



# 2022 IMPACT REPORT



Founded in 1968 by Richard Williams, Youth Enrichment Services (YES) believes deeply in the transformative power of engaging youth in active outdoor programming. The organization is dedicated to serving Boston youth with a targeted focus on reaching low-to-moderate income families in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and Jamaica Plain.

## **OUR MISSION**

**Inspire youth through outdoor experiences and leadership opportunities that build confidence and prepare them to summit life's challenges.**

## **OUR VISION**

**Empower Boston youth to lead and to achieve their full potential.**

**EXPERIENCE  
CONFIDENCE  
LEADERSHIP**

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LETTER



*Bryan Van Dorpe  
Youth Enrichment Services (YES)  
Executive Director*

Dear Friends,

It has once again been an unprecedented year for Youth Enrichment Services (YES). During Fiscal Year 2022, YES did not pause nor reinvent ourselves. We stayed true to our mission and goals to give youth opportunities and experiences that they never would have ever considered, had access to or even afford.

The need has never been greater, as the pandemic has led to isolating and depriving youth of the learning and socialization that is so necessary for positive youth development. YES is able to mobilize quickly and evolve based on the needs of our neighborhoods.

Here are a few of our strategic and impactful outcomes that exemplify the importance of building self-confidence, leadership skills, and a career path through tiered progression of physical activities:

- 80% of youth in our YETTI (Youth Excel Through Targeted Instruction) Program felt they improved their ski and snowboard skills.
- 75% of the families reported an increase in their children's self-confidence because of their participation with YES.
- 80% of the families saw an increase in their children's physical activity because of their engagement with YES.
- 100% of YES's seniors again graduated from high school with a future plan of college or careers.

When YES was established 54 years ago, it was founded on the values of economic and racial equity, surviving and evolving, understanding the importance of involving youth from different neighborhoods - no matter what their financial status, ethnic background, or family history - with positive coaches, instructors, and mentors – to navigate their pathway to success.

When I started at YES almost 14 years ago, I knew of the model of how YES would safely provide incredible opportunities for Boston youth, but until I saw it first hand, I never understood the impact this organization had on youth, volunteers, and the value to the community.

I am fortunate to be able to see these youth develop and return to YES as contributing members of the community. With your generous support, youth have been able to experience the outdoors, build self-confidence, and learn to summit life's challenges! We couldn't do it without you!

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Van Dorpe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bryan Van Dorpe  
Executive Director

# OUR PROVEN FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

YES engages Boston youth in challenging, active, outdoor experiences integrated with leadership and development opportunities. Our programs have a lasting impact by creating lifelong learners and leaders.

## TIER 1: Experience the Outdoors

In Fiscal Year 2022, 378 young people experienced new active outdoor adventures with YES's Tier 1 programs: Outdoor Adventure and Operation SnowSports.



### Introductory Experiences

One-day activities included rock climbing, kayaking, fishing, mountain biking, and more! Without YES, many young people would have never had the opportunity to have these new outdoor experiences.

### Outdoor Adventure

- One-Day Outdoor Activities
- Family Adventures
- Housing Development Partnership (Biking)

### Operation SnowSports

- YES Kids Trips

## TIER 2: Build Confidence

In Fiscal Year 2022, 663 young people built confidence through YES's Tier 2 Repeat Engagement programs: Operation SnowSports, Outdoor Adventure, and Track and Field/Cross Country.



### Repeat Engagement Programs

Through ongoing engagement in active outdoor programming, youth developed resilience, self-confidence, and courage.

### Operation SnowSports

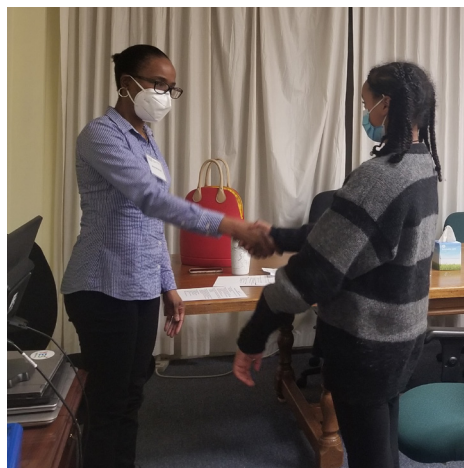
- Youth Excel Through Tailored Instruction (YETTI) Downhill Ski Snowboard Program
- Cross-Country Ski Program

### Outdoor Adventure

- Track & Field/Cross Country Program

## TIER 3: Create Pathways to Leadership

In Fiscal Year 2022, 175 young people were engaged through YES's Tier 3 programs: Leadership Corps, College Preparation, and Impact Internships.



### High-Impact Youth Development Programs

Through these high-impact programs, teens gained leadership skills, explored career pathways, and prepared for college.

### YES Academy

- Leadership Corps (Downhill Ski/Snowboard, Cross-Country Ski, Outdoor Adventure)
- College Preparation Program
- Impact Internships
- Summer Employment
- Recent Alumni Support

**100%** of youth enrolled in the Outdoor Adventure program expressed a positive experience with YES staff and/or volunteers.

**75%** of youth enrolled in Operation SnowSports reported the opportunity to try something new and face a challenge.

**80%** of families with youth enrolled in the Track & Field program reported an increase in their youth's confidence.

**100%** of high school seniors in the YES Academy program graduated on time and enrolled in college.

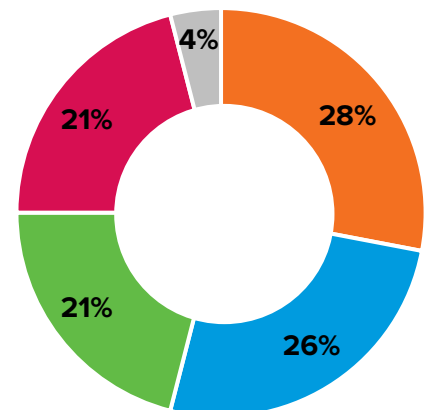
## WHO WE SERVE

During Fiscal Year 2022, a total of 1248 Boston youth benefited from YES's programs. Our organization strives to serve youth in high-need communities of Boston with a focus on the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan and Jamaica Plain.

YES is dedicated to serving youth in the city of Boston. More than 75% of our families live in low to moderate income households.

45% of youth live in YES's targeted neighborhoods of Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and Jamaica Plain. 72% of young people served are youth of color.

- African American
- Caucasian
- Latino
- Multi Ethnic
- Asian



## VOLUNTEERS

Over 150 adult and teen volunteers made YES's programs possible this year. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to serving Boston youth!



# FISCAL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

## COVID-19

YES remained connected with young people through virtual, hybrid, and modified in-person outdoor programming without interruption throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. YES proved to be adaptable, flexible, and creative in its ability to continue enriching children's lives and staying connected with our youth and their families.



## HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS

Continued a successful drop-in biking initiative to increase opportunities for youth living in housing developments to be physically active and reduce barriers for their participation. Partners included Mildred C. Hailey Apartments and Academy Homes, both located in the Jackson Square neighborhood.



## OPERATION SNOWSPORTS

Successfully completed the first year of a five-year strategic scaling of the YETTI (Youth Excel Through Tailored Instruction) track model. Served 170 young people, which represents a 26% increase as compared to the previous year's baseline of 134 youth.



## BOSTON RUNNING COLLABORATIVE

Invited to be a member of the inaugural Boston Running Collaborative (BRC) youth cohort spearheaded by the Boston Athletic Association. The goal of the BRC is to increase fitness through walking and running in Boston's communities of color.



## VOLUNTEER EQUITY COMMITTEE

Continued the important work of the Volunteer Equity Committee to attract, recruit, and retain adult volunteers of color. During FY22, 31% of adult volunteers at YES were individuals of color.

# STRATEGIC PLAN: YEAR 2 UPDATE

YES made impressive progress on its three-year plan to further YES's vision, strategy, direction, and focus to achieve game-changing results for Boston youth through impactful outdoor and leadership programming. Specific results this fiscal year included:

1. Outreach – Expanded access for young people to enroll in YES programs by strengthening partnerships with housing developments and schools in our four priority neighborhoods of Roxbury, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, and Mattapan.
2. Repeat Engagement – Increased capacity for young people to participate in YES's repeat engagement snowsports programming.
3. Equity – YES strives for its adult volunteers to reflect the diverse community of youth the organization serves. Towards this end, nearly 1 out of 3 adult volunteers at YES identified as a person of color.



**“My beginner snowboard kids made so much progress yesterday and gained loads of confidence. The attention the staff was able to give them thanks to the small groups was outstanding. YES is the best!” - YES Parent**

**“My kids loved being able to go kayaking on the ocean! They had a lot of fun even though it was so windy. None of my kids have gone kayaking before, so it was awesome to get to do that.” - YES Parent**

## PARTNERS

**YES partners with Boston schools and youth-serving organizations to provide impactful experiences for their young people. YES also partners with outdoor organizations to help provide Boston youth with new outdoor experiences. Thank you to all the Fiscal Year 2022 Strategic and Outdoor Partners!**



## IN-KIND DONORS & SERVICES

**The listing below reflects charitable in-kind donations with a value of \$250 and above received during Fiscal Year 2022. Thank you for your generosity!**

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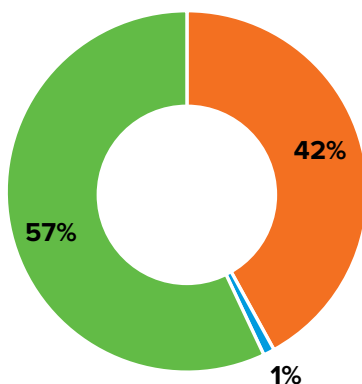
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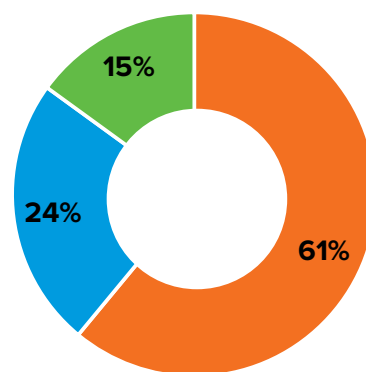
**TOTAL REVENUE:**  
**\$ 3,811,749**

- Contributions (Annual Support)
- Program Fees
- Contributions (Capital Campaign\*)



**TOTAL EXPENSES:**  
**\$1,692,245**

- Program Services
- Administration
- Fundraising



*\*Funds are restricted to the acquisition of land at 267 Amory Street Jamaica Plain and construction of the new YES headquarters.*

# IMPACT OF YES

## BEATRICE'S STORY

**“I have been given so many opportunities from YES that I would have never been able to do without them. I have met so many great people and made so many memories through this program.”**

Beatrice Riley has been involved with YES for over ten years.

When she was just six years old, Bea attended her first Operation SnowSports trip. She was very nervous because she did not know anyone and she had never skied before. She recalls, “the adult volunteers who were my ski instructors convinced me to try it out, just for one day. We got on the bus, went up to New Hampshire, and I remember having a lot of fun despite the fact that I was just learning how to ski.” After that first trip, Bea continued to grow as a skier, and even eventually tried snowboarding as well.

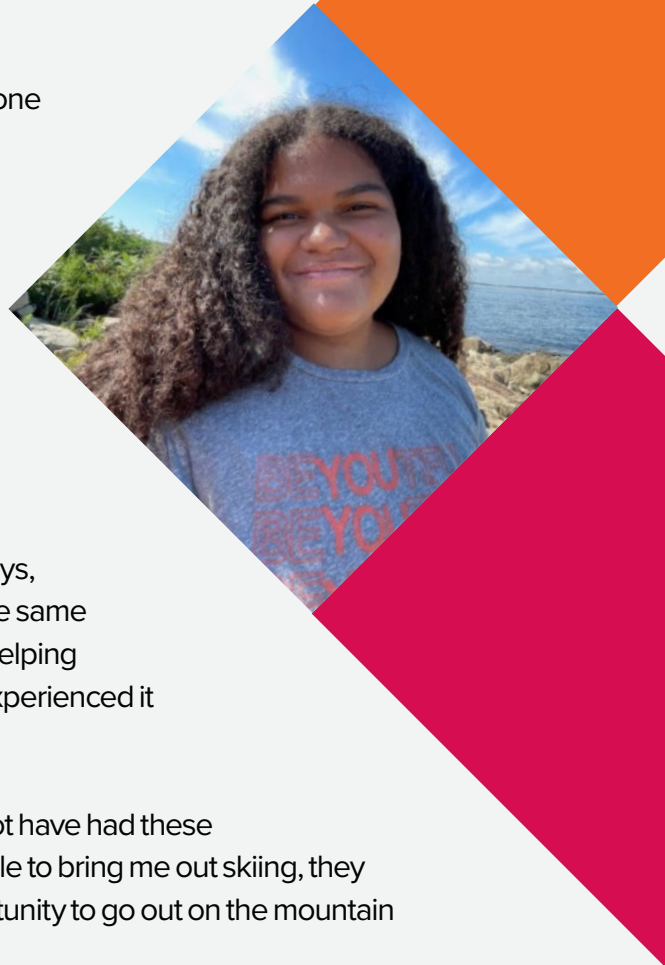
As Bea got older, she was sad to age out of Operation SnowSports, but excited to remain involved as a Leadership Corps (LC) teen. As an LC, she has the opportunity to teach younger youth how to ski. Bea says, “here I am, ten years later, now teaching other kids who might have the same experience as me when I was younger. It’s nice to know that you are helping someone who might be having a hard time because you have also experienced it firsthand.”

When reflecting on her time at YES, Bea recognizes that she would not have had these opportunities anywhere else. “My parents would have never been able to bring me out skiing, they don’t know how to ski and it’s very expensive. YES gave me an opportunity to go out on the mountain and learn how to ski!”

Her involvement with YES and the LC program has helped Bea grow and step out of her comfort zone. “Since I’ve been an LC, I’ve made friends, learned more about skiing and been able to help and bond with so many kids through skiing. Every time I tell someone about YES they get jealous because they realize how great of an opportunity this program is. I get to ski but at the same time teach others how to ski.”

Bea is now in 11th Grade and has fond memories of her time at YES. “I will always be grateful for YES and all of the opportunities that YES has given me, and continues to give me. YES gives opportunities to kids that they never knew they had, and that’s why I am so grateful.”

**YES has a diverse network of alumni spanning 50+ years. Join the YES Alumni Circle on Facebook to connect with fellow YES alums and stay in touch with friends from the past! <https://www.facebook.com/YESKidsAlumni/>**





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*\*As of January 1, 2022*



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