

# Make The Change

A Proven Program to Transform  
Children's Lives through Education



**Boys Hope Girls Hope**  
ST. LOUIS



## Helping Children Reach Their Full Potential Every Day

### A FULL LIFE

“ Boys Hope Girls Hope is not trying to make everyone a genius, but make us well-rounded young men and women, so that we can have and lead a full life.

A full life means a balance between social life and scholarship, between family and friends, between past and present, and future. ”

*All quotes throughout this document were written by alumna scholar Brijhette.*



# Education that can change the world

At Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis, we believe all children deserve the chance to realize their full potential. Education and whole person development are the keys. **That is our mission.**

In 1977, Boys Hope Girls Hope was established in St. Louis to help academically capable and motivated children from disadvantaged backgrounds prosper by providing educational opportunities paired with the support of value-centered and family-like homes.

The program's success led to rapid expansion across the country, and Boys Hope Girls Hope now has affiliates in fifteen major American metropolitan areas and three Latin American countries. When the playing field is leveled and children are surrounded by supporters, the sky is the limit.

From day one, our scholars begin to think of college not as a daydream, but as a concrete destination. **We empower them to overcome obstacles beyond their control.**

## The Proven Model of Boys Hope Girls Hope

- **Unique residential program providing stable and loving home**
- **Early intervention and academic, financial and emotional support through college**
- **Access to quality schools**
- **Parent / Guardian involvement**
- **A “community” of role-model staff and volunteers for our children and families to provide enrichment and support**
- **Holistic approach with development of mind, body and spirit**
- **Expansion of impact through community-based programming**

# A LIFE CHANGING INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN

## Why Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis URGENCY AND DECISIVE ACTION

“ Success is a matter of life or death, and while some are able to take it for granted, I cannot.

I will not let any opportunity slip out of my grasp as long as it depends on me. I do not succeed merely because of what it will bring me, but because of what it empowers me to do and the effect that it has on others. **This is my way of being an agent of change.** ”



# Why families choose **Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis**

We set high expectations for academic achievement, extracurricular participation, behavior and ethics. Our whole person approach gives scholars everything they need to meet those expectations.

It takes courage and an incredible amount of love to make the sacrifice of living apart.

**Here are the reasons why scholars and their family make the choice.**

## **ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

- Residential placement and family-style homes through high school graduation
- A community of scholars with like-minded goals
- Family partnership and participation
- Role model staff and volunteers
- Medical, dental, and optical services
- Access to professional counseling services

## **EMOTIONAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Extracurricular activities
- Strong community network and resources including career mentoring
- Community service learning opportunities
- Whole person development: mind, body, and soul
- Academic, financial, and emotional support through college
- Life skills development

## **RESIDENTIAL LIFE**

- Individualized mentoring and tutoring
- Access to quality schools on the path to and through college
- College prep and application support
- Dedicated study time
- Exclusive college prep curriculum

# Our Programs



## RESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The residential program is designed for promising, motivated youth who, in concert with their loving guardian, decide to live in a structured, family-like home in order to prepare themselves for college success.

The home is staffed by professional residential counselors who provide the day-to-day needs of the scholars. Families retain custody, participate in the decision-making, provide volunteer service, and are welcome to visit the home.

Scheduled family visits occur monthly during the school year. Youth between the ages of ten and fifteen are admitted and continue residential participation through high school graduation.



## HOPE PREP ACADEMY

Hope Prep incorporates the essence of the Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis college preparatory model for underserved youth in a school and community-based context.

Eighth graders at Berkeley Middle School apply for admission to the program, which is administered in collaboration with the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Participation continues through the scholar's high school career at McCluer South Berkeley high school and post-secondary degree completion.

The Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis whole-person program involves after school, weekend, and summer programming. Active guardian participation is required.

# Our distinctive success comes from a unique model:



## Preventative, Early Intervention

Our scholars come to us between the ages of 10 and 15, a critical time in the lives of youth at risk.



## Living in a “Scholarship” Community

Ours is the only program that immerses youth in a 24/7, 365 day environment of love, stability and achievement.

*(residential only)*



## Whole Person, Positive Youth Development

We recognize that it takes more than just academic achievement to succeed in life. That is why we work to strengthen the social, emotional and spiritual dimensions critical for any truly successful person.



## Long Term Support

Access to college for the underprivileged has increased over recent years. However, degree attainment has not been successful. Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis provides social support and financial assistance to not just get to college, but to get **through** college.



## Family-Style Meals

Research consistently reveals correlations between the frequency of family “sit-down” meals and positive growth outcomes including: achievement of developmental milestones, language development, reduction of risk behaviors and academic achievement.

*(residential only)*



## Participation Based Upon Motivation to Succeed

Our scholars and their families compete for a place in our program. They make the sacrifice of living apart to give their children access to quality education and opportunities to reach the scholar's full potential.

*(residential only)*



## Parent/Guardian Engagement

Research overwhelmingly supports that parental involvement directly affects educational achievement. Active parental involvement is integral to our program model.

No other organization does what **Boys Hope Girls Hope** does.

## An Opportunity to Give Children a Chance

### EXPONENTIAL AND LASTING CHANGE

“

Break the vicious cycle of dream-stealers that consume the lives and bright futures of far too many of us, one child at a time.

And we will live as an example of how opportunity can lead to success.

”





# Proven **results**

Children have the capacity to transcend their circumstances if given a safe environment, opportunities and loving support. We recognize the importance and value of **hard work, integrity and honesty.**

**Our scholars are responsible for their destinies.**

Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis is here to see that they get a fair chance.

## Lifelong Impact

In 2012, the Educational Policy Institute thoroughly examined 1,400 different college access programs. The study declared Boys Hope Girls Hope to be one of the top ten programs in the country based upon its careful design and distinctive impact.



**100%**

Percentage of the scholars who complete our program that have gone onto college since 1991.

**91.5%**

Average annual retention rate of our scholars in college.

**67%**

Average percentage that college graduates earn more than dropouts annually.

**GIVE BACK**

Our alumni enhance their communities because they want to give back — as doctors, attorneys, social workers, urban planners, police officers and educators.

**Most importantly, our alumni graduate from college as well-educated, empowered individuals.**

**I AM** brave, ambitious, determined, persistent,  
dedicated, compassionate, prepared, grateful...

**I AM HOPE**



# Make the **change**

## TRANSFORM A LIFE

Our program is a selective scholarship opportunity with a competitive application process.



### CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION

- Typically grades 4 through 10
- Voluntary placement and support of parent or guardian
- Academic potential to succeed in a college prep program
- No behavioral, emotional, or learning disorders
- Motivated and driven to succeed
- Family or environmental obstacles
- Ability to be a positive member of our homes



### HOW TO APPLY

The application process takes a minimum of 2 months to complete and consists of:

- A visit to the campus to learn about the program
- Completion of application paperwork

- An Interview with applicant and parent
- Review of current school grade and behavior reports
- A comprehensive psycho-educational assessment
- Pre-placement visit stay in our homes to assess fit



### REFER A CHILD

If you or someone you know could benefit from participation in the Boys Hope Girls Hope St. Louis program, we invite you to make a referral.

**To begin the process, or for more information, contact Program Recruitment Manager at [hopenstlouis@bhgh.org](mailto:hopenstlouis@bhgh.org) or 314-776-9406**

