

# THEIR FUTURE IS IN YOUR HANDS

Building a New Boys & Girls Clubs  
of Greater Kalamazoo



## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

### THANK YOU! We hit our \$9 million goal . . .

The long wait is over! Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kalamazoo, with \$9 million in hand from a successful capital campaign, has broken ground at the site of its new flagship facility on Portage Street!

Community leaders, governmental officials, community partners, volunteers and donors celebrated the achievement of our \$9 million goal.

Boys & Girls Clubs' half-century presence at Edison School came to an end two years ago with the demolition of that school. The Clubs have continued to serve some 1,300 youth at school sites throughout Kalamazoo, but the organization's leaders look forward to the restoration of complete programming possible at the new site. The building is expected to be complete in 2025. For nearly 70 years, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kalamazoo has been providing local youth with life-enhancing, meaningful, and purposeful programming to aid in their professional, personal, and educational development.

The new 20,000-square-foot facility will feature space for computer work, arts and media activities, health and wellness, quiet study space, games and sports space, science exploration, and teen activities.

# TOTAL \$9,871,003

### Help us realize our vision!

In spite of our tremendous campaign success, there is more to be done.

"In a word," says long-time executive director and campaign co-chair Bob Ezelle, "our \$9 million building is no longer a \$9 million building. We've made construction compromises, but we need the community's help to fully realize our vision for this facility."

"It's our fondest hope," says current Executive Director Matt Lynn, "that this vision not only attracts new donors but also touches the hearts of existing donors."



# Ready to Build!

## PORTAGE STREET SITE SET FOR CONSTRUCTION

Our groundbreaking ceremony in September set the stage for a building process that will culminate in a 2025 opening of our new facility on Portage Street. Campaign chairs Robert Ezelle and Ean Hamilton used the event to thank donors, community partners and staff for their efforts to get us this far. At the ceremony, Larry and Shannon Bell contributed \$100,000 on top of their \$1 million leadership gift, asking other donors to consider finding a way to help finalize the vision of the facility. John Beasley, plant manager at JBS Foods, emphasized that the commitment to Boys & Girls Clubs will continue through sponsorships and volunteerism in the future.



## WHY WE DO THIS WORK

Each day, many children and teens in our community leave school with little direction. Without supervision and positive activities to engage their interest and attention, these kids often find their way to behaviors that negatively impact their futures. Substance abuse, criminal activity, sexual experimentation and other destructive tendencies lead to significant problems and larger social costs that impact us all. We make a difference in the lives of hundreds of children and families every day.

### CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS:

Bob & Cindy Ezelle  
Ean & Phil Hamilton

### CAMPAIGN CABINET:

John & Jen Agay  
Nancy Anderson  
Larry Bell  
Alex Bigelow  
Becky Bigelow  
Bob Borsos  
Travis Cree  
Jim Kaiser  
John Koryto  
Sam Lealofi  
James Liggins  
Brian Mick  
Patti Sholler-Barber  
Von Washington  
Jeff Wescott  
Doug Zwart

