

# 2022 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE PITTSFIELD

Funded Partners: 18 Degrees - Pittsfield Community Connections, Pittsfield Police Department

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: \$396,034.80

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
<b>Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention</b>	<b>131</b> Received Case Management Services	<b>40</b> Received Street Outreach Services	<b>\$139,813.92</b>
<b>Community Mobilization</b>	<b>280</b> Community Members Attended Events, Meetings, & Presentations	<b>56</b> Community Events, Meetings, & Presentations Held	<b>\$69,906.96</b>
<b>Education &amp; Employment</b>	<b>55</b> Participated in Employment Programs	<b>20</b> Participated in Education Programs	<b>\$69,906.96</b>
<b>Positive Youth Development &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>55</b> Participated in Recreation Programs	<b>67</b> Participated in Youth Development Programs	<b>\$69,906.96</b>
<b>Suppression</b>	<b>63</b> Hot Spot Patrols Completed	<b>5</b> Gang Members/High-Impact Players Arrested	<b>\$46,500.00</b>

### Youth Risk Assessments

- 53% **LOW-RISK\*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 35% **MODERATE-RISK\*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 12% **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

*"Two years ago, there was a youth who had been very hard to engage. Within this past year, this youth began engaging after another participant she was involved with told her about how we have been helping them. Within a few short weeks, the youth became very involved in our program, utilizing all of our resources such as clinical services, case management, and the young parent program. She got and maintained a job until she was 8 months pregnant, advocated and communicated regarding school needs (started tutoring as she reached the final weeks of pregnancy, and continued postpartum), pursued driving lessons, applied for her permit, and obtained it, all while being pregnant. This youth has shown great progress and growth in the past 9 months of becoming engaged with our program."*

~ 18 Degrees - Pittsfield Community Correction

# Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Pittsfield

Total Population (2021/2022 Estimates)	6,981,974	43,641
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	12.7%
Unemployment Rate (Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2022)	4%	4.7%
Total School Population (2021-22)	957,774	5,893
Low-Income	42.3%	65.5%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	1.5%	2.3%

Sources: [www.census.gov/quickfacts](http://www.census.gov/quickfacts); [profiles.doe.mass.edu](http://profiles.doe.mass.edu); [www.lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment](http://www.lmi.dua.eol.mass.gov/LMI/LaborForceAndUnemployment)

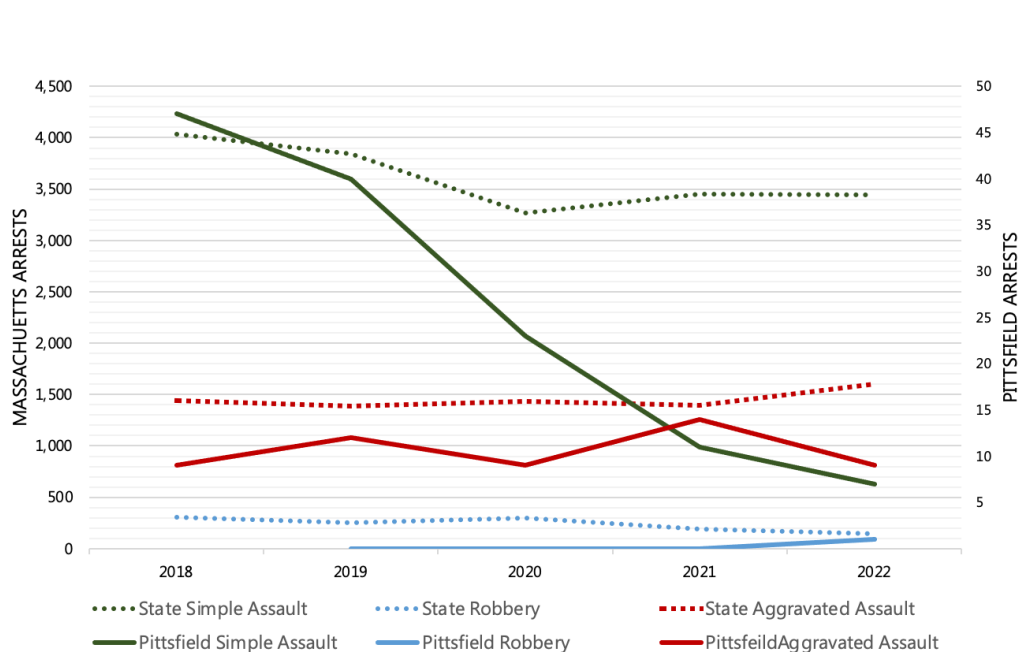
## Gang Activity in Pittsfield

200-400  
Active  
Gang Members

30-50  
Gang Members  
Under 25

In Pittsfield, there is a variety of different gangs, including the national gangs that all people are aware of like the Bloods, Crips, and Latin Kings. There are also street gangs in the area that have developed that will sometimes align themselves with the larger gangs. Additionally, there are street gangs from the Springfield area that come to Pittsfield and/or Berkshire County. Recently, there hasn't been gang-on-gang violence. Instead, violence frequently stems from individual issues. Normally people think of Bloods and Crips being rival gangs, but often times groups have members from both gangs affiliating with one another in order to facilitate the sale of narcotics. The gang activity in Pittsfield revolves around the sales of narcotics and prostitution. Means of recruitment stem from neighborhood or street-level recruitment, social media, and entertainment (music).

## 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%
  - Pittsfield decreased 85%
- Robberies in...
- Massachusetts decreased 52%
  - Pittsfield decreased 0%
- Aggravated assaults in...
- Massachusetts increased 11%
  - Pittsfield decreased 0%

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.