



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF THE LOWER NAUGATUCK VALLEY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Boys & Girls Club Leaders

Champion for America's Youth on Capitol Hill

Hundreds of Boys & Girls Club representatives from across the country meet with elected officials on behalf of nation's kids and teens

Shelton, CT, March 7, 2019 – Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley Executive Director, Shaye A. Roscoe, and Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Area Council Board member representing Connecticut and Rhode Island, Joseph A. Pagliaro, Jr., joined with hundreds of Boys & Girls Clubs from across the country on March 5-6 for National Days of Advocacy in Washington, DC. Club leaders met with Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro to advocate for the critical needs of kids and teens in America and to show the unique role Clubs serve in their communities.

“Clubs like ours have a unique role as community leaders in providing valuable out-of-school time programs to our country's youth that enable them to achieve great futures,” said Pagliaro, Jr. “We were honored to represent the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley to raise visibility of the needs of our community youth, especially the ones who need us most, and show what we can accomplish with the support of our elected officials and our community.”

Boys & Girls Clubs offer a fun, safe palace where kids can go after school to grow beyond the classroom. Club programs from education, the arts, and sports to leadership and service, help young people prepare for college or career. We also know that investment in out-of-school-time opportunities creates impact in local communities, especially for working families that rely on Boys & Girls Clubs as a means to be employed full-time. Boys & Girls Clubs drive measurable results for our nation's youth:

- While 1 in 6 kids nationally don't graduate on time, 97% of teen Club members say they expect to graduate high school
- While 22% of young people in the Lower Naugatuck Valley fail to graduate from high school on time, among the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley's teenaged members, 100% of high school seniors graduated this past year. 100% of those graduates moved on to higher education
- During the summer, Boys & Girls Clubs help close the summer learning gap that significantly impacts low-income youth
- Regularly attending Club members ages 12-17 from low-income families outperform their peers academically, with 76 % reporting getting As and Bs in school, more than 10% higher than their peers nationally
- More than 250 of the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley's Club members were involved in planning, implementing, and/or participating in community service projects, allowing them to acquire skills in leadership and decision making while contributing to their communities



- More than 350 of the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley's members participated in gang prevention or substance abuse prevention programs and activities. More than 1,050 Club members participated in the Triple Play Daily Challenge Program
- Every \$1 invested in a Boys & Girls Club returns \$9.60 in current and future earnings and cost-savings to their communities

Federal programs, like the U.S. Department of Education's 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) and the U.S. Department of Justice's National Youth Mentoring program, are a crucial component that makes Clubs and the youth they serve successful. The 21st CCLC initiative helps improve academic achievement and keeps young people safe during after school hours when juvenile crime peaks. In 2018, 212 Boys & Girls Clubs in 48 state, D.C., and Puerto Rico received 21st CCLC funding for 565 sites. Through the Department of Justice Youth Mentoring Fund, Clubs served 31,000 youth in all 50 states and at overseas military installations with a focus on at-risk youth, Native youth delinquency and gang prevention, and military youth. Both these programs help young people succeed in school, work, and life.

"Our community depends on Federal resources to bring vital, life-changing programming for our kids and teens," said Roscoe. "Our advocacy isn't just a one-day event. We are motivated and committed to raising our voices on issues impacting youth in our community and the programs and solutions that set them on the path to great futures."

For more information about the Boys & Girls Club of the Lower Naugatuck Valley visit us at www.BGC-LNV.org

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