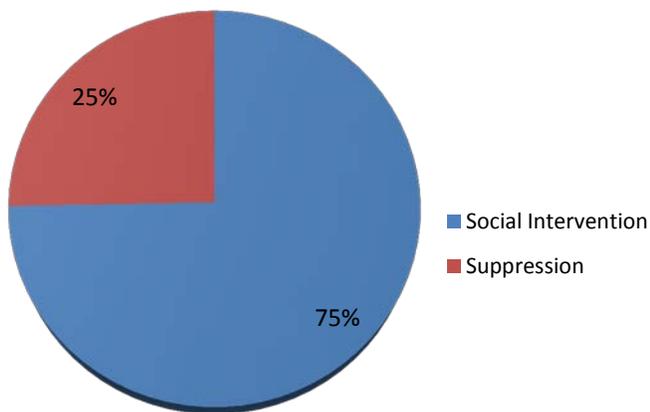


# Taunton/Attleboro Shannon CSI, 2015

Funded Partners: Attleboro Police, Taunton Housing Authority, Taunton Police, Boys & Girls Club of Taunton

This initiative is funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research, Justice and Prevention Division, Daniel Bennett, Secretary

**Figure 1. Taunton Shannon CSI 2015**  
Funding Allocation: \$139,999



## Highlights of Shannon Participants:

### Funded Population:

- 4 funded programs
- 404 youth served
  - 3 known to be gang involved or proven risk

### Law Enforcement/Courts and Prosecution:

- 6 hot spot patrols completed
- 10 arrests

### Personal Development:

- 495 participated in youth development programs

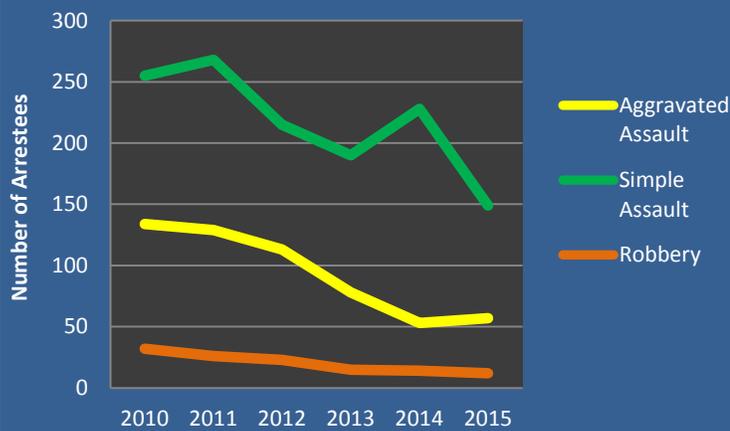
### Community Mobilization

- 24 community meetings held

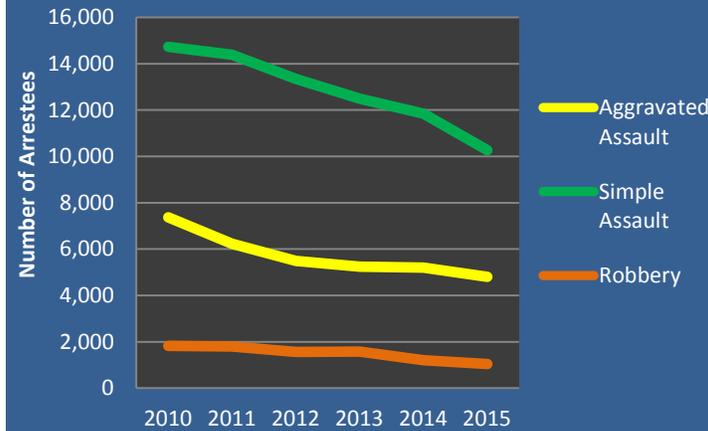
**Community Gang Problem:** A homicide in the summer of 2015, deemed to be gang related, spurred a rash of retaliatory shooting incidents between feuding gangs. In 2015, Taunton saw an increase in Blood members, with the Bloods being the most dominant gang in the city. Attleboro’s proximity to Providence and Pawtucket, Rhode Island make at-risk youth vulnerable targets for gang recruitment.

**Shannon Strategy:** In 2015, Taunton/Attleboro received \$139,999 in Shannon CSI funding to implement suppression, social intervention and community mobilization strategies. The Taunton/Attleboro initiative allows police departments to conduct hot spot patrols in areas known for gang activity, youth development programs to help reduce violence, and community meetings to be held to educate residents about youth and gang violence. As Figure 2 shows, Taunton/Attleboro experienced declines in arrests for aggravated assaults, simple assaults, and robberies for youth ages 14 to 24 years.

**Figure 2. Taunton/Attleboro Violent Arrestees Ages 14-24**



**Figure 3. MA Violent Arrestees Ages 14-24**



### Community Risk Factors

Each community receiving Shannon CSI funds must demonstrate a need for funding based on a high number of risk factors present in the community which perpetuates youth and gang violence. In both Taunton and Attleboro, approximately 10% of the population lives in poverty, and between one quarter and a little over one third of students are considered to be economically disadvantaged. Attleboro's four year dropout rate is 5.6%, just over the state average. Given these community level risk factors, the successful transition of many Taunton/Attleboro youth into adulthood is challenging compared to other non-disadvantaged communities.

**Table 1. Taunton/Attleboro Risk Factors, 2015**

	Taunton	Attleboro	State
<b>Poverty/ Unemployment</b>			
Poverty <sup>a</sup>	12.8%	9.0%	11.4%
Economically Disadvantaged <sup>b</sup>	36.7%	26.3%	26.3%
Unemployment rate	5.7%	4.5%	4.6%
<b>Education/ School Performance</b>			
Graduation rate	87.0%	82.8%	87.3%
Dropout rate	5.0%	5.6%	5.1%
ELL Students	3.3%	7.7%	8.5%
Suspension rate	4.8%	5.2%	2.9%
Bachelor's Degree (25+)	18.0%	30.1%	39.4%
<b>Total population (2014 estimate)</b>	<b>56,544</b>	<b>43,970</b>	<b>6,745,408</b>
<b>Total public school population (2014-2015)</b>	<b>7,910</b>	<b>5,927</b>	<b>955,844</b>

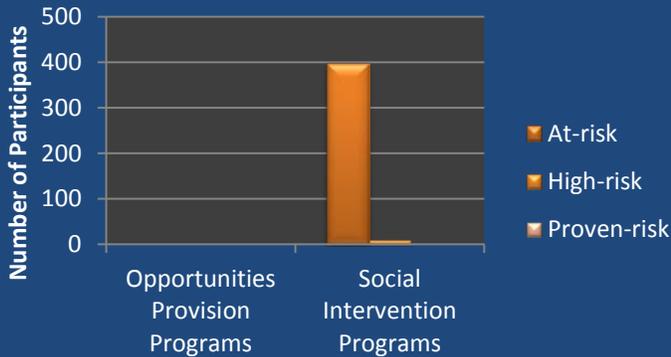
<sup>a</sup>As defined by the US Census Bureau

[www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/overview/measure.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/about/overview/measure.html)

<sup>b</sup>As defined by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/infoservices/data/ed.html>

**Figure 4. Number and Risk Level of Taunton/Attleboro Shannon Participants by Comprehensive Gang Model Strategy Area**



### Individual Risk Level Definitions

**At-risk youth** are in danger of engaging in risky behaviors because of the presence of risk factors in their environment (either home or community). These factors include but are not limited to: lack of healthy role models; poor community education outcomes; high rates of community substance abuse; high rates of community violence; and high unemployment and/or poverty rates.

**High-risk youth** are exposed to similar risk factors as at-risk youth, and are exposed to additional risk factors such as school failure or early school leaving; substance abuse; court involvement; witnessing violence; or violent victimization.

**Proven-risk youth** are identified as those youth being perpetrators or victims of shooting or stabbing violence

### Overview: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Comprehensive Gang Model

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Shannon Community Safety Initiative (CSI) is modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model (CGM). The CGM is a multi-sector approach to addressing a community's gang and youth violence problem. After completing a needs assessment, communities assemble a steering committee which uses data to develop strategies in the following five areas:

- **Social intervention programs** for gang involved and proven risk youth include street outreach and case management. These programs reach out and act as links to gang-involved youth, their families, and other traditional social service providers. For high risk youth and at-risk youth, social intervention programs can include drop-in recreation, positive youth development, and other mechanisms to reach young people and connect them to positive adults and constructive activities.
- **Suppression programs** include close supervision or monitoring of gang involved youth and other high impact players by police, prosecutors, probation officers, and other officers of the court. These programs include hotspot patrols, law enforcement home visits, ride-alongs, re-entry, and special prosecutors.
- **Opportunity provision programs** provide education, training, and employment programs for gang involved youth and young people at high risk for youth violence and gang involvement.
- **Organizational change** is the development and implementation of policies and procedures that result in the most effective use of available and potential resources, within and across agencies, to better address the gang problem.
- **Community mobilization** includes educating the community about gang and youth violence trends in their city or neighborhood and involving them in strategies to confront the problem.