

2021 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE LAWRENCE

Funded Partners: ACT Lawrence, Boys & Girls Club of Lawrence, Change the Play Inc., Lawrence Family Development & Education Fund Inc., Lawrence Methuen Community Coalition/Family Services of Merrimack Valley, Merrimack Valley YMCA, YWCA Northeastern Massachusetts Inc.

Funded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants and Research, the Charles E. Shannon Community Safety Initiative (Shannon) is modeled after the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Comprehensive Gang Model. Shannon is a multi-sector approach used to address a community's gang and youth violence problem. Each community receiving Shannon funding demonstrates the presence of risk factors for youth and gang violence. Shannon participants must be between the ages of 10-24 years.

Strategies, Outcomes, and Funding Allocation*

Total Funding: \$249,000.00

Including \$25,000 in COVID-19 relief funding

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	31 Received Case Management Services	31 Received Street Outreach Services	\$28,178.90
Education & Employment	32 Participated in Employment Programs	34 Participated in Education Programs	\$54,117.45
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	227 Participated in Recreation Programs	225 Participated in Youth Development Programs	\$139,147.65
Suppression	76 Hot Spot Patrols Completed	61 High-Impact Players Arraigned	\$27,556

*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Shannon CSI programs may have adjusted programming options (e.g., reduced numbers served to meet restrictions, remote programming) and/or shifted funding allocations.

Youth Risk Assessments

60%
LOW-RISK* Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

32%
MODERATE-RISK* Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

7%
HIGH-RISK* Youth who are perpetrators or victims of shooting or stabbing violence, and/or are known gang members.

* % of youth assessed for risk; responses in risk assessment may have been impacted by changes in context due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Success Highlight

"The social isolation these kids have experienced during COVID is real. We had one girl, who is really introverted, come to the program. Initially, she did not participate or engage, but over time, we really saw her blossom. She began interacting positively with others and started volunteering with us. Now, she is a part time employee at the YMCA and is a huge asset."

~Merrimack Valley YMCA

Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Office of Grants and Research, Terrence Reidy, Secretary

To learn more visit: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/shannon-community-safety-initiative-csi>

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lawrence

Total Population (2021/2020 Estimate)	6,984,723	89,143
Population Lives in Poverty	9.4%	21.4%
Unemployment Rate	5.6%	12%
Total School Population (2020-21)	970,443	16,678
Economically Disadvantaged	43.8%	88.8%
High School Dropout Rate	1.6%	4.6%

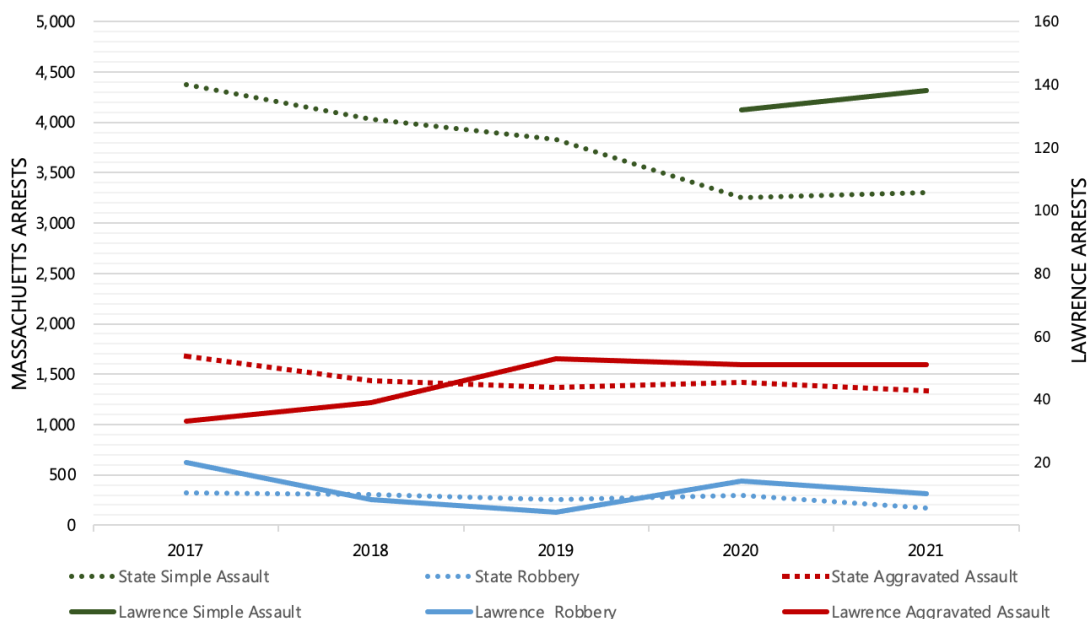
Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu/; www.mass.gov/lwd/economic-data/

Gang Activity in Lawrence

5
Street Gangs
900+
Gang Members

Primary gang-related crimes in Lawrence include robbery, motor vehicle theft, inter-gang violence (inclusive of shootings), check forgery, drug trafficking/drug distribution, and the unlawful possession of firearms.

5-Year Crime Trends for Young People Ages 10-24, 2017-2021



Changes in Crime for Young People Ages 10-24, 2017-2021*

- Simple assaults in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 25%
 - Lawrence increased 5% (2020-2021)
- Robberies in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 47%
 - Lawrence decreased 50%
- Aggravated assaults in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 20%
 - Lawrence increased 55%

*Lawrence statistics on simple assaults are not available prior to 2020.

Information contained in this report is from funding applications, reports supplied by the site, MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, US Census, MA Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, and Office of Grants and Research / Research Policy and Analysis Division. Special thanks to the Statewide Research Partner, Northeastern University and the Crime and Justice Policy Lab of the University of Pennsylvania, for preparing this brief.