

OpenAire “Green” Enclosure Enables Blue Hill Boys & Girls Club
to Reduce its Carbon Footprint by 31% in Electrical Savings

**Retractable Roof and Sliding Doors Allows for
Year-Round Aquatics Program**

August 2007

Dorchester, MA – With the goal of providing the best possible after-school facilities for at-risk youth, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston (BGCB) recently undertook the renovation and expansion of its Blue Hill Club in Dorchester. A major aspect of the project was updating the pool with an added enclosure to create a year-round aquatics program. Following more than two years of research on pool enclosure concepts and builders, BGCB selected OpenAire Inc. for its ability to provide turn-key design, high quality, energy efficient, all aluminum thermally broken frame construction, as well as a five-year parts and labor warranty.

“BGCB strives to have each of its Clubs be a beacon of hope to the at-risk youth and families who need them most,” said Daphne Griffin, Executive Director of the Blue Hill Club on the corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Talbot Avenue. *“Our Club was outdated and undersized given the community need. Creating a year-round aquatic program was an essential part of the renovation project, and adding a retractable roof enclosure created a special play space where youth can learn essential skills and have fun doing it.”*

The recently completed structure, with its sparkling pool, spray-grounds, and spectators’ area for swim meets, provides Club members from age 6 to 18 and other community youth with a first-class aquatics experience. The 60’ x 100’ freestanding building features a maintenance-free, all-aluminum, thermally-broken frame to withstand the aquatic atmosphere. Opening the sliding doors in the sidewalls and pushing a button to open the roof makes it a virtual outdoor facility during the summer months. Closing the roof and doors during inclement weather and cold winter months guarantees uninterrupted, revenue producing, aquatic programs and just a lot of fun for boys and

girls. During the winter months the enclosure provides a cozy, sun-drenched oasis, for the fun to continue in the middle of a snowy Boston landscape.

Before choosing OpenAire, BGBC invited an independent company to assess the energy consumption of the OpenAire enclosure as compared to a traditional brick and mortar type of building using the same typical pool and space loads. The analysis showed a 31% annual savings in electricity and an overall 27% savings in annual energy consumption, with a net total utilities cost savings of over \$9,000 a year. What a commendable way to provide upgraded facilities and reduce their carbon-foot print – a true GREEN building in the Boston community!

OpenAire has been designing, manufacturing and selling the finest retractable roof enclosures and skylights for over 14 years. New and exciting design opportunities are now possible by combining your unique ideas and OpenAire's success with operable skylights and retractable enclosures. At the touch of a button, motorized panels retract to open up to enjoy year round use of facilities. Maintenance-free thermally broken aluminum framing systems provide an effective moisture barrier that can even withstand the harsh environment of indoor pools. Structures can span distances over 140ft, and maintain a deflection of L/180. OpenAire's structures are of the highest quality materials and truly perform as promised!

For more information, please visit OpenAire's website www.openaire.com or call toll free 800 267 4877. Please visit www.bgcb.org for more information on Boys and Girls Club of Boston



View of the *GREEN* enclosure at the Boys and Girls Club of Boston (BGCB) in Blue Hill

