



About KCTL

Kings County Tennis League (KCTL) uses tennis as an instrument for youth development and community building in underserved neighborhoods in Brooklyn, NY

WHAT KCTL DOES

KCTL shares tennis and life skills with 175+ children. Equipped with portable nets, taped-out lines, and a diverse set of personal and professional experiences to share, KCTL staff and volunteers use tennis as a platform for exposing children to new activities, ideas, and possibilities. The children learn tennis skills and strategies in a fun environment that emphasizes goal-setting, discipline, fitness, and open dialogue. Our students are introduced to competitive tennis during the sessions and given the opportunity to play in tournaments. Our program is offered at no charge to youth ages 5 through 15 living in numerous Public Housing Developments in Bed-Stuy and their immediate vicinity.

KCTL's VISION

By bringing tennis to kids right where they live, KCTL seeks to build a future in which:

- Every child in Brooklyn has regular access to an activity that is healthy, stimulates their personal growth, and exposes them to new concepts, cultures, people and possibilities.
- KCTL and Brooklyn residents enjoy a relationship built on trust and respect that empowers families to support the development of their children and their community.
- KCTL's approach to "localizing tennis" serves as a replicable, scalable model to engage and mentor youth in low-income communities through non-traditional activities.

OUR JOURNEY

In 2010, Michael McCasland founded KCTL at a dilapidated and unused tennis court nearby Marcy Houses Development. Fast forward nine years and KCTL has evolved into a dynamic 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization. The tennis court at Marcy has since been renovated (2014), along with Tompkins and Sumner sites (2017).

KCTL now offers year-round programming to our students and has spread our reach into six Housing Developments in Brooklyn. Age-, ability-, and gender-specific programs are now in place as the KCTL pathway continues to grow, offering our students the chance to develop physically, emotionally, and socially both on and off the court. Student and volunteer retention is high, and we are especially proud that students who graduated from the program now serve as volunteers.

OUR 2019 GOALS

KCTL is excited to announce that we will be expanding into our 6th Housing Development this year, Ingersoll Houses. Having set up a successful Winter Program for over 40 children at Ingersoll, our staff and volunteers are excited to launch summer programming at our new site in June.

This year, KCTL also plans to renovate Lafayette Gardens, a project that was delayed due to poor weather in 2018. This project will create a unique training facility for our LG students and the local community. This renovation will mean that every KCTL site has a physical tennis court and a permanent space for our students to hone their skills.

The KCTL Mentorship Program, for students between the ages of 15-18, has recently been launched and we will continue to develop this in 2019. The program offers guidance and support for our alumni students as they navigate through High School and beyond.

Along with these larger projects, KCTL will also be increasing summer programming by 54% in terms of hours offered to our students. This will increase commitment, enjoyment, and overall development while enabling KCTL to better serve the communities we work in. In 2019, for the first time, KCTL will have over 200 children registered who will be benefiting from all aspects of programming and interactions with our volunteers and staff.

The feedback we receive from parents, communities, and the children themselves is that they want more. With our dedicated team of volunteers, and your support, we will continue to extend our impact across Brooklyn by bringing tennis to the kids.

CONTACT US

For more information about KCTL, contact Dave Webley, Executive Director at (716) 536-9338 or Dave@KingsCountyTennisLeague.org.



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