

2023 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE BOSTON

Funded Partners: ABCD, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, Boston Medical Center's Violence Intervention Advocacy Program (VIAP), Boston Police Department, Boston Public Health Commission, Uncornered, Economic Development Industrial Corporation/Office of Workforce Development "YOU Boston", Freedom House, Justice Resource Institute, Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Maverick Landing, More Than Words, Mothers for Justice and Equality, Project Right Inc., Sportsmens Tennis and Enrichment Center, The Center for Teen Empowerment, Urban Guild, Young Man with a Plan, YouthBuild Boston, YouthConnect Boys and Girls Club

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: \$1,642,723.10*

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	<u>560</u> youth received case management services	<u>62</u> youth received outreach services	\$282,561.42
Community Mobilization	<u>3,885</u> community members attended events, meetings, & presentations	<u>430</u> community events, meetings, & presentations Held	\$160,513.85
Education & Employment	<u>340</u> youth participated in employment programs	<u>575</u> youth participated in education programs	\$380,257.46
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	<u>995</u> youth participated in recreation programs	<u>1,270</u> youth participated in youth development programs	\$340,400.85
Suppression	<u>850</u> hot spot patrols completed	<u>45</u> gang members/high impact players arrested	\$199,760.00

*In 2023, \$279,229.51 was allocated to administrative/other costs for the site.

Youth Risk Assessments

23% **LOW-RISK*** Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.

52% **MODERATE-RISK*** Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.

25% **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 youth, 16, came to the MJE office with her newborn, homeless, after being asked to leave her mother's home. MJE worked with her to obtain an emergency shelter and created goals to find employment to save for an apartment. During her time with MJE, she completed the Financial Literacy, Technology Training, and Self-Care workshops. MJE worked with several housing agencies to find her affordable housing. Eventually, she acquired a two-bedroom apartment after finding a full-time job at a childcare center where she enrolled her newborn. She continues to participate in case management with MJE, maintains her employment, and is working on obtaining an Early Childhood Certification."

~Mothers for Justice and Equality

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Boston

Total Population (2022/2023 Estimates)	7,001,399	650,706
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	17.5%
Unemployment Rate (Jan. – Nov. 2023)	3.1%	2.9%
Total School Population (2022-23)	964,066	65,566
Low-Income (2023)	42.2%	69.8%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	2.1%	3.7%

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

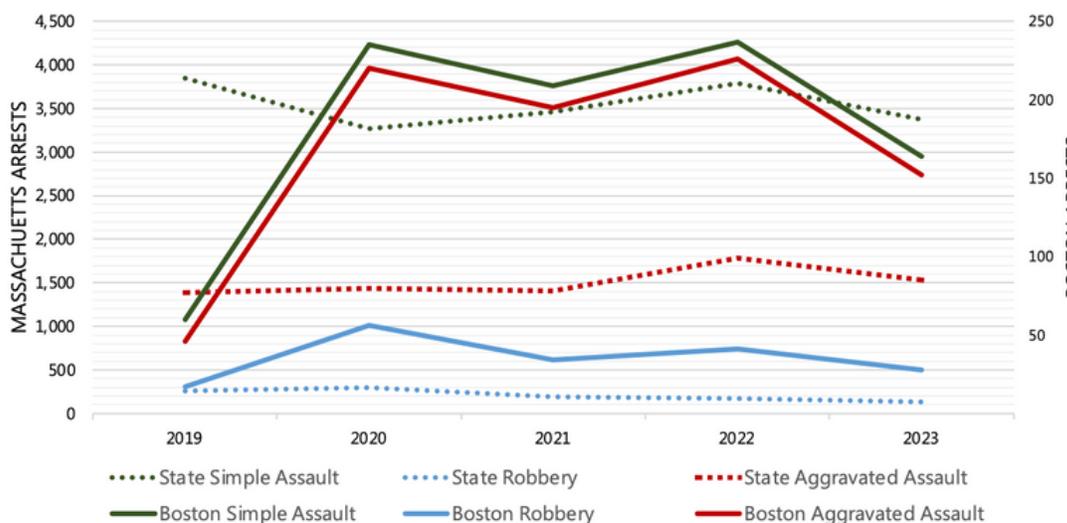
Gang Activity in Boston

100
Street Gangs

725
Gang Members
Between the Ages
of 10-24

Gang activity in 2023 seems to be different from the decades preceding it. According to local partners, there are now fewer structured gangs like the long-term neighborhood-based and location-based gangs such as Humboldt, Mission Hill, Columbia Point, and more loosely affiliated groups. There are newer cohorts in parts of the city less affected by gun/gang violence and an increased number of younger (10-14) individuals carrying firearms. Additionally, social media and music-sharing sites are increasingly being used to stoke contention between groups, neighborhoods, schools, and cultures. In the past year, we have seen youth deface a gravesite, a school shooting, numerous Boston Public School teachers assaulted, and a substantial racketeering case. In addition, gangs come from other cities to prey on the vulnerable population that were encamped on Massachusetts Ave and Melnea Cass Blvd.

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%
 - Boston increased by 173%
- Robberies in...
 - Massachusetts decreased 46%
 - Boston increased 65%
- Aggravated assaults in...
 - Massachusetts increased 10%
 - Boston increased 230%

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.