

# 2023 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE SPRINGFIELD

Funded Partners: Give Music, Inc., Greater New Life Christian Center, Martin Luther King Jr. Family Services, New North Citizens' Council, Shoot Hoops C3, South End Community Center, Springfield Boys & Girls Club, Springfield Boys & Girls Club Family Center, Springfield Police Department, Springfield Youth Athletics, The Mission Inc., The Salvation Army, YMCA Dunbar, YWCA of Western Massachusetts

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: \$1,201,514.08\*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
<b>Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention</b>	<u>128</u> youth received case management services	<u>211</u> youth received street outreach services	<b>\$87,887.13</b>
<b>Community Mobilization</b>	<u>3,500</u> community members attended events, meetings, & presentations	<u>31</u> community events, meetings, & presentations held	<b>\$18,286.90</b>
<b>Education &amp; Employment</b>	<u>155</u> youth participated in employment programs	<u>635</u> youth participated in education programs	<b>\$248,636.01</b>
<b>Positive Youth Development &amp; Recreation</b>	<u>1,515</u> youth participated in recreation programs	<u>1,751</u> youth participated in youth development programs	<b>\$420,449.39</b>
<b>Suppression</b>	<u>107</u> hot spot patrols completed	<u>161</u> law enforcement home visits	<b>\$358,447.30</b>

\*In 2023, \$67,807.35 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

## Youth Risk Assessments

- 13% **LOW-RISK\*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
- 19% **MODERATE-RISK\*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
- 68% **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 young lady came to the program charged with assault and battery against her mother. Her dad has been arrested numerous times for selling drugs. The program staff and program clinician worked with her to help deal with her unresolved trauma from the past. This young lady is now in her second year of college and has recently accepted a part-time position with our program as a counselor."*

*~The Salvation Army*

# Community Risk Factors

	Massachusetts	Springfield
Total Population (2022/2023 Estimates)	7,001,399	154,064
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	25.3%
Unemployment Rate (Jan. – Nov. 2023)	3.1%	5.1%
Total School Population (2022-23)	964,066	27,061
Low-Income	42.2%	85%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	2.1%	3.9%

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)

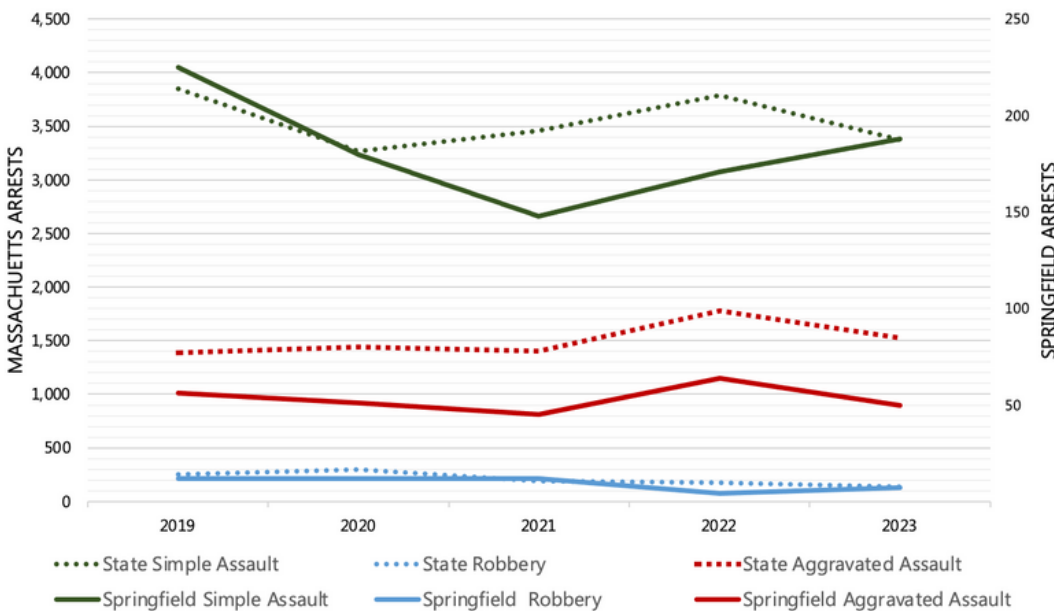
## Gang Activity in Springfield

38  
Street Gangs

784  
Gang Members  
between the Ages  
of 10-24

Springfield gangs control a significant share of the heroin market, resulting in increased drug-related shootings, assaults, and robberies; this activity has been expanding into the suburbs and neighboring cities. Gang members continue to use social media for recruitment, fueling tensions between rival gangs and members of the same gangs.

## 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%
  - Springfield decreased 16%
- Robberies in...
  - Massachusetts decreased 46%
  - Springfield decreased 42%
- Aggravated assaults in...
  - Massachusetts increased 10%
  - Springfield decreased 11%

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.