

2023 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE LOWELL

Funded Partners: Boys & Girls Club of Greater Lowell, Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association, Career Center of Lowell, Lowell Community Health Center, Lowell High School, Lowell Parks and Recreation, Lowell Police Department, UTEC, YWCA

Funded by the Office of Grants and Research, a state agency that is part of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, 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: \$739,150.75

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	126 youth received case management services	101 case management goals achieved	\$58,000.00
Community Mobilization	300 community members attended events, meetings, & presentations	12 community events, meetings, & presentations held	\$4,750.00
Education & Employment	264 youth participated in education programs	289 youth participated in employment programs	\$218,831.00
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	142 youth participated in recreation programs	1,568 youth participated in youth development programs	\$252,687.90
Suppression	1,983 hot spot patrols completed	16 gang members/high impact players arrested	\$204,881.85

Youth Risk Assessments

92% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

2% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

6% **HIGH-RISK*** Youth who are perpetrators or victims of shooting or stabbing violence, and/or are known gang members.

* % of youth assessed for risk

Success Highlight

“One of our participants this year gained some valuable self-advocacy skills while taking our work readiness classes. Because of his growth and increased professionalism, he was chosen as the first Black Mayor for a Day. He was able to preside over a City Council Meeting while also receiving a citation. It was a life-changing moment for him and us.”

~Career Center of Lowell

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lowell

Total Population (2022/2023 Estimates)	7,001,399	113,608
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	16.6%
Unemployment Rate (Jan. – Nov. 2023)	3.1%	3.6%
Total School Population (2022-23)	964,066	18,721
Low-Income (2023)	42.2%	72.3%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	2.1%	5.5%

Sources: www.census.gov/quickfacts; profiles.doe.mass.edu; www.lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment

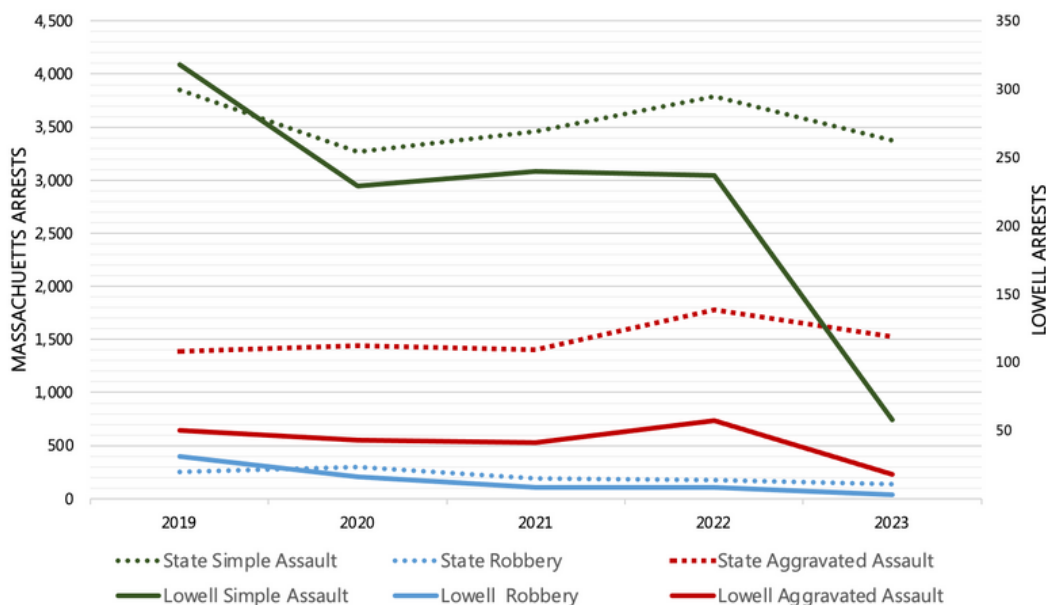
Gang Activity in Lowell

23
Street Gangs

300
Gang Members
between the Ages
of 10-24

The Lowell Police Department's Gang Unit meets regularly with the Haverhill and Lawrence police gang units and UTEC streetworkers due to overlapping city groups. A group of gang members has recently been breaking off and forming their own independent gang. It is unknown what caused the conflict, but the police departments and UTEC are anticipating violence between these two groups.

5-Year Crime Trends for Offenses Committed by Youth Ages 10-24, 2019-2023



Changes in Crime for Young People Ages 10-24, 2019-2023

- Simple assaults in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 12%
 - Lowell decreased 82%
- Robberies in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 46%
 - Lowell decreased 90%
- Aggravated assaults in...
 - Massachusetts increased 10%
 - Lowell decreased 64%

Source: National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

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.