



Boston Youth Sports News

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Featured Links:

- [A national coalition of child advocates: the Children's Leadership Council \(CIC\)](#)
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- [Learn about connecting youth with conservation and recreation: America's Great Outdoors report](#)
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It's Your Call Basketball League

Next year, a group of students in one of Boston's intramural basketball leagues will have the opportunity to participate in a new and inspiring sports-based youth development program. The project, known as "It's Your Call", is a collaboration between the Institute for Athletic Coach Education (IACE) at Boston University and Edgework Consulting, and will teach high school athletes a number of skills that are applicable both on the court and in life. The two founding organizations hope that the program will prepare student-athletes to "make the call" in a confident manner in the sports arena and in their lives.

For the two months that the basketball league runs, student-athletes will attend weekly sessions to learn about skills that are applicable on and off the court. The "It's Your Call" curriculum will include the following content areas: critical decision making, confidence, positioning/seeing the play, communication, conflict resolution, and self-awareness. So many skills learned in the world of sports are applicable to our broader lives, and this program will help Boston's youth more clearly connect these dots. Following completion of the program, qualified applicants will also have the opportunity to complete a First Aid/CPR training and be placed in a summer working position with the City of Boston.

This program is a great opportunity for Boston's high school students - not only might we hope to see the building of more skilled athletes, but the program has the potential to help these students achieve more in school, connect with others in positive relationships, and thrive emotionally and physically.

[Learn more about the IACE](#)

Grant and Funding Listings

Highlight

[Saucony Run for Good Foundation](#), 6/13

Created by Saucony, the Run for Good Program encourages youth to engage in active and healthy lifestyles. Saucony would like to inspire a community of runners, and so this grant program is aimed at supporting non-profit organizations that work to increase youth participation in running.

Saucony considers the following criteria when evaluating organizations/programs for funding:

- Utilization of running participation for health and/or well-being in children.

- Serves youth populations not traditionally exposed to running programs.
- Demonstrates support and inspiration in creating a program that exemplifies the Saucony Run For Good Program's mission of inspiring the community of runners.

Grant applications are accepted bi-annually, and the first deadline of this year is approaching soon - **June 13, 2011** - so start working on your [application](#) now!

Upcoming Deadlines

> [Ruddie Memorial Youth Foundation](#), 7/25

To find these listings and nearly 200 others, go to the link below and scroll alphabetically or use the keyword search and type in the organization name.

[BYSI Funding Database](#)

New Resource Highlight: "The Impact of Youth Development Programs on Student Academic Achievement"

With all of the issues facing our nation today, much pressure is often placed on our public schools to properly educate and prepare America's youth. There is no doubt that our schools should be held accountable, but a recent research brief produced by the National Collaboration for Youth reminds us that there are other programs and institutions who are positioned to positively influence children and adolescents. Specifically, the research brief documents the power of community-based, youth development programs to positively impact the lives of youth.

The research presented in the brief creates an argument that these programs are not just niceties - but they are necessities in our society. Not only can these programs impact the physical and emotional health of youth, but studies have shown that they also positively impact student's academic achievement. Highlighted in the brief are national and regional organizations and programs that promote academic success through direct tutoring/educational support as well as programs that promote academic success by fostering non-academic skills and competencies. Overall, the research included in this brief makes it clear that youth-development organizations play a key role in the educational reform movement in our nation.

[Read the full report](#)

Investing in Boston's Middle Schools: Play Ball! Continues to Step Up

Starting this month, the Play Ball! Foundation is funding the development of a volleyball league for Boston Public middle schools. Over the past two years, Play Ball! has played an instrumental role in the launching of various sports leagues, including football, baseball, and double dutch jump-roping. With their slogan of "getting more feet on the field", Play Ball!'s mission from the beginning has been to provide Boston's inner city youth with athletic activities so as to enhance their physical, social, and emotional health.

The following six middle schools will be taking part in the volleyball league: Dearborn (Roxbury), Frederick (Dorchester), Gavin (South Boston), King (Dorchester) Orchard Gardens (Roxbury), and Roosevelt (Hyde Park). Also, other recent news from Play Ball! is that their middle school baseball league kicked off it's second season in April with a trip to Fenway Park. The middle school payers met the Boston College team, had pictures taken with the World Series Trophy (and Wally!), and sat right behind home plate. The schools in the league include: Dearborn (Roxbury), Edwards (Charlestown), Frederick (Dorchester), Gavin (South Boston), Irving (Roslindale), and a combined team from Jackson-Mann and Lyon (Brighton) schools.

Players from both leagues will be taking their feet onto the field and onto the court through mid-June of this year. Hats off to Play Ball! for two great achievements resulting in more Boston youth participating in organized sports!

[Play Ball! Foundation](#)

Jobs, Trainings and Events

* Free Advertising to over 800 Subscribers!*

Send us your job and board openings so we can post them for FREE in our newsletter and on our website! Email [Janice M. Epstein](#).

JOBS

YOUTH SPORT POSITIONS

- > Vice President for Outdoor Engagement, Appalachian Mountain Club
- > Outdoor Leadership Intern, Appalachian Mountain Club
- > Program Specialist, Body By Brandy 4Kidz
- > Summer Gym Teacher, The Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center
- > Seasonal Aquatics Director, Boys & Girls Club-Camp Harbor View
- > Site Director, Courageous Sailing-Charlestown
- > Team Leader or Assistant Coach, Courageous Sailing-Camp Harbor View
- > Director of Development, Sports Legacy Institute

- > Lifeguards and Swim Instructors, Dorchester YMCA
- > Aquatics Director, Dorchester YMCA
- > Youth Sports Instructor, East Boston Dorchester YMCA
- > Youth Sports Instructor, Oak Square YMCA

VOLUNTEER

- > Volunteer Referee, AmericaSCORES Boston
- > Junior Coach Mentors, Metro Boston Coaches Academy

Click here for more details about the listed [Job Opportunities](#).

TRAINING/EVENTS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- > Natural Connections Workshop, 5/25
- > Technology Grantseeking: Building a Case for Support (Webinar), 6/2
- > Volunteer Management 201, 6/8
- > Proposal Budgeting Workshop, 6/13
- > Human Resources Basics for Non-HR Professionals, 6/14

Send us your upcoming trainings and events so we can post them for FREE in our newsletter and on our website! Email [Janice M. Epstein](mailto:Janice.M.Epstein)

[Detailed Training and Event Information](#)

The Boston Youth Sports Initiative (BYSI) promotes youth sports as a positive youth development and physical fitness approach. Working with and for Boston's urban youth sports programs and supporters, BYSI encourages, strengthens, and builds network connections, with the goals of improved information sharing, quality, scale, and sustainability in the sector. BYSI is a strategic initiative of Boston After School & Beyond, and is led by Youth Sports Coordinator Chris Lynch. A key part of the BYSI is the newsletter which is edited by Chris with Assistant Editor Janice M. Epstein.

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