



# Urban Summer Youth Initiative

Presented by Julie Martin, Director of Visitor Experience and Programs

September 9, 2021





## Purpose

- Provide free, safe youth-based programs for thousands of at-risk teens and young adults in urban areas.
- Demonstrates commitment to urban youth development.
- Build community.
- Foster activities that promote healthy lifestyles.
- Promote shared stewardship of our parks.





## Background

- Launched in 2015 to provide free, safe, youth-based programming
- Partners have expanded from 4 in 2015 to 55 partners in 2021
- Average attendance 2015-2020-5,000 participants
- Programs offered at DCR Locations, partner facilities and city parks
- Partners offer wide range of activities including sports, arts and life skills workshops. Most events also include food.
- Funding goes towards partner programming, police details, equipment and DCR staff overtime
- Kick off (s) held with Partners and Governor Baker and Lieutenant Governor Polito



# Summer Nights Team

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**Julie Martin**, Director of Visitor Experience & Programs

**Hilary Treat**, Manager of Statewide Initiatives

**Lisa Barstow**, Director of Stewardship Program and Agency Initiatives

**Jason Silva**, Business Management Specialist





# DCR Operations

- Summer Nights Programs take place at partner facilities or municipal parks
- DCR Locations include:
  - Cass Recreational Complex, Roxbury
  - McMorrow Courts, Dorchester
  - Ryan Playground, Mattapan
  - Moynihan Courts, Hyde Park
- DCR Operational duties include: emptying trash, keeping any buildings open, maintaining a clean and functioning site each week, and bringing in lighting and generators
- DCR Sign Shop Creates Banners for selected sites



# Summer Nights Timeline

## February

Planning for Summer Nights begins

## March/April

Issue RFR. DCR seeks proposals from organizations with experience working with at-risk youth in urban settings

Extensive Outreach coordinated with legislators, civic leaders, youth organizations, municipal leaders and Black Advisory and Latino Commissions

## May

Evaluates proposals and collects all necessary paperwork

This year we received 59 proposals received/55 funded

Partners Notified of Award

## June

Ongoing collection of paperwork and meetings with partners to finalize schedule

Coordinate Summer Nights Kick Offs

Coordinate Police Details

## July

Kick Off events

Partner Communications & Site Visits

Process Invoices

## August

Ongoing Site Visits & Partner Communications

Process Invoices

## September /October

Analyze Data from Partner Final Reports

Complete Final Report

Hold Partner Appreciation Event



# Summer Nights 2021-Snapshot

55 partners

Nearly 80 Locations

1,200 events over 6 weeks period  
( July 7-August 20)

Serving 19 Communities including 6 Boston  
Neighborhoods and 7 new communities

Boston Harbor Now Provided Free Ferry  
Passes to all Summer Nights Participants

\$1.5 Million dedicated to the program







Boston- 22  
Springfield-10  
Brockton-5  
Lawrence-5

New Bedford-5  
Worcester-3  
Holyoke-2  
Lowell-1

Lynn-1  
Randolph-1

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## Partners Breakdown by Community





# Covid 19 Vaccine Mobile Clinics

- Available at Selected Summer Nights Locations



## Partner Spotlight

### Youth In Crisis, Boston ( Mattapan)

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# Partner Spotlight

## TLK Sports, Worcester







Partner  
Spotlight  
**Boys and  
Girls Club  
of Lynn**





Partner  
Spotlight

Urban League of Springfield





## Partner Spotlight

**Dennison Memorial Community Center**





# Partner Spotlight

## Massachusetts State Police

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# Final Report Analysis

50 % Partners Reporting  
3,500 participants







Summer Nights Appreciation Gathering  
with Governor Charlie Baker  
*Castle Island, South Boston*  
**September 14, 2021**

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