



Dear Friends,

As we reflect on our 75 years of Service & Impact, we are reminded of the generous support from organizations and individuals like you, who have helped us reach this important milestone. We thank you and ask for your much needed support once again, for our **2024 Back2School Campaign**.

Heading back to school looks different for each child and family. For some, it's an exciting time that means seeing old friends, wearing fancy new clothes, carrying new backpacks full of all the needed supplies, and bringing or buying a healthy lunch daily. For many others, it looks quite different...stress, anxiety, few real connections, old clothes and backpacks, some schools supplies and maybe a little something to eat.

Our organization recognizes the individual needs of children and teens in the communities we serve, and that's why we provide all members with a free healthy meal before and/or after school and provide new backpacks full of the necessary school supplies for members in need. Recognizing the need for and importance of youth mental health support, Social Emotional Learning and Trauma Informed Care is also provided at no cost, by our licensed Social Worker.

**Will you donate to our Back2School Campaign to help ensure that we can continue to provide this and more?**

We currently operate ten comprehensive out of school time programs, at our Clubhouses in Lodi and Hackensack, and eight school-based sites in Lodi, Hackensack, Wallington and at South Bergen Jointure Commission's Maywood Campus, which serves exclusively youth with special needs. We are a safe place of inclusion for children and teens to go in the critical out of school hours, where they participate in life-enhancing programs, learn life skills, receive academic support and mentoring, have a free healthy meal, and more.

***Can we count on you? Your donation can help give more kids a place to thrive!***

We will do whatever it takes to give more kids a place to thrive, to bridge education gaps, to encourage, support and help build confidence in all youth who enter our doors, **but it takes you!**

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to support our **Back2School Campaign**. You can donate by mailing the enclosed donation envelope back with your check or credit card payment, or securely online, by visiting our website at [www.bgclbergen.org/back-to-school](http://www.bgclbergen.org/back-to-school).

**Your gift today will impact a child's future! Thank you for your continued support.**

Gratefully yours,

Joseph J. Licata, MPA  
Chief Executive Officer

**BACK<sup>2</sup>SCHOOL**