

Andrea Swain



Andrea Swain is an African American woman, renowned youth development expert, thought leader, and public speaker with over 35 years of experience in the youth development sector. Currently serving as the Chief Impact Officer at Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB), Andrea is responsible for overseeing the development, integration, and execution of services that enhance the effectiveness and impact of all Clubs and YouthConnect operations for youth across Boston and Chelsea.

Andrea joined BGCB in March 2001 as the Executive Director of the Roxbury Boys & Girls Club. She played a pivotal role in the 2006 expansion and renovation of the Club, which reopened as a state-of-the-art facility and was renamed the Yawkey Club of Roxbury.

Prior to joining BGCB, Andrea worked as a Property Manager at Peabody Properties. She also spent 10 years at the Boston Housing Authority, where she held various roles focused on providing services to families and children in the Mission Main and Orchard Estates Housing Developments. Additionally, she worked part-time in the Teen-Time Program at the Roxbury Club early in her career.

Andrea has received numerous accolades throughout her career, including the 2009 Executive of the Year Award from the Yankee Chapter of the Boys & Girls Clubs Professional Association, and Boys & Girls Clubs of America's 2009 Northeast Region's Contribution to the Profession Award for her significant contributions to the Boys & Girls Club Movement. Some of her other notable recognitions include the 3 Point Foundation Award, the Delta Sigma Theta International Awareness and Involvement Award, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Impact Partner Award and Citizen of the Year Award, the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Outstanding Community Contributor Award, the Roxbury Unity Parade Pillar of the Community Award, the United Negro College Fund of New England Community Trailblazer Award and 98.1 FM The Urban Heat Radio For Excellence In Building Communities In Boston and Beyond. In 2024, the City of Boston declared March 21st as "Andrea Swain Day" in honor of her impactful work.

A fun fact about Andrea: she grew up in Roxbury during the 1970s when the Club was exclusively for boys. Along with her sister, Lisa, Andrea advocated for girls to have access to the Club, eventually leading to the inclusion of girls in select programs. Thanks to strong advocacy from the Board, in 1981, the organization officially changed its name to Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston—the first in the nation to do so—and admitted girls as full members.