

# POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA

## OUR MISSION

Cops Helping Kids.

## OUR VISION

We aspire to be the premier youth serving organization in the city, by reducing crime, promoting character development, and improving educational outcomes.



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*The Police Athletic League (PAL) isn't just a program; it's a lifeline for thousands of young people across Philadelphia. As someone who grew up in this city and benefitted from PAL's guidance, I know firsthand the life-changing impact that safe spaces, mentorship, and trust-building can have. PAL empowers our youth to envision and strive for brighter futures, fostering resilience, leadership, and a sense of community that transcends generations. Through PAL, we're not just building safer neighborhoods today—we're nurturing the leaders of tomorrow."*

*~Kevin Bethel, Philadelphia Police Commissioner*

## WHO WE SERVE



For over 75 years, PAL has provided free services to approximately 4,000 youth, between the ages of 6-18, throughout the city of Philadelphia.

PAL has 15 community-based centers, each supervised by an on-duty police officer, and 3 school-based centers, all strategically located in the most under-resourced neighborhoods.

## BREAKING BARRIERS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH

At PAL, we are dedicated to addressing the systemic inequities that affect the children who come to our centers.

Our **educational programs** work to bridge the digital divide in low-income communities, while our **sports programs** offer a variety of physical activities to combat healthcare disparities, ensuring every child finds a sport that fits their abilities and interests. Through our **mentorship and work readiness programs**, we help break the cycle of poverty by equipping youth with skills, networks, and pathways to employment. Our officers also go beyond the classroom and field, supporting children at school, in the community, and at home by providing groceries, school supplies, and clothing to those in need.



## OUR PROGRAMS

PAL offers a wide range of programs with a positive, holistic impact on youth, aimed at enhancing educational, athletic, cultural, community, and personal development. Overall, PAL's programs provide youth with a safe, supportive environment, offering tools and opportunities to succeed academically, physically, socially, and emotionally, while strengthening community bonds and resilience.



**Educational:** Homework & Computer Club, e-gaming, Mock Trial, Career Now!, Youth Advisory Council, and educational field trips.



**Sports:** Basketball, flag football, soccer, volleyball, cheerleading, golf, tennis, and field trips to professional games.



**Arts & Culture:** Photography, sewing, dance, drumming, clay making, and trauma-informed art through "Uncommon Commons."



**Community:** Youth summits, food and clothing distributions, life-skills workshops, anti-violence block parties, and holiday events.



**Mentoring:** Boys to Men (for our male youth) and Positive Images (for our female youth).

## IMPACT SNAPSHOT

4,000  
youth served

18  
locations

31  
diverse youth programs -  
all completely free!

22,000  
hours of mentorship between cops  
& kids to strengthen relationships

\*Data as of 2024

## GET INVOLVED

At PAL, we serve as safe havens in the most disadvantaged neighborhoods, where drugs and violence threaten our youth daily. We are a catch-all for youth ages 6-18, offering both structured programs and open recreation to ensure no child is turned away. But to continue this mission, we need long-term partners who can help us grow our reach, boost awareness, and engage more kids. PAL is at its strongest when cops and the community work together.

With your support, we can maintain the momentum needed to keep our youth safe and thriving. Please visit our website for volunteer and donation opportunities.



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