

2023 CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE HAVERHILL/METHUEN

Funded Partners: Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill, Haverhill Police Department, Leaving the Street Ministries, MakeIT Haverhill, Methuen Arlington Neighborhood Inc., Methuen Police Department, North Shore YMCA, UTEC, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, YWCA of Northeastern 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: \$298,653.64

Strategies	Outcomes		Funding Allocation
Case Management, Street Outreach, or Intervention	<u>104</u> youth received case management services	<u>429</u> youth received street outreach services	\$99,410.54
Community Mobilization	<u>2,360</u> community members attended events, meetings, & presentations	<u>240</u> community events, meetings, & presentations held	\$24,024.74
Education & Employment	<u>12</u> youth completed a subsidized year-round employment program	<u>1,037</u> youth participated in education programs	\$37,258.94
Positive Youth Development & Recreation	<u>975</u> youth participated in recreation programs	<u>3,217</u> youth participated in youth development programs	\$97,888.10
Suppression	<u>361</u> hot spot patrols completed	<u>11</u> gang members/high impact players arrested	\$40,071.32

Youth Risk Assessments

90% LOW-RISK*	Youth in danger of engaging in risky behavior or gang activity.
1% MODERATE-RISK*	Youth exposed to the same risk factors as low-risk youth, as well as additional risk factors such as truancy.
9% 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

"This youth, who had a history of mental health issues, was buying switch blades from the flea market and selling them to kids in school. We had a mediation mentoring sit down with him and another youth that he was struggling to get along with, and because of the mediation, they made peace with one another. He stopped buying, selling blades, and vaping. He came to our third annual Thanksgiving Basket giveaway and thanked us for helping him change his life. He had his report card in his hand, showing us how he made the honor roll. He volunteers for the school by helping the janitor clean and dedicates his time to helping his family with whatever they need at home."

~ Leaving the Street Ministries

Community Risk Factors

Massachusetts

Haverhill

Methuen

Total Population (2022/2023 Estimates)	7,001,399	67,153	53,241
Population Lives in Poverty	10.4%	10.6%	8.9%
Unemployment Rate (Jan. – Nov. 2023)	3.1%	3.4%	3.5%
Total School Population (2022-23)	964,066	9,675	7,900
Low-Income (2023)	42.2%	61.1%	54.3%
High School Dropout Rate (2020-21)	2.1%	3.3%	2.4%

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

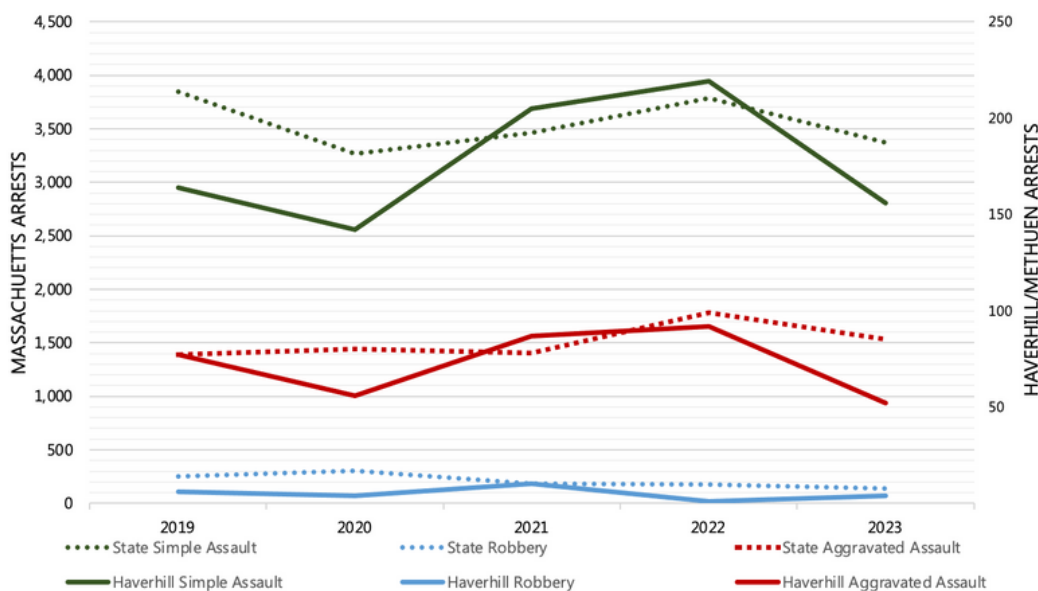
Gang Activity in Haverhill/Methuen

28
Street Gangs

400+
Active Gang
Members

Gangs in Haverhill range from neighborhood cliques to recognized gangs like the Bloods, Crips, Latin Kings, Trinitarios, and Gangsta Disciples. Street outreach workers and police departments report that these groups are involved in crimes that are economic, as well as prostitution and gun crimes. Haverhill gangs deal in drugs, home invasions, and currently “check washing.” Methuen gangs are involved in break-ins, armed robberies, tagging, and drug dealing. In Haverhill, outreach workers report that the Trinitarios and Gangsta Disciples are actively recruiting younger youth. Each has formed provisional gangs for younger youth so they can prove themselves. Many of these provisional gang members are asked to recruit within the middle school-aged youth in Haverhill.

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%
- Haverhill/Methuen decreased 5%

Robberies in...

- Massachusetts decreased 46%
- Haverhill/Methuen decreased 33%

Aggravated assaults in...

- Massachusetts increased 10%
- Haverhill/Methuen decreased 32%

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.