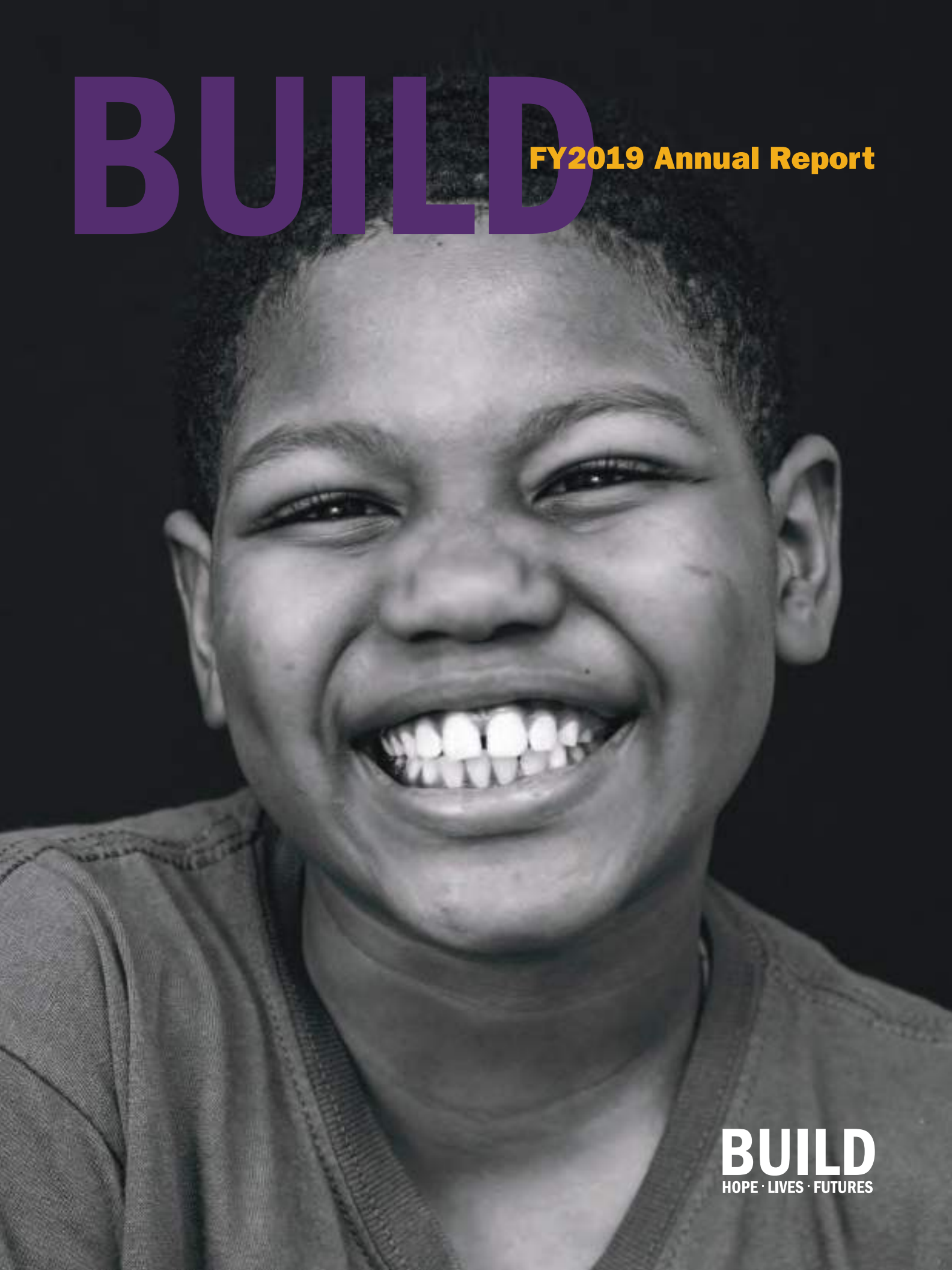


BUILD

FY2019 Annual Report



BUILD
HOPE · LIVES · FUTURES

Who we are

We are people who run towards gunshots; we don't hesitate to help.

We moved our headquarters directly into one of Chicago's toughest West Side neighborhoods because we wanted to have the greatest impact.

We are teams that strive to help the next generation build the hope, lives, and futures they deserve.

BUILD WORKS WITH THE CITY'S MOST VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE—youth that many have already abandoned, that overstressed public schools can't afford to help, that local police wish they didn't have to arrest, that parents and grandparents stay up praying and worrying over.

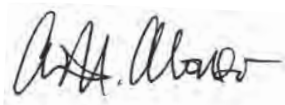
BUILD youth are young people born into profound stress, struggling with poverty and disinvested neighborhoods. Young people in persistent danger from gun violence and the trauma violence leaves behind. Tweens and teenagers and 20-somethings in danger of losing the daily struggle against the thousands of things weighing them down and holding them back.

BUILD has been serving these young people since 1969, back when few others were. Since then, we've grown a lot: moved to a larger building in 2012, expanded to more neighborhoods, added additional services like the arts, court advocacy, and mental health care. We've grown, but we've never changed who we are.

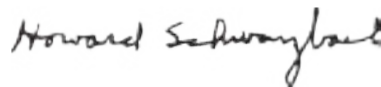
We are grateful for the spirit and resilience of all BUILD youth, brave enough to open their hearts and minds to the future. We are grateful for our staff and Board of Directors, who take their leadership so seriously. And we are especially grateful to our donors, volunteers, and partners for trusting us and helping us do *more*, every day.

And if you are just getting to know BUILD, we hope you'll join us too.

In peace,



Adam M. Alonso, MSW
CEO



Howard "Bud" Schwarzbach
Chair, Board of Directors



BUILD at a glance



What we do

BUILD works to save lives in Chicago's most challenged neighborhoods by helping young people build hope, strength, and a path to a promising future. We are an integrated team of teams, more than 90 staff members working together to ensure that each young person receives the combination of support, protection, and inspiration they need.



INTERVENTION. Street violence interruption, mediation and mentoring for gang and justice-involved youth

PREVENTION. Out-of-school programs to help younger children develop the strength and skills to resist threats and risky behavior

EDUCATION. Academic support, college persistence coaching, scholarships, and readiness for older youth

ENRICHMENT. Specialized opportunities: art, athletics, podcasting, music, entrepreneurship, gardening, summer jobs, and more

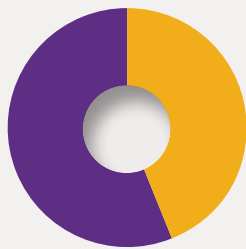
CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS. Mental health care, crisis response, support groups, and community outreach

BUILD learned long ago that it's not enough to simply have support services available. To truly change lives, we must actively reach out to the community, earning trust and credibility. We have to be an integrated one-stop shop, getting to know each youth and bringing what they need directly to them.

For our young people, we are a second family of caring adults, here for them no matter what, committed to helping them fulfill their greatest potential.

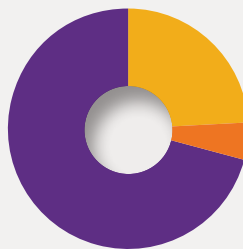


Gender



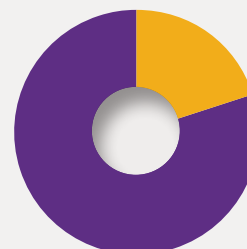
● **56%** Young men
● **44%** Young women

Ethnicity



● **71%** African American
● **24%** Hispanic
● **5%** Other

Age



● **80%** 18 or younger
● **20%** Ages 19-24

Where we work and who we serve

2,533

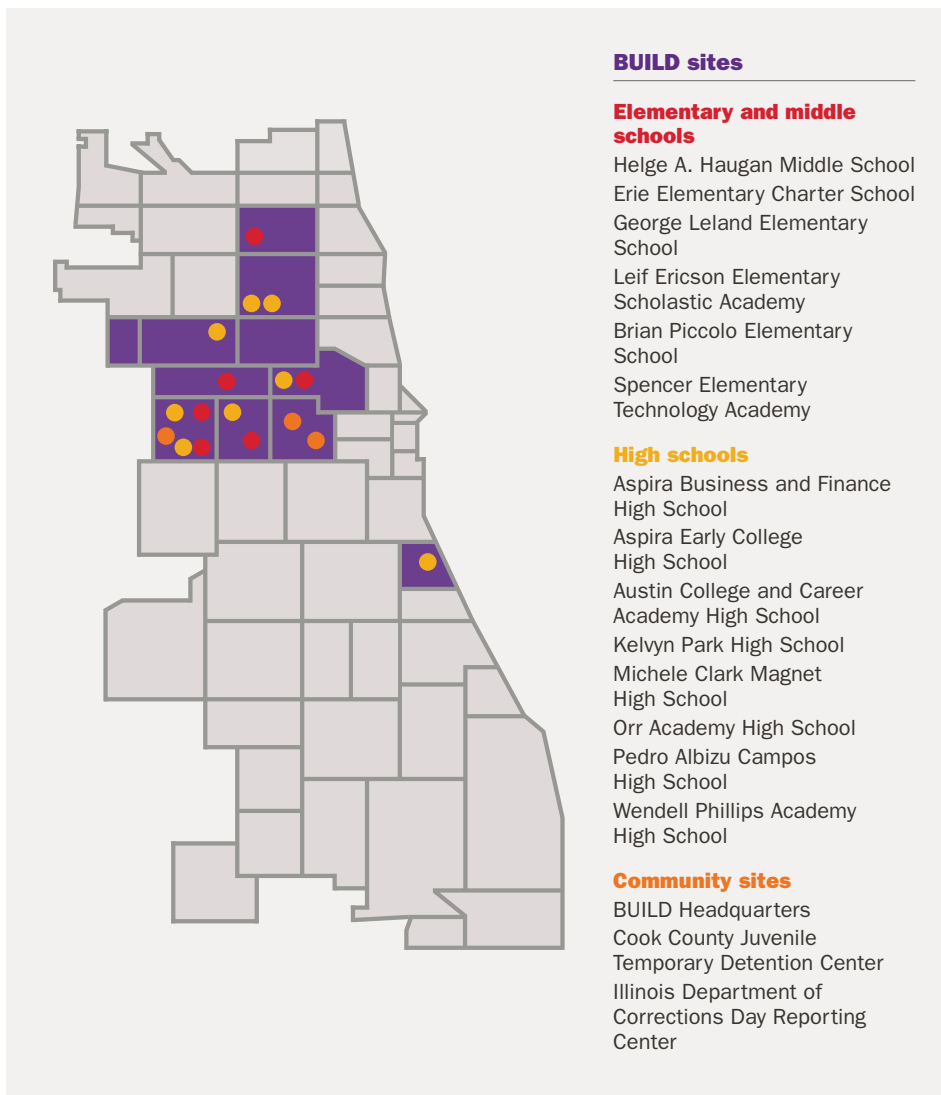
NUMBER OF YOUTH BUILD WORKED WITH IN 2019

Youth neighborhoods

- 36%** Austin
- 23%** Humboldt Park
- 8%** Logan Square/Hermosa
- 16%** East Garfield
- 6%** Bronzeville
- 11%** Other

How youth come to BUILD

- Police officers
- Probation officers
- Juvenile court judges
- Restorative justice courts
- School social workers, teachers, and principals
- Church and community leaders
- Other anti-violence organizations
- BUILD community events and outreach
- BUILD's street violence intervention teams
- Other BUILD youth
- Parents and grandparents



BUILD sites

Elementary and middle schools

- Helge A. Haugan Middle School
- Erie Elementary Charter School
- George Leland Elementary School
- Leif Ericson Elementary
- Scholastic Academy
- Brian Piccolo Elementary School
- Spencer Elementary
- Technology Academy

High schools

- Aspira Business and Finance High School
- Aspira Early College High School
- Austin College and Career Academy High School
- Kelvyn Park High School
- Michele Clark Magnet High School
- Orr Academy High School
- Pedro Albizu Campos High School
- Wendell Phillips Academy High School

Community sites

- BUILD Headquarters
- Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center
- Illinois Department of Corrections Day Reporting Center

BUILD's growing impact: 2018-2019 by the numbers

250

community collaborations

50+

community events held

8,000

community members at all events



84%

court-involved BUILD youth who avoided recidivism (IL state average: 40%)

99%

youth in BUILD's prevention programs who avoided gangs and arrests



96%

BUILD youth who graduated high school

1,000

pounds of produce grown in the Iris Garden, free to the community



33

youth detached from a gang

35

youth reconnected with school

236

youth referred to comprehensive trauma-informed services

152

non-violent conflict or gang mediations



FOR BUILD YOUTH RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH CARE:

91%

reported having tools to self-regulate emotion and process traumatic experiences positively

78%

increased knowledge and practice of conflict resolution skills

95%

showed an increase in protective factors for healthy relationships



Program pillar spotlights

- **VIOLENCE INTERVENTION**
- **PREVENTION**
- **EDUCATION**
- **ENRICHMENT**
- **CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS**

program pillar 1

VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

BUILD's Intervention Specialists have all lived past lives in the streets that qualify them to work on the front lines. Now, they defuse conflict in neighborhoods, mentor youth away from gangs, and help them move past histories of violence, trauma, and incarceration.

Our teams are out where the youth are: on street corners, in schools, in juvenile detention centers, and the courtrooms—and constantly reaching out. They never give up, building relationships and trust over months and years. With their phones on 24/7, BUILD's Intervention Specialists support their young people in every conceivable way, whether they need an advocate at school, mental health care, help navigating the courts, a part-time job, or a winter coat.

INTERVENTION SERVICES

- **Street violence interruption**
- **Gang conflict mediation**
- **Gang member detachment**
- **Community Violence Response Team participation**
- **School advocacy and reentry**
- **Post-incarceration reentry**
- **Court advocacy and paperwork support**
- **Intensive mentoring**
- **Case management and service referrals**
- **Individual and group mentoring**
- **Community events and sports leagues**

"I finally know I'm a better person, that I can do better than that... I was tired of getting locked up, tired of losing friends. I knew BUILD was a positive place, so I started coming to BUILD. They had jobs for me, I didn't have to go out and hustle, I could stay off the streets, and I just kept coming. They kept me doing positive things."

LATEE, age 17



program pillar 2

PREVENTION

BUILD's Prevention programs start engaging youth as young as first grade, filling their out-of-school time with activities and mentors who will give them the skills, attitudes, and habits to resist gangs, be healthy, and succeed in school.

With programming after school, all summer, and over all seasonal breaks, BUILD ensures that youth always have a safe space to go. And as Prevention Staff get to know their young people, they collaborate across BUILD to bring them the academic assistance, sports, STEM and arts enrichment and leadership development they need to stay safe, healthy, and focused on their futures.

In 2019, Prevention staff partnered with 14 schools, with virtually all of them requesting an expansion. BUILD's summer camp grew to hold 250 kids, ranging from ages 5-14, and running from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., filling every week between the end and start of a school year.

PREVENTION SERVICES

- **Academic tutoring and support**
- **Positive social environments**
- **Individual and group mentoring**
- **STEM activities**
- **Cultural and recreational activities**
- **BUILD Radio Podcast and Music**
- **BUILD Voices Public Speaking and Performance Showcase**
- **Sports: soccer, rugby, volleyball, flag football, basketball, and softball**
- **Arts: painting, drawing, jewelry-making, sculpture, and more**
- **Family Nights: athletics, art, games, food, music and support services**
- **Community service projects and leadership development**
- **Restorative justice skill-building**
- **Paths to other opportunities across BUILD**

*"We're always safe
at BUILD.
It's like a safe place.
A place where we can just
kick back and talk.
A place where everybody can feel
like they're welcome.
Walk in and feel like you're at home."*

SEDRICK, age 15



program pillar 3

EDUCATION: BUILDing Futures

BUILDing Futures provides young people struggling in school with the tools and support they need to succeed, graduate, and advance to college and careers. Many had never considered college a possibility for their future; BUILD mentors help them reevaluate and set new goals.

Through tutoring, test prep, college campus tours, career exposure, and consistent mentoring, our Education specialists are there every step of the way, helping young people make tough decisions, develop self-confidence, complete applications, earn scholarship funds, and take the next step forward, whether to a two- or four-year college, or another post-secondary job-training program.

We don't stop there, either—BUILD provides support all the way through college graduation. College Persistence mentors stay close to college students and their families at home, helping both sides through the adjustment—whether that means helping a parent navigate financial aid forms, or a freshman find a restaurant near campus serving food that reminds them of home.

EDUCATION SERVICES

- **Stay in School mentoring program**
- **College counseling and campus tours**
- **Application and financial aid assistance**
- **Academic tutoring and support**
- **Scholarships**
- **Workplace readiness training**
- **Career fairs and explorations**
- **Volunteer work and civic engagement**
- **Employment and internship opportunities**

"I have more than just financial support. I have the mentorship support. I know that there is someone that I can call for help when I need it rather it be advice on making decisions, time management help, or just someone to talk to and help guide me throughout my college journey."

BUILD Scholarship Recipient 2019-20



program pillar 4

ENRICHMENT

Potential doesn't discriminate—and neither does curiosity, creativity, or talent. To widen horizons and unlock imaginations, BUILD offers a wide variety of specialized opportunities to explore interests, discover gifts, and cultivate voices with something powerful to say.

Thanks to the Enrichment Team youth can work with our multimedia Arts Academy, make acoustic and digital music, plan and engineer podcasts at BUILD Radio, learn and practice public speaking at BUILD Voices, play basketball and flag football with the Strong Bodies team, serve on BUILD's Youth Leadership council, or learn entrepreneurship with Brand BUILD. In BUILD's Iris Learning Garden, youth can even learn agriculture and engineering, helping grow and harvest more than 1,000 pounds of produce each year for themselves and the community.

Every time our youth explore a new opportunity, they are cultivating their own sense of self—learning to constructively express their feelings while also gaining marketable skills, forming new connections, healing, and growing into fully formed citizens. Plus, each teacher and coach also is a trained mentor, able to recognize needs and connect youth with other services across BUILD, from educational support to mental health.

ENRICHMENT SERVICES

- **Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Projects**
- **BUILD Radio Podcast and music**
- **The Iris/Austin Grown community gardening**
- **BUILD Voices Public Speaking Contest**
- **Sports: flag football, volleyball, basketball, softball, soccer, etc.**
- **Art Academy: painting, photography, sculpture, and drawing**
- **Entrepreneurship**
- **Metal working and jewelry making**
- **Leadership development**
- **Apprentice Mentor program**
- **Community service and engagement: service projects and skill-building**

"I gained the confidence to grab the mic, and share with the whole room. BUILD took me out of my comfort zone, helped me find my voice. It's a place where I can share a lot of my school, ideas, stories, and the true me—and I will be understood."

JERRY, age 14



program pillar 5

CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS

For children in BUILD’s neighborhoods, exposure to violence and trauma is part of growing up. We see the devastating consequences every day, include increased depression, gang involvement, school failure, cycles of abuse, and suicide. BUILD’s mental health teams have deep experience in these communities, experience building trust and connection. Only with these relationships can they help young people cultivate the coping skills and healthy frameworks they need to heal.

BUILD’s Clinical Wellness teams offer onsite and school-based counseling, family services, art therapy, restorative justice programs, and more. Trained staff facilitate specialized peer groups, such as one for parents who have lost children to violence, and BUILDing Girls 2 Women, a year-round program for gang-impacted girls. Specialized counselors also provide Community Violence Crisis Response, answering calls around the clock to go to violent crime scenes and support survivors and witnesses with whatever they need—both immediately, and in the longer term.

At BUILD, counselors and therapists integrate their sessions seamlessly with other programs, working hard to eliminate the stigma often associated with mental health care. As a result, BUILD’s young people often are the *most* committed to mental health care, scheduling their own appointments and convincing their friends and family to receive treatment as well.

CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY WELLNESS SERVICES

- Individual and group therapy
- Peer support groups
- Outreach to family and caregivers
- Frontline crisis support and consultation
- BUILDing Girls 2 Women support cohorts

“The staff at BUILD saw things in me I couldn’t even see in myself. I realized they cared for me more than I cared for myself. If I could care for myself the way they do, I could make better decisions that will benefit my life.”

STEVEN, age 17

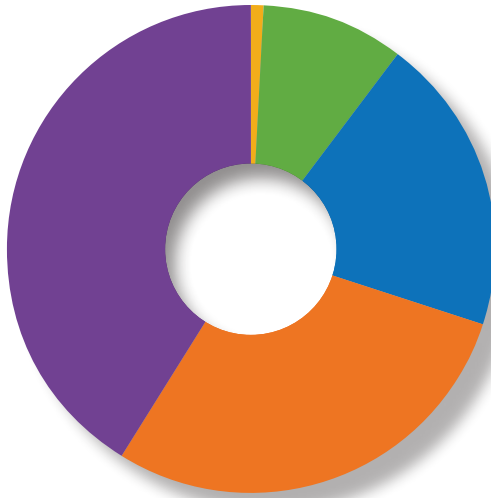


Growing hope. Saving lives. BUILDing futures. Helping the next generation.



Revenue and expenses

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019



REVENUE: \$5,794,159

41%	\$2,378,295	PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND FOUNDATIONS
29%	\$1,687,162	PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENTS
20%	\$1,138,438	SPECIAL EVENTS
10%	\$ 553,754	CAPITAL PROJECTS
<1%	\$ 36,510	OTHER



EXPENSES: \$5,271,092

68%	\$3,580,000	PROGRAMS
16%	\$ 848,409	MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL
16%	\$ 842,675	FUNDRAISING

FY19 Financial audit

As BUILD began some limited capital fundraising, reserved FY18 funds allowed us to maintain a small operating surplus for the year, with a strong balance sheet. Audited FY19 financial statements and the BUILD 990 are always available online.

Transparency and trust

BUILD consistently earns top ratings from GuideStar and Charity Navigator, the not-for-profit sector's most respected monitors of fiscal accountability and transparency.



Our public funders

BUILD gratefully acknowledges our generous public funders:

Chicago Department of Family & Support Services
 Cook County Board of Commissioners
 Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
 Illinois Department of Human Services
 Illinois State Board of Education*
 U.S. Department of Education*

*Federal dollars partially funded after-school programs at Wendell Phillips Academy High School and our BUILDing Futures program.



LEAD DONORS

Direct gifts of \$500+ made between July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Our donors make all our work possible — we are grateful beyond words for their trust and generosity.

\$100,000+

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BUILD's Enrichment programs offer youth a way to explore new forms of expression, from digital audio mixing to studio art.



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Caterpillar
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 David Anderson
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 Laura Bayley

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Barbara Berger
Susan and Joel Bersh
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Enough!
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BUILD mentor Angela Bowman rallies the youth in her after-school entrepreneurship program, Brand BUILD.



VOLUNTEERS

Thanks to all of our group and individual volunteers who gave so selflessly of their time and talent. From working in the gardens to painting our hallways, running coat drives or providing tutoring support, volunteers help our youth programs thrive.

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Our work is only as strong as our community, and we are blessed with passionate and capable partners. From hosting public events to coordinating mental health care and housing, we could not serve our youth without the exceptional work of our collaborators.

100 Black Men
15th District Faith Based Coalition
Academy of Scholastic Achievement (ASA)
Active Transport Alliance
Alderman Daniel La Spata
Alderman Roberto Maldonado
Alderman Emma Mitts
Alderman Chris Taliaferro
ALSO
Alternative School Networks
Aspira Schools
Austin Coming Together
Bickerdike
Catholic Charities
Chicago Park District–Austin Town Hall

Chicago Park District–Columbus Park
Chicago Park District–Humboldt Park
Chicago Park District–Levin Park
Chicago Park District–Simons Park
Chicago Public Library–Austin Branch
Christ the King Jesuit College Prep
Congressman Danny K. Davis
Cook County Commissioner Brandon Johnson
CPD 15th District Police Department
CPS Network 3

Department of Transportation
District Attorney Office
Forty Acres Fresh Market
Friendship Baptist Church
GradsHill Center
Greater Austin Childcare Providers Association–Robbie Anthony
Heartland Alliance
Hope Community Church
Illinois Partners for Human Service
Illinois State Representative Camille Y. Lilly
Illinois State Representative Lashawn K. Ford
Institute for Non Violence
Kelly YMCA

LYFT–DIVVY
Michelle Clark High School
Mothers on a Mission
Mt. Olivet Church
Nehemia Trinity Rising
Northwestern University
NYU Law
Project Exploration
Sarah’s Inn
Vision Zero
West Side Day Care Provider Network
West Side Health
World Vision
Wright College–Humboldt Park Campus
Youth Outreach Services

BUILD mentor and intervention specialist Clifton “Booney” McFowler Jr. greets youth at the start of a community bike ride across Austin.



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Volunteer Peter Todd and youth working in BUILD's Iris Garden examine a mid-season harvest.

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