

2022 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	37 Received Case Management Services	16 Case Management Goals Achieved	\$4,666.72
Education & Employment	149 Participated in Employment Programs	285 Participated in Education Programs	\$264,372.88
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	593 Participated in Recreation Programs	955 Participated in Youth Development Programs	\$260,781.00
Suppression	439 Hot Spot Patrols Completed	18 Gang Members/High-Impact Players Arrested	\$209,330.15

Youth Risk Assessments

- 24% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 25% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 51% **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 teens hired as our Peer Ambassador has had a tough year as he lives in a single household with his mom, who has faced challenges preventing her from working. Working as a Peer Ambassador in the program has provided some financial relief for him to help his mom with rent and groceries. He finds joy in helping others through our Youth Reaching Out program in collaboration with the YWCA, where they deliver groceries to those in need. He has helped many Teen BLOCK youth connect to community resources such as the Bike Connector. He assists staff with Teen BLOCK social media content because he enjoys digital media."

~Lowell Community Health Center

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

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

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Lowell

Total Population (2021/2022 Estimates)	6,981,974	113,994
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	17.5%
Unemployment Rate (Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2022)	4%	4.2%
Total School Population (2021-22)	957,774	17,593
Low-Income	42.3%	73.4%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	1.5%	2.7%

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

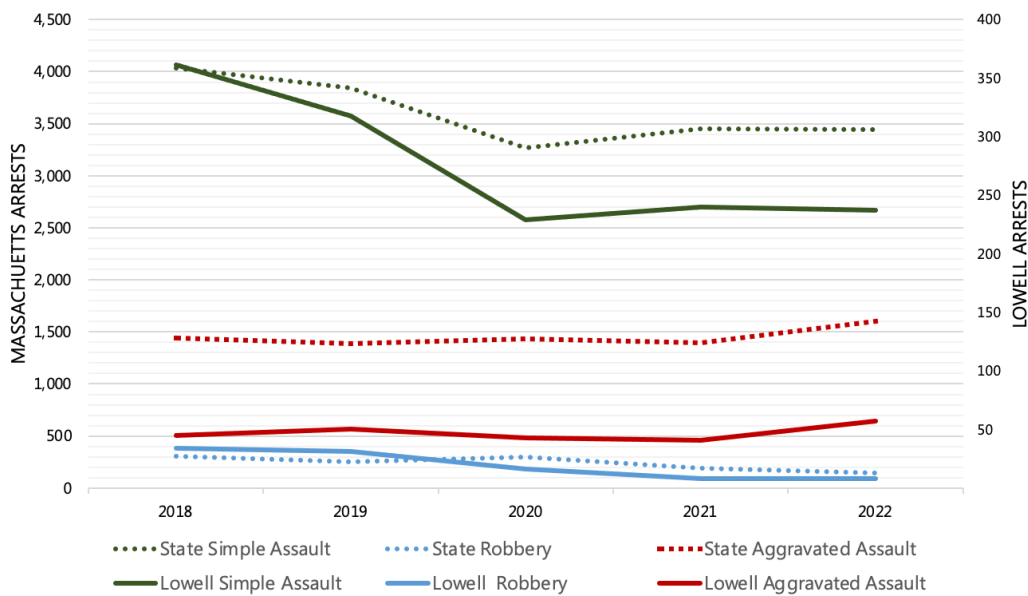
Gang Activity in Lowell

23
Street Gangs

300
Gang Members
Under 25

Within the last three months, Lowell has had two new gangs develop that are currently feuding with each other. The members range in age from 14-17 and have been the cause of numerous fights and disturbances at Lowell High School. LHS has requested the Lowell Police Department and UTEC's presence after school to attempt to deter violence. UTEC has also hosted a peace talk between the leadership of the two groups. Unfortunately, despite the young age of the members, these groups have been responsible for a number of back-and-forth shootings due to the ongoing feud. The LPD Gang Unit is actively working to identify members and intervene in the violence.

5-Year Crime Trends for Offenses Committed by Youth Ages 10-24, 2018-2022



Changes in Crime for Young People Ages 10-24, 2018-2022

- Simple assaults in...
- Massachusetts decreased 15%
 - Lowell decreased 34%
- Robberies in...
- Massachusetts decreased 52%
 - Lowell decreased 76%
- Aggravated assaults in...
- Massachusetts increased 11%
 - Lowell increased 27%

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.