



## Youth Enrichment Services (YES)

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### Fiscal Year 2019 Accomplishments (July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019)

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#### PROGRAMS

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- Operation SnowSports – Sustained a program expansion in YES’s ski/snowboard repeat engagement model, Youth Excel Through Tailored Instruction (YETTI). In the program, young people are instructed by the same volunteer teacher and learn with the same group of peers over the course of four weeks. During the 2018-19 winter season, 182 youth participated in YETTI.
- YETTI Inclusion – Launched a repeat-engagement ski initiative to serve youth with disabilities. Funded by the Killington World Cup Foundation, YES partnered with the Henderson Inclusion School in Dorchester to serve 24 disabled youth and able-bodied buddies. Program partners also included New England Disabled Sports (NEDS) and Bretton Woods.
- Cross Country Ski Program – Expanded the Cross Country Ski Program to serve a total of 47 youth. Financial support for the program was provided by the Share Winter Foundation.
- Track & Field – Completed a successful year of the four-season Track & Field Program. More than 375 young people participated throughout 2018-2019.
- Outdoor Adventure – Received licensure from the Massachusetts Board of Health as a registered summer camp. The status was earned through successfully meeting rigorous safety and health standards set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
- Leadership Corps – Completed a second successful year of the restructured school-year program with sport-specific tracks (Downhill Ski, Cross Country Ski, and Outdoor Adventure) and embedded with workshop curricula on Career Readiness, College Preparation, and Leadership Development. In the summer Leadership Corps program, teens participate in a similarly structured sports-based program to teach leadership skills through outdoor exploration.
- College Preparation – Received a Mass Promise Fellow placement for the sixth year in a row to deliver college preparatory programming to YES students.
- Scholarships – Awarded financial support to three college-bound high school seniors from YES through the Richard Williams Memorial Scholarship.
- Alumni Student Support – Supported YES alumni for the second year in a pilot initiative to support young people through their journey in college. Students receive quarterly check-ins from YES staff and assistance navigating challenges they may encounter in college. 45 students have participated in the program to date. The program’s goal is to help YES graduates succeed in college and foster long-term engagement with alumni.

## **OUTCOMES & IMPACT**

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- Actively engaged more than 1,600 youth across all YES programs.
- Contributed to the successful completion of high school for 100% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders in the YES Academy. All YES Academy high school seniors graduated on time and enrolled in college.
- In FY 19, 44% of youth lived in YES's targeted neighborhoods of Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan. 72% lived in low-to-moderate income households.
- 75% of youth in the Operation SnowSports program report that YES is their only access to outdoor activities in the winter.
- 85% of youth in the Outdoor Adventure program reported an improvement in their teamwork skills.
- 81% of youth in the Summer Track & Field program reported feeling healthier.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

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- Strategic Plan – Completed the fourth year of YES's 2016-2020 Strategic Plan. The plan outlines a roadmap and annual benchmarks to enrich programming, increase impact, and ensure the organization's long-term sustainability.
- School-Year Partnerships – Offered school-year programming to students at four schools in Dorchester and Roxbury. Students were engaged in weekly outdoor activities during the fall, winter, and spring. Activities included skiing and snowboarding at the Blue Hills Ski Area and rock climbing at Quincy Quarries.
- McCourt Foundation – Expanded YES's partnership with the McCourt Foundation. As an official charity partner of the foundation, YES's Young Professionals Committee participated in the Tour de South Shore and Waterfront 5k athletic fundraising events.
- 5th Annual Martin Richard Memorial One Mile Invitational – Hosted Paralympian and five-time Boston Marathon winner, Tatyana McFadden, as a special guest at the event. In addition, nine nationally ranked runners competed in the Elite One Mile races.
- Special Visit by Two-Time Olympian – Visited by two-time Olympian and elite cross-country skier, Noah Hoffman. He led a workout with youth in the YES Track & Field Program and shared stories about his journey to becoming an Olympic athlete.
- Scout Labs Northeastern – Selected by Northeastern University's Scout Labs to participate in a four-month service learning class about management and consulting. Student consultants analyzed the YES Academy and Leadership Corps programs and presented recommendations for operational improvement related to teen engagement in events, trainings, and other development opportunities.
- Mass Promise Fellowship – Shiona DeCarvalho, Director of Impact and YES Academy, received the 2019 Red Wagon Award from the Mass Promise Fellowship (MPF). This honor is presented annually to an individual who embodies the MPF program mission and supports the development of emerging young leaders in the community.

## **DIVERSITY & INCLUSION**

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- Volunteer & Equity Committee – Created the Volunteer & Equity Committee, which is aimed at promoting diversity and inclusion among the volunteer pool at YES.
- Volunteer Opportunities – Expanded volunteer opportunities for YES parents/guardians, racial and ethnic minorities, and community residents. At the conclusion of the season,

100% of adult volunteers of color in the Operation SnowSports program reported feeling valued as a volunteer.

## **FUNDRAISING & MARKETING**

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- Boston Children's Hospital Grant – Awarded a three-year grant to support YES's Operation SnowSports and Outdoor Adventure programming through the Boston Children's Collaborative for Community Health funding initiative. The application process was highly competitive. YES is one of 10 grantees in the *Community, Physical Activity, Recreation, & Food* category.
- USA Track & Field – Received first-time funding from USA Track & Field to help underwrite the YES Track & Field program for Boston youth.
- Healthy Summer Jobs for Teens – Awarded funding from the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General to help underwrite teens employed as Assistant Coaches in YES's Summer Track & Field program.
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Celebrated YES's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary throughout the year. Activities to mark this important milestone included special events, an oral history documentation, and social media video campaign.
- Boston Marathon – Awarded four charity bibs through the John Hancock Boston Marathon Program. Runners fundraised over \$40,000 to support YES's youth programs.
- Soles4Souls – Selected to be a charity recipient of the national Soles4Souls/Macy's donation program. As a recipient, YES received an in-kind donation of 600 brand new winter coats to keep youth warm on the slopes.