Program Updates from BCNC

During the months of September and October, the Boston College Neighborhood Center has been a hub of activity! We’ve been busy at our store-front office in Brighton Center starting up our service programs. Please visit our website at www.bc.edu/neighborhood to read more about all of these programs. Here’s a glimpse of what we’ve been up to:

Tutoring Program: Over seventy-five BCNC volunteers are working with elementary through high school aged students for weekly one on one tutoring on the Boston College campus. The BCNC volunteers mentor students as they help with homework and teach study skills.

Here are some quotes from program participants:

We think you have a great program and hope you continue to offer it.
Mark, father of daughter in program

The student I am tutoring is a joy to tutor and is a really quick learner.
Philip, BC Student Tutor

The tutoring is going well…my two sons are getting a big help from the tutors. The tutors are well versed in the subjects and very helpful. Rosa, mother of two sons in program

Read Boston Program: Seventy Boston College students are fulfilling their federal work study through paid tutoring at the following schools: Winship School, Jackson Mann K-8 School, Edison K-8 School, and St. Columbkille Partnership School. This year the BCNC’s Read Boston Program is collaborating with The Steppingstone Foundation’s College Success Academy at the Edison & Jackson Mann K-8 School. Through this collaboration, Boston College tutors work students in the CSA afterschool program which is designed to increase the number of Boston students graduating from four-year colleges. To learn more about the CSA program, please visit www.tsf.org/csa.

BC Chapter of Strong Women, Strong Girls: Twenty Boston College undergraduate women mentor over seventy third, fourth and fifth graders at the Edison K-8, Gardner, St. Columbkille Partnership & Winship Schools, the Jackson Mann Community Center and the West End Boys & Girls Club. On Saturday, October 15th, forty girls visited the BC campus for the annual BCWSG fieldtrip. This year’s theme was, ‘Get Active!’ Members of the BC Women’s Track Team taught the girls stretches and engaged them in relay races, while the BC Cheerleaders taught the girls cheers and the BC Sharps had the girls dancing to their songs. One girl’s ‘takeaway’ from the day was, ‘That you have to be healthy and never give up!’

ESOL Program: Over thirty BCNC Volunteers are teaching English to non-native speaking adults and children who live, work or attend school in the Allston Brighton community. Classes and/or tutoring are held at the Boston College Neighborhood Center, Covenant House, Commonwealth Housing Development, Joseph Smith Community Health Center, Crittenton Women’s Union, St. Columbkille Partnership School, Jackson Mann K-8 School & Trinity Catholic High School.

‘Just’ BCNC Community Nights: The Boston College Neighborhood Center are offering community gatherings for our volunteers to participate in to connect with other volunteers, reflect on their experiences, share best practices and troubleshoot challenges. The monthly gatherings are theme based and all volunteers are welcome to come! Free pizza and cookies!

Upcoming Gatherings:

Monday, November 14 at 7pm
Manresa House (58 College Rd)
The theme: What does it mean to be a mentor?

Sunday, December 4 at 4pm
Manresa House (58 College Rd)
The theme: Celebrating the Diversity & Gifts in our Community!

Service Days

Each semester, hundreds of BC students volunteer in the Allston Brighton community. On Saturday, October 29th these volunteers could be seen helping out at the Oak Square Y’s annual Road Race. On Halloween, volunteers were tending to trick or treaters in Brighton Center. Over 600 witches, pumpkins, ladybugs and super-heroes came through Brighton Center for the Annual Trick or Treat! On Saturday, November 5th many more volunteers will be seen at the following organizations: Brighton Branch Library, Brighton Main Streets, Commonwealth Housing Development, Covenant House, Fanueil Branch Library, Fanueil Gardens Housing Development, Honan Allston Library, and the Oak Square Y, St. Columbkille Partnership School.
Each semester Boston College student athletes show their community spirit by participating in several programs through the BC Neighborhood Center. Through the Help Educate through Athletic Responsibility (H.E.A.R.) Mentoring Program, athletes visit a different elementary school each month. This fall, the participating schools include: St. Columbkille’s Partnership School, Edison K-8 School, Mary Lyon School, Horace Mann School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Mt. Alvernia Elementary School (Chestnut Hill), Morse Elementary School (Cambridge) Other schools will participate in the H.E.A.R. Program during the spring semester. Additionally, the BC athletes visit children at the Franciscan Children’s Hospital on a monthly basis. And, new this fall... Members of the BC Men’s Soccer Team are offering bi-weekly mini soccer clinics for the children at the West End Boys and Girls Club.

St. Columbkille Partnership School
Open House for Prospective Families
November 9, 2011
Early Childhood (3, 4 & 5 year olds) 6:30-7:30pm
Grades 1-8 7:00-8:00pm
St. Columbkille School is a dynamic Catholic learning community, sponsored by Boston College, the Archdiocese of Boston and Saint Columbkille Parish.

How to Contact Us!
Boston College Neighborhood Center
425 Washington Street
Brighton, MA 02135
Phone: 617.552.0445
Fax: 617.552.0448
Email: bcnc@bc.edu
www.bc.edu/neighborhood

If you are down in Brighton Center between the hours of 12noon – 5:00pm Monday – Friday, please stop in and say hello!

Seventh Annual Fair Trade Holiday Sale at Boston College
Thursday, December 8th
9:00 am—5:30 pm
Corcoran Commons
Co-Sponsored by:
BC Neighborhood Center,
BC Volunteer & Service Learning Center &
Boston College Dining Services

Allston Brighton Libraries
There are three branches of the Boston Public Library in Allston Brighton that offer wonderful programs for adults and children! Be sure to check the calendars at the following branches:

- Brighton Branch at 40 Academy Hill Rd, Brighton
- Faneuil Branch at 419 Faneuil St, Brighton
- Honan Allston Branch at 300 North Harvard St, Allston
www.bpl.org

The Boston College Neighborhood Center staff wish you a happy Thanksgiving and a safe and joyous holiday season!