterwards.”
— Washawn, YES Alumni

90% of GOAL girls reported an increase in self-esteem after the program.

95% of Operation SnowSports youth reported increased self-confidence.
Leadership

In Fiscal Year 2016, over 200 young people gained leadership skills, explored career pathways, and prepared for college in YES’s Tier 3 High-Impact Programs: Leadership Corps (formerly known as the Junior Volunteer Program), Career Exploration, Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders, and College Preparation.

“At YES, I have learned new leadership skills, professionalism, and life skills.”
— Macy, 15

“At YES, I learned how to be a leader and teach other youth. I also learned to problem solve, help others, and be a role model.”
— Bruno, 17

70% of teens said they improved their leadership skills. 80% of recent YES Alumni reported taking on a leadership role on their college campus.
Thank You

IN-KIND DONATIONS AND SERVICES

Jonas Adler
Adaptive Sports New England
Attitash Mountain Resort
Baker’s Best Catering
Luis Barbosa
Elizabeth Bartlett
Bay State Cruise Company
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U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association
The Verb Hotel
Wachusett Mountain
War Memorial Community Center
Waterville Valley Resort
Carli Wigdor
Wompatuck State Park
Michelle Wu

VOLUNTEERS

Over 200 adult and teen volunteers made YES’s programs possible this year. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to serving Boston youth!
Corporate and Foundation Donors

The listing below reflects charitable gifts of $500 and above received during Fiscal Year 2016. Thank you for your generosity!

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Expenses and Revenue

EXPENSES

- Program Expenses: 17%
- General and Administration: 9%
- Fundraising: 74%

Total expenses: $1,700,508

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

- Contributions: 36%
- Other: 38%
- Special Events: 6%
- In-Kind: 18%
- Program Fees: 2%

Total revenue: $1,952,675
Individual Donors

The listing below reflects charitable gifts of $500 and above received during Fiscal Year 2016. Thank you for your generosity!

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Leadership at YES

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