

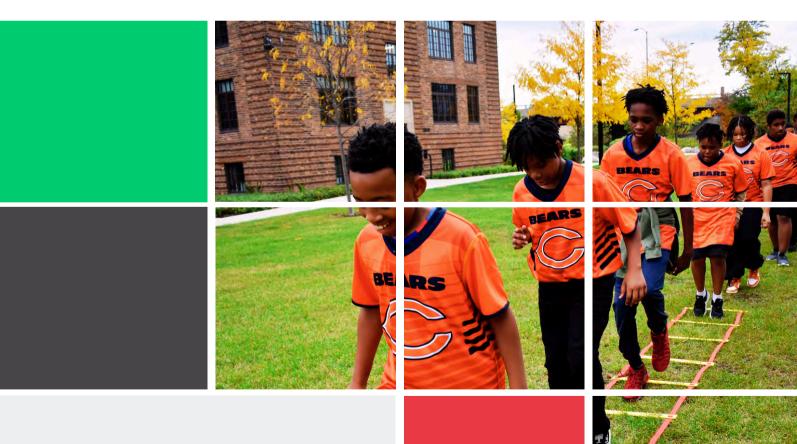


2023-2024

# **Impact Report**

PREPARED FOR FUNDING PARTNER:





## Background

The Return to Play Fund (RTPF) was launched by Beyond Sport and ESPN in 2021 in response to the substantial social, economic, health, and access to play disparities in Black and Brown communities in the U.S., exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. RTPF's design was guided by an Expert Advisory Council of specialists in public health and trauma-informed responses, DEI, and youth sports programming. RTPF supports nonprofit community sports organizations dedicated to getting young people of color moving again and providing them with guidance and opportunities to grow, succeed, and be confident in their abilities.

In April 2023, Beyond Sport and TeamSnap launched a partnership through RTPF supporting three community-based organizations using sport for social change in Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Beyond Sport thanks TeamSnap for its continued support and we are pleased to share a custom impact report on the first year of the partnership. This report includes grantee features and statistics highlighting the impact TeamSnap's support has helped create.





## **Meet the Grantees**

# Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago Chicago, IL

Founded in 1902, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago's (BGCC) mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need them most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Serving nearly 20,000 youth ages 5 to 18, BGCC works to provide members with the emotional, educational, physical, and cultural resources that allow them to enjoy their childhood and thrive in adulthood. At their Clubs, members find caring mentors, avenues of opportunity, and the tools they need to prepare for great futures.

Triple Play, a comprehensive health and wellness program, is BGCC's vehicle for social change through sports. The program's mission is to improve the overall health of Club members ages 6-18 by increasing daily physical activity, teaching good nutrition, and supporting members in developing healthy relationships. Triple Play programming is implemented at each Club seven days a week and are designed to nurture the minds, bodies, and souls of Club members.

More than 90% of the youth BGCC serve are children of color and come from families who qualify as low-income or extremely low-income. Many of the young people live in neighborhoods and attend schools where organized sports programs are not available or are cost prohibitive due to the pay-to-play model, pricing out those who cannot afford to pay fees.

TeamSnap's support has enabled the continuation of programs that are immensely popular and impactful for BGCC youth and has allowed BGCC to support the staff and mentors who work with youth. Support has also enabled BGCC staff and mentors to instill the characteristics and skills that will help youth excel both in sports and in life.





## Heart of Los Angeles Los Angeles, CA

Heart of Los Angeles' (HOLA) mission is to help young people overcome barriers through exceptional, free, integrated programs and personalized guidance in a trusted, nurturing environment. HOLA was founded in 1989 and now serves over 3,000 youth, ages 6-24, through transformational after-school programming including comprehensive academics, athletics, music, visual arts, classes, and family services. HOLA operates Monday through Friday throughout the school year and for six weeks each summer on its campus in the Westlake community, just outside of downtown Los Angeles. In 2021, HOLA expanded services to South Central Los Angeles to engage more youth, especially Black youth, in arts education both during the day on school campuses and after school at several sites.

HOLA's Athletics Program provides comprehensive and equitable sports and athletics programming to 700 underserved youth annually who would otherwise have limited, or no access, to sports and safe places to play. HOLA provides group and individual sports, exercise classes, structured play, field trips, and healthy living classes focused on sports, movement, exercise, nutrition, and wellness. HOLA's athletic offerings are grounded in a holistic (physical, social-emotional, and mental) concept of health, and promote success in academics, career, and life through engaging in sports, wholesome structured play, and the conscious care of the body and mind. HOLA's goal is to intentionally create an empowering environment for youth to learn, grow, and enrich their lives both on and off the court.

All of HOLA's programs are free of charge, an essential component given that 93% of HOLA's families report poverty-level incomes. Virtually all of the youth who participate in HOLA's robust and high-quality programs are low-income, Black and Brown youth who otherwise would lack access. "Play Equity" and providing equitable athletic opportunities and resources to underserved youth is at the core of HOLA's work, which doubles as advocacy to help achieve social justice in their larger community.

Support provided by TeamSnap was utilized to cover critical expenses required to operate free soccer and basketball leagues, including uniforms, equipment, coach hours, and referees and scorekeepers for games. In turn, HOLA's athletics team was able to continue its powerful work offering Black and Brown youth access to sport, to mentorship, to health and wellness, and everything youth need to be successful.





# Inter Tribal Sports San Diego, CA

Many American communities have programs and athletic leagues for youth participants that promote physical activity and positive youth development. However, similar opportunities are either non-existent or extremely limited for Native American youth residing in tribal reservation communities. Additionally, the challenges associated with reservation life negatively impact youth due to their rural locations, low economic status, and underdeveloped communities. These issues lead to health disparities and unhealthy lifestyles.

Inter Tribal Sports (ITS), founded in 2002, addresses these issues through the delivery of structured athletic programs, provision of necessary resources and educational opportunities, providing a strong foundation for youth and communities grounded in culture, leadership, and wellness. Programming is designed to help Native youth build athletic skills, form friendships, and develop self-esteem, self-respect, and sportsmanship. The fun and positive activities ITS delivers are led by appropriate role models, providing youth with mentors whom they can look up to and learn from.

ITS programming includes year-round athletic, development, academic and cultural programs. This includes alternatives to school-based sports programs and are culturally sensitive and designed specifically for Native youth. Athletic programs are geographically convenient and offered at no cost to participants or their families. Outside of athletics, ITS delivers cultural gatherings, leadership programs, and group outings to local universities.

TeamSnap's grant supported ITS's ongoing work, ensuring their programs remained free for all participants. This included planning, organizing and promoting youth sports leagues and activities; providing coach trainings and certifications; paying game officials, scorekeepers, and on-site supervisors; and covered costs associated with issuing uniforms and sports equipment.





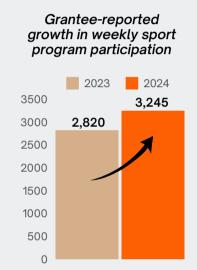


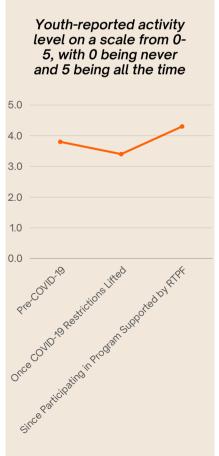
## **Impact Journey**

To assess the comprehensive impact of RTPF, grantee organizations were asked to contribute their diverse perspectives by completing a grantee survey and administering participant surveys. The survey responses allow us to better understand the effectiveness of RTPF, its impact on young people, and how we can improve its implementation.

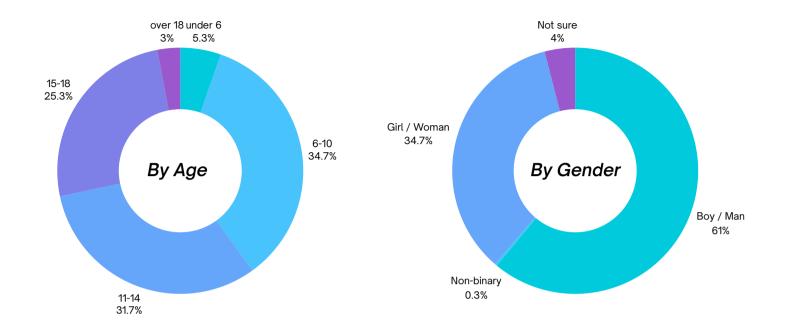
The three grantees supported by TeamSnap reported growth in the number of youth participants who participated in their weekly sports programs. Additionally, participants reported that despite seeing their activity level decrease during the COVID-19 pandemic, they are now more active than they were prepandemic.

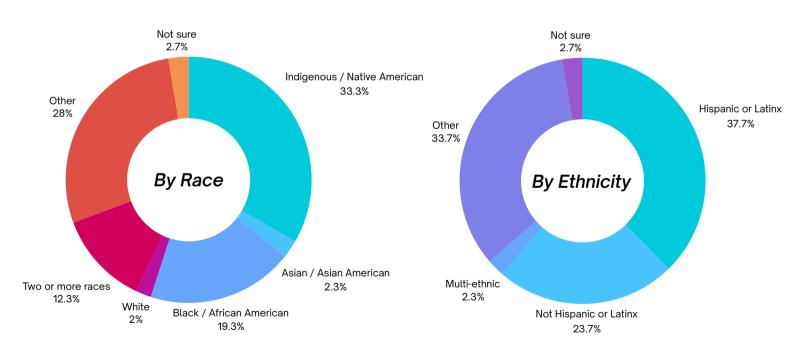






## **Youth Participant Demographics**









### **Case Studies**

#### Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago

John recently shared a poignant reflection about his life in Chicago. Despite the bustling city that surrounds him, his community often feels isolated and burdened by challenges such as drugs, poverty, and homelessness. John shared that his community feels like it is in "the middle of nowhere." With his parents struggling to make ends meet, his view of the world and the opportunities it holds is often confined to the immediate struggles of home, school, and the surrounding streets. Yet, John finds a transformative escape at the Boys & Girls Club. Walking through its doors, John steps into a vibrant, nurturing environment where the Club makes him feel like he is at the "center of it all." Here, the Club becomes a beacon of hope and possibility, offering a sanctuary where John feels physically and emotionally secure. The dedicated staff and caring mentors invest wholeheartedly in providing an exceptional youth development experience. These relationships foster a sense of belonging and support that extends beyond the Club's walls. The Boys & Girls Club is a hub of activity and opportunity, brimming with diverse programs that ignite passions and potential. Whether exploring the Arts, preparing for college and careers, enhancing health and life skills, developing character and leadership qualities, or engaging in sports and fitness, every activity is designed to enrich and empower. For John, the Club is not just a place to go, but a place to grow - a pivotal space that broadens his horizons and nurtures his dreams, helping him see beyond the limitations of his immediate environment and envision a brighter, more hopeful future.

#### Heart of Los Angeles

Layla is a Bridges student enrolled in HOLA's soccer program - a perfect example of the cross-enrollment our robust array of programmatic offerings allows for. Layla took a major step in her development in 2023; as an eighth grader and one of the youngest members of her team, she was thrown into one of the most important and high-pressure positions on the field: goalie. Layla's confidence leveled up each game, and she soon became a defensive leader, conceding only four goals throughout the entire season. Layla's season reached a climactic finale when during overtime penalty-kicks in the championship game, she came up with a game-winning save, securing victory for her team. For kids like Layla, sport participation is not just about the physical benefits - it is also a perfect modality for learning important skills such the value of collaborating, leadership, overcoming hardship, creating and pursuing goals, and working in group settings. All these skills go on to serve young people in their educational and career journeys, no matter what field of study or employment they pursue. Layla and students like her learn lessons they can apply from the field to the classroom, interview, or job long after the last game whistle blows.





Note: Real names have been changed to account for privacy issues

#### Inter Tribal Sports

Learn more about Inter Tribal Sports through the video below.





### **TeamSnap Impact Volunteers**

Established in 2009 in Boulder, Colorado, TeamSnap is committed to making an impact in local communities by increasing access to quality sports programs for young athletes at all stages of their lives.

Encompassing coaches, administrators, volunteers, sports parents and players, TeamSnap Impact is focused on breaking down barriers to youth participation in sports in the U.S. and making it possible for all to participate.

During the summer of 2023, TeamSnap participated in volunteer engagement with each of the three grantees.









"Team Snap's involvement was integral to the event's success, showcasing their commitment to community service and support for education."

- Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago

#### What's Next?

Beyond Sport is thrilled to continue its partnership with TeamSnap in 2024-2025. We look forward to TeamSnap Impact volunteers continuing to make a difference in communities across the U.S. Support will continue for Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago and Inter Tribal Sports. To expand geographic reach, Harlem Lacrosse in Boston has been selected as the third grantee.