

Celebrating 45 years of
BUILDING TEAMS
BUILDING DREAMS





HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Since 1969, BUILD (Broader Urban Involvement & Leadership Development) has grown from working with fewer than 200 gang-affiliated teens in one neighborhood to now serving more than 3,000 youth annually in 11 communities, while also having countywide impact. During the past 45 years, BUILD has served more than 100,000 youth by constantly evolving our programs to address the ever-changing challenges that place youth at risk:

1969 Organized as a **Remediation/Intervention Program** offering gang-affiliated teens positive alternatives.

1973 Initiated a **Prevention Program** for younger children in local classrooms to help them avoid gangs, violence and drugs.

1982 Started a **Community Development Program** to train and support local adults to address gang activity and violence.

1993 Began **Project BUILD** at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center to reduce recidivism.

2000 Initiated a formal **After-School Program** providing daily programming for youth ages 6-17.

2003 Launched **BUILDing Futures**, a program designed to strengthen access to college and career.

2006 Formalized all programs within the **BUILD Model** of comprehensive, best-practice services.

2009 Piloted the **Cluster Model** in Humboldt Park to provide our integrated BUILD Model in one community-based setting.

2010 Initiated **BUILDing Communities Together** to provide technical assistance for the replication of the BUILD Model.

2012 Launched **BUILDing Healthy Futures Program**, a health & wellness component to improve the mental and physical health of our youth and their families.

2013 Enhanced **Entrepreneurial Programming** for at-risk youth to create new pathways and expand work force opportunities.

OUR MISSION

BUILD engages at-risk youth in the schools and on the streets so they can realize their educational and career potential and contribute to the stability, safety and well-being of our communities.

OUR VISION

By 2020, BUILD will be recognized and sought out nationally as a premier provider of proven-effective Youth Development services targeted for at-risk youth and communities. BUILD's youth will serve as ambassadors, living examples of how the BUILD Model transforms youth from "at risk" to "at hope" and, ultimately, to respected, contributing members of society.

MESSAGE FROM BUILD'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD CHAIR



Dear Friends of BUILD,

The City of Chicago's overall crime and murder rates were down in 2013, for which we can be grateful. But, this is small consolation to a mother who lost her young daughter to a stray bullet as she sat on the family's front porch. It does not heal the hurt of a father whose son was mistaken for a gang member and killed as he walked home from school. Clearly, there remains much work to do to protect our youth and to secure a safer future for them.

When founded 45 years ago, BUILD was just a small beacon of hope in one neighborhood, but we've grown significantly since then to shine light throughout Metropolitan Chicago and beyond. We weathered the social strife of the 1970s, moved many youth safely through the drug epidemic of the 1980s, inspired hope and supported success despite the gang violence of the 1990s, and continue to expand programs and collaborations in the 2000s as we pursue our 2020 vision of achieving national impact and prominence.

We do not underestimate the challenges ahead as the crises are real, the need is great, and the road is rough. Gangs, poverty, and crime afflict far too many of our neighborhoods. The high school dropout rates within BUILD's targeted schools are unacceptably high, and drugs and violence severely threaten the health and welfare of our youth. Despite all obstacles, BUILD remains committed to continue to equip youth with the tools to become positive leaders within our communities.

We approach the coming years with optimism, innovation, and dedication. We look forward to deepening our services and enhancing our impact by prioritizing four communities: Austin, East Garfield Park, Humboldt Park and Logan Square, while continuing to provide support in other Chicago neighborhoods and throughout Cook County. Our effective BUILD model will be implemented in Community Clusters that provide youth with a comprehensive, coordinated array of services in a community-based setting. This involves collaborating with schools, parks, libraries, police districts, courts, and other partners to create the "village" needed to transition our youth from the margins to the mainstream in our society.

As you review the results of 2013, we acknowledge that our successes are due to the courage of our youth and the dedication of our staff, board, volunteers, advocates and loyal supporters. We encourage those of you who have not yet invested in BUILD to do so and assure you that you will get a good return on your investment – a fact verified by Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator, which rates the financial health, accountability, and transparency of thousands of nonprofits. We are pleased to share that BUILD has gained their top "four-star" rating, which attests to our efficiency and high standards. And, we celebrate this, because our youth deserve nothing less!

So as we celebrate current achievements, we eagerly embrace the many opportunities that lie ahead and look forward to making great strides together. Let's BUILD!

Dr. Roslind Blasingame-Buford
Executive Director

Bud Schwarzbach
Board Chair

The BUILD Model (Prevention, Intervention, and BUILDing Futures) provides an array of best-practice services that enable youth to reduce risk-taking behaviors, develop personal competencies, and strengthen their commitment to education and community service.

BUILD offers positive alternatives to the gangs, violence and drugs that surround youth, assisting them to transition from being “at risk” to “at hope.” Because our activities are mainly held in community partners’ facilities (schools, park districts, churches, human service agencies), our financial resources stay focused on programs and staff, while teaching youth to access and value community facilities.

Our services range from one-time violence interventions to intensive, ongoing work with youth. Our highest-impact program results are with our Core Group youth who participate in all three programs in the BUILD Model. All interactions are geared to empower youth to take charge of their own lives, their own futures!

In FY’13, BUILD served 3,108 youth with effective, high-impact programs that created outstanding results.

PROGRAMS

- Prevention
- Intervention
- BUILDing Futures

PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- Social mobility
- Post-secondary success
- Civic activism
- Youth empowerment
- Increased pro-social behaviors
- Deterred / decreased negative behaviors



BUILD RECOGNITIONS

“Promising Practice” - **Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention**

“Exemplary Practice” - **The Chicago Community Trust**

“Innovative Practice” - **Department of Education TRIO Programs**

“Effective Program” - **Office of Justice Programs**

BUILD MODEL REPLICATIONS

Luz Social Services in **Tucson, Arizona**

The Prevention and Addictions Council in **Corpus Christi, Texas**

The Department of Public Health in **Minneapolis, Minnesota**

International Center for Conflict Engagement in **Houston, Texas**

BUILD SERVICE AREAS

BUILD offers targeted services to enhance our impact in four priority communities, Austin, East Garfield Park, Humboldt Park and Logan Square, while continuing to provide support in other Chicago neighborhoods and throughout Cook County.



PREVENTION: **In-School Activities** implement our Violence/Gang Prevention Curriculum in the classroom in small-group settings, equipping them to resist violence, drugs and gangs, and to develop life skills like decision making, goal setting, and conflict resolution. **After- and Out-of-School Activities** engage highly at-risk youth in a variety of safe community settings to provide academic assistance, recreational activities, mentoring, and leadership skills.

JAVIER'S STORY

Javier is 13 years old and is an 8th grader at Ames Middle School. He lives in the Logan Square neighborhood.



“ The neighborhood I live in is mostly quiet, but we also have a big gang problem. I’ve been able to stay clear of the gangs and make a lot of really great friends, but have found it challenging to get my school work done, keep my grades up, and not get distracted in class. I’ve felt my life has been kind of boring, that I wasn’t really anything. But, that was before I heard about BUILD through school and met Mike Carrizales (BUILD Prevention Specialist).

BUILD sounded interesting so I signed up and the rest is history! I’ve been part of lots of BUILD’s programs – after school at Ames, during school breaks, photography workshops, the CHILL snowboarding program, and community service projects. My favorite moment at BUILD was doing the photography workshops. They were lots of fun.

I enjoyed being able to choose my own things to take pictures of, being able to edit the picture how I like, and hoping someone likes it enough to buy it at a BUILD Dinner. A great success of mine was joining a good soccer team and making it on the team after people telling me I was too short to make it.

Being at BUILD has definitely helped me not hang out on the streets because, if I wasn’t with BUILD, I wouldn’t have gone to after-school programs. I would like to keep working on being a better student and staying off the streets. Mike C. and the other staff people at BUILD, like Carlos and Fernando, have helped me to make some good decisions in life and are always there when I need them. When I tell a friend about BUILD, I say the staff members are cool and really care about what happens in our lives – and it’s FUN!

My dream for my future is to finish school, go to college, and become a chef or a veterinarian. Being in BUILD has helped me realize that I do want to be something in life. They are also helping me with my goals and staying on top of me to do better and be focused at school and in life.”

2013 PREVENTION CORE GROUP IMPACT

94% of 8th graders graduated elementary school

91% of elementary school youth (non-eighth graders) were promoted to the next grade

80% of Prevention youth receiving tutoring showed improvement in academic performance

59% decrease in the number of youth that exhibited aggressive behavior on a weekly basis

22% increase in youth with no disciplinary issues

INTERVENTION: Violence Remediation provides activities that are alternatives to gang life and reduce participation in violence and crime. Recreational/athletic activities allow staff to develop rapport with youth and guide them to positive resources (e.g., tutoring, counseling, substance abuse treatment, and job training). **Restorative Justice Initiatives** intervene with youth involved in the justice system to prevent or provide alternatives to detention, reduce recidivism, and minimize youth becoming adult offenders.

SPENCER'S STORY Spencer is 19 years old and completed high school at the John Marshall High School's PASS (Pathway to Accelerated Student Success) Program. He lives in East Garfield Park.



“ My neighborhood has lots of shootings and drugs and is not a safe place for any child to grow up in. When I was younger, kids carried guns in school, although the teachers didn't know. Learning was difficult because I was actively gang affiliated, which was why I was missing so much school. Carrying guns, hanging out with negative people, and smoking weed were normal for me. In my senior year, my cousin, who was my best friend, was shot and killed while we were playing basketball. I was sad, frustrated, angry and ready to quit school, but then enrolled in the PASS Institute, so I could graduate.

I got involved with BUILD at school when Miss Eliza (Education Outreach Specialist) came to tutor and do college and career prep groups. Through BUILD, I've been to a college fair, been part of the BUILD public speaking program, toured Southern Illinois University, did a community service day, and now work as a Student Aid at Leif Ericson Elementary School. My favorite activity is Brand BUILD, where I learned to make jewelry, gained entrepreneurial skills, and became a student leader, going to sales to explain what we do to interested customers.

BUILD also has supported me making many changes in my life. The first was an agreement with Miss Eliza to not carry weapons. This was hard because I was so used to always having a weapon on me, but I've never slipped up. Now I am not endangering myself, my family, or other people anymore. The second agreement was to not drive any more without getting a driver's license first. This also was hard, but I've kept it. BUILD's mentors help you so much that you think of them as family. Miss Eliza is my "School Mama" who kept me on track and didn't let me give up!

My dreams include getting my bachelor's degree in construction science or becoming an electrician or owning my own business. I plan on giving back to my community. First and foremost, the neighborhood needs to be safer so I can continue being a great father who wants his daughter to grow up in a safe place. I'm proud of myself now. I'm the only person in my family that has never been to jail – and I am going to keep it that way! ”

2013 INTERVENTION CORE GROUP IMPACT

97% of youth in our Restorative Justice Initiative avoided returning to detention / incarceration
(compared to the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center rate of only 20 - 30%)

59% decrease in the number of youth that exhibited aggressive behavior on a weekly basis

54% decrease in the number of youth that are gang affiliated

50% decrease in the number of youth receiving three or more suspensions

BUILDing FUTURES: College & Career Prep works with middle and high school students on personal motivation, academic attainment, college admissions, financial aid, vocational training, and career exploration to keep them in the educational pipeline and enhance access to postsecondary opportunities. **Youth Leadership Development** engages Youth Council & Core Group members in tracking life-plan goals, providing community service, enhancing leadership skills, and becoming peer mentors and counselors.

VANESSA'S STORY

Vanessa is 17 years old and a junior at Prosser Career Academy. She lives in the Logan Square neighborhood.

“ Five days before my first birthday, I became a foster child due to the serious head trauma I had suffered when I fell down a set of stairs while in the “care” of my birth parents. Later, my foster parents decided to legally adopt me, but growing up, I felt neglected and isolated from my new family. I always felt as if I was an intruder because of being adopted.



When I reached middle school I decided to join after-school activities in order to avoid being at home for too long. I gradually became part of leadership clubs and met amazing people that helped me through rough situations. One of them has been BUILD's staff member Fernando Moreno (Special Projects Manager). I met him during 7th grade and joined BUILD in 8th grade.

Fernando has been a brother figure to me, the brother that I didn't have growing up. Thanks to him I began to take part in BUILD activities and groups including painting workshops, summer jobs and internships, and YMAD (Youth Making A Difference), which empowers youth by creating opportunities for us to recognize the important role we can play in decision-making in our communities through peer-to-peer interactions and community service. BUILD has opened my eyes to new possibilities and experiences, like referring me to the Exelon Stay In School Initiative that helps keep us focused on school and provides mentors.

I used to constantly doubt myself, to the point of not valuing my own life. I know I made a smart decision when I joined BUILD and got connected with Fernando as a mentor. Not only am I involved in BUILD, but I'm also part of ASPIRA Inc. of Illinois and have the pleasure of being the student representative for both their local and national boards of directors.

My situation at home and my academic achievement might not be the best, but I know that I'm working my hardest to go beyond limitations and expectations. I want to prove to people that I am more than what they take me to be. I want to be a social worker; that way I will be able to help a lot more young people in my community and create new leaders. I wish to one day have youth look up to me, just like I look up to my mentors. Being involved has kept me alive. I've met so many amazing people and I would not have it any other way! ”

2013 BUILDING FUTURES CORE GROUP IMPACT

93% of high school non-seniors were promoted to the next grade

93% of high school seniors graduated (compared to CPS rate of 63%)

72% of high school graduates enrolled in college (compared to CPS rate of 59.5%)

227 youth were placed in employment

12 youth were placed in internships

PROGRAMS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

BUILDing HEALTHY FUTURES: Our new Health & Wellness program, BUILDing Healthy Futures, works to improve the mental and physical health of BUILD's youth and their families. This is accomplished through increased access to health care and holistic services that include: health education, support groups, exercise, increased access to healthy foods, and enrollment in affordable health care. In the initial roll out, 50 youth were involved in one or more aspects of the program and 500 adults were enrolled in health care coverage.



Brand BUILD: This entrepreneurial jewelry-making program has been enhanced through a partnership with After School Matters. This year, the number of members doubled as, for the first time, Brand BUILD opened its doors to young men who have already demonstrated fine skill and style!



PEACE LEAGUE: Summer 2013 marked BUILD's second season in Austin's Moore Park, a Chicago Park District facility, for the Donna Dudley Peace Project (DDPP). This league involved 105 players, who came from six Chicago communities and reflected affiliations with nine gangs. They came together peacefully, seeing each other as teammates and competitors, not rivals and enemies. At the end of the season, the championship trophy went to the Dawg Squad – a first-season and first-class team! Cheers to all participants for playing some of the most competitive softball ever and for helping to keep peace on the streets.



IN THE NEWS: BUILD is honored to have been featured in many television & radio newscasts, as well as online & print publications this year, such as: Fox32, Univision, CBS2, Telemundo, Al Jazeera, WBEZ, The Chicago Bureau, EmPower Magazine, Austin Weekly News, Crain's Chicago Business, DNAinfo Chicago, and Make it Better Media.



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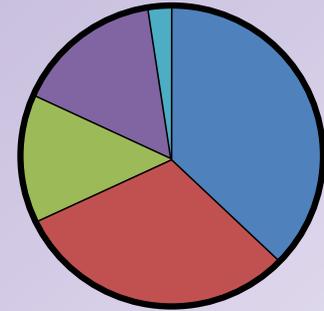
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BUILD FINANCIAL SUMMARY | FY2013

REVENUES \$ 2,376,422

Individuals & Foundations	37%
Government	31%
Corporations	14%
Special Events	16%
In-Kind Revenue	2%



EXPENDITURES \$2,134,149

Programs	72%
Management & General Administration	19%
Fundraising	9%



The individuals, foundations, corporations and organizations listed here supported BUILD during FY'13 (7/1/12 to 6/30/13). We have made every effort to be accurate. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that they be brought to our attention. Copies of BUILD's audited financial statements and Form 990 for FY'13 are available upon request.

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