



SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE

2024 COMPREHENSIVE REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2024, the Shannon Community Safety Initiative (CSI) awarded \$10.9 million to 15 geographic sites in Massachusetts that provide services to 24 communities impacted by gangs and violence. In total, Shannon funded 157 full-time equivalent positions and 145 organizations that provide services in five key areas aligned with the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model: case management and street outreach, education and employment, positive youth development and recreation, suppression, and community mobilization.

Shannon grantees served more young people in 2024 than ever, with over 28,250 youth participants, approximately 6,350 more youth than the previous year. This expansion in reach was reflected in key indicators across several Shannon strategy areas; 91% more youth received case management services, 89% more youth participated in employment programs, and 78% more youth participated in Shannon-funded education programs.

Of the youth served, 27% were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 29% were 15-18 years old, 8% were 19-24 years old, and 36% were classified as age unknown. By gender, 40% of the participants identified as male, 26% as female, and 34% were classified as other or gender unknown. Hispanic or Latino was the largest race/ethnicity served at 26%; of the remaining participants, 16% identified as Black, 11% as White, 5% as two or more races, 3% as Asian, less than 1% as American Indian or Alaskan Native, and 39% were categorized as other or race unknown.

An analysis of arrests committed by youth in Shannon-funded communities from 2020-2024 revealed a 15% decrease in simple assaults, a 52% decrease in robberies, and a 24% increase in aggravated assaults. Compared to statewide statistics for the same time period, Massachusetts experienced a 4% reduction in simple assaults, a 40% reduction in robberies, and a 4% increase in simple assaults committed by youth aged 10-24. These are certainly promising trends. However, further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and declining arrests in these focal communities.

The Shannon Individual Risk Assessment (IRA) continued to be a focus of the Shannon Statewide Research Partner (SRP) Northeastern University/University of Pennsylvania's Crime and Justice Policy Lab (CJP) team during the 2024-2025 grant cycle. In total, 18% (26 out of 145) of Shannon partner organizations representing 11 out of 15 of Shannon sites used the IRA tool to evaluate the risk levels of incoming youth participants. In 2024, the SRP team completed the data collection phase of a study to test the predictive validity of the assessment tool and is expected to share their findings and subsequent recommendations with Shannon grantees during the first quarter of 2025.

This comprehensive report offers an overview and analysis of the 19th year of Shannon CSI funding. Content provides a summary of the grant program's activities in 2024. It is divided into the following five sections: (1) Shannon CSI background, (2) Shannon community risk factors and dynamics, (3) Shannon program data, including a summary of funded activities, youth served, adoption and implementation of the Shannon IRA, and successes stories, and (4) an overview of research and technical support activities provided to grantees by Shannon Local Action Research Partners (LARPs) and the Shannon SRP team.

BACKGROUND

Shannon provides funding to communities throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reduce gang and youth violence through coordinated prevention and intervention, law enforcement, prosecution, and reintegration programs. The Massachusetts Legislature has appropriated funds to support the Shannon CSI since 2006; this longstanding investment in evidence-based strategies has made Shannon a national model for state-funded gang and youth violence prevention. The Shannon CSI is modeled after OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model, a multi-sectored approach to address a community's gang violence problem using five strategy areas:

1. **Community Mobilization** – Involvement of local citizens, including former gang members and community groups and agencies, and the coordination of programs and staff functions within and across agencies.
2. **Opportunities Provision** – The development of a variety of education, training, employment, and reentry programs specific to engaging gang-involved youth and young adults.
3. **Social Intervention** – Youth-serving agencies, schools, street outreach workers, grassroots groups, faith-based organizations, law enforcement agencies, and other criminal justice organizations reach out and act as links between gang-involved youth, their families, and needed services.
4. **Suppression** – Formal and informal social control procedures and accountability measures, including law enforcement and close supervision or monitoring of gang-involved youth, by criminal justice agencies working in collaboration with community-based service providers, schools, and grassroots groups.
5. **Organizational Change and Development** – Development and implementation of policies and procedures that result in the most effective use of available and potential resources to better address the gang problem.

The Shannon CSI is administered by the Massachusetts Office of Grants and Research (OGR), a state agency that is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS). In addition to funding local partners to employ Shannon CSI's core strategies, the grant program also funds a research component comprised of LARPs and the SRP. In 2024, Northeastern University worked in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania's Crime and Justice Policy Lab (CJP) to serve as the SRP for Shannon.

The SRP assists OGR and Shannon grantees by providing strategic thinking, critical analysis, and feedback to improve or maintain program operations and ensure that the goals of funded programs are within scope, on schedule, and within budget. Additionally, the SRP creates biannual reports and a comprehensive annual report for OGR, offering highlights of Shannon-funded activities and analyses of Shannon CSI funding allocation. These reports are informed by programmatic data collected from Shannon grantees and information on youth risk and protective factors gathered through the Shannon IRA.



Boys & Girls Metro South (Brockton)

SHANNON CONTEXT

Community risk factors such as poverty, lack of educational opportunities, and limited access to employment can contribute to youth involvement in gang activity and subsequent arrests. In the section below, we offer a summary of Shannon community risk factors, gang activity in Shannon sites, and data on youth arrests statewide and in Shannon-funded communities.

Community Risk Factors

Shannon sites have multiple community-level risk factors for youth and gang violence, including high poverty and unemployment rates. In 2024, 10.4% of the population in Massachusetts lived below the poverty line, while an average of 15.3% of the population in Shannon communities lived in poverty. In 2024 the unemployment rate for the majority of the Shannon-funded communities (apart from Cambridge, Everett, Somerville, and Winthrop) was higher than the 3.4% state unemployment rate; the mean unemployment rate of Shannon communities in 2024 was 4.5% with a range of 2.9% in Cambridge to 6.9% in Lawrence.

On average, Shannon communities have a higher percentage of students living in economic disadvantage and a higher school dropout rate compared to statewide statistics. In 2024, the statewide student economic disadvantage rate was 42.1%, while for Shannon communities, the mean student economic disadvantage rate was 65.9%. In addition, the high school dropout rate in Shannon communities tends to be significantly above the state rate. In 2024, the Massachusetts high school dropout rate was 2.1%, while the most recent mean high school dropout rate available for Shannon CSI communities was 3.5%. Rates reached as high as 5.9% in Brockton and 5.5% in Lynn and Chelsea (see Shannon 2024 [site briefs](#) for more information on community risk factors statewide and in Shannon communities).



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SHANNON CONTEXT

Gang Activity in Shannon Sites

Active gangs present a risk to Shannon communities. While 2024 data on gang members under 25 was not available from all Shannon-funded police departments, a total of 4,120 gang members between 10-24 were identified from available jurisdictions. Police departments in Shannon sites reported that gangs were primarily involved in drug trafficking, associated violence, carrying weapons, and property damage. It was also noted that social media continues to be used as a primary tool for gang recruitment and that youth are targeted because of their advantageous juvenile status. The following site-specific descriptions highlight gang problems and related violence in 2024 for each of the Shannon-funded communities.

- **Boston:** The City of Boston has seen a significant decline in gun violence in recent years. Gunfire incidents in the city declined 15% in 2024 and are down 37% compared to the five-year average. Shooting victim totals declined 9% compared to 2023, 34% compared to the five-year average, and nearly 40% compared to the 10-year average. 2024 marked the fourth consecutive year of declines in shooting victims and shooting incidents, and the fourth year in a row with fewer than 200 victims shot in the city. Interpersonal conflicts among gang members have historically accounted for large shares of shootings in Boston. CJP is collaborating with the Boston Police Department on an analysis of the factors associated with these promising declines.
- **Brockton:** In 2024, Brockton experienced several car thefts in and around the city. Gangs recruited younger individuals to assist with these thefts by hiding material and/or keys for vehicles. The internet, social media, and music videos served as means of recruitment and platforms for gang feuds. Gun violence in Brockton continued to occur, with gangs retaliating against each other.
- **Fall River:** Social media has played a major role in gang activity, including escalating incidents and retaliation. Gangs create and share videos that glorify the “gang lifestyle” (i.e., guns, drugs, women, power, money) and use them for recruitment. Social media is also used to arrange drug sales, orchestrate violence, disrespect other gangs, provoke disputes, and make intimidating threats to adversaries. The widespread utilization of social media means that groups are no longer confined to a specific “turf.” Older gang members recruit juveniles to engage in criminal activity. The gang unit observed initial gang involvement/activity beginning at an earlier age in 2024 than in previous years. This trend coincides with youths’ increased use of social media and the fluidity of gangs. Many children are placed into roles such as lookout or are made responsible for holding weapons and drugs. In 2024, there has been a notable uptick in firearms seized from a younger juvenile demographic.
- **Fitchburg & Gardner:** The youth gang problem in Fitchburg mainly involves small, unorganized gangs in which members or associates have historically used certain codes to identify membership. Fitchburg is home to a large number of gangs, which include prolific national gangs such as the Almighty Latin Kings & Queens, Vice Lords, Bloods, and local street gangs. These gangs engage in gun violence, juvenile crime, and narcotics activity. Most crime is highly concentrated amongst a small number of highly active offenders. Although many of these crimes are reported, a significant number of serious gang-related crimes go unreported for fear of repercussions or of being exposed to police as being involved in criminal activity.

SHANNON CONTEXT

- **Haverhill & Methuen:** Haverhill gangs include Latin Kings, Crypts, Trinitarios, Bloods, and Gangsta Disciples, along with several cliques and provisional gangs associated with the named gangs. The named gangs have started provisional groups that attract younger youth from middle schools. Haverhill gangs are involved in home invasions, drug dealing, prostitution, and guns. Methuen gangs include Latin Gangsta Disciples (LGD), Gangsta Disciples, and Trinitarios primarily. The LGD and Trinitarios have been involved in several shootings throughout the city, as well as drug dealing and firearm sales.
- **Holyoke & Chicopee:** Residents and agencies are in agreement that the most serious issues affecting the neighborhoods in these two communities are gangs. One of the key challenges is that Holyoke is a nexus of drug trafficking on the I-91 corridor, which continues to connect drugs from NYC to Northern Vermont. The national gangs, specifically, are engaged in trafficking via the I-91 corridor, creating challenges to the safety of the community and to our high-risk youth. Importantly, these gangs are also responsible for the distribution of fentanyl, usually via heroin sales, which are associated with extraordinary rates of overdoses in the communities. Local gangs, which actively recruit juveniles and contribute to high levels of violence, are of considerable concern. In 2024, these two communities noted the continued challenge with smaller crews and sets that are less organized and difficult to track, but engage in a range of illegal and illicit activities.
- **Lawrence:** The Lawrence Police Department has confirmed the presence of at least seven active street gangs operating within the city. Additionally, there is concern over smaller, neighborhood-based gangs that may also be active. The total number of suspected, associated, and/or validated gang members is estimated to exceed 1,000 individuals, signaling a significant gang presence in the community. The presence of these gangs has been linked to a range of criminal activities, including drug trafficking and distribution, robbery, motor vehicle theft, inter-gang violence, including shootings, check forgery, and unlawful possession of firearms.
- **Lowell:** There were 148 suspected gang-related incidents in Lowell from January 1, 2024, to August 31, 2024, with 54% involving individuals within the Shannon age range (10-24). Members of these gangs are in their teens to late 20s and have been involved in shots fired incidents and multiple fights, particularly in the downtown area of the city during Lowell High School dismissal. Gang graffiti has also been spotted throughout the newly renovated Lowell High School. 20% of those gang-related incidents are considered serious crimes, including aggravated assaults, robberies, drug offenses, shots fired, and weapons offenses. Social media is used for recruitment as well as to sell marijuana, flash firearms, and encourage violence, such as "jumping" members.
- **Lynn:** Lynn's gang activity consists of murders, robberies, home invasions, shootings, stabbings, assaults, illegal drug and gun trafficking and sales, stolen cars, breaking & entering, credit card fraud, and laundering. Recruiting seems to be happening more in the junior high & high schools. About 90% of gang members are estimated to fall between the ages of 10-24.
- **Metro Mayors Coalition:** Crimes committed by gangs include firearms offenses, assaults, shootings, homicides, burglaries, motor vehicle theft, and drug offenses (especially involving fentanyl). Several communities documented the continued use of social media by gang members to broadcast activities online for recruitment purposes and narcotic distribution. Many communities are also continuing to see activity spill over from larger neighboring cities. In 2024, the gangs reported across the coalition include

SHANNON CONTEXT

Maplewood, Port 44, East Side Money Gang, GOA, Cape Verdean Outlaws, Wendover, Heath Street, H Block, NOB, 250 Broadway, 10 Yeamans, Coolidge St, 18th Street, MS-13, 1700, Riverside, Eastville / MP45 / 480, 22s, Young Bloods, Bloods, Maverick St. (East Boston), and Latin Kings. Somerville and Cambridge do not gather gang-related data.

- **New Bedford:** New Bedford gangs are increasingly recruiting young members ages 10-14. Youth are recruited to carry weapons and drugs and have been instrumental in several shootings in our community. There is concern that these youth are using substances that continue to interfere with their decision-making skills. In terms of types of violence committed by gangs in New Bedford, gang retaliation has slowed, but car thefts have picked up. Active gangs in the area seem to be focused most on making money and continuing to recruit younger youth.
- **Pittsfield:** In 2024, there were 2-7 active gangs in Pittsfield with an estimated 20-100 members between the ages of 10-24. Membership numbers are rough estimates based on a recent group/gang audit and interviews with Pittsfield Police Department detectives and community partners. Officers and community members noted that many group-associated individuals in Pittsfield will claim Blood or Crip affiliations, but these affiliations are loose and shift often. In addition to those affiliations, youth have formed neighborhood groups that change often. Youth, specifically, have more fluid associations, and conflicts among young group members are more often sparked in online venues. There are very few incidents of gang-on-gang conflict over territory, as conflict among associated members largely involves personal disputes and drug-related disputes/robberies that lead to serious gun violence.
- **Springfield:** The gang activity within the City of Springfield has been changing in recent years. There has been a rise in gun violence since 2019. Local gangs are the most violent, whereas the national-based gangs try to stay off the radar with the intent of making as much money as possible. Recruitment for these gangs happens all over the city through social media, jail/prison/Department of Youth Services (DYS) sentences, the school systems, or the neighborhood in which individuals reside. Individuals with gang involvement continue to be involved in narcotics distribution, sex trafficking, armed carjackings, armed/unarmed robberies, shootings, police pursuits, and homicides. Many of the inter-gang conflicts stem from gang members' social media presence. Gang members use social media as a tool to identify where opposing gang members are located to commit acts of violence.
- **Taunton:** Gang activity in Taunton covers a wide range of activities, including disorderly conduct, assault and battery with/without a dangerous weapon, home invasion, murder, larceny of a motor vehicle, illegal possession of a firearm, illegal possession of ammo, drug use, drug dealing, and drug trafficking. Much of the gang violence in Taunton occurs at an inter-gang level.
- **Worcester:** Worcester Police Department (WPD) observed that gang activity has changed in response to current societal influences and law enforcement pressures. At present, there are 23 active gangs documented in the city, including city-wide gangs (9), national gangs (8), neighborhood-level gangs (5), and regional gangs (1). Collectively, membership among the active gangs is estimated to be 1,451, with actual levels likely to be greater. Approximately 20% of gang membership is comprised of individuals under 25 years of age. Gangs frequently claim control over specific territory in the community, wear distinctive dress and colors, and may communicate through graffiti and hand signs, among other means. WPD also recognizes non-traditional or hybrid gangs that may lack symbols, turf, or identifiable leaders.

SHANNON CONTEXT

Youth Arrests Statewide and in Shannon Communities

An analysis of youth arrests in Shannon-funded communities from 2020-2024 revealed a 15% decrease in simple assaults, a 52% decrease in robberies, and a 24% decrease in aggravated assaults. Compared to statewide statistics for the same time period, Massachusetts experienced a 4% decrease in simple assaults, a 40% decrease in robberies, and a 4% decrease in simple assaults committed by youth aged 10-24. While these trends are promising, further analytical work is needed to make an association between Shannon programming and declining arrests in these focal communities. In Figures 1, 2, and 3 below, we summarize National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) data on arrests of young people ages 10-24 for simple assault, aggravated assault, and robbery.

Figure 1. Youth arrests for simple assaults (2020 to 2024)

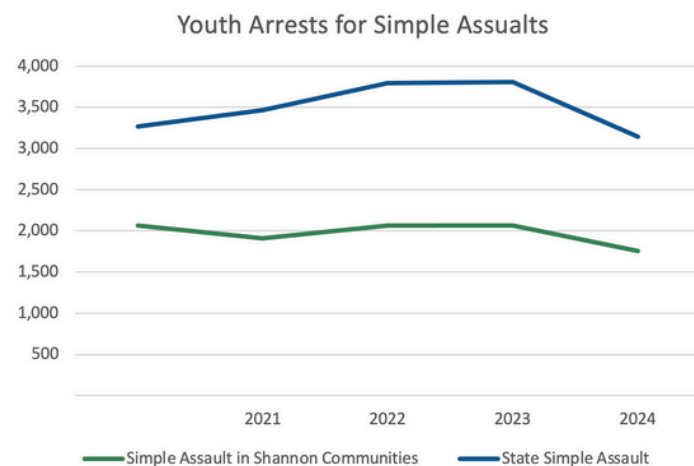


Figure 2. Youth arrests for robberies (2020 to 2024)

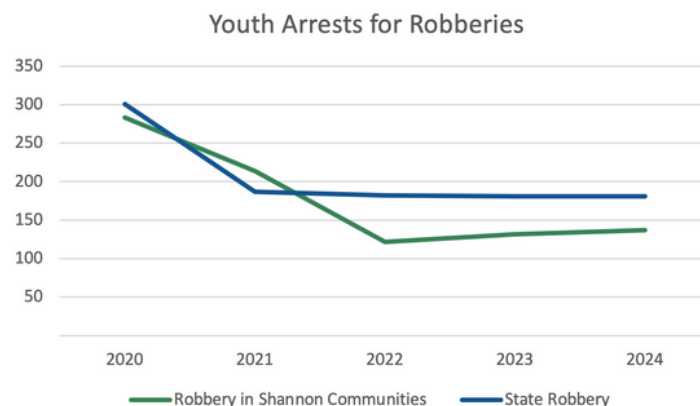
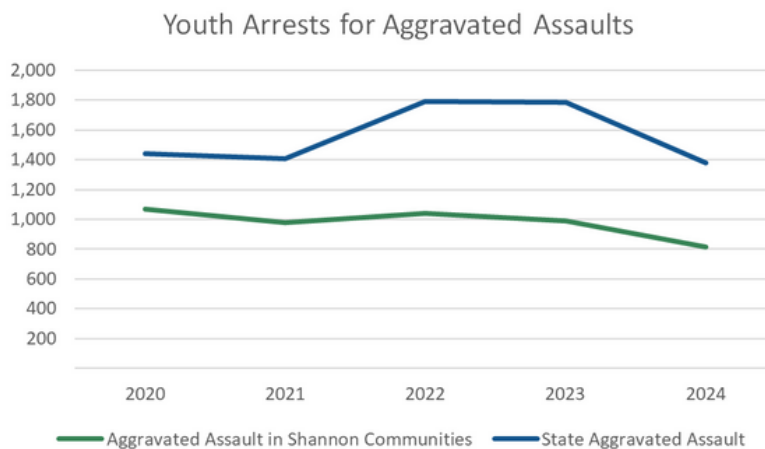


Figure 3. Youth arrests for aggravated assaults (2020 to 2024)



SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

The following section provides an overview of the Shannon grant program in 2024, including funding levels and allocation by Shannon strategy area, youth participant demographics, and a description of Shannon-funded activities and their impact in communities across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Shannon Funding Levels

In 2024, the Shannon CSI awarded \$10.9 million to 15 sites that provide services across 24 Massachusetts communities impacted by gang activity. Funding increased across all sites from 2023 to 2024. The majority of sites received an approximate 3.8% increase, except for Fitchburg/Gardner, Holyoke/Chicopee, and Lawrence, which increased by 8.0%, 1.9%, and 19.7%, respectively. The Boston site received the highest funding amount (\$1,705,475.12), and Taunton received the lowest funding amount (\$131,720.70). As shown in Table 1, Shannon sites range from two funded partner organizations (Pittsfield) to twenty-one (Boston).

Table 1. 2024 Shannon funding and partners by site

Site	2024 Funding Amount	Difference in Funding from 2023	% of All 2024 Funding	# of 2024 Partners
Boston	\$1,705,475.12	\$62,752.02	15.7%	21
Brockton	\$745,842.88	\$27,442.38	6.9%	8
Fall River	\$653,973.25	\$24,062.59	6.0%	14
Fitchburg/Gardner	\$450,250.50	\$33,438.50	4.1%	7
Haverhill/Methuen	\$310,467.70	\$11,814.06	2.9%	10
Holyoke/Chicopee	\$576,814.28	\$10,459.02	5.3%	8
Lawrence	\$299,866.91	\$49,366.91	2.8%	8
Lowell	\$761,325.27	\$22,174.52	7.0%	10
Lynn	\$416,722.03	\$15,086.66	3.8%	5
Metro Mayors Coalition [1]	\$786,070.91	\$28,923.05	7.2%	20
New Bedford	\$1,138,983.45	\$41,815.65	10.5%	3
Pittsfield	\$409,382.80	\$15,063.02	3.8%	2
Springfield	\$1,247,411.92	\$45,897.84	11.5%	14
Taunton	\$131,720.70	\$4,837.92	1.2%	3
Worcester	\$1,249,043.89	\$45,957.89	11.5%	12
Total	\$10,883,351.61	\$439,092.03	100%	145

[1] The Metro Mayors Coalition is comprised of 8 sites including Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, and Winthrop.

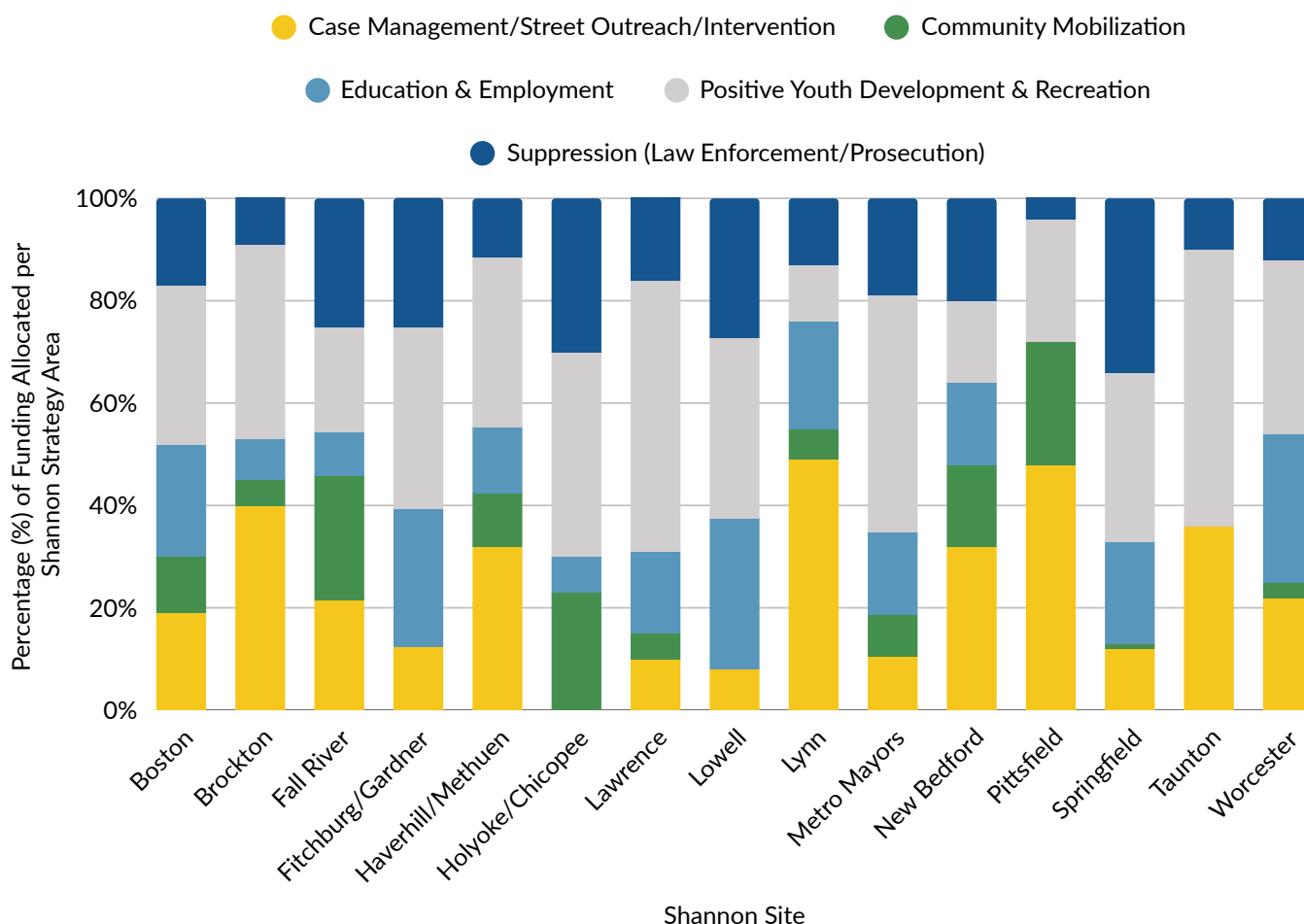
SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

In 2024, funding for Shannon increased by \$439,092.03 from the previous year and was allocated across the grant program's five programmatic categories as follows [2]:

- Case Management & Street Outreach or Intervention Programs: \$2,208,128.23 (20%)
- Community Mobilization: \$932,324.23 (9%)
- Education & Employment: \$1,854,041.76 (17%)
- Positive Youth Development and Recreation Programming: \$3,252,377.44 (30%)
- Suppression: \$2,051,642.61 (19%)

As shown in Figure 1, the distribution of funding across programmatic categories in 2024 varied to best suit the needs of each Shannon site. Some sites allocated a greater proportion of funding to case management and street outreach or intervention (e.g., Lynn), while others focused their funding on providing positive youth development and recreation services (e.g., Taunton, Lawrence).

Figure 4. Funding allocation by site in 2024



[2] In 2024, \$588,675.45, or 5% of Shannon funding was allocated to administrative costs statewide.

SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

Youth Engagement and Program Activities

In 2024, Shannon CSI partners served over 28,250 young people ages 10-24, approximately 6,350 more youth than the previous year. For more details, Table 2 provides a breakdown of the total number of youth served by sites in 2024, compared to the previous year.

Table 2. Total number of Shannon youth served

<i>Site</i>	<i>2023 Youth Served</i>	<i>2024 Youth Served</i>	<i>Difference in Youth Served</i>
Boston	1,744	3,714	1,970
Brockton	539	711	172
Fall River	1,146	430	-716
Fitchburg/Gardner	2,733	3,795	1,062
Haverhill/Methuen	4,324	4,391	67
Holyoke/Chicopee	740	1,120	380
Lawrence	562	4,465	3,903
Lowell	2,106	1,790	-316
Lynn	799	856	57
Metro Mayors Coalition	3,178	2,221	-957
New Bedford	378	307	-71
Pittsfield	133	108	-25
Springfield	2,427	2,791	364
Taunton	189	64	-125
Worcester	910	1,488	578
Total	21,908	28,251	6,343

SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

The Shannon CSI youth population tends to be more heavily male and comes from communities of color. Although the Shannon CSI serves youth aged 10-24, in 2024, youth aged 15-18 were most strongly represented. For more details, Table 3 presents demographic information for youth participants in 2024, compared to youth participants in 2023.

Table 3. Shannon participant demographics

	<i>Demographics</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>2023</i>
Age			
	10-14	27%	35%
	15-18	29%	36%
	19-24	8%	10%
	Unknown	36%	19%
Sex			
	Male	40%	52%
	Female	26%	31%
	Other/Unknown	34%	17%
Race			
	Hispanic	26%	35%
	Black	16%	19%
	White	11%	14%
	Two or more	5%	6%
	Asian	3%	3%
	American Indian/Alaskan	<1%	<1%
	Other/Unknown	39%	23%
Risk			
	High	19%	15%
	Moderate	32%	18%
	Low	49%	67%

Comparing Shannon youth populations in 2024 to the previous year, there were slight changes in the distribution of risk factors among participants, with an 18% decrease in youth who were assessed as low risk and a 14% increase in youth assessed as moderate risk compared to youth risk levels in 2023.



Pa'lante (Holyoke/Chicopee)



Holyoke Boys & Girls Club

SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

Aligned with OJJDP's Comprehensive Gang Model, in 2024, Shannon grantees engaged youth in activities across five key areas of programming:

- **Case Management & Street Outreach or Intervention:** Case management, street outreach, or intervention programs for gang-involved and proven-risk youth reach out and act as links to connect youth and their families to social services providers. For high-risk and at-risk youth, social intervention programs include drop-in recreation, positive youth development, and other mechanisms to reach young people and connect them to positive adults and constructive activities. In 2024:
 - Over 3,500 young people received case management services, and
 - Over 1,100 young people received street outreach services.
- **Education & Employment:** These opportunities provide education, training, and employment opportunities to youth at high risk for youth violence and gang involvement. In 2024:
 - Over 5,700 young people participated in education programs, and
 - Over 2,800 young people participated in employment programs.
- **Positive Youth Development & Recreation:** These programs provide a prosocial outlet for youth to expand and enhance their interests, skills, and abilities. These programs are safe havens for recreational, enrichment, educational, and prevention activities outside school hours (i.e., athletics and physical fitness, school achievement initiatives). In 2024:
 - Over 11,000 young people participated in positive youth development programs, and
 - Over 11,400 young people participated in recreation programs.
- **Suppression:** These activities include close supervision and 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, supervised re-entry, and special prosecutors dedicated to cases involving gang members. In 2024, law enforcement partners completed:
 - Over 4,000 hot spot patrols, and
 - Over 480 home visits.
- **Community Mobilization:** These programs educate community members about local gang and youth violence trends, as well as involve community members in strategies to confront the problem. In 2024:
 - Over 1,400 community meetings, events, and presentations were held, and
 - Over 50,000 community members attended Shannon-related events, meetings, and presentations.

SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

For more details, Table 4 presents data on youth engagement by Shannon strategy area in 2024, compared to 2023.

Table 4: Youth engagement by Shannon strategy area

<i>Strategy and Youth Engagement</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Positive youth development & recreation			
# participated in youth development programs	12,475	11,069	-11%
# participated in recreation programs	9,157	11,452	25%
Case management, street outreach, or intervention			
# received case management services	1,879	3,588	91%
# received street outreach services	1,349	1,124	-17%
Education & employment			
# participated in education programs	3,246	5,766	78%
# participated in employment programs	1,497	2,826	89%
Suppression			
# hot spot patrols completed	4,862	4,027	-17%
# law enforcement supported home visits	311	483	55%
Community mobilization			
# community members attended events, meetings & presentations	32,127	50,954	59%
# community events, meetings & presentations held	1,248	1,493	20%



Lowell Police Department



Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (Lowell)

SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

Adoption of the Shannon CSI Individual Risk Assessment

The Shannon IRA assists sites by establishing standard definitions and criteria for youth risk levels. This common understanding is needed to help Shannon-funded organizations determine: 1) if a young person is eligible for Shannon programming, and 2) the type of programming or referral most appropriate for a young person given their risk level.

Each year, the SRP conducts a review of the take-up and implementation of the IRA to explore how the assessment is working for Shannon grantees and to identify potential areas for improvement. The following tables document the number of Shannon partners utilizing the assessment tool in 2024 by Shannon CSI location.

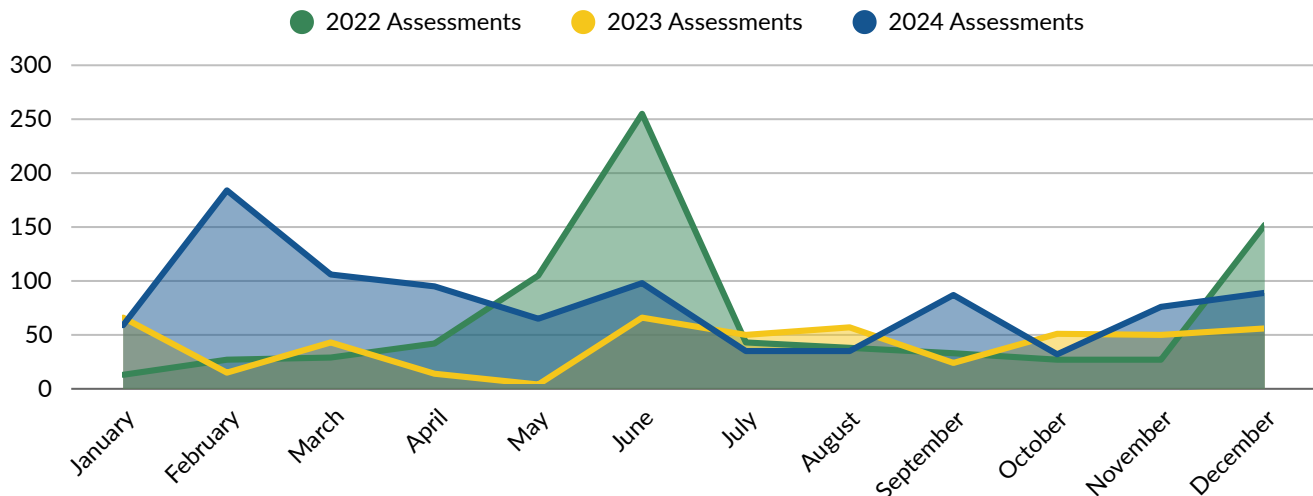
Table 5. Adoption of the Shannon IRA in 2024 by site Shannon Site

<i>Site</i>	<i>Total # of Partners</i>	<i># of Partners using the IRA</i>	<i>% of Partners using the IRA</i>
Boston	21	0	0%
Brockton	8	3	38%
Fall River	14	2	36%
Fitchburg/Gardner	7	4	57%
Haverhill/Methuen	10	0	0%
Holyoke/Chicopee	8	0	0%
Lawrence	8	0	0%
Lowell	10	1	10%
Lynn	5	3	60%
Metro Mayors Coalition	20	2	10%
New Bedford	3	1	33%
Pittsfield	2	1	50%
Springfield	14	4	29%
Taunton	3	1	33%
Worcester	12	4	33%
Total	145	26	18%

SHANNON PROGRAM DATA

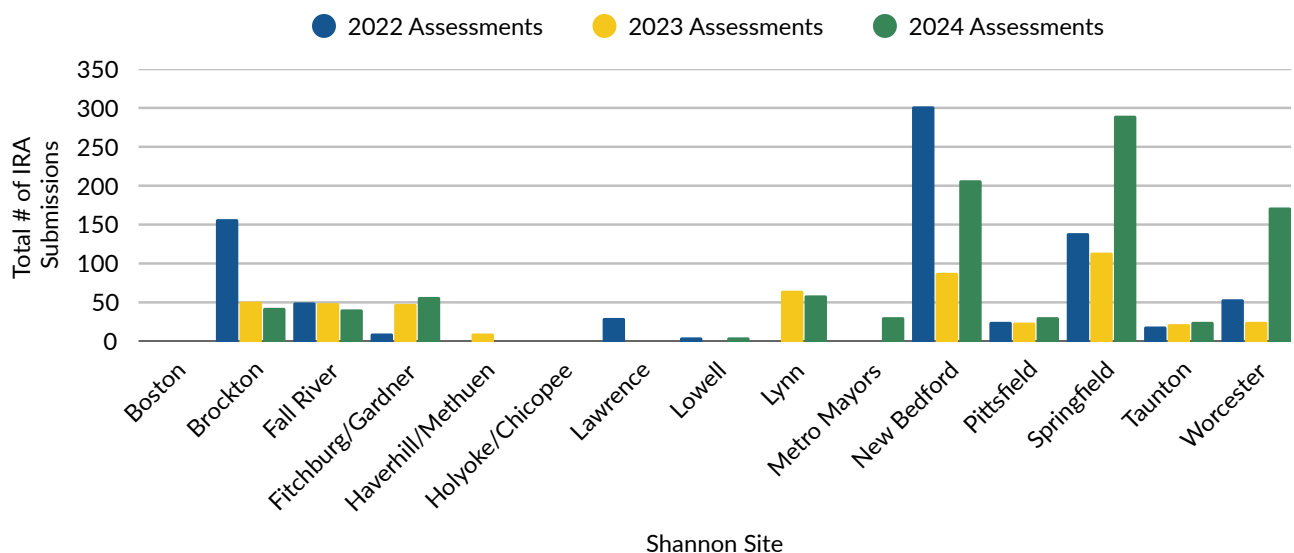
In 2024, a total of 961 IRA assessments were completed. Adoption of the IRA tool ranged from none of the site partners using the tool (Boston, Haverhill/Methuen, Holyoke/Chicopee, and Lawrence) to 57% of site partners using the IRA (Fitchburg/Gardner). The following figure illustrates Shannon IRA submissions over the past three years (2022-2024) by month and site.

Figure 5. Shannon IRA submissions by month, 2022-2024



Use of the IRA has varied across Shannon sites. In Worcester, for example, the use of the assessment increased from 25 assessments in 2023 to 172 in 2024. New Bedford, Springfield, and Brockton have consistently had the highest numbers of assessments completed each year, and with their uptick in 2024, Worcester joins this group.

Figure 6. Shannon IRA submissions by site, 2022-2024



SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

The following section disaggregates Shannon program data by site to provide a more detailed description of funded activities and youth served in each of the funded communities. Success stories in the form of direct quotes from Shannon grantees are included for each of the fifteen sites.

Boston

The Boston site received a total of \$1,705,475.12 in funding in 2024, which increased by \$62,752.02 from 2023. Approximately 16% of funding was allocated to case management and street outreach or intervention, 9% was allocated to community mobilization, 19% was allocated to education and employment, 27% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, 14% was allocated toward suppression efforts, and an additional 15% were allocated to administrative costs.

In 2024, Boston served 3,714 youth across twenty-one partner organizations. A total of 11.9% of the youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 37.7% were 15-18 years old, 17.4% were 19-24 years old, and 33.0% were categorized as age unknown. By gender, 35.3% of the participants identified as male, 31.4% identified as female, 1.3% identified as transgender or agender/gender queer, and approximately 31.6% were classified as gender unknown. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Black at 36.7%, followed by other or unknown at 34.9%, Hispanic or Latino at 19.0%, two or more races at 5.5%, White at 2.5%, Asian at 1.1%, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander at 0.1%. Boston's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary funded strategy was education and employment. In these pursuits, 1,280 youth participated in positive youth development programming, 1,184 youths participated in recreation activities, 1,181 youths participated in education programs, and 1,088 youths participated in employment programs.

"Mothers for Justice and Equality (MJE) met Brian [3] at the Nubian Square Library during a resource fair hosted by our team. He had recently been released [from jail] and was struggling to find housing, employment, food, and social services. MJE connected him to one of the organization's family advocates. He completed an intake and worked with MJE staff to develop SMART Goals and an action plan. The family advocate at MJE helped him to enroll in a local youth shelter. After being placed in a shelter, he worked on his resume with MJE and obtained employment at CVS. While working at CVS, Brian learned about the Pharmacy Tech Program and enrolled. Currently, he is working and finishing his course at CVS. He continues to meet with his family advocate for ongoing mentoring and coaching and is on track for success."

~ Mothers for Justice and Equality

Brockton

The Brockton site received a total of \$745,842.88 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$27,442.38 from the previous year. Of this, approximately 40% was allocated to case management and street outreach, or intervention, 5% was allocated to community mobilization, 8% was allocated to education and employment, 38% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 10% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

[3] Name changed for confidentiality.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024, Brockton served 711 youth across eight partner organizations. A total of 51.6% of the youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 43.2% were 15-18 years old, 4.9% were 19-24 years old, and 0.3% were categorized as age unknown. By gender, 45.85% of the participants identified as male, 53.31% identified as female, 0.7% identified as transgender or agender/gender queer, and 0.1% were classified as gender unknown. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Black at approximately 59.6%, followed by other or unknown at 12.4%, Hispanic or Latino at 11.3%, two or more races at 8.9%, White at 6.1%, Asian at 1.2%, American Indian/Alaskan Native at 0.3%, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander at 0.1%. Brockton's primary funded strategy was case management, street outreach, and intervention, and its secondary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation. In these pursuits, 67 youths received case management services, 106 youths received outreach services, and 615 youths participated in a positive youth development program.

"One of our newer parents, who began this fall, expressed deep sentiment and gratitude for the difference that the Rose Conservatory has made in her life and in the life of her child. The network and support system of families has helped her navigate her life being a single mom, and has helped her child become more confident and step out of her comfort zone. She described her child as introverted, shy, and withdrawn. She has observed a remarkable change. Her child is now a peer leader in her elementary school...She moves throughout her school, her home, and the Rose Conservatory with a new confidence and positive outlook. Mom said ROSE has changed their lives!"

~ Rose Conservatory

Fall River

The Fall River site received a total of \$653,973.25 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$24,062.59 from the previous year. Of this, approximately 20% was allocated to case management and street outreach or intervention, 23% was allocated to community mobilization, 8% was allocated to education and employment, 19% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, 24% was allocated toward suppression efforts, and 5% was allocated to administrative costs.

In 2024, Fall River served 430 youth across fourteen partner organizations. A total of 60.5% of the youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 30.0% were 15-18 years old, and 9.5% were 19-24 years old. By gender, 61.6% of the participants identified as male and 38.1% identified as female. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 31.4%, followed by Black at 24.4%, White at 21.9%, two or more races at 13.3%, other or unknown at 7.9%, Asian at 0.7%, and American Indian/Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander each at 0.2%. Fall River's primary funded strategy was suppression, and its secondary funded strategy was community mobilization. In these pursuits, officers completed 121 hot spot patrols, and 2,226 community members attended 50 community events held in 2024.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

"One of our young ladies was running with the wrong group of students. She felt like she had no other friends. She graduated from middle school, and we continued to follow her throughout high school, working with her to get involved and engaged with other peers and activities. She is passing all of her classes, getting positive feedback from her teachers as well as enjoying school for the first time. She asked to attend community service or participate in program activities, two months after she finished her sanctions."

~ Fall River Youth Court

Fitchburg/Gardner

The Fitchburg/Gardner site received a total of \$450,250.50 in funding in 2024, a \$33,438.50 increase from the previous year. Of this, approximately 12% was allocated to case management and street outreach or intervention, 0% was allocated to community mobilization, 25% was allocated to education and employment, 33% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, 23% was allocated toward suppression efforts, and 7% was allocated to administrative costs.

In 2024, Fitchburg and Gardner served 3,795 youth across seven partner organizations. A total of 9.5% of the youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 3.3% were 15-18 years old, 1.0% were 19-24 years old, and 86.2% were classified as age unknown. By gender, 7.8% identified as male, 6.8% identified as female, 85.4% were classified as gender unknown, and less than 0.1% identified as transgender. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was unknown at 90.9%, followed by Hispanic or Latino at 4.8%, White at 2.1%, Black at 1.4%, two or more races at 0.7%, and Asian at 0.1%. Fitchburg/Gardner's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary funded strategy was education and employment. In these pursuits, 146 youths participated in a youth development program, 195 youths participated in recreation programs, and 114 youths participated in education programs.

"We have a 19-year-old young man whose mother moved away and was going to have him out on the street in February because she was unwilling to take him with her. We were able to find him temporary housing. We began getting him connected with different services but found out that he was going to be facing eviction with no options for housing. We worked to get him connected with services that are leading to more permanent options for housing. We are also working on getting him connected with an educational program at Monty Tech so that he can start working. We look forward to the potential this young man has for the coming year."

~Shining Light Ministries

Haverhill/Methuen

The Haverhill/Methuen site received a total of \$310,467.70 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$11,814.06 from the previous year. Of this, approximately 31% was allocated to case management and street outreach or intervention, 10% was allocated to community mobilization, 12% was allocated to education and employment, 32% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, 11% was allocated toward suppression efforts, and 4% was allocated to administrative costs.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024, Haverhill and Methuen served 4,391 youth across ten partner organizations. A total of 38.5% of youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 37.0% were 15-18 years old, 7.7% were 19-24 years old, and 16.8% were categorized as age unknown. By gender, 48.9% of the participants identified as male, 37.6% identified as female, 3.0% were classified as gender unknown, and 0.3% identified as transgender or agender/gender queer. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 38.3%, followed by White at 36.5%, Black at 10.5%, other or unknown at 7.1%, two or more races at 5.5%, Asian at 1.3%, American Indian/Native Alaskan at 0.5%, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander at 0.3%. Haverhill/Methuen's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, followed by case management/street outreach/intervention. In these pursuits, 1,614 youths participated in positive youth development programs, 1,994 youths participated in recreation programs, and 171 youths received outreach services in 2024.

"Haverhill Streetworkers have been supporting a young adult who was reluctant to engage in formal programming. Despite his hesitations, the Streetworkers maintained regular contact, consistently offering support, understanding, and encouragement. This young adult, a gang leader, began to make small but meaningful connections with the Streetworker team. He frequently visited the Haverhill site to do laundry and use the kitchenette space—small acts that demonstrated a willingness to engage in positive behavior. With support from UTEC's Director of Education, he successfully earned his HiSET credential in just two weeks. Now, this young adult has shifted his focus to finding employment—a pivotal step toward building a stable and productive future. The Streetworkers remain committed to supporting him on this journey, providing ongoing mentorship and encouragement as he pursues positive changes and new opportunities."

~ UTEC

Holyoke/Chicopee

The Holyoke/Chicopee site received a total of \$576,814.28 in 2024, an increase of \$10,459.02 from the previous year. Of this, 0% was allocated to case management/street outreach/intervention, 23% was allocated to community mobilization, 7% was allocated to education and employment, 40% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 30% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

In 2024, Holyoke and Chicopee served 1,120 youth across eight partner organizations. A total of 41.4% of the youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 29.8% were 15-18 years old, 2.2% were 19-24 years old, and 26.5% were classified as age unknown. By gender, 49.1% of participants identified as male, 22.1% identified as female, and 28.8% were classified as gender unknown. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 50.0%, followed by race other or unknown at 38.2%, Black at 5.2%, two or more races at 3.7%, White at 2.6%, and Asian at 0.4%. Holyoke/Chicopee's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary funded strategy was suppression. In these pursuits, 1,120 youths participated in positive youth development programs, 1,006 youths participated in recreation programs, and 76 hot spot patrols were completed in 2024.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

"I saw Holyoke Boys and Girls Club teens posting about the Teen Membership Program and saw how much fun it looked. Some friends and I decided to come down one week and haven't missed a week since. There have been weeks I haven't really wanted to do anything but just spend time at the club."

~ Participant, Holyoke Boys & Girls Club

Lawrence

The Lawrence site received a total of \$299,866.91 in funding in 2024, can increase of \$49,366.91 increase from the previous year. Of this, 10% was allocated to case management, 5% to community mobilization, 16% to education and employment, 53% to positive youth development and recreation, and 18% was allocated to suppression.

In 2024, Lawrence served 4,465 youth across eight partner organizations. A total of 4.8% of the youth served were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 8.2% were 15-18 years old, 2.3% were 19-24 years old, and 84.8% were classified as age unknown. By gender, 6.5% of participants identified as male, 8.7% identified as female, 84.8% were classified as gender unknown, and less than 0.1% identified as transgender. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was unknown at 84.8%, followed by Hispanic and Latino at 13.2%, Black at 0.9%, White at 0.6%, two or more races at 0.4%, and Asian and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander each at 0.1%. Lawrence's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary funded strategy was suppression. In these pursuits, 726 youth participated in youth development programs, 597 youths participated in recreation programs, and 187 hot spot patrols were conducted in 2024.

"A young man was referred to SISU several years ago. His family is gang-involved, but he was doing everything he could to avoid being drawn into the lifestyle. He was getting ready to graduate from Lawrence High School and was interested in continuing his education, as well as learning music. The SISU team helped him enroll at Northern Essex Community College (NECC). He attends classes in the morning and works at SISU in the afternoon. He mastered the embroidery and screen-printing shops and was soon teaching others. Over the summer, he was promoted to a peer mentor and shop supervisor. He continues to serve as a role model to other SISU participants. He is still enrolled at NECC and has been learning the piano."

~ Lawrence Family Development & Education Fund, Inc.

Lowell

The Lowell site received a total of \$761,325.27 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$22,174.52 from the previous year. Of this, 8% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 0% was allocated to community mobilization, 29% was allocated to education and employment, 35% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 27% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024, Lowell served 1,790 youth across ten partner organizations. A total of 47.5% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 42.2% were 15-18 years old, 6.8% were 19-24 years old, and 3.5% were classified as age unknown. By gender, 59.2% of participants identified as male, 37.2% identified as female, 3.4% were classified as gender unknown, and 0.2% identified as transgender or genderqueer. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 26.6%, other at 18.4%, Asian at 15.7%, two or more races at 13.1%, White at 10.7%, Black at 7.5%, unknown at 5.7%, American Indian/Alaskan Native at 1.8%, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander at 0.5%. Lowell's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary funded strategy was education and employment. In these pursuits, 1,337 youths participated in youth development programs, 264 youths participated in education programs, and 182 youths participated in employment programs in 2024.

"Cara [4] is a 16-year-old female participant of our boxing program. She is a very quiet, keeps-to-herself kind of girl, especially in social environments. I noticed when she first started, she would be off to the side working out alone and would not say a word to anyone. However, throughout the months of training, she started to become comfortable with others while working on drills. After speaking to her, she stated that before coming to the program, she did not like social settings and felt overwhelmed between school and her personal life. She said boxing helped her have a clearer vision and mindset. She said she noticed she can focus more on her schoolwork, be more social, and most importantly, be more expressive with me as one of her coaches."

~Lowell Police Department

Lynn

The Lynn site received a total of \$416,722.03 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$15,086.66 from the previous year. Of this, 49% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 6% was allocated to community mobilization, 21% was allocated to education and employment, 11% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 13% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

In 2024, Lynn served 856 youth across five partner organizations. A total of 18.1% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 69.3% were 15-18 years old, and 12.6% were 19-24 years old. By gender, 73.4% of participants identified as male and 26.5% identified as female. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 42.1%, followed by Black at 19.0%, race unknown at 13.3%, Asian at 11.0%, White at 9.8%, and two or more races at 4.8%. Lynn's primary funded strategy was case management/street outreach/intervention, and its secondary funded strategy was education and employment. In these pursuits, 178 youths received outreach services, and 50 youths participated in education or employment programs in 2024.

"We have referred a young 16-year-old to our HiSET program, and after 5 months of learning how to be successful in school, he has decided to return to public school and is doing very well. We will follow him with our case management team to make sure he is successful and then provide him with information on paid trade schooling."

~Catholic Charities North

[4] Name changed for confidentiality.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS



Cambridge Youth Programs, City Peace (MAPC)

Metro Mayors Coalition

The Metro Mayors Coalition received a total of \$786,070.91 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$28,923.05 from the previous year. Of this, 9% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 7% was allocated to community mobilization, 14% was allocated to education and employment, 39% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, 16% was allocated toward suppression efforts, and approximately 16% was allocated to other/administrative costs.

In 2024, Metro Mayors Coalition served 2,221 youth across twenty partner organizations. A total of 45.9% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 43.2% of participants were 15-18 years old, 8.1% were 19-24 years old, and 2.8% were classified as age unknown. By gender, 60.5% of participants identified as male, 33.5% identified as female, 3.3% were classified as unknown, 3.0% identified as agender/gender queer, and less than 0.1% identified as transgender. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 31.2%, followed by White at 27.4%, Black at 17.1%, Asian at 9.4%, two or more races at 8.9%, other or unknown at 5.9%, and American Indian/Alaskan Native at 0.2%. Metro Mayor's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary funded strategy was suppression. In these pursuits, 1,689 youths participated in youth development programs, 1,611 participated in recreation programs, and 1,114 hot spot patrols were conducted in 2024.

"As a result of the family game night, Cambridge Police Department (CPD) officers were able to engage frequently with a family that had little to no resources. The parents had 5 small children and were struggling to make ends meet. As a result of the continuous work and relationship building the officers established with the family, we were able to access bicycles for the children to ride during the summer months, food for the family to survive, and sports programs for the kids to enroll in to keep them occupied with positive engagement. This was a great example of how such small gestures impact the residents and the community in a profound way."

~ Cambridge Police Department

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

New Bedford

The New Bedford site received \$1,138,983.45 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$41,815.65 from the previous year. Of this, approximately 32% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 16% was allocated to community mobilization, 16% was allocated to education and employment, 16% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 20% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

In 2024, New Bedford served 307 youth across three partner organizations. A total of 47.2% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 38.1% of participants were 15-18 years old, and 14.7% were 19-24 years old. By gender, 73.6% of participants identified as male, and 26.4% identified as female. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 45.3%, followed by Black at 37.1%, White at 16.6%, American Indian/Alaskan Native at 0.7%, and Asian at 0.3%. New Bedford's primary funded strategy was case management, street outreach, and intervention, and its secondary funded strategy was suppression. In these pursuits, 307 or 100% of youth received outreach services, and 95 hot spot patrols were completed in 2024.

"We have a participant in the program who is currently enrolled in an alternative school. He is someone who initially struggled with his behavior and getting his schoolwork done, but since his participation in the Shannon Program, he is now getting all A's and B's and is also completing his goal of transferring to New Bedford High School."

~ NorthStar Learning Center

Pittsfield

The Pittsfield site received a total of \$409,382.80 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$15,063.02 from the previous year. Of this, 48% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 24 % was allocated to community mobilization, 0% was allocated to education and employment, 24% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 5% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

In 2024, Pittsfield served 108 youths across two partner organizations. A total of 34.3% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 52.8% were 15-18 years old, and 13.0% were 19-24 years old. By gender, 62.0% of participants identified as male, 37.0% identified as female, and 1% identified as agender or genderqueer. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was White at 45.4%, followed by Hispanic or Latino at 21.3%, Black at 20.4%, and two or more races at 13.0%. Pittsfield's primary funded strategy was case management, street outreach, and intervention, and its secondary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation. In this pursuit, 108 or 100% of youth received case management services, and 96 youth participated in youth development programs in 2024.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

"One of our young adults successfully started college at Berkshire Community College (BCC) in September with the support of case management to ensure their schoolwork and workload were managed well. This young adult began engaging with the agency clinician to support their mental health and was able to maintain a full-time job at a local nursing home while completing college courses."

~ 18 Degrees-Pittsfield Community Connection

Springfield

The Springfield site received a total of \$1,247,411.92 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$45,897.84 from the previous year. Of this, approximately 12% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 1% was allocated to community mobilization, 20% was allocated to education and employment, 33% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 34% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

In 2024, Springfield served 2,791 youth across fourteen partner organizations. A total of 43.0% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 33.5% were 15-18 years old, 9.6% were 19-24 years old, and 13.9% were categorized as age unknown. By gender, 66.5% of participants identified as male, 30.2% identified as female, 3.1% were categorized as gender unknown, and 0.1% identified as transgender. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Hispanic or Latino at 47.3%, followed by Black at 25.4%, other or race unknown at 12.4%, two or more races at 7.6%, White at 6.2%, Asian at 1.0%, and American Indian/Alaskan Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander each at 0.1%. Springfield's primary funded strategy was suppression, and its secondary strategy was positive youth development and recreation. In these pursuits, 79 hot spot patrols were completed, 1,568 youth participated in youth development programs, and 1,690 participated in recreation programs in 2024.

"This year, we had one of our regular youths open up more. Upon initially working with this youth, he expressed anger and resentment in his family due to the idea of favoritism amongst siblings. Coming from a single-parent household, he felt like he needed to take on more responsibility. We assigned this youth a peer-to-peer mentor, which helped the youth gain some understanding of his position. This student now has a healthier relationship with his family and can enjoy himself more often with his newfound self-control."

~ New North Citizens' Council

Taunton

Taunton received a total of \$131,720.70 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$4,837.92 from the previous year. Of this, approximately 25% was allocated to case management, street outreach, and intervention, 0% was allocated to both community mobilization and education and employment, 37% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, 7% was allocated toward suppression efforts, and 32% was allocated to administrative costs.

SHANNON SITE HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024, Taunton served 64 youths across three partner organizations. Of those served, 75.0% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 20.3% of participants were 15-18 years old, and 4.7% were 19-24 years old. By gender, 53.1% of participants identified as male, and 46.9% identified as female. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was Black at 51.6%, followed by White at 31.3%, Hispanic or Latino at 14.1%, and 3.1% as race unknown. Taunton's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary strategy was case management, street outreach, and intervention. In these pursuits, 59 youth participated in positive youth development and recreation programming, and 64 or 100% of youth received case management services in 2024.

"We were able to hire a bilingual youth/family coordinator who has increased the Shannon youth served by about 62%. The new role is designed to develop programs to prevent youth/children's involvement in criminal activity. Youth will now have the opportunity to participate in recreational activities that will keep them busy and out of trouble after school."

~ Taunton Housing Authority (Bristol Commons)

Worcester

The Worcester site received a total of \$1,249,043.89 in funding in 2024, an increase of \$45,957.89 from the previous year. Of this, 21% was allocated to case management and street outreach or intervention, 3% was allocated to community mobilization, 28% was allocated to education and employment, 32% was allocated to positive youth development and recreation, and 11% was allocated toward suppression efforts.

In 2024, Worcester served 1,488 youth across twelve partner organizations. A total of 21.4% of participants were between the ages of 10-14 years old, 34.7% of participants were 15-18 years old, 14.3% were 19-24 years old, and 29.6% were categorized as age unknown. By gender, 51.9% of participants identified as male, 17.4% identified as female, 29.8% were classified as gender unknown, 1.0% identified as agender/gender queer, and 0.3% identified as transgender. The race/ethnicity with the highest participant representation was other or race unknown at 39.2%, followed by Black at 22.0%, Hispanic or Latino at 20.9%, White at 10.8%, two or more races at 6.3%, Asian at 0.7%, and American Indian/Alaskan Native at 0.1%. Worcester's primary funded strategy was positive youth development and recreation, and its secondary strategy was education and employment. In these pursuits, 331 youths participated in youth development programs, 645 youths participated in recreation programs, 299 youths participated in employment programs, and 195 youths participated in education programs in 2024.

"The Court Diversion Program was able to work with a youth experiencing homelessness to assist her and her family in accessing housing resources and mental health services via telehealth. In addition, the youth was able to graduate from high school!"

~ YOU Inc./Seven Hills Foundation

SHANNON RESEARCH COMPONENT

The Shannon grant program includes a research component comprised of Local Action Research Partners (LARPs) and a Statewide Research Partner (SRP). LARPs provide strategic, analytic, and research support to individual Shannon sites. The SRP provides similar support to OGR, LARPs, and Shannon grantees. In 2024, a total of \$1,054,106.07 was awarded to support the work of LARPs and the SRP.

Local Action Research Partners Activities

In 2024, LARPs supported Shannon sites by conducting community risk assessments to assist grantees in identifying key issues and trends relevant to youth violence and gang activity. LARPs shared results from community risk assessments as well as other emerging and relevant evidence at Shannon steering committee meetings involving grantees and other key stakeholders in each of the funded communities. Research partners also provided technical assistance to funded police departments and community-based organizations. For example, Westfield State University, which serves as a LARP to the Shannon Pittsfield site, led a group/gang audit activity for the Pittsfield police department. LARPs also supported grantees with Shannon reporting requirements and the implementation of the Shannon IRA.



Chicopee Boys & Girls Club Police Academy

Statewide Research Partner Year-in-Review

The SRP's work addresses four key areas oriented to work alongside Shannon stakeholders to improve the grant program and its outcomes.

1. First, we seek to find opportunities to refine the Shannon biannual reporting system to ensure that funded sites and partner organizations are using reliable outcome measures and appropriate data collection strategies. In 2024, we shared updated reporting instructions with grantees and responded to all requests for support during the interim and year-end reporting periods.
2. Second, we gather information on grantee needs and challenges through regular communication with partner organizations, site managers, and LARPs and careful coding of open-ended questions from our biannual programmatic reports. To this end, we worked in close collaboration with OGR and grantees to resolve new issues related to grant management in select sites.

SHANNON RESEARCH COMPONENT

3. Additionally, we facilitate open communication and coordination between our team, OGR, and Shannon grantees, looking for new ways to align our technical support with the needs of the program's state and local partners. In 2024, we hosted a virtual 'Shannon Share' series, including presentations from the Department of Health Services on youth mental health and Dr. Lisa Barao (Pittsfield LARP team) who led a training on group/gang audits.
4. Lastly, our SRP team actively works in collaboration with the Shannon community to develop new areas of research. To this end, we continued our efforts to validate the Shannon IRA. In 2024, we completed data collection for our validation study. The validation study involved gathering follow-up data from youth who were assessed with the Shannon IRA between April 2018 and June 2024. Grantees were asked to administer follow-up assessments with youth to ask about violence and gang membership. Data collection was completed in December 2024. Results from the study are forthcoming and will be presented to OGR and Shannon site managers and LARPs at the annual SRP-hosted event during the first quarter of 2025.



Shannon Leadership Forum 2025

During the 2025-2026 SRP grant cycle, we look forward to sharing the results of our Shannon IRA validation study and updating all guidance and training on the assessment based on our findings. In addition, we propose surveying and convening Shannon-funded police departments before the next year-end reporting period to better understand their needs and capacity regarding data collection and analysis. Additionally, we propose utilizing a new password-protected page on the Shannon CSI website to share state and local resources with grantees, starting with materials related to helping youth and families experiencing homelessness and housing instability. Finally, as we anticipate the Shannon CSI's 20th anniversary, we propose dedicating our annual event in 2026 to celebrating the grant program's impact over the last two decades.