



*City of Bristol
Youth Commission*

INFORMATION TO ACCESS THIS MEETING

<https://bristolct-gov.zoom.us/j/82313984507?pwd=tDw7oInVEnljFlrT7fxPoiNvWzmujg.>

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The regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, at 6:00 PM. in City Hall, 111 North Main Street, Bristol, CT.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
 - a. Attendance
2. Public Participation
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approval of Minutes: September 11, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes
4. Supervisor's Report
 - a. Supervisor's Report
 - b. Year to Date Financials
5. Old Business
 - a. Appetite for Reading "Little Library" Update
6. New Business
 - a. Holiday Gift Giving Program (New Location: City Hall)
 - How to Apply
 - Donor Recruitment and Suggestions (Ways to Give)
 - Frequently Asked Questions

- How to Volunteer

b. Holiday Events

- Stuff a Cruiser - at Walmart on November 9, 2024
- Shop With a Cop - Date to be Determined

7. Committee Reports

8. Any other matter to come before said meeting

9. Adjournment

PER ORDER OF THE CHAIRPERSON
Officer Matthew Gotowala



Youth Commission

Wednesday, September 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Bristol City Hall-111 North Main Street Bristol, CT 06010 Room 1-4

1. Call to Order

Officer Matthew Gotowala, Chair, Called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Officer Matthew Gotowala, Chair
Deborah Ahl, Vice Chair,
Ryan Broderick, Commissioner
Richard Kilby, Commissioner
Donna Osuch, Commissioner
Luke Viens, Commissioner
Lance Washington, Commissioner
Erick Rosengren, City Council Liaison
Sarah Larson, Deputy Superintendent

Absent:

Jonathan Lukasiewicz, Commissioner
Miguel Salguero, Commissioner
Renee Singleton, Commissioner
Dr. Joshua Medeiros, Superintendent

2. Public Participation

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Approval of Minutes: June 12, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kilby to Approve the June 12, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes

Seconded by Commissioner Broderick, all in favor, motion carried.

4. Committee Reports

Youth and Community Services Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented the Youth and Community Services Supervisor's Report; discussion followed.

a. Year - To - Date Financials

Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented the Year - To - Date Financials. Supervisor Bynum stated that relocation costs were over \$9,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2024, showing that it was a large improvement from Fiscal Year 2023. All the rest of Fiscal Year 2024's finances were on track and the overages were covered within the Department; discussion followed.

5. New Business

a. Summer Program Highlights

Youth and Community Services Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented an update on the Summer Program Highlights. Supervisor Bynum went through the succession of each of the Summer Programs, which included, but were not limited to, the Back To School Backpack Program, Basketball in Bracket Park, The Roberto Clemente Baseball League and Youth Bowling Nights; discussion followed.

b. 2024 - 2025 Youth and Community Services Pillars of Service

Youth and Community Services Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented the 2024 - 2025 Youth and Community Services Pillars of Service. The pillars define and focus on the priority work of the Youth and Community Services Division in supporting the department's overall mission to deliver high-quality services that enhance the community's quality of life, meet the diverse needs of citizens, and build a sustainable future. Supervisor Bynum opened the floor to suggestions on what types of programs the commissioners would like to see; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kilby to Adopt the 2024-2025 Youth and Community Services Pillars of Service

Seconded by Vice Chair Ahl, all in favor, motion carried.

c. BPRYCS - Strategic Plan Workshop Discussion

Deputy Superintendent Sarah Larson presented the BPRYCS - Strategic Plan Workshop Discussion. Deputy Superintendent Larson explained the process and activities that went into developing the 2025 -2027 Strategic Plan; discussion followed.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kilby to Endorse the 2025 - 2027 BPRYCS Strategic Plan. Seconded by Commissioner Viens, all in favor, motion carried.

6. Old Business

a. Appetite for Reading "Little Library" Update

Supervisor Stephen Bynum presented the update on the Appetite for Reading "Little Library". He stated that he had spoken with Sapphire, and she is currently waiting for funding from the Bristol Rotary Club.

7. Any other matter to come before said meeting

None.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Made by Vice Chair Ahl to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.
Seconded by Commissioner Kilby, all in favor, motion carried.

DRAFT



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Youth & Community Services Supervisor Report

Youth Commission

(October 23, 2024)

I. Counseling Updates

The Youth and Community Services Division is responsible for the coordination of a comprehensive community-based youth services bureau and the delivery of essential life services for Bristol residents in need. The Bureau strives to enhance the networking and support between family, school, peer, and community environments. Direct services include juvenile diversion programming, individual and family counseling, crisis support and positive youth development opportunities

This report is being generated to reflect data for individual and Family Counseling, Intakes and Referrals:

- Number of intakes conducted by staff: 2 (September - October)
- Number of clients currently receiving services: 11 (Full-time staff and Contractors)
- Number of families referred by the BOE: 55 (Positive Youth Development Groups)
- Number of families referred for (FWSN) Families With Service's Needs: 0

Community Services and the Parent and Child Program:

- Intakes (September - October) Basic Needs (8), Relocation (1), Evictions (13) and Foreclosures (8)
- Intakes for the caring closet (September - October) (18)

To learn more about the City of Bristol's Parks, Recreation, Youth & Community Services Department; visit us at www.Bristolrec.com

Join the conversation @BristolCTParksandRecreation on Facebook & @bristolctparksrecservices on Instagram



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Current Juvenile Review Board Statistics:

We currently have 8 open cases

Open Cases: Please note we have more charges than cases due to some cases have multiple charges.

Charge	Number of Charges
Breach of Peace 2nd	5
Criminal Mischief	3
Disorderly Conduct	4
Larceny 6th	1

Assault	2
Assault, threat, interfering	1
Burglary 3rd	2

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Pending Cases: 1

Charge	Number of Cases
Assault 3	1
Burglary 3 rd , Crim Mis 1 st , Dis Conduct and Consp to Burglary 3 rd	1

Total Gender for open cases

Female	3
Male	5

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Project AWARE Program Updates

Girls with Goals (BEHS & BCHS)

GIRLS
with goals

A PEER SUPPORT GROUP FOR GIRLS AT
BRISTOL EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL!

WHEN & WHERE:
Every Tuesday morning
8:45am-9:30am
October 1st, 2024 - December 3rd, 2024
at BEHS

For more info...
contact Raven Cody, LMSW or
Ashante Malone, LMSW at
ravencody@bristolct.gov
ashantemalone@bristolct.gov
or call
860-314-4690

GIRLS
with goals

A PEER SUPPORT GROUP FOR GIRLS AT
BRISTOL CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL!

WHEN & WHERE:
Every Wednesday morning
8:40am-9:30am
October 2nd, 2024 - December 4th, 2024
at BCHS

For more info...
contact Ashante Malone, LMSW
at
ashantemalone@bristolct.gov
or call
860-314-4690

Once again Bristol Youth Services is implementing a condensed version of the Young Women's Issues Group at both Bristol Eastern High School and Bristol Central High School for the 2024-2025 school year. These groups are projected to run for eight weeks and are up and running as of the beginning of October and will run through the first week of December. Ashante Malone, along with BYS intern Savannah Raven Cody, and Ashante Malone, will be facilitating at BEHS where there are nine students currently participating in that group.

Both Raven and Ashante have met with school administration to discuss the plan for this group as well as identify students. BYS staff have also conducted "meet and greets" to begin to get to know the group participants. Raven, Ashante and Savannah have developed curriculums and

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schedules that includes guest speakers from B.E.S.T (Bristol Eliminating Substance Use) to discuss substance use and mental health, and Prudence Crandall, to discuss healthy relationships and sexual violence.

Watts, will be facilitating the program at BCHS where there are currently 7 students participating.

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Empower Hour



The Empower Hour Program is back and will be running two times throughout the 2024-2025 school year! The first session is currently running on Wednesday evenings and will conclude on November 13th. This session is for Bristol youth between the ages of 6 and 9. The program is at full capacity and has 13 participants. The program is facilitated by Youth & Family Coordinator Raven Cody and BYS interns Savannah Watts and Alfred Valero. Group facilitators have so far covered topics such as emotions, emotion regulation, and self-awareness. Other topics will include impulse control, relationship building skills, and responsible decision-making skills. Group facilitators are working hard to meet the several different needs of all participants while making the group experience welcoming, safe, and fun for

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Young Women's Issues Group (BPA)

YOUNG WOMEN'S ISSUES GROUP

For young women at BPA who are interested in participating in a peer support group!

Every Wednesday from 11:40am-12:40pm at BPA

From October 23rd, 2024 to April 30th, 2025

FACILITATED BY:
RAVEN CODY, LMSW &
ASHANTE MALONE, LMSW

**TO REGISTER:
LET MRS. THERRIAULT KNOW
YOU ARE INTERESTED!**

For more information:
Contact Bristol Youth Services at
860-314-4690

Bristol Youth Services continues to facilitate the 22-week Young Women's Issues Group at Bristol Preparatory Academy with Raven Cody and Ashante Malone co-facilitating the group. This group is projected to run from October 23rd, 2024 to April 30th, 2025.

Required paperwork and a flyer have been created and provided to the students who have been identified as individuals that would benefit from the group. Ashante and Raven have also conducted a group "meet and greet" to introduce themselves and give an overview of the

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group. Additionally, Raven and Ashante met with students individually to get to know participants and what they hope to discuss while in the confidential group setting. A tentative curriculum and schedule have also been developed, however, is subject to change based on the need of group participants.

There are currently 10 students that have been placed on the roster for the group.

Lunch Buddies

A flyer for the 'Lunch Buddies' program. The top section has a blue background with the Bristol logo and the text 'PARKS, RECREATION, YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICE'. Below this is a white box with the title 'LUNCH BUDDIES' in bold blue letters. The main body of the flyer has a red background. It contains the following text: 'Who: 4th + 5th Grade Students', 'Where: Mountain View Elementary School', 'When: Mondays During Lunch (12:30-1:00pm) October 21st through December 16th (excluding November 11th)'. A light blue rounded rectangle contains the text: 'This 8-session group will focus on further developing leadership, communication, decision-making, and teamwork skills, as well as empowering youth to become leaders in their school and community!'. At the bottom left is a photo of five diverse children smiling. At the bottom right, it says 'For more information Contact Raven Cody at: ravencody@bristolct.gov or 860-314-4690'.

Bristol Youth Services has brought back the Lunch Buddies program for the 2024-2025 school year after several group program requests from elementary schools. Staff are hoping to

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conduct at least two Lunch Buddies Programs at two different schools throughout the school year to meet the need of the community.

The first session recently started and is taking place at Mountain View Elementary School. BYS staff has partnered with BPS staff to identify students to participate in this program. This program currently has seven youth participating, and is aimed towards 4th and 5th grade boys at Mountain View Elementary School. This group is facilitated by Youth & Family Coordinator Raven Cody with the assistance of BYS interns Larry Woods and Alfred Valero. Topics identified by facilitators include leadership skills, communication skills, decision-making schools, and teamwork skills.

2024 Connecticut Prevention Summit

October 17, 2024
The Delamar Hotel
 1 Memorial Road, West Hartford, CT 06107
 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
 \$25 per registrant

Register now! Space is limited.
 Join us for a day of inspiration and connection. The Connecticut Prevention Summit will be a dynamic gathering to:

- Network** with fellow professionals
- Engage** in high-quality workshops and hands-on learning
- Enhance** your skills in preventing substance use and promoting mental wellness

Register by 08.29.2024
 Register here: [2024 CT Prevention Summit](https://www.ctclearinghouse.org)
 There are limited scholarships available. Contact info@ctclearinghouse.org to submit a scholarship request by 12:00 PM on 08.27.2024.

2024 PREVENTION HAPPENS HERE SUMMIT

Keynote Speakers

Kristen Gilliland, Ph.D.
 Director of Outreach and Advocacy Programs,
 Warren Center for Neuroscience Drug Discovery
 at Vanderbilt University

Cedric Hall
 Vice President of Student Experience, Girard College
 Expertise in equity, youth engagement, and prevention

On Thursday October 17th B.E.S.T along with Youth and Community Services staff will be attending the 2024 Connecticut Prevention Summit hosted by The Connecticut Clearinghouse and Wheeler.

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On Friday October 18th Bristol Youth and Community Services Staff will be attending the Annual CYSA Conference at the Hartford Marriott. At the conference there will be an opportunity to participate in three different breakout sessions with some of the topics being covered are: Working with Minors Experiencing Homelessness/Housing Instability, The Group Advantage: Building and Sustaining Healthy Youth Cohorts, Responding to Disclosures of Sexual Violence, LGBTQ+ Youth (and How to Support Them), and Youth Promise: A Holistic Approach to Mental Health and Life Skills Development.



Young Men of the Future

The Young Men of the Future program will be facilitated again this year at Bristol Prep Academy. The program will be facilitated by Qur-an Webb (Independent Contractor), Anthony Johnson (Independent Contractor – BBGC) and Youth Services intern Lawrence Woods. The 22week program will start on October 22 and facilitators have met with school administration to discuss program logistics. Intakes were also conducted with identified group participants on October 8th.

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CITY OF BRISTOL



YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

ACCOUNTS FOR: 001 GENERAL FUND	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
0017025 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES							
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432026-		YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU					
	-41,845	0 -41,845		.00	.00	-41,845.00	.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432147-		ENHANCEMENT SERVICES					
	-12,995	0 -12,995		.00	.00	-12,995.00	.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432157-		YOUTH SERVICES SUPPLEMENT					
	-18,385	0 -18,385		.00	.00	-18,385.00	.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-450301-		WELFARE EVICTION RECEIPTS					
	-7,500	0 -7,500		-6,550.00	.00	-950.00	87.3%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-514000-		REGULAR WAGES & SALARIES					
	294,025	0 294,025		83,953.41	.00	210,071.59	28.6%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-515100-		OVERTIME WAGES & SALARIES					
	6,000	0 6,000		919.60	.00	5,080.40	15.3%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-515200-		PARTTIME WAGES & SALARIES					
	0	0 0		1,604.30	.00	-1,604.30	100.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-517000-		OTHER WAGES					
	1,700	0 1,700		1,677.88	.00	22.12	98.7%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531000-		PROFESSIONAL FEES & SERVICES					
	25,000	0 25,000		1,350.00	7,150.00	16,500.00	34.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531115-		JRB COORDINATION					
	8,225	0 8,225		2,300.00	550.00	5,375.00	34.7%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531120-		PROJECT AWARE					
	41,845	0 41,845		2,878.33	16,567.00	22,399.67	46.5%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531135-		ENHANCEMENT SERVICES					
	12,995	0 12,995		5,479.85	580.00	6,935.15	46.6%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531136-		YOUTH SERVICES SUPPLEMENT					
	18,385	0 18,385		20.75	.00	18,364.25	.1%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-553000-		TELEPHONE					
	680	0 680		167.10	512.90	.00	100.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-561800-		PROGRAM SUPPLIES					
	750	0 750		45.22	.00	704.78	6.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-581120-		CONFERENCES & MEMBERSHIPS					
	2,400	0 2,400		1,094.75	225.25	1,080.00	55.0%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-581240-		WELFARE EVICTIONS & AUCTIONS					
	9,000	0 9,000		1,775.00	300.00	6,925.00	23.1%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-581745-		NONREIMBURSEABLE INCIDENTALS					
	2,300	0 2,300		124.00	300.00	1,876.00	18.4%
001 -20-70-7025-0000-000-587232-		RELOCATION COSTS					
	60,000	0 60,000		1,168.00	1,700.00	57,132.00	4.8%
TOTAL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES	402,580	0 402,580		98,008.19	27,885.15	276,686.66	31.3%

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13								
ACCOUNTS FOR:		ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED			AVAILABLE	PCT
001	GENERAL FUND	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL
TOTAL GENERAL FUND		402,580	0	402,580	98,008.19	27,885.15	276,686.66	31.3%
TOTAL REVENUES		-80,725	0	-80,725	-6,550.00	.00	-74,175.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		483,305	0	483,305	104,558.19	27,885.15	350,861.66	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	402,580	0	402,580	98,008.19	27,885.15	276,686.66	31.3%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stephen Bynum **

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:		ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
106	SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET				
1067025 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES								
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-432150-25G08		0	JUV DIVERSION GRANT -21,000	-21,000	.00	.00	-21,000.00	.0%
106 -20-70-7025-0000-000-531125-25G08		0	JUVENILE DIVERSION 21,000	21,000	.00	.00	21,000.00	.0%
TOTAL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES		0	0	0	.00	.00	.00	.0%
TOTAL SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS		0	0	0	.00	.00	.00	.0%
TOTAL REVENUES		0	-21,000	-21,000	.00	.00	-21,000.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES		0	21,000	21,000	.00	.00	21,000.00	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	.00	.00	.00	.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stephen Bynum **

CITY OF BRISTOL



YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

ACCOUNTS FOR:		ORIGINAL	TRANFRS/	REVISED			AVAILABLE	PCT
106	SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	APPROP	ADJSTMTS	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	BUDGET	USE/COL
1067025 YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES								
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-431007-25G10	0	MISC. FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT					
		0	-125,000	-125,000	.00	.00	-125,000.00	.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-514000-25G10	0	REGULAR WAGES & SALARIES					
		0	67,755	67,755	779.67	.00	66,975.33	1.2%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-515200-25G10	0	PARTTIME WAGES & SALARIES					
		0	15,552	15,552	.00	.00	15,552.00	.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-520700-25G10	0	F.I.C.A.					
		0	5,165	5,165	.00	.00	5,165.00	.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-520750-25G10	0	MEDICARE INSURANCE					
		0	1,225	1,225	.00	.00	1,225.00	.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-531000-25G10	0	PROFESSIONAL FEES & SERVICES					
		0	11,846	11,846	.00	7,500.00	4,346.00	63.3%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-554000-25G10	0	TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT					
		0	5,240	5,240	.00	.00	5,240.00	.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-561800-25G10	0	PROGRAM SUPPLIES					
		0	4,466	4,466	.00	.00	4,466.00	.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-589100-25G10	0	MISCELLANEOUS					
		0	0	0	.00	9,000.00	-9,000.00	100.0%
106	-20-70-7025-0000-000-591500-25G10	0	TRANSFER OUT INTERNAL SERVICE					
		0	13,751	13,751	.00	.00	13,751.00	.0%
	TOTAL YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES	0	0	0	779.67	16,500.00	-17,279.67	100.0%
	TOTAL SPECIAL GRANTS & DONATIONS	0	0	0	779.67	16,500.00	-17,279.67	100.0%
	TOTAL REVENUES	0	-125,000	-125,000	.00	.00	-125,000.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	0	125,000	125,000	779.67	16,500.00	107,720.33	

YEAR-TO-DATE BUDGET REPORT

FOR 2025 13

	ORIGINAL APPROP	TRANSFRS/ ADJSTMTS	REVISED BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL	ENCUMBRANCES	AVAILABLE BUDGET	PCT USE/COL
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	0	779.67	16,500.00	-17,279.67	100.0%

** END OF REPORT - Generated by Stephen Bynum **



**Bristol
Eliminating
Substance Use
Together**

STUFF-A-CRUISER

TO BENEFIT
THE CITY OF BRISTOL'S HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING PROGRAM

Saturday, November 9, 2024

at **Walmart** ✨ in Bristol (1400 Farmington Ave.)

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Bristol Police Department and the Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services are asking for your help to "Stuff-A-Cruiser" full of new and unwrapped toys for Bristol youth up to 18 years of age. All donations benefit local Bristol families in need of assistance this holiday season.

For more information, please
visit www.BristolRec.com or
call (860) 314 - 4690



Benefiting Youth & Families
Living Directly in Bristol

Collecting New & Unwrapped
Toys for Youth Ages 0 - 18

Holiday Gift Giving Program

The Annual Holiday Gift Giving Program provides gift assistance to eligible Bristol youth and families during the holiday season.

Get Involved

Looking for Assistance?

We're here for you!

[Income eligible families must apply to receive holiday assistance by Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024.](#)

Eligibility information and applications are available at www.BristolRec.com and at the BPRYCS Main Office at 51 High St.

Sponsor A Child or Family

Make the holidays a little more merry and bright by sponsoring one or more local youth and/or families! Sponsors are provided a profile on participants that includes special interest, sizing, and demographic information for shopping guidance.

Monetary Contributions

For those with no time or desire to shop, we also accept monetary donations to purchase gifts on your behalf. Donations can be made payable to Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services and mailed or dropped off to the BPRYCS Main Office (51 High St.), attn: Holiday Gift Giving Program.

Donate a Gift or Gift Card

Donate a new unwrapped gift for a Bristol child up to 18 years of age!

How to donate a gift:

- Beginning Monday, November 4th, [drop off](#)
- [a donation](#) at one of the collection boxes stationed around Bristol:
 - Bristol City Hall (111 N. Main St.)
 - Bristol Public Library (5 High St.)
 - Bristol Fire Department (Each Station)
 - Dennis Malone Aquatic Center (325 Mix St.)
 - BPRYCS Office (51 High St.)
- [Help us "Stuff-A-Cruiser"](#) on Saturday, November 9th at the Bristol Walmart from 10 AM to 2 PM in partnership with the Bristol Police Department!
- [Give a Gift Card!](#) Gift cards allow youth to make their own shopping decisions, offer great flexibility & empower independence!

For more information and/or if you, your family, your company, or community group would like to be involved please visit www.BristolRec.com or reach out to Community Services Coordinator, Aubrey Minkler, at (860) 314 - 4690 or AubreyMinkler@bristolct.gov.

Holiday Gift Giving Program

PARTNER WITH US

PROMOTIONAL BENEFITS

Marketing and promotional exposure vary depending on level of support.

General Promotional Benefits

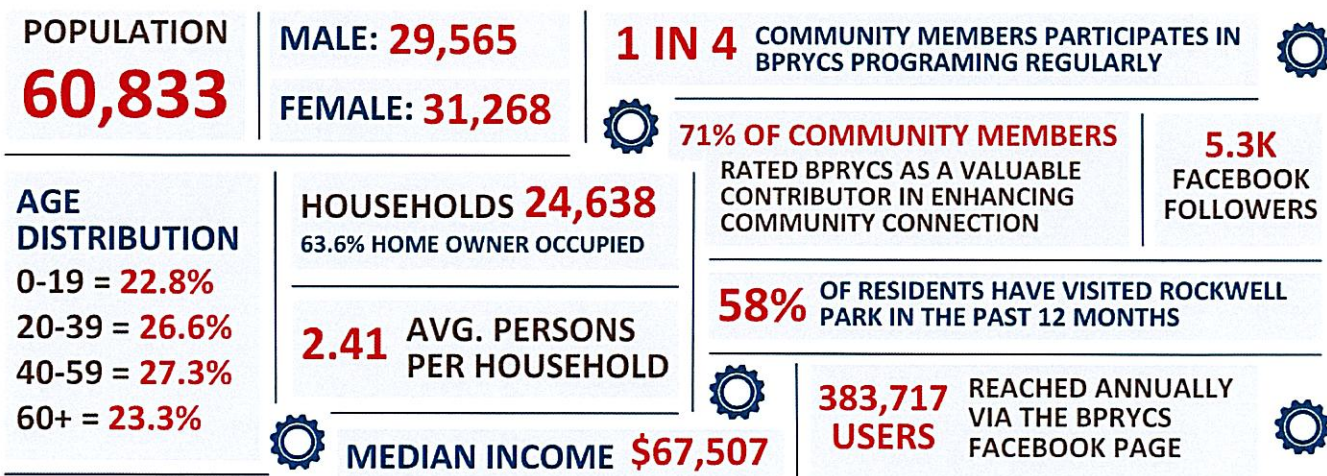
- BPRYCS weekly newsletters, reaching over 12,000 readers per issue
- Website and social media reaching over 25,000 community members monthly
- 28% of the Bristol Community is engaged in BPRYCS programming or services on an annual basis
- BPRYCS operates an average of 70 different programs and activities each season
- BPRYCS hosted over 400 community events from 2021 to 2022 (Size range: 15 to 3000 people)
- Flyers distributed throughout the community & within the city's 13 schools via the City of Bristol's electronic backpack system.

Quick Facts

City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services is one of the most active parks and recreation programs in the Hartford metropolitan area:

- 730 acres of active and passive recreational areas
- 20 different courts, athletic facilities, and park spaces
- Bristol's parks date back to 1911, creating a longstanding sense of community in the City

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT



Sources: 2020 American Community Survey (ACS) Decennial Census & the 2020 ETC Master Plan Report

BPRYCS MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services to deliver high-quality services and facilities that enhance the community's quality of life, meet the diverse needs of all citizens, and build a sustainable future.

Holiday Gift Giving Program

PARTNER WITH US

SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY

The City of Bristol is committed to building relationships with local businesses, and your role as a sponsor and partner is vital to the well-being, livability, and vitality of our City and region. BPRYCS' picturesque parks and unforgettable experiences provide the perfect occasion for you to become involved and interact with the public. BPRYCS offers expansive events, activities and services, and there is truly something presented for every age, ability, and interest to attract new customers and build brand loyalty. We invite you to become a part of our team so together we can continue to make the City of Bristol the most desirable place to live, work, and play!

CONTACT INFO

Aubrey Minkler, Community Services Coordinator

Office: (860) 314 - 4690

Email: AubreyMinkler@bristolct.gov

51 High Street, Bristol, CT 06010

IMPACT IN 2023

Thank you to all of the donors, sponsors, partners, and the entire community for a successful 2022 Holiday Gift Giving Program!



624

Bristol
Children
Served



22%

Increase
in Children
Served in the
past five
years

Over 499

Families Provided
with Assistance



One Stuff-A-Cruiser

Events with the City of
Bristol Police Department



**Over 40
Donors**

Adopted
One or More
Family with
Multiple
Children

Five Fire Stations

with the City of Bristol
Fire Department Served as
Drop Off Locations for Donations



Ten New

Local Donation
Collection
Locations and
Partners in 2022



9 Residents

Participated in a
Shop-with-a-Cop
shopping spree



One



Program
Coordinator

Thank You!

Holiday Gift Giving Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What is the Holiday Gift Giving Program?

The Annual Holiday Gift Giving Program provides assistance to eligible Bristol youth and families during the holiday season. In 2023, the program supported over 624 youth up to 18 years of age from over 499 families in Bristol with the help of 40 local sponsors and hundreds of individual donations. The City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services (BPRYCS) partners with individuals, families, organizations, businesses, and community members to sponsor, donate, and support local youth in need of support this holiday season. Eligible participants receive new toys and wrapping supplies.

Who receives the donations?

- Donations collected during the Holiday Gift Giving Program are distributed to income eligible FAMILIES LIVING DIRECTLY IN BRISTOL, who complete and meet the requirements noted in the Assistance Application.

How can I contribute?

There are a number of ways community members may contribute to the Holiday Gift Giving Program:

- **Sponsor a Child or Family**
 - Individuals and groups are invited to sponsor local youth and families in need of assistance. Sponsors are provided a profile on participating youth that includes age, gender, clothing size, and special interests for shopping guidance.
- **Donate a New or Unwrapped Toy**
 - **Collection Drop Boxes around Bristol**
 - Drop off a new and unwrapped toy at any one of the ongoing collection sites located amongst Bristol's local businesses. Visit one of the Fire Houses or City Hall!
 - **Attend the "Stuff-A-Cruiser" Toy Drive in partnership with the Bristol Police Department**
 - Saturday, November 9, 2024 | 10 AM to 2 PM | Bristol Walmart (1400 Farmington Avenue)
 - The City of Bristol Police Department (BPD) will be stationed outside of Walmart for "Stuff-A-Cruiser" with the goal of filling Police cruisers with new and unwrapped toys to benefit the program.

- **Donate \$\$ or Gift Cards**

Don't know what to donate but you want to give back to the local community? Donate via cash, check, or gift card and allow the BPRYCS staff to do the shopping for you!

- **Gift Cards**
 - Teens and tweens LOVE gift cards! Gift Cards are a great way to donate to local youth/teens as it allows them to make their own shopping decisions, empowers them to be independent and offers great flexibility. Think local business, eateries, or their favorite place to hang out!
 - Examples: Starbucks, Chipotle, Pure Foods, SpareTime Entertainment, Walmart, Roblox, 5Below
- **Cash/Check donations**
 - Cash/check donations in any amount are also accepted and can be designated to the Holiday Giving Program to supplement donations and serve more youth. Please be sure to indicate your designation of the gift with your mailed donation.
 - Checks can be made payable to: Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services.
 - What address should I use when mailing gift cards or cash donations?

Bristol Parks, Recreation, youth and Community Services
ATTN: Holiday Program
51 High Street
Bristol, CT 06010



Holiday Gift Giving Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Are there any gift restrictions?

- We ask that all gifts are new and unwrapped please!

Can I deliver presents directly to the children I sponsor?

- Unfortunately, in an effort to preserve participant privacy, we do not allow donors and/or sponsors to deliver directly to program recipients.

How do I apply for assistance through the Holiday Gift Giving Program?

- To receive assistance through the Holiday Gift Giving Program you must complete the Assistance Application. Applications are available at the BPRYCS Main Office (51 High St.) or online at www.BristolRec.com. As part of the application, you will be asked to provide income verification, proof of address, and a Birth Certificate for participating children. Completed applications should be returned to the BPRYCS Main Office (51 High St.). BPRYCS will then contact other local agencies providing support this holiday season to avoid duplication - we appreciate your understanding.
- **What if I can't find the Birth Certificate for my child?**
 - You can provide a Baptismal Certificate or School Verification or other document which identifies child's birth date and you as their parent or guardian. This could be a letter from the school or from church or from the health system.
- **What can be used as income verification?**
 - Applicants may provide pay stubs from wages and or a statement of benefits received from unemployment, social security, child support, DSS, or verification from a referring agency.
- **What can be used as proof of address?**
 - The easiest way to provide proof of address is with a piece of postmarked mail. However, applicants may provide proof of address via Property Tax Receipt, Utility Bills, Lease Agreement or mortgage statement, Insurance Card, Voter Registration Card, Education Enrollment Papers, Bank or credit card statement, or insurance policy or bill.

How is the BPRYCS Holiday Gift Giving Program different from other holiday assistance programs?

- The BPRYCS Holiday Gift Giving Program solely serves youth and families living in Bristol! While we love the greater community, our efforts are focused on our neighbors and those closest who need our help. It is also the only local program serving Bristol youth ages 13 to 18 during the holidays! Bristol's teens deserves holiday cheer and to be included.

How long does the program run for?

- The Holiday Gift Giving Program launches on November 4, 2024 and runs through December 19, 2024.
 - **November**
 - 11/4 - Program Launch
 - Assistance Applications Open (4-week window to apply)
 - Collection Drop Boxes Available around Bristol
 - BPRYCS - Community Call to Action
 - 11/9- "Stuff-A-Cruiser" with the Bristol Police Dept.
 - 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 - Bristol Walmart (1400 Farmington Ave.)
 - **December**
 - 12/04 - Referral Deadline and Assistance Applications Close
 - 12/11 - Donation Drop Boxes Collected
 - All Donations Dropped Off at BPRYCS in Preparation for Final Distribution
 - 12/16 - 12/18 - Participant Pickup & Recipient Distribution
 - 12/19 - Recipient Distribution Ends and all Donations Picked Up

