



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT: ANNUAL RECOVERY PLAN

STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY
FUNDS

July 31, 2025

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) plays a critical role in realizing Mayor Michelle Wu's vision for Boston's equitable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. These federal resources have laid a foundation for a prosperous and sustainable future for Boston. Alongside the Operating and Capital Budgets, these investments have helped the City jumpstart solutions to long-term challenges; deliver equity, climate resiliency, jobs, and health across departments and sectors; and have established the foundation for long-term financial sustainability. Overall, the City of Boston received **\$558.7 million** from [ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds](#).

As of June 30, 2025, more than 1,700 people in Boston have died from COVID-19, and over 233,000 have been infected, [according](#) to the Boston Public Health Commission. During the height of the pandemic, businesses sustained heavy losses, with nearly 100,000 jobs lost. Working families with children were especially impacted by the disruption to in-person public schooling. The weight of these challenges disproportionately fell on low-income families, immigrant households, and many communities of color.

In listening sessions, multilingual surveys, and City Council hearings, the City heard from residents, elected officials, and other stakeholders about the needs that COVID-19 exposed or exacerbated, and how ARPA funds should be prioritized to tackle those challenges. Across forums, the City heard that affordable housing and opportunities for homeownership are the top priority for most Boston households. Other important challenges included climate resiliency, economic opportunity, childcare, continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health, and opportunities for community building. In response to this feedback, the City budgeted its ARPA funds with a major concentration on housing, in addition to supporting the city's economy, neighborhoods, and Boston residents in other key areas:

Boston's American Rescue Plan

- ★ **\$241.9M** in unprecedented funding for **safe, healthy, and affordable housing**
- ★ **\$95M** to ensure the stability of **core City services**
- ★ **\$63.2M** to promote **economic opportunity and inclusion**
- ★ **\$46.5M** to advance **climate resilience and improve mobility**
- ★ **\$38.4M** to ensure an **equitable response to the pandemic**
- ★ **\$26.3M** to support **behavioral and mental health**
- ★ **\$26.2M** to **strengthen arts and culture and activate our neighborhoods**
- ★ **\$17.7M** to focus on **early education and childcare**
- ★ **\$3.2M** for **program evaluation and administration**

Underlying all of these impacts, the COVID-19 pandemic exposed low income residents and residents of color to both economic and health shocks; Boston's approach to the ARPA funds, as outlined above, has prioritized recovery for those residents. By the December 31, 2024 deadline, the City obligated all funds to continue driving an equitable recovery for all Boston residents. The focus of this report is on activity as of June 30, 2025.

The City of Boston allocated ARPA funding in three waves. The first portion of allocated funds (totalling **\$189.5 million**) went toward urgent health and economic impacts. On July 13, 2022, an additional **\$362.2 million** was appropriated to support once-in-a-lifetime, transformative investments in Boston's future. On September 16, 2024, **\$7 million** was appropriated for affordable housing initiatives and continued economic recovery. This report illustrates how these investments have begun to meaningfully improve residents' lives. The City and its partners remain committed to efficiently and effectively utilizing these funds to support Boston's families, businesses, and nonprofits.

As Boston implements recovery programs, the City continues to measure its progress across race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability status, neighborhood, and industry where possible. Boston residents have differing levels of access to government resources, and some face significant hurdles in learning about potential relief programs due to language and communication challenges, the digital divide, immigration status, and other cultural barriers. Communicating with Boston's hardest hit residents has been central to the City's response to the short- and long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; that approach remains a priority as the City seeks to ensure that all residents can easily access the resources that they need to thrive.

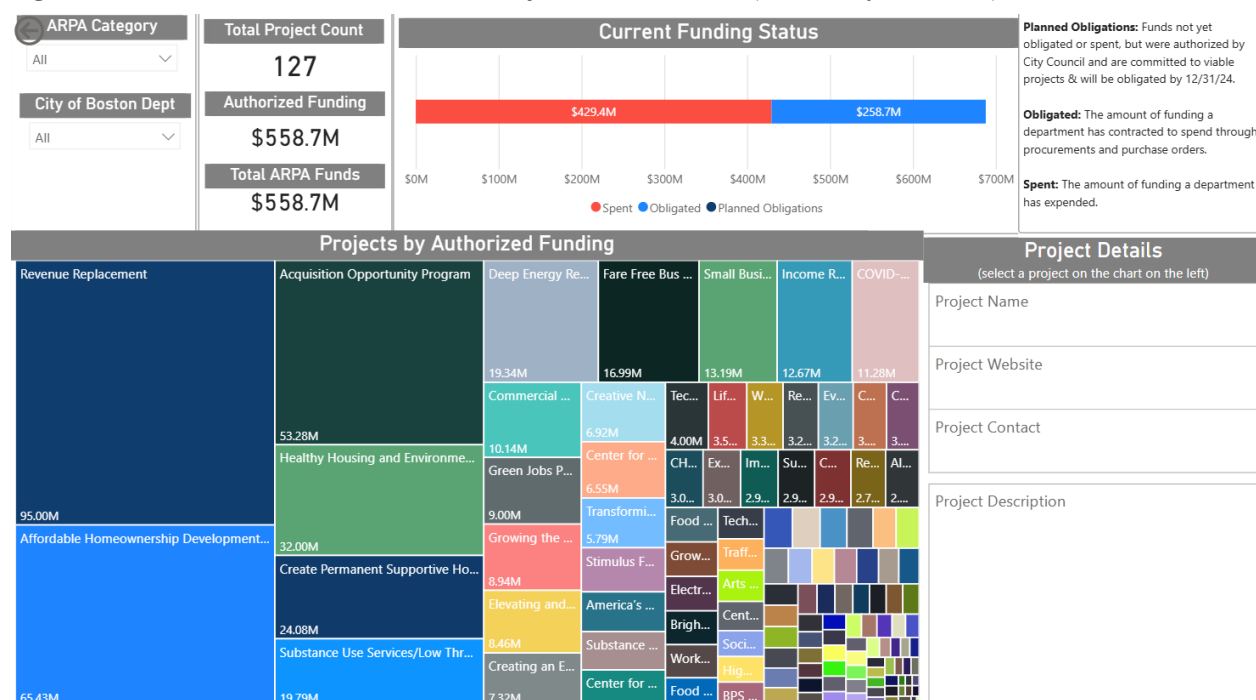
To learn more about Boston's American Rescue Plan, see updates, or find translated versions of this document, please visit boston.gov/recover.

II. USE OF FUNDS

The City of Boston has taken a holistic approach to building a strong and equitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic by using a variety of City, state and federal funding sources in its recovery efforts. As of June 30, 2025, **\$558.7 million** of ARPA funded **127 projects**. The first portion of allocated funds (totalling **\$189.5 million**) was used to address the gaps that were identified early in the pandemic. Funds were rapidly deployed to mitigate urgent health and economic impacts over the first year. On July 13, 2022, an additional **\$362.2 million** was appropriated to support once-in-a-lifetime, transformative investments in Boston's future. On September 16, 2024, **\$7 million** was appropriated to further drive housing affordability and to expand economic recovery initiatives.

To see how the City put ARPA funds to work, please visit the [American Rescue Plan Projects public dashboard](https://boston.gov/recover) on boston.gov/recover. A snapshot of the dashboard is below in Figure 1.

Figure 1: American Rescue Plan Act Projects Dashboard (as of July 31, 2025)



Mayor Wu took an “all funds” approach to Boston’s ARPA implementation to ensure an equitable allocation of resources across all neighborhoods and communities. As such, the City leveraged its Operating and Capital budgets to complement ARPA investments and jumpstart solutions to long-term challenges and advance equity, climate resilience, jobs, and health, all of which lay a foundation for a Boston Green New Deal. ARPA funding, alongside commitments in the Operating and Capital Budgets, supplements and provides staffing support for current and future ARPA projects. Additionally, the City used a variety of funding sources beyond ARPA, including other federal, state and private resources, to support an equitable and resilient recovery from the pandemic.

Bostonians, from residents to elected officials, articulated their needs and priorities through listening sessions, a citywide survey, and other forums. The Boston City Council is a key partner in the City’s public process for ARPA implementation and has provided feedback on goals and proposed investments for specific districts, as well as citywide objectives. More details on Community Engagement processes and feedback can be found in Section IV below.

At a high level, Boston’s ARPA strategy was built on a series of key values set by leadership that include the following:

- **ARPA ELIGIBILITY:** Meets the federal criteria established in the legislation and rulemaking
- **BIG, URGENT CHALLENGE:** Tackles one of Boston’s systemic challenges
- **FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY:** Ensures strong financial sustainability of City Budget
- **TRANSFORMATIVE SOLUTION:** Changes the way we work and pilots a new way of

providing needed services and supports to Boston residents

- **LASTING LEGACY:** Builds something enduring that will last beyond ARPA
- **RACIAL EQUITY:** Proactively invests in historically excluded communities that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19
- **HEALTHY RECOVERY:** Continues equitable response to COVID-19 pandemic
- **GOOD JOBS:** Creates good jobs with career pathways in growing industries
- **CLIMATE JUSTICE:** Promotes climate action and environmental justice through healthy, connected communities

Using these criteria as a guide, and with the goal of accelerating a Green New Deal for Boston that would make a positive, tangible impact on residents' lives for years to come, the City allocated ARPA funds as follows:



\$241.9M in unprecedented funding for *safe, healthy, and affordable housing*



\$95M to ensure the stability of *core City services*



\$63.2M to promote *economic opportunity and inclusion*



\$46.5M to advance *climate resilience and improve mobility*



\$38.4M to ensure an *equitable response to the ongoing pandemic*



\$26.3M to support *behavioral and mental health*



\$26.2M to *strengthen arts and culture and activate our neighborhoods*



\$17.7M to focus on *early education and childcare*



\$3.2M for *program evaluation and administration*

Housing

The City obligated \$241,916,033 million for housing initiatives by the end of 2024. As of June 30, 2025, **\$171,210,751** has been spent on **affordable housing**. The City is working to spend the remaining \$70,706,182 before the end of 2026. More details on the four largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

Affordable Homeownership Development (\$65,431,865)

The Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) is utilizing these funds to promote homeownership for low and moderate income Bostonians, which will benefit communities of color who suffer from historical inequities in wealth and asset accumulation. The majority of this funding is to develop green, affordable homeownership opportunities, leveraging a similar investment from the Massachusetts' Commonwealth Builder program. To accelerate production, the Mayor's Office of Housing bundled City-owned parcels together into a series of land-plus-funding development opportunities and as of June 30, 2025 had made awards for the building of 142 units on 27 sites.

In addition, MOH expanded its current homebuyer financial assistance programs, including the One+ Boston Mortgage program and down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers. As of June 30, 2025 these funds have been used to award 164 grants to Boston residents, of which 74% were BIPOC households. Additionally, the Mayor's Office of Housing has funded technical assistance and predevelopment loans to help increase the participation of Women and Minority-owned Business Enterprises (W/MBE) in building these homes.

The collaboration between MOH and BHA has resulted in a significant increase of Section 8 to Homeownership buyers, giving dozens of extremely low-income families the opportunity to build equity while remaining in Boston.

Acquisition Opportunity Program (\$53,281,907)

The Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) is leveraging these ARPA funds to support the acquisition of occupied properties and vacant or underutilized land near transit to preserve tenancies and create affordable housing and economic opportunity. Across all funding sources, the

Acquisition Opportunity Program (AOP) has helped the City's development partners compete in the speculative market, supporting the acquisition of 961 units to date, of which 278 (across 52 buildings) were funded by ARPA.

Funds from this ARPA project were utilized to support the acquisition of all building types—from triple deckers to Single Room Occupancy (SRO) developments to historic buildings to large apartment complexes, including the largest AOP project to date, Fairlawn Apartments in Mattapan.

Healthy Housing and Environmental Justice In Public Housing (\$32,000,000)

The Boston Housing Authority (BHA) is using this funding allocation to vastly improve housing quality for 945 households through improvements to ventilation and window units at six federally-assisted housing developments. These investments will improve air quality, increase energy efficiency, and improve resident comfort across six sites: Franklin Field, Ruth Barkley, Alice Taylor, Roslyn, Rockland and the St. Botolph Apartments. The majority of residents are extremely low-income and hail from historically marginalized racial and ethnic groups who have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Notably, this funding is complemented by other City capital budget and BHA capital fund investments in other neighborhoods and properties. The Boston Housing Authority is advancing construction on these projects.

Create Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Individuals with substance use and behavioral health disorders (\$24,083,409)

In response to the humanitarian crisis at the Mass and Cass encampment, exacerbated by COVID-19, the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) is using these funds to create permanent supportive housing for people struggling with mental health and substance use disorders. These funds allow MOH to rapidly develop new low-threshold housing with specialized services, leveraging existing buildings that can be repurposed. Permanent supportive housing is a proven approach to addressing chronic homelessness by combining affordable housing with on-site services such as case management, mental health support, and substance use treatment. This project provides stability for individuals who face significant barriers to maintaining housing.

Revenue Replacement

The City of Boston lost significant general fund revenue due to the COVID-19 pandemic, much more than the **\$95 million** allocated for revenue replacement. City general fund revenue that relies heavily on the tourism and hospitality industries was dramatically impacted, including excise taxes for hotel room occupancy, meals, and aircraft fuel. Additionally, overall COVID-19 operational disruptions and stay-at-home orders significantly reduced revenue for building

permits and parking fines.

The revenue replacement was transferred to the City's general fund to provide for government services, prevent public-sector layoffs, and allow for investments in post-COVID recovery efforts such as sector-specific job training programs, expanded public transit options, increased food security and homelessness prevention programs, behavioral and mental health supports, environmental supports to protect the City's tree canopy, an increased number of housing vouchers and enhanced services for individuals experiencing homelessness, and for increased capacity to support equity priorities.

In addition to federal support, Boston's large, stable tax base, its prominence as the economic center of New England, and its strong fiscal management practices have enabled the City to weather the crisis while maintaining a triple-A credit rating. The \$4.8 billion FY26 Operating Budget enacted in June 2025 marks an increase of \$206 million, or 4% over FY25 (excluding the one-time transfer to the Housing Accelerator Fund). This budget is made possible by continued strength in local property tax revenue, local option excises, and stable departmental revenues. These revenue sources more than offset the projected decline in interest revenues.

Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

The City allocated \$63,167,533 toward economic opportunity and inclusion initiatives. As of June 30, 2025, **\$48,507,028** has been spent to **promote economic opportunity and inclusion**, and **\$14,660,504** remains to be spent before the end of 2026. More details on the three largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

Small Business Fund 2.0 (\$13,186,513)

With this funding, the City was able to reopen its Small Business Relief Fund to issue grants to small businesses in the hardest hit industries. Recipients could use the grants to cover all business expenses in order to help their recovery and growth. Businesses were able to apply for two types of grants:

- *Relief Grant*: Up to \$10,000 to support outstanding debts for rent/mortgage, inventory, payroll, or fixed expenses, and/or
- *Growth Grant*: Up to \$10,000 to support business growth through tools, technology, materials, personnel, or other costs associated with investing in the growth of the business.

The Small Business Fund 2.0 has awarded grants to 1,027 small businesses totalling more than \$13,000,000.

Commercial Rental Rebate Pilot Program (\$10,140,019)

As we continue to recover from the long-term effects of the pandemic, Boston continues to identify creative ways to bring people back to major commercial districts to revitalize the

economy, including Downtown, Back Bay, and the Seaport. However, one of the biggest hurdles small businesses continue to face is the cost of security deposits, rent, equipment and build-out costs. This initiative will help small businesses move into these commercial districts to support their growth and build wealth in every neighborhood while supporting the work of bringing people back to our commercial districts and downtown neighborhoods. In addition to grant funding, small businesses also accessed technical assistance and free memberships to the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Associated Industries of Massachusetts, and the Retailers Association of Massachusetts.

Since the program's inception in Winter 2023, the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion has opened a total of three application periods for the *Supporting Pandemic Affected Community Enterprises (SPACE)* Grant Program. The City has supported over 90 grantees, announcing final awards in November 2024. This program is designed to help small businesses grow and open new locations, with a priority given to industries that were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, each round is focused on businesses in the following sectors: creative economy, entertainment, childcare, fitness, recreation, wellness, food service and production, repair, maintenance, laundry services, restaurants, and retail.

Creating an Ecosystem to Grow BIPOC-Owned Employer Firms (\$7,317,150)

One of the key drivers of generational wealth creation is entrepreneurship and business ownership. Therefore, the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion is leveraging these funds to create a new program to grow and sustain employer firms owned by people of color (MBEs) and women (WBEs) with a particular focus on sectors that comprise a large share of the City's public contracts but show limited availability and low participation of MBEs and WBEs. This program will create a system in which eligible businesses will be comprehensively assessed by business development specialists, then receive access to industry-specific technical assistance and capital to help them grow and thrive in Boston. It will strengthen the pipeline for producing and preparing the next generation of BIPOC- and women-led employer firms.

In Spring 2023, the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion, through the Supplier Diversity Office, opened applications for the \$750,000 Boston Contracting Opportunity Fund to help grow and sustain firms owned by people of color in priority sectors including waste collection & management, snow removal & landscaping, design & architectural services, food and dining services, plumbing & HVAC services, electrical work, general contracting services, roofing, siding, and flooring work, and insulation, drywall, masonry, and weatherproofing work. The City supported 51 businesses through these grants.

In October 2023, the Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion, through the Department of Supplier Diversity, issued an RFP seeking partners to assist in the delivery of industry specific technical assistance as part of the *Supplying Capital and Leveraging Education* or 'SCALE' program.

Based on findings from the City of Boston's Disparity Study, published in 2021, small businesses, particularly those owned by people of color and women, often encounter difficulties accessing financial capital, business resources, and acquiring the knowledge necessary to effectively bid for and compete in government, private and institutional contracts. Additionally, small businesses, in particular, were negatively impacted by COVID-19 pandemic, exacerbating these existing barriers. Utilizing APRA funds, the *Supplying Capital And Leveraging Education* (SCALE) business accelerator program will seek to address these barriers.

The SCALE program is anchored by a technical assistance (TA) program designed for small to medium sized businesses in specific industries. The purpose of the program is to build these businesses' capacity to more effectively bid on, win, and perform public contracts, specifically for the City of Boston. The program focuses on industry categories that represent a large share of the City of Boston's discretionary spending. These categories include: Snow removal and landscaping, food and dining services, design and architectural services, construction, general contracting services, construction, and trade work.

TA providers provide business participants access to business development tools, industry-specific technical assistance, and capital planning services for small Boston-based businesses, helping them effectively scale to meet the demands of performing larger public contracts in specific industry categories.

In June 2024, OEOI finalized service contracts with five technical assistance providers selected via the competitively bid procurement referenced above to provide technical assistance to businesses in the five industry categories. This is an investment of \$1,346,150 in ARPA funding.

Businesses participating in the SCALE program will be selected through a competitive grant program that will be administered by a partner selected through an Invitation for Bids that was posted in August 2024. The Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion plans to work with this partner to disburse an additional \$5 million in ARPA funding in the form of 27 grants of up to \$200k for SCALE program participants and approximately 60-70 smaller grants of up to \$15k as part of reprised Boston Contracting Opportunity Fund.

Climate & Mobility

The City obligated **\$46,544,469** to **advance climate resilience and improve mobility**. More details on the four largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

Fare Free Bus Pilot (\$16,987,313)

This program eases financial burdens for residents and prioritizes transit equity as it focuses on three essential bus lines that run through the Boston neighborhoods of Mattapan, Roxbury, and Dorchester. Over half of riders on Routes 23, 28, and 29 have household incomes under 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI), according to MBTA's most recent system wide survey¹, and these

¹ The MBTA Rider Census Data Explorer Tool is at:

bus routes run through neighborhoods that are also home to many minority-owned businesses. All three routes run through transit corridors experiencing some of the most significant delays in the bus system.

An analysis of the Fare Free Bus Pilot program's first year [showed that](#) free fares lessened riders' financial burden at a time when economic vulnerability was at a historic high, and continues to ensure that residents can easily participate in Boston's reopening, recovery, and long-term renewal. This program provides a direct benefit to many of Boston's transit-critical residents, which the MBTA defines as "residents who are low-income, people of color, seniors, people with disabilities, or who live in households with few or no vehicles." In addition, the Fare Free Bus Pilot helps meet other City-wide goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, easing traffic congestion, and bringing people back into our economy through the transit system.

In response to these positive benefits, the City of Boston [announced](#) in February 2024 that the Fare Free Bus program, originally intended to end in February, would be extended until March 2026. Over the course of the initial pilot (since spring 2022), more than 12 million trips were taken on the free routes creating an estimated savings of more than \$6 million for riders. About 50% of riders are saving money, on average, saving \$35 per month (as of fall 2023). According to data from the MBTA, Route 23 is at 94% of pre-pandemic ridership, Route 28 is at 102%, and Route 29 is at 64% (as of October 2023). Average dwell times² have decreased on Routes 23 and 28.

[Results for America](#), a national collaborative working with government agencies to invest in solutions to big challenges, listed the City of Boston's Fare Free Bus Pilot as one of its 110 notable ARPA projects across the United States.

Green Jobs Program (\$9,000,000)

The Green Jobs Program, known as [PowerCorpBOS](#) provides career development opportunities for unemployed and underemployed young people in green jobs and careers that help Boston prepare for the impacts of climate change. This partnership is led by the City's Environment Department and Office of Workforce Development, in collaboration with the Office of Public Safety, Department of Youth Engagement and Employment, and Boston Centers for Youth & Families. The City of Boston's green jobs program is inspired by the [Philadelphia PowerCorps PHL](#) model that builds opportunities for young people by tackling pressing environmental challenges and developing the skills required to secure meaningful work.

As of June 30, 2025, the [Green Jobs Program](#) has enrolled 240 students in green sector training programs, including 67 students enrolled in the fifth cohort which began on May 19, 2025. To date, PowerCorps Boston has graduated 105 participants across five cohorts. This amounts to a

<https://www.mbta.com/performance-metrics/the-rider-census>

² Dwell time is the amount of time that the bus spends at a scheduled stop. Eliminating fares cuts down on the dwell time at each stop.

graduation rate of approximately 60%, not including the latest cohort which is currently in training.

America's Best Biking City (\$4,626,130)

The City has utilized these ARPA funds to support critical infrastructure investments in bike safety and connectivity in Boston. The Streets cabinet will work with residents at the neighborhood scale to plan and design connected networks of bike routes. Together, they will co-create design plans that close gaps in the existing network and add new low-stress routes for people of all ages. These networks will connect homes with health centers, parks, schools, and local business districts; construct accessible pedestrian routes; and calm traffic to benefit all users. This investment would further catalyze the City's own investments in capital construction of these routes, promising returns in a much shorter timeframe than the City's typical capital plan.

We are also using these funds to implement the pilot Boston E-Bikes Incentive Program to provide a discount at the point of sale toward the purchase of an e-bike for eligible Boston residents. The goals of the program, first launched in 2024, are to accelerate modeshift to biking, promote active living, and improve mobility for seniors, adults with disabilities, and income-eligible adults. To date, 837 Boston residents have purchased an e-bike through the program, more than half of whom are low-income. Our goal is to provide assistance to 1,000 residents. We have hired a program administrator who manages the application portal and provides assistance to individuals in completing the voucher application, processes applications, issues vouchers, and disperses funding to reimburse participating bike retailers for the vouchers fulfilled at their sites. We have also contracted an evaluation consultant that is conducting quantitative and qualitative research to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot initiative.

Walkable City (\$3,386,557)

These ARPA funds will update critical infrastructure and create walking environments that are safe and inviting for all, regardless of age or ability. Funding will complement routine state of good repair programs such as sidewalk repair and handicap ramp compliance that are in the City's Capital budget, with a focus on specific outcomes related to helping our hardest hit communities and improving access to schools. The primary investment will be to support programming and design for our Safe Routes to Schools program, an initiative that works to make it safe, convenient, and fun for children to walk and bicycle to and from school.

The City of Boston hired two staff members to manage the City's Safe Routes to Schools Program. The City recently selected a consultant to help achieve our goal of increasing the number of students who walk, roll, bike, or take transit to school by providing planning and engineering services to create improved arrival and dismissal plans, programming support, policy guidance and program evaluation to inform the city's future approach. The remainder of these funds will be used to make walking and bike improvements in qualifying areas.

Equitable Pandemic Response

The City allocated **\$38,430,531** to **ensure an equitable response to the ongoing pandemic**. More details on the three largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

COVID-19 Vaccination (\$11,284,969)

These ARPA funds are supporting ongoing COVID-19 vaccination efforts. This includes funding operations at vaccine clinics as necessary, including staff and clinic infrastructure. Funds will continue to be distributed to community health centers and community partners as necessary who will support a variety of vaccination efforts including education, outreach, and administration of vaccines. Funds have also supported vaccine ambassador programs, educational events, and development of materials with a focus on neighborhoods and populations disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and with lowest vaccination rates.

COVID-19 Testing (\$3,113,304)

These ARPA funds were utilized to support COVID-19 testing efforts, including funding operations at test sites including supplies, staff, and clinic infrastructure. Funds were distributed to community health centers and clinical partners to support testing efforts including education, outreach, and administration of COVID tests. These testing programs focused on serving neighborhoods and communities most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

CHC COVID Recovery Support (\$3,000,000)

This project provides investments in Community Health Centers (CHCs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) across the City of Boston to support long-term COVID response needs (including vaccination and testing, community outreach and staffing support) and connections to care. CHCs in Boston primarily serve communities that have faced significant barriers to services, such as Black, Indigenous, and other people of color, people with low incomes, people with limited English proficiency, and other traditionally underserved groups. CHC services have been key to addressing and limiting COVID outbreaks across these communities, as these providers have unique relationships with the residents in their area and can provide services and information that address their particular needs and concerns. Collaborations between CBOs and CHCs are a critical way that we ensure residents are getting the care they need, including re-engaging them in care.

Behavioral Health

As of June 30, 2025, **\$26,383,000** has been authorized to **support behavioral and mental health**. More details on the three largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

Center for Behavioral Health and Wellness (\$12,750,000 - 3 Projects)³

This funding develops and implements initial priorities of a new behavioral health and wellness initiative for the City. The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has initiated the work in coordination with other city departments and programs and is focusing on three critical initial priorities: (1) strategies to expand a diverse and accessible behavioral health workforce; (2) capacity building and training programs across city and community partners; and (3) public communications about wellness, mental health, and substance use that address stigma, offer skills to the public, and acknowledge barriers to care.

While there are several programs and departments throughout the city that are working every day to support the mental and behavioral health and wellbeing of Boston residents, there are significant gaps in services, and a lack of attention to prevention and early intervention of mental and behavioral health issues. Strengthening the City's training resources, fostering community-wide workforce and community prevention and resilience capacity, and building a diverse behavioral health workforce pipeline will help fill this critical need for support and services.

Substance Use Disorder Services (\$10,833,000 - 7 Projects)⁴

A public health response to the substance use disorder crisis requires significant investment to ensure harm reduction, outreach response, and recovery services are sustained and expanded across the city. These resources have been used for the recovery services encampment response, additional small engagement centers located in neighborhoods with demonstrated need, expanded harm reduction outreach teams, community engagement to address substance use and unsheltered residents, and a citywide encampment response and service engagement team which will be responsible for providing city-wide outreach.

Community Engagement teams have interacted with thousands of individuals to connect them with services and shelter placements and have helped hundreds of individuals find supportive housing placements.

BPS Student Behavioral Health Supports (\$1,600,000)

This funding expanded student and family support in the Boston Public Schools for behavioral health, including additional dollars to ensure a full time social worker in every school. Social workers provide both individual student and family support, work to improve conditions in schools, and contribute to the design and implementation of school-wide culturally and linguistically sustaining practices. All funds have been spent on this line and the positions have

³ The three projects are: Workforce & Pipeline, Capacity & Resilience, and Communications

⁴ Substance Use Services/Community Engagement to Address Substance Use and Unsheltered Residents (9038), Substance Use Services/HIV (9042), Substance Use Services/Workforce Development (9043), Substance Use Services/Harm Reduction (9045), Substance Use Services/Coordinated Public Health Response in Target Areas (9046), Substance Use Services/Recovery Services Encampment Responses (9112), and Substance Use Services/Exploring Additional Engagement Centers (9113).

rolled into the Boston Public Schools' operating budget.

Arts & Culture

 **Mayor Michelle Wu 吴弭** @MayorWu ...

Our new @ArtsinBoston Cultural Investment Grant expands accessibility in the arts — while also furthering progress in equity & wealth-building, housing stability & community building, & neighborhood health & wellbeing.

To learn more, visit: boston.gov/culturalinvest...



As of June 30, 2025, **\$26,257,534** has been authorized to **strengthen arts and culture and activate our neighborhoods**. More details on the four largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

Elevating and Investing in BIPOC-led Cultural Organizations (\$8,463,400)

Investing in Boston's artists and creative economy is essential to creating a healthier and more vibrant city. This program supports arts and cultural activities in the populations and neighborhoods most impacted by COVID-19, with a focus on creating transformative sustainability for

community-embedded cultural work. By supporting this work with ARPA funds, the City is investing in a future where cultural anchors who have received under-investment in the past can thrive in the city.

This program will offer 3.5 year multi-year grants for organizations, grants for cultural facilities and venues, contracts with festivals and event producers, and support for individual creative workers. The Office of Arts and Culture engaged with an advisory group throughout this process to ensure that ARPA funding is distributed in a way that is equitable and provides the most benefits to Boston's cultural ecosystem.

As of this report, \$7.35M of ARPA was awarded through the [Cultural Investment Grant Program](#) funded by this ARPA project. These grants were awarded to 11 organizations in the Arts & Culture sector.

Creative Neighborhood and Downtown Activations in our Public Spaces (\$6,916,620)

This program supports place-based activations around the City for artists, cultural workers, and communities. Activities will include City-produced and contracted events in target areas that further City policy goals and initiatives, reanimating downtown, creating a sense of community connection to new infrastructure investments. This includes public artworks, like the City's mural program in summer 2024 that supported 13 artists to create murals in partnership with 9 BPS schools. This project also activated Boston's renovated City Hall Plaza,

with free public programs, festivals, and installations. The largest investment in this project is \$4.7 million toward the Neighborhood and Downtown Activation Grant, which supports community-focused arts, cultural, and creative activations in public spaces that foster joy, strengthen community wellbeing across, and advance placemaking across Boston neighborhoods. Much of the programming supported by this grant falls into the categories of: site-specific performance art, immersive arts installations, community celebrations, interactive theater productions, film screenings with conversation, cultural festivals, arts and cultural markets, community dialogues that center the arts, a digital arts festival, and more.

Reopen Creative Boston Fund (\$2,765,000)

The City of Boston and Boston Cultural Council (BCC) utilized ARPA funds to disburse grants to almost 200 arts and cultural organizations to provide general operating support and COVID-19 relief. Reopen Creative Boston supported the recovery of arts and culture organizations from the economic impact of COVID-19. A range of organizations benefited from this support – from small dance groups, to organizations that focus on engaging communities through film, to some of Boston’s most beloved cultural institutions. For the first time, the BCC changed the funding structure to ensure that organizations with the lowest budgets received the highest grant amounts. This funding strategy aimed to better support small to medium-sized organizations.

Brighton Affordable Housing Development with Cultural Space (\$2,450,000)

This project secures the long-term future of affordable musical rehearsal space in Brighton. The Mayor’s Office of Arts and Culture and the Boston Housing Authority will redevelop [290 N Beacon Street](#) in Brighton in response to the lack of affordable housing and cultural space in the Allston-Brighton neighborhood. 290 N Beacon St is a 47,664 square foot parcel of land that will provide affordable rehearsal space, affordable housing, and other compatible uses. This project is ongoing, and the City is currently conducting constituent outreach to understand community needs. Funding from ARPA will be used for site analysis and pre-development work, given the overall length of the project timeline and ARPA deadline in 2026.

Early Childhood

As of June 30, 2025, **\$17,758,700** has been authorized to **focus on early education and childcare**. More details on the three largest allocations under this priority area are described below:

Growing the Early Education and Care Workforce (\$8,940,784)

This ARPA funding has expanded the supply of childcare and enhanced the available workforce by supporting aspiring early educators in accessing apprenticeships, earning their Associate’s degree, gaining licensure from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC), and receiving business development training from the Childcare Entrepreneurship Fund. This infusion of funds will significantly grow both the number of Family Childcare Providers (FCCs) in Boston and the number of trained educators to be placed in center-based programs.

Additionally, these funds will serve child care educators and will ensure that those entering the field and those who are upskilling can do so debt-free. The childcare workforce in Boston is 92% women, 62% people of color, and 39% immigrants (ACS, 2014 - 2018). The Childcare Entrepreneur Fund, an existing City-run grant program, granted funds to providers who are 99% women, 85% people of color, 65% Latinx, and 42% native Spanish speakers. The City anticipates a similar impact with these ARPA funds across Boston.

To date, 545 students from across the Boston area have enrolled in early education & care training programs using funding assistance from this program.

Stimulus Funds for Childcare Centers (\$5,134,536)

In order to support the childcare sector, the City leveraged these ARPA dollars to provide grants to childcare centers in the City of Boston. Grants were designed to meet three objectives: (1) immediate wage and benefit relief (uses include hiring and retention bonuses, new benefits, and educational debt remediation); (2) consulting work to design a new compensation structure focused on equity; and (3) a sustainability plan for the compensation plan based on the state reimbursement system, braided funding streams, and other funding sources. This investment further strengthens Boston's early education and care ecosystem, giving centers time to recover and rebuild their finances and creating equitable compensation structures while informing public policy efforts.

Funds from this program have supported 57 childcare centers or family child care providers in the City of Boston. To date, approximately 5,000 children have received childcare or early learning services as part of the program.

Workforce Hiring and Retention for Childcare Sector (\$1,469,124)

The Childcare Sector, already a low-paying sector before the pandemic, has a severe workforce shortage. This workforce shortage limits childcare programs' ability to serve the number of children they are licensed to care for. To incentivize hiring, the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement provided direct grants to childcare businesses in the City that hired new childcare staff (or rehired previously laid-off staff) since July 1, 2021. The grant was for providers to either reimburse themselves or offer a bonus to the employees they hire or re-hire. The intended outcomes of this program are to draw qualified caregivers back into the childcare workforce with better pay, help childcare workers remain in the field with augmented pay, help childcare businesses retain their workers with annual bonuses, and avoid more FCCs from permanently closing.

Evaluation & Compliance

As of June 30, 2025, **\$3,250,338** has been authorized for **evaluation and administration** of ARPA funds. Funds are being used to create evaluation studies, central program implementation support for City departments, and for uniform audit and compliance costs.

Since May 2023, the City of Boston has hired temporary administrative and evaluation staff. The City hired an ARPA Implementation Director to oversee ARPA management and implementation, with support from the ARPA Implementation Analyst. The City also hired a Director of ARPA Evaluation and Research with support from fellows to evaluate the impact of a subset of these one-time investments. Some specialized Auditing and department staff are temporarily on the grant to ensure proper management and compliance of ARPA SLFRF programs.

Looking Beyond 2026

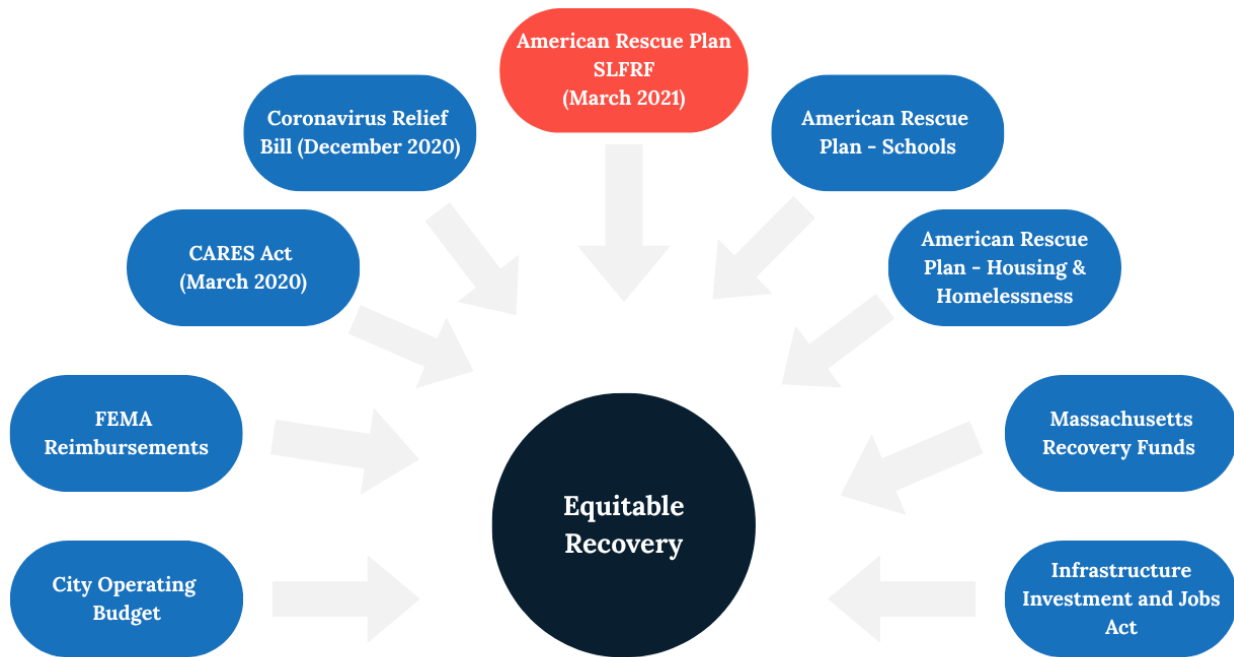
One of the key values of Boston's ARPA strategy is ensuring strong fiscal sustainability. When allocating funds, the City balanced investing in projects that make a meaningful impact on long standing challenges, while meeting the December 2024 obligation deadline, and planning for the December 2026 spending deadline. Many of Boston's 127 ARPA-funded projects are one-time expenditures being used in direct response to the pandemic; others are pilot programs that the City could incorporate into its normal course of business.

The City will evaluate the success of these projects and determine which ones could continue beyond ARPA. This analysis will include project evaluations (including performance data), community input, conversations with departments and community partners, and collaboration with the Boston City Council. Projects that need funds after December 2026 will need to seek such funds through the City's regular budget process.

Other Recovery Funds

While the \$558.7 million investment in Boston from the American Rescue Plan Act is a once-in-a-generation opportunity, it is not the only available resource for an equitable recovery. Starting in FY20, Boston began tracking costs for reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for costs related to COVID-19 such as emergency feeding, homeless sheltering and personal protective equipment (PPE) for first responders. FEMA costs totaled \$15.5 million.

Figure 2: Available Resources for Recovery



In March 2020, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) provided \$121 million for the Coronavirus Relief Fund used for public safety payrolls, economic support for new unbudgeted youth jobs, emergency food, unemployment costs, distance learning technology and curriculum, public health measures, COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, vaccination programs, PPE and small business support. CARES also provided \$32 million in K-12 education aid through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER I) program. The Coronavirus Relief Bill in December 2020 provided an additional \$123 million for ESSER II for K-12 education and \$20.7 Million for Emergency Rental Assistance. In addition to ARPA State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SL-FRF), ARPA provided an additional \$276 million for ESSER III for K-12 education and an additional \$30 million for Emergency Rental Assistance.

Figure 3: Federal COVID-19 Resources

CARES Act (March 2020) \$208 Million for Boston	Received (\$M)
Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)	\$120.8
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER I)	\$32.3
Other targeted grants (Age Strong, Housing, Arts, etc.)	\$54.8
Coronavirus Relief Bill (December 2020) \$144 Million for Boston	
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II)	\$122.9
Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA)	\$20.8
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) \$15.5 Million for	

Boston	
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)	\$15.5
American Rescue Plan Act (March 2021) \$864 Million for Boston	
Emergency Rental Assistance Program 2 (ERA2)	\$29.2
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III)	\$276.3
State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)	\$558.7
Total \$1.23 Billion for Boston	\$1,229.5

III. PROMOTING EQUITABLE OUTCOMES

From the beginning of the pandemic, the City of Boston has prioritized equity in responding to the immediate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the long term effects and recovery. The City has closely analyzed [economic impacts of the pandemic](#) on the city and its neighborhoods by Census demographic categories such as age, race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, income, and industry. The City has also sought input and listened to impacted communities, area experts and stakeholders through surveys, the Health Inequities Task Force, the Food Access Agenda, and other forums.

As stated in the Boston Planning and Development Agency's Report entitled "[Relief, Reopening and Recovery](#)", "the pandemic exposed and exacerbated the hazards of a polarized labor market, the deterioration of workplace health and safety conditions, the undermining of worker rights, and the retrenchment of economic and social safety nets. The result is hardship imposed on women, low-paid workers, workers without a college degree, non-white racial and ethnic communities, immigrants, younger workers, and small businesses." The following sections profile populations most impacted by the pandemic:⁵

GENDER:

The COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting economic crisis have greatly impacted women because of their lower levels of financial security prior to the pandemic and disproportionate burden of domestic responsibilities. Women tend to work in jobs that are lower paid and require greater physical proximity.⁶ Among Boston residents, women make up 92 percent of childcare workers, 72 percent of healthcare workers, 66 percent of restaurant wait staff, and 62 percent those employed in the "other services" such as personal care services.⁷ These in-person jobs put women on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic and made them more vulnerable to job loss. The Boston Public Health Commission tracks COVID-19- related metrics at the county

⁵ The following figures align with the [Relief, Reopening and Recovery](#) report but have been updated to reflect data available as of July 2023.

⁶ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, O*NET Database, Version 24.2; BPDA Labor Market Assessment Tool

⁷ US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, PUMS and BPDA Research Division Analysis

level, showing that since 2020, women make up a greater portion of cases but men make up a greater portion of overall deaths.⁸

The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston visualizes gender disparities in unemployment insurance claims in New England States relative to the nation.⁹ Their analysis shows that leading up to the pandemic in early 2020, Massachusetts women had a 1% claim rate (meaning 1% of the workforce filed a claim that month), while men had a 2% rate. By May, those rates soared, with women outpacing men by 3 percentage points. These data show the direct negative impact the pandemic had on female economic participation, likely due to the industry disparities noted earlier.

Schools were operating remotely for about a year and many childcare services were closed, forcing parents, especially mothers, to struggle to balance work and childcare responsibilities. In Boston, approximately 12 percent of working mothers reduced their working hours or quit working between January and October 2020 due to the loss of child care services.¹⁰ As of 2022, the share of new mothers in the Boston metro area who work had not returned to pre-pandemic levels.¹¹

The pandemic period was associated with higher rates of poverty for female-headed households which rose from 19 percent in 2019 to 24 percent in 2021, but returned to 19 percent in 2023.¹² Poverty rates for male-headed households remained lower at approximately 12 percent in 2023.

Of householders in Boston with children under 18 years old, 32 percent are single mothers as of 2023.¹³ Single mothers are particularly vulnerable financially: 38 percent lived below the poverty line prior to the pandemic.¹⁴ By 2021, poverty rates for single mothers had risen substantially to 43 percent, but returned to 38 percent in 2023.¹⁵

EDUCATION:

⁸ Boston Public Health Commission. [COVID Dashboard - Cases and Deaths by Gender](#). Accessed June 25, 2025.

⁹ Federal Reserve of Boston. "[Unemployment Insurance Claim Rates as a Share of Workforce \(2019 - 2022\)](#)," Public Dashboard. Accessed on June 25, 2025.

¹⁰ Johnston, Katie. "[With kids at home, working mothers are forced to quit or scale back jobs](#)." Boston Globe. November 21, 2020

¹¹ Alex Fitzpatrick, A. et al. "[76% of new Boston moms are working, down from a 2019 high](#)." Axios. October 2, 2023

¹² US Census Bureau, 2021 & 2023 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

¹³ US Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, [Analysis of Table DP02 - Households with children under 18](#)

¹⁴ US Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

¹⁵ US Census Bureau, 2021 & 2023 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

Workers with college degrees were more likely to be able to work from home during the pandemic. Those without college degrees were more likely to work in-person jobs and to face dire alternatives: essential workers risked their lives and nonessential workers risked their livelihoods. Nationally, the unemployment rate for workers with less than a high school education rose to 21.2 percent in April 2020. It fell to 5.4 percent in April 2023, but remains elevated above the unemployment rate for workers with a Bachelor's degree or higher which is a low 1.9 percent.¹⁶ The more recent data from May 2025 show these disparities persist.

In Boston in 2019, the median earnings for Boston residents aged 25-64 with less than a high school education was \$12,500, which was far less than the pay for workers with a Bachelor's degree or higher, \$70,000.¹⁷ Also in 2019, only about 63 percent of people aged 25-64 with less than a high school diploma were employed, compared to 87 percent of people with Bachelor's degree or higher. As of 2023, the median earnings for Boston residents aged 25-64 with less than a high school education was \$14,000, less than the pay for workers with a Bachelor's degree or higher, \$85,000, and about 57 percent of people aged 25-64 with less than a high school diploma were employed, compared to 90 percent of people with Bachelor's degree or higher.¹⁸

RACE:

Poverty and financial instability prior to the pandemic made some Boston residents more vulnerable to the crisis. In Boston, less than 9 percent of non-Hispanic White residents, but over 21 percent of Black/African-American, Hispanic, and Asian residents, lived below the poverty line in 2019.¹⁹ The pandemic exacerbated this disparity with poverty rates rising for people of color in Boston. In 2021, 9 percent of non-Hispanic White residents, but 17 percent of Black/African-American, 32 percent of Hispanic, and 25 percent of Asian residents lived below the poverty line.²⁰ As of 2023, 8 percent of non-Hispanic White residents, but 19 percent of Black/African-American, 23 percent of Hispanic, and 25 percent of Asian residents lived below the poverty line.²¹

¹⁶ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, <https://www.bls.gov/charts/employment-situation/unemployment-rates-for-persons-25-years-and-older-by-educational-attainment.htm>

¹⁷ US Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis. The sampled age range is 25 to 64 years old

¹⁸ US Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

¹⁹ US Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

²⁰ US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

²¹ US Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

The COVID-19 pandemic had radically different impacts by race and ethnicity. Black/African-American and Hispanic Boston residents are employed at disproportionately high rates in industries such as accommodation, food services, and retail trade that were especially hard hit by the pandemic, and therefore their unemployment rate during the pandemic was substantially higher than the citywide average. For example, though Hispanic workers make up about 17 percent of the Boston resident workforce, they make up almost 29 percent of the hospitality and food service industries which suffered high employment losses. Black residents make up 23 percent of the Retail Trade workforce, another hard-hit, in-person sector.²²

Working remotely was also an advantage during the pandemic, and white workers during the pandemic were 37 percent more likely than nonwhite workers to hold jobs that could be performed remotely.²³ Increased workplace exposure risk as well as other factors led Black/African-Americans to be overrepresented among confirmed COVID-19 deaths in Boston. As of July 2025, 0.38% of Black/African-American residents, 0.23% of White residents, 0.2% of Asian residents, and 0.2% of Hispanic residents had died of COVID-19.²⁴ Nationwide, African American, Hispanic, and Asian American Individuals had a higher risk of COVID-19 positivity and ICU admission, but lower mortality rates than White individuals.²⁵

Black/African-American and Hispanic households are also more likely to lack internet access, have children, and have a single parent. These households were therefore harder hit by the remote schooling necessitated by the pandemic.

NATIVITY & CITIZENSHIP:

In 2021, 27 percent of Boston's population was foreign-born, and 52.4 percent of the 179,489 foreign-born residents were low-income.²⁶ These residents faced additional challenges during the pandemic. Immigration status disqualified some residents from direct relief aid and benefits, especially those without legal status. As of 2024, Boston's foreign-born population had

²² US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

²³

<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/public-sector/our-insights/covid-19-and-jobs-monitoring-the-us-impact-on-people-and-places>

²⁴ Boston Covid-19 Dashboard. Boston Public Health Commission.

<https://bphc-dashboard.shinyapps.io/BPHC-dashboard/>

²⁵ Magesh S, John D, Li WT, Li Y, Mattingly-App A, Jain S, Chang EY, Ongkeko WM. Disparities in COVID-19 Outcomes by Race, Ethnicity, and Socioeconomic Status: A Systematic-Review and Meta-analysis. JAMA Netw Open. 2021 Nov 1;4(11):e2134147. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.34147. Erratum in: JAMA Netw Open. 2021 Dec 1;4(12):e2144237. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.44237. Erratum in: JAMA Netw Open. 2022 Feb 1;5(2):e222170. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2022.2170. PMID: 34762110; PMCID: PMC8586903.

²⁶ US Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey, (PUMS) City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis. The "low-income" population is defined as those who fall below 300% of the poverty line.

risen to 196,358, 94,570 of whom were non-citizens, and an estimated 30,000 of whom were unauthorized.²⁷

Boston's health care, construction, and hospitality industries depend on the immigrant workforce. Despite being 29 percent of the city's resident workforce, in 2024, immigrants made up 48 percent of accommodation and food service workers, 36 percent of construction workers, and 32 percent of healthcare workers.²⁸ Many of these workers lost their jobs at the onset of the pandemic. Unemployment among immigrants nationally spiked to 16.5 percent in April 2020. Unemployment among foreign born to 3.6 percent in April 2025, slightly lower than the 3.9 percent rate among native-born U.S. residents.²⁹

Foreign-born headed households are more likely to have children under 18, more likely to have a single parent, and less likely to have internet access - amplifying the impact of remote schooling. 73% of Asian and Pacific Islander Boston residents were foreign born in 2019 - for many of these residents, harassment amplified the effects of the pandemic.³⁰

Meanwhile, many foreign-born Boston residents continue to struggle financially: Over 27 percent of foreign-born headed households lived in poverty in 2023, compared to 10.8 percent of native-born headed households.³¹

AGE:

In April 2019, the national unemployment rate of 16 to 19 year olds was 3.6 percent and 6.5 percent for 20 to 24 year olds.³² By April 2020, those rates reached 14.7 percent and 25.7 percent respectively.³³ Recessions are typically hard on young workers who are often the first to be laid off when firms reduce their workforce. The COVID-19 recession was particularly harsh because its biggest employment impacts have fallen on service sector jobs common among teen and young adult workers such as Accommodation and Food Services and Retail Trade. However, as the economy recovered, the unemployment rate of young adults has fallen to 12.9 percent for 16 to 19 year olds and 8.2 percent for 20-24 year olds in April 2025.³⁴

²⁷ BPDA Research Division estimate of Boston's unauthorized population is based on statewide estimates by the Center of Migration Studies in 2023. <http://data.cmsny.org/>

²⁸ US Census Bureau, 2024 City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Estimates.

²⁹ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics:

https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/empst_05022025.htm

³⁰ US Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey, PUMS, City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis

³¹ US Census Bureau, 2023 American Community Survey, PUMS, City of Boston Planning Department Research Division Analysis.

³² U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/empst_05082020.pdf

³³ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

³⁴ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics:

https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/empst_05022025.htm

SMALL BUSINESS:

The disproportionate burden of COVID-19 is also apparent when examining its effect on small businesses, many of which operate in the services sector and other hard-hit sectors such as tourism and retail. Small business revenue in Suffolk County fell almost 65 percent from January 2020 to the end of March 2020.³⁵ In February 2022, small business revenue in Suffolk County was still down 33 percent compared to January 2020 levels. Women and minority-owned businesses in Boston are in industries more affected by the pandemic. Women own 21.2 percent of all classifiable businesses in Suffolk County, and 22.9 percent of the businesses in in-person and support services.³⁶

Underlying all of these impacts, the COVID-19 pandemic exposed the vulnerability of lower income, non-white residents to both economic and healthcare shocks; Boston's approach to ARPA funding, as outlined above, will prioritize the recovery for those residents most impacted. As Boston both designs interventions and measures impact, the City will continue to disaggregate both inputs and outcomes by age, race, ethnicity, nativity and citizenship, gender, neighborhood, and industry.

Citywide Equity & Inclusion Statement

The City of Boston has played a role in causing and perpetuating the inequities in our society. To break down these barriers, we are embedding equity and inclusion into everything we do.

We define **equity** as ensuring **every community has the resources it needs** to thrive in Boston. This requires the active process of meeting individuals where they are. **Inclusion** is **engaging every resident** to build a more welcoming and supportive city. We are building **a city for everyone**, where diversity makes us a more empowered collective.

While many programs funded by ARPA specifically target disproportionately impacted communities, the City of Boston knows that program design and measurement alone will not be sufficient to reach the city's most impacted residents. Many of the city's residents face differing levels of access to- and experiences of government resources and some face significant barriers in learning about potential relief programs due to:

- Language and communications challenges, including persons who speak a Language Other Than English (LOTE) and persons with a disability, such as persons who identify as blind or have low vision and persons who are deaf or hard of hearing;

³⁵ Womply, <https://www.tracktherecovery.org/>

³⁶ U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 Annual Business Survey, Suffolk County. In-person and support services include accommodation and food services, retail trade, other services, administrative and waste services, and arts, entertainment and recreation.

- The Digital Divide and lack of access to the internet;
- Being foreign born, a non-US citizen or lacking a formal immigration status, which limits qualification for some programs and fear of unintended repercussions; and
- The multitude of news and trusted information sources for the city's most impacted communities.

Communicating with the city's hardest hit residents has been central to the city's approach thus far and will continue to be a priority to ensure that Boston residents can easily access resources that they desperately need. Given all of these considerations, the City has designed a layered approach to overcoming the barriers outlined above. The City has provided translation and interpretation for programs rolled out to date, and the Mayor regularly provided frequent COVID response and recovery press conferences that offered ASL interpretation. Additionally the City continues to work with trusted community leaders and local media outlets to ensure key information is reaching far and wide. Lastly, in previous community engagement campaigns, the City has distributed multilingual paper flyers and has provided an option for call-in numbers to ensure an internet-enabled device is not required for participation. The City's ARPA-specific community engagement plan is outlined more fully in the following section.

Language and Communication Accessibility

Throughout the pandemic, the City prioritized language and communication accessibility. With ARPA funding, the City has continued to elevate the needs of Boston's communities whose primary language is other than English and residents who are unable to see or hear. Communicating how ARPA funds are being spent and how residents can access ARPA funding in real time is a goal that the City is working to achieve and maintain. To ensure that funding is not a barrier for language access, the City has set aside **\$1,000,000** for all ARPA-funded programs.

In June 2023, the City of Boston hired a full-time Language and Communication Accessibility Specialist to assist city departments with ARPA program rollout in a way that eliminates barriers due to language access, and will fund this position through 2026.

Geographic and Demographic Distribution of Funding

From the Boston Resiliency Fund to the Rental Relief Fund, the City has tracked geographic and demographic distribution of funds and resources throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, as the city and its residents continue to recover, the City is building on the lessons learned from that past experience to improve its outreach to disproportionately impacted communities. Much of the ARPA funds are reserved for disproportionately impacted communities, which the City is considering through the lenses of neighborhood, race/ethnicity, gender, business sector, socioeconomic status, and place of birth. In addition, all ARPA-funded projects are required to submit information on how they will promote equitable outcomes (language access plans, etc.) before implementation and then report publicly on demographic and geographic distribution of funds.

Building on Existing Initiatives

Health Equity Now Plan

The pandemic highlighted already existing inequities and unfair burdens that some residents faced prior to COVID-19. In particular, COVID-19 exacerbated health inequities that exist due to the social determinants of health. With the convening of community stakeholders, the [Health Equity Now Plan](#) was developed and provides a community-led roadmap towards addressing the existing health and social inequities. The City has taken this plan, aligned it with existing initiatives that are focused on addressing and increasing equity, and continues to use the plan as a guide to develop new programming to help alleviate and prevent inequities.

Equitable Procurement

The City of Boston is focused on strengthening business opportunities for people of color and women. In 2018, the City launched a comprehensive [Disparity Study](#) to compile the data and the community input needed to understand the structural gaps, and achieve that change. This multi-year process was conducted by BBC Research and Consulting and guided by the Supplier Diversity Council as well as the many voices of residents and business owners who contract with the City.

The City of Boston still has a lot of work to do in increasing equitable access to city contracting and in growing business opportunities in the Black community, the Latino community, the Asian community, and for women. The steps outlined by the Disparity Study and [Executive Order](#) put in place the steps the City must take to eliminate the root causes of inequity, wherever they exist, as well as unlock more opportunities for positive change as the City moves forward. The actions called for by the Disparity Study and Executive Order represent the most important structural reforms to city contracting in a generation.

Digital Equity

Reliable broadband is a crucial component of Boston's recovery efforts. During the pandemic, everyone relied heavily on the internet and broadband became a necessity. The City sought to increase access for Boston's most vulnerable populations, including older adults and school-aged children. The City also recognized that digital literacy is an important component of digital equity and sought to ensure that resources were provided toward applicable programs.

In February 2022, the City received over \$12 million from the federal government to bring digital equity and inclusion to nearly 23,000 Boston public housing residents, library users, and school-age families. This new funding provided free access to wireless broadband service and devices to help public housing seniors and residents get online, and also provide Chromebooks to BPS students. As part of this investment, the Boston Public Library (BPL) received \$2.2 million in Emergency Connectivity Funding (ECF) to acquire and distribute Chromebooks and home

router Wi-Fi access for 3,000 BPL patrons in public housing. In addition, the Boston Public Schools received nearly \$10 million for Chromebooks and to support connectivity for 20,000 Boston Public Schools' families. This deployment addressed additional needs following BPS' initial distribution of 55,000 chromebooks and 8,000 hotspots/home routers.

Food Access Agenda

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing food security issues, especially among communities of color, highlighting a need to reassess any changes in food security needs in Boston. In fall of 2020, a community-led process resulted in the [Mayor's Food Access Agenda](#), which provided recommendations and implementation strategies that Boston is implementing. The City will continue to leverage these recommendations to address food insecurity in Boston.

IV. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

From the very beginning of the pandemic, the City directly engaged with residents and stakeholders, through the Health Inequities Task Force, the Boston Food Access Council, Neighborhood Liaisons, Small Business surveys, weekly calls with local nonprofits, and many other methods of communication.

In addition, research from the Boston Planning and Development Agency confirmed what the City heard from residents throughout the pandemic: East Boston, Mattapan, Roxbury, Dorchester and Hyde Park had the highest estimated rates of unemployment and the highest rates of confirmed COVID-19 infections. Boston's Black and Latino residents experienced disproportionate health and economic impacts, and Asian residents suffered due to language barriers, immigration status and discrimination. These findings plus engagements conducted by various departments within the City of Boston allowed the City to move swiftly in identifying gaps in services and deploying ARPA funds where they were most needed.

In order to plan for the use of ARPA funds, and to ensure that Boston residents were active participants in that planning, the City organized an ARPA-specific listening campaign, the **Let's**

BOSTON, LET'S GO BETTER!

Help inform how the City of Boston invests \$400m in one-time federal funds to jumpstart Boston's equitable recovery.

To participate, you can fill out our survey, join us for a community meeting (schedule below), call **311** or visit [**boston.gov/recover**](https://boston.gov/recover) to learn more.

Initial Community Meetings 5:30-7:30pm	September 8 Career Training for Quality Jobs (i.e. green jobs, life sciences)
August 26 Affordable Homeownership	September 14 (3pm) Supporting Small Businesses
August 31 (3pm) Supporting Small Businesses	September 15 Quality Jobs & Childcare
September 1 (12pm) Substance Use Disorders	September 16 Affordable Homeownership
September 1 Access to Internet & Career Training	October Additional community meetings



SURVEY: [BIT.LY/GOBETTERBOS](https://bit.ly/gobetterbos)

To request translation and/or interpretation services, please contact: noreily.cirino@boston.gov and LCA@boston.gov two weeks in advance.



Mayor Kim Janey

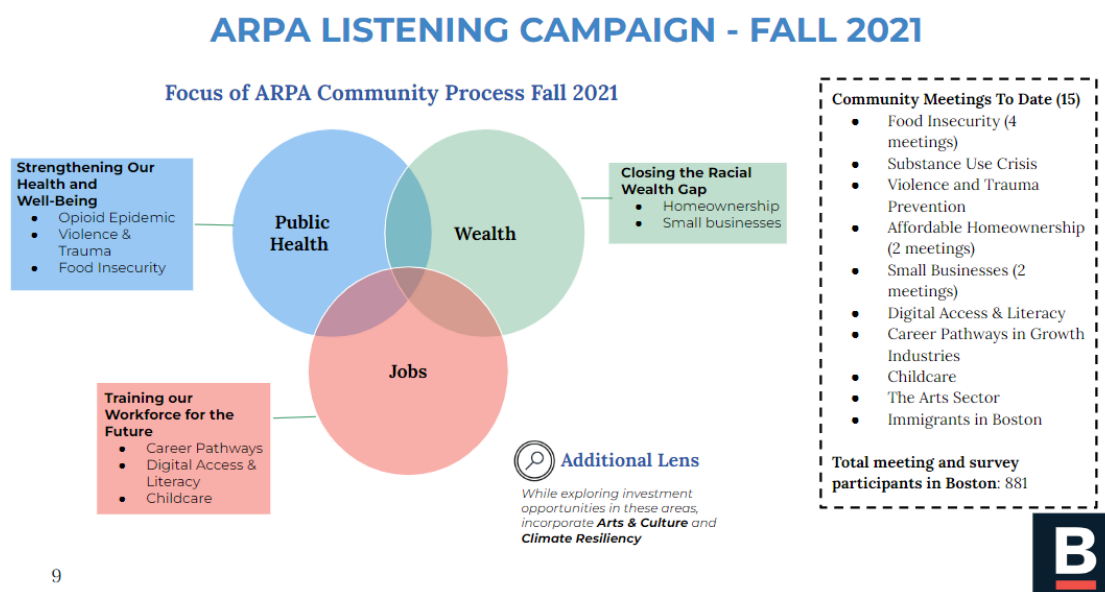


Go Better campaign, which consisted of 15 issue-specific meetings that attracted more than 600 attendees. This campaign was conducted in partnership with the City Council and in collaboration with an external taskforce – a group of over 30 community leaders representing residents and organizations from key sectors including community health, education, non-profit services and private industry.

The campaign focused around three strategic goals: public health, wealth, and jobs. The City also hosted meetings with immigrant-serving organizations and those in the arts and culture sector to understand the issues facing some of the city's hardest-hit communities.

To ensure equitable grassroots participation in the Let's Go Better campaign, the City worked with local community leaders to publicize events. There was a particular focus on driving engagement from communities that were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 as described above. Interpretation services were available to residents at all community meetings and documents were available in multiple languages to ensure every voice was heard. Additionally, for each topic, stakeholder groups (such as experts, activists, and communities most impacted by the topic) were specifically invited to provide input.

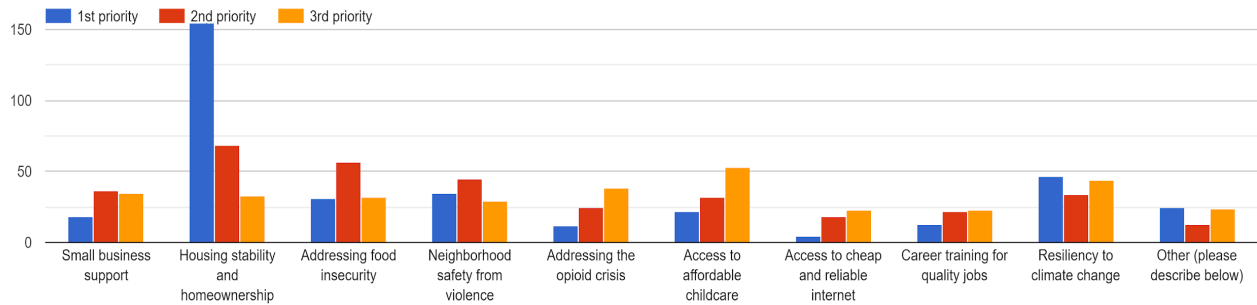
Figure 4: Let's Go Better Listening Campaign Focus



In addition to the listening sessions, the City also utilized digital tools, including two online surveys which received roughly 500 responses. The survey was available in 12 languages: English, Arabic, Cabo Verdean Creole, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, French, Haitian Creole, Brazilian Portuguese, Russian, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. Residents were asked to prioritize their top 3 focus areas. **Affordable housing, housing stability and homeownership** were the clear top priority for nearly 40% of respondents and the second priority for another 20%. Figure 5 shows how the remaining areas were prioritized.

Figure 5: Let's Go Better Survey Responses - Overall Priorities

Which of these areas would you prioritize for your recovery?



To read a complete summary of the feedback from the Let's Go Better campaign, [visit the City's website here](#).

In February 2022, the City's Office of Budget Management (OBM) also hosted four virtual listening sessions to survey and educate residents and solicit public feedback on the FY23 Operating Budget, FY23-27 Capital Plan, and ARPA Funding. The City also released a multilingual digital survey for residents who were not able to attend the virtual listening sessions. The survey asked residents to share their top priorities across a number of issue areas, as shown in the figure below for Housing.

Figure 6: Budget Listening Tour Survey - [Housing Priorities](#)

SELECT A SURVEY QUESTION:

What are your top Housing priorities?



To read a complete summary of the feedback from the Budget Listening Tour, [visit the City's website here](#).

Public feedback from these various forums directly informed the package of transformative investments filed by Mayor Wu in April 2022 to allocate the majority of remaining ARPA funds. The City Council's Committee on Boston's COVID-19 Recovery then hosted six hearings and seven working sessions over three months to gather additional public testimony and comments from Councilors.

The City, led by the Office of Community Engagement and its Departments, will continue to learn from and listen to residents as the ARPA projects are implemented to ensure that services are being provided to those hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.

V. LABOR PRACTICES

In Fall 2022, Mayor Michelle Wu created a new [Worker Empowerment Cabinet](#) to advance the well-being of all working Bostonians in both the public and private sectors through skills and career development for youth and adults, advanced training in post-secondary education, and the promotion of progressive labor standards and worker protections.

One of the Cabinet's key strategies is to use the power and scale of the City of Boston's procurement, contract, licensing and permitting processes to drive safe, equitable, and empowering labor standards for all Boston workers. That happens through enforcement of existing labor standards (see below) and through Project Labor and Community Benefits Agreements. The Cabinet has created a "tool kit" to help all City of Boston departments in negotiating benefits for workers and the community through these Agreements. Examples of benefits included in the "tool kit" include:

- living and/or prevailing wages for all workers employed through City of Boston goods and services contracts through compliance with the [Boston Jobs, Living Wage and Prevailing Wage Ordinance](#),
- percentages of work hours worked by Boston residents (51%), People of Color (40%) and Women (12%) on City-funded construction and large construction projects over 50,000 square feet, and compliance with prevailing wage law, through compliance with the [Boston Resident Jobs Policy](#)
- responsible contracting requirements to ensure contractors and subcontractors do not have a serious history of wage and hour and health and safety violations through compliance with the [Wage Theft Executive Order](#).
- percentages of apprentices to be hired (or ratio of apprentice hours to journeyman hours),
- payments to support affordable, accessible childcare,
- payments to support college savings and tuition for community college and certificate programs,

- and support for training and pre-apprenticeship programs.

In its first year, the Cabinet enhanced worker rights and protections. In partnership with several other Cabinets, the Worker Empowerment Cabinet led the Administration's push for a [Construction Safety Ordinance](#) that Mayor Wu signed into law in June 2023 and that went into effect on December 1, 2023. The Ordinance takes several steps to enhance the safety of construction throughout Boston's neighborhoods, including requiring safety planning and oversight on all City of Boston permitted construction sites. The Cabinet complemented the new Ordinance by providing free training and tools to support compliance. Each year, more than 1,000 people take advantage of the training (including OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 training) provided in multiple languages. In addition, the Cabinet has spearheaded a well-attended series of multilingual "Know Your Rights" Worker Resource Fairs held in East Boston, Dorchester, Roxbury, Allston and Chinatown in partnership with worker centers.

On top of the City's use of ARPA funding to help promote workforce development, the City will utilize the strategies identified above on large-scale infrastructure projects funded by ARPA. The City is committed to using strong labor standards to promote effective and efficient delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects while also supporting the economic recovery through strong employment opportunities for workers. The ARPA-funded infrastructure projects will afford the City a generational opportunity to review and expand its ordinances, policies, and executive orders relative to create quality, family-sustaining jobs for City residents, especially women and people of color. The scale of the work -- and the procurement and contracting necessary to accomplish it -- will give Boston the leverage and opportunity to create not only jobs for Bostonians, but careers. Where appropriate, the City will encourage transparency and disclosure of standards of pay, benefits, and working conditions on ARPA-funded projects and specify minimum standards.

VI. USE OF EVIDENCE

Over the past few years, the City has worked through the Evaluation and Research team, in partnership with the Department of Innovation and Technology, to build processes that help identify key questions raised by ARPA-funded programs and generate evidence to guide policy decisions. To support this effort, the City appointed a Director of Evaluation, who collaborates with the Department of Innovation and Technology, the Finance Cabinet, and other City departments to conduct evaluations when feasible.

Program Selection. Given limited resources, the City evaluates a subset of ARPA programs based on four criteria: *meaningful*, *actionable*, *novel*, and *feasible*.

- *Meaningful programs raise questions aligned with the City's goals.*
- *Actionable programs can inform how the City designs or funds current or future services.*
- *Novel programs offer learning opportunities not available from existing research elsewhere.*

- *Feasible programs have the right conditions—such as strong design, sufficient sample size, and engaged staff—to support evaluation.*

Supporting External Evaluations. The Evaluation and Research Team also works with departments that have commissioned outside researchers, offering guidance on survey design, trade-offs between implementation and research, and communicating findings to a broader audience.

Pre-Analysis Plans and Data Collection. For internal evaluations, the team uses pre-analysis plans to strengthen design and transparency. These documents typically cover:

- *Program Rationale and Objectives:* The purpose of the program, its theory of change, and the key research questions.
- *Population and Methodology:* The target group, comparison group, power calculations, and evaluation approach (e.g., randomized or quasi-experimental).
- *Data and Analysis Plan:* Primary and secondary data sources and the planned models.
- *Constraints and Timeline:* Limitations and the schedule for measuring short-, medium-, and long-term outcomes.

Once a plan is in place, the team supports implementation—designing surveys, running interviews, and leveraging administrative and geospatial data. Preferred tools enable both online and offline collection and allow for complex survey logic. To access external data, the team has developed legal agreements (e.g., NDAs, data use contracts) and secure sharing protocols, including encrypted platforms.

Ongoing Evaluations. Program evaluations are currently underway across key priority areas, including housing, economic opportunity and inclusion, climate and mobility, equitable pandemic response, and arts and culture. These efforts reflect the City's commitment to learning from implementation and using evidence to guide future decisions. Over time, the City will begin sharing findings from these evaluations to support continued learning and improvement.

VII. PERFORMANCE REPORT

Tracking program outputs by disaggregated demographic information is key to the effective implementation and ongoing improvement of Boston's Recovery Plan. From the start, the City has put internal systems in place to support this data collection.

The Equity and Inclusion Cabinet, in partnership with the Analytics team, has developed a standardized, inclusive approach to collecting disaggregated demographic data across ARPA-funded programs when possible (see *Figure 7* on detailed data collection guidance). Projects receive guidance on how to frame demographic questions, depending on the population primarily served by their funding or services. Depending on their design, some

programs may collect only output-level data—for instance, the number of units acquired, along with their zip code and neighborhood. Departments may include additional demographic questions such as age, disability status, employment status, country of birth, primary language spoken at home, sexual identity, or military service, depending on the program's context. Ideally, projects track output data at the individual level and link it to demographic information. Some programs also monitor outcome data. For example, they may track whether an individual completed the program (*output*) and whether that completion led to a measurable benefit (*outcome*).

Figure 7: Demographic Data Collection Guidance

What is your zip code?

- Open response, validated for 5 digit numbers
- Prefer not to answer

What is your neighborhood? (check one)

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Not a Boston resident | • East Boston | • Roxbury |
| • Allston | • Fenway / Kenmore | • South Boston |
| • Back Bay | • Hyde Park | • Seaport / South Boston Waterfront |
| • Bay Village | • Jamaica Plain | • South End |
| • Beacon Hill | • Leather District | • West End |
| • Brighton | • Longwood Medical Area | • West Roxbury |
| • Charlestown | • Mattapan | • Prefer not to answer |
| • Chinatown | • Mission Hill | |
| • Dorchester | • North End | |
| • Downtown | • Roslindale | |

What is your gender? (check one)

- Man
- Non-Binary
- Woman
- Prefer not to answer
- Not listed here ____

BASELINE RACE & ETHNICITY QUESTIONS

Whenever data is being collected regarding race and ethnicity, the following two questions should always be asked.

What is your race? (check all that apply)

- American Indian and Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White
- Prefer not to answer
- Not listed here _____

Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin? (check one)

- Hispanic or Latino/-a/-e/-x originHispanic or Latino origin
- Not Hispanic or Latino/-a/-e/-x originNot Hispanic or Latino origin
- Prefer not to answer

EXTENDED RACE & ETHNICITY QUESTIONS

All of the following questions are optional, and asking them should be done in a context-specific way. Depending on the specific purpose of data collection and the technical resources available, the following additional questions may be appropriate modifications or additions to the baseline standard.

Extended Race Question. If City workers or departments hope to collect more precise information about race, the following option allows participants to further self-identify.

What is your race? (Select all that apply and add details in the spaces below if you wish)

- American Indian and Alaska Native
 - (Write-In)
- Asian
 - (Write-In)
- Black or African American
 - (Write-In)
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
 - (Write-In)
- White
 - (Write-In)
- Prefer not to answer
- Not listed here
 - (Write-In)

Additional Indigenous Question. If City workers or departments hope to collect more precise information about Indigenous communities, the following two questions are recommended.

- Are you American Indian or Alaska Native (AI/AN)? **(Yes/No)**
 - If yes, what Tribe(s) are you a member or citizen of? **(Write-In)**

- Are you Indigenous to Canada and/or Latin America? **(Yes/No)**
 - If yes, what Indigenous Tribe(s) are you from? **(Write-In)**

Extended Ethnicity Question (Hispanic). If City workers or departments hope to collect more precise information about Hispanic or Latino communities, the following question is recommended.

- Are you of Hispanic or Latino/-a/-e/-x origin? (select all that apply)
 - Yes, Puerto Rican
 - Yes, Colombian
 - Yes, Salvadorian
 - Yes, Dominican
 - Yes, Brazilian
 - Yes, Mexican
 - Yes, Cuban
 - Yes, but not listed above
 - (Write-In)
 - Not Hispanic or Latino/-a/-e/-x origin
 - Prefer not to answer

Additional Ethnicity Question (Non-Hispanic). If City workers or Departments are hoping to collect more precise information about non-Hispanic and non-Latino ethnic groups common in Boston, the following question is recommended.

- Do you identify as any of the following? (select all that apply; leave blank if not applicable)
 - Cape Verdean
 - Chinese
 - Haitian
 - Indian (Not American Indian or Alaska Native)
 - Jamaican
 - Middle Eastern or North African
 - Vietnamese

FUNDS AUTHORIZED, OBLIGATED & EXPENDED BY PROJECT AS OF JUNE 30, 2025

Definitions

Budgeted funds: Total amount of funds that City Council has voted to accept and expend and are available for spending.

Obligated funds: Total amount of budgeted funds the City has contracted to spend through procurements and purchase orders, includes expenditures.

Expenditures: Total amount of budgeted funds that the City has spent to date.

Table of Expenses by Priority & Project

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Housing	\$241,916,933.00	\$70,706,181.84	\$171,210,751.16
Affordable Homeownership Development and Ownership	\$65,431,865.13	\$36,947,530.82	\$28,484,334.31
Acquisition Opportunity Program	\$53,281,907.00	\$5,375,900.00	\$47,906,007.0 0
Healthy Housing and Environmental Justice In Public Housing	\$32,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$32,000,000.0 0
Transforming Publicly-Owned Land into Green, Mixed income Communities	\$5,786,997.00	\$5,786,997.00	\$0.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Substance Use Services/Low Threshold Spaces	\$19,785,772.51	\$2,532,213.91	\$17,253,558.60
Deep Energy Retrofits for Affordable Housing	\$19,340,503.44	\$11,599,377.41	\$7,741,126.03
Create Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Individuals with substance use disorders	\$24,083,408.77	\$212,500.00	\$23,870,908.77
Mortgage Relief Program	\$1,293,216.15	\$0.00	\$1,293,216.15
Rapid Rehousing Pilot for returning citizens	\$1,100,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,100,000.00
East Boston Blue Line Portfolio	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00
Digital Equity in Public Housing	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00
Cash assistance to individuals facing housing insecurity	\$800,000.00	\$0.00	\$800,000.00
Emergency Housing Support Pilot for City Workers	\$750,000.00	\$0.00	\$750,000.00
MOH Admin Payroll Costs	\$1,511,830.42	\$796,397.08	\$715,433.34
First Generation Matched Savings Homebuyer Program	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Humphreys Studios	\$434,933.00	\$0.00	\$434,933.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Housing Capacity Study for Dorchester YMCA Washington Street	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$400,000.00
People's Academy Predevelopment	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00
Housing Search and Stabilization Services for BHA Vouchers	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
Housing Pilot for Families Impacted by Violence	\$199,999.58	\$0.00	\$199,999.58
BHA Veteran Housing Capacity Study	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Income Restricted Housing Development	\$12,666,500.00	\$7,455,265.62	\$5,211,234.38
Revenue Replacement	\$95,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$95,000,000.00
Revenue Replacement	\$95,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$95,000,000.00
Economic Opportunity and Inclusion	\$63,167,533.00	\$14,660,504.60	\$48,507,028.40
Small Business Fund 2.0	\$13,186,512.68	\$0.00	\$13,186,512.68
Commercial Rental Rebate Pilot Program	\$10,140,019.10	\$2,232,000.00	\$7,908,019.10

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Creating an Ecosystem to Grow BIPOC-Owned Employer Firms	\$7,317,150.00	\$4,821,653.25	\$2,495,496.75
Technical and Trade Education	\$4,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000,000.00
Life Sciences Job Hub	\$3,594,729.93	\$3,500,076.36	\$94,654.00
Reimagining Boston's Main Streets	\$3,292,045.70	\$1,282,641.57	\$2,009,404.13
Commercial Rental Relief Fund	\$3,040,102.11	\$0.00	\$3,040,102.11
Immigrant Economic Resilience Initiative	\$2,993,826.00	\$335,908.43	\$2,657,917.57
Expanding Tuition Free Community College	\$3,000,000.00	\$683,059.23	\$2,316,941
All-Inclusive Boston Campaign	\$2,674,086.53	\$0.00	\$2,674,086.53
Workforce Digital Literacy	\$2,405,270.07	\$521,762.79	\$1,883,507.00
High Roads Kitchen Restaurant Relief Fund	\$1,631,820.33	\$6,500.00	\$1,625,320.33
Supporting Small Businesses in Digital Commerce	\$16,468.84	\$0.00	\$16,468.84
Basic Needs Assistance for Families	\$1,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000,000.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Commercial Space Supports	\$254,001.00	\$227,001.00	\$27,000.00
Young Adult Job Opportunities 19-24	\$500,000.00	\$315,418.71	\$184,581.29
YouthBuild Boston Grant	\$350,000.00	\$0.00	\$350,000.00
Supports for Immigrant-Owned Businesses	\$534,396.60	\$199,863.57	\$334,533.03
Small Business Technical Assistance	\$603,282.23	\$62,933.99	\$540,348.24
Research on Boston's History of Slavery	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00
Newmarket Business Association Workforce Development	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Credit Booster Program	\$60,000.00	\$0.00	\$60,000.00
OEOI Admin Costs	\$255,021.88	\$183,157.95	\$71,863.93
Covid Economic Impact Study	\$498,800.00	\$268,527.75	\$230,272.25
Increasing Low-Income Family Access to Tax Preparation and Tax Credits	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Strengthening Impacted Small Businesses and Industries in Boston through Tailored	\$1,200,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,200,000.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Financial Support			
Persistent Office Vacancy Recovery Tools	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00
Climate & Mobility	\$46,544,468.75	\$14,915,406.21	\$31,629,062.54
Fare Free Bus Pilot	\$16,987,312.64	\$4,441,530.82	\$12,545,781.82
Green Jobs	\$9,000,000.00	\$1,572,455.73	\$7,427,544.00
Walkable City	\$3,386,557.10	\$2,227,485.15	\$1,159,071.95
America's Best Biking City	\$4,626,130.26	\$3,435,561.54	\$1,190,568.72
Growth Maintenance of the Boston's Tree Canopy	\$2,500,000.00	\$476,069.41	\$2,023,930.59
Electrification of BPS School Buses	\$2,499,004.85	\$233,333.34	\$2,265,671.51
Traffic Calming and Street Improvements	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000,000.00
Building New Neighborhood Food Systems	\$1,600,000.00	\$666,300.46	\$933,699.54
Farmers Market Coupon Program	\$920,463.90	\$0.90	\$920,463.00
Chinatown Microgrid Pilot	\$750,000.00	\$704,000.00	\$46,000.00
Green Residential Building	\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$0.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Retrofits			
East Boston O'Donnell Playground	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
District 4 Parks and Green Spaces	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Center for Hard to Recycle Materials	\$500,000.00	\$462,182.31	\$37,817.69
Mission Hill Last Mile Transportation	\$275,000.00	\$196,486.55	\$78,513.45
Equitable Pandemic Response	\$38,430,531.25	\$8,202,455.62	\$30,228,075.63
COVID-19 Vaccination	\$11,284,969.07	\$3,317,755.51	\$7,967,213.56
COVID-19 Testing	\$3,113,303.93	\$0.00	\$3,113,303.93
CHC COVID Recovery Support	\$3,000,000.00	\$1,292,156.16	\$1,707,843.84
COVID-19 Wastewater Prevalence Tracking	\$2,900,000.00	\$1,084,157.62	\$1,815,842.38
Food Rescue and Distribution	\$2,500,000.00	\$1,198,400.00	\$1,301,600.00
Food Access Community Grants	\$2,130,014.61	\$0.00	\$2,130,014.61
Tech Goes Home Grant	\$2,000,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000,000.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Social Determinants of Health Community Grant Program	\$1,651,727.00	\$1,489.21	\$1,650,237.79
Personal Protective Equipment	\$1,300,000.00	\$491,003.81	\$808,996.19
Community Violence Intervention Program	\$1,169,975.64	\$27,945.26	\$1,142,030.38
Emergency Assistance for Migrants	\$1,100,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,100,000.00
Digital Infrastructure for City Services	\$694,500.82	\$0.00	\$694,500.82
Creating Language Access for Federal Funding	\$1,000,000.00	\$441,589.12	\$558,410.88
BPHC Staffing Support	\$544,000.00	\$42,459.75	\$501,540.25
Public Housing Food Assistance	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Villa Victoria Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción Grant	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$400,000.00
The Phoenix Grant	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$400,000.00
South Boston Community Health Center Grant	\$400,000.00	\$0.00	\$400,000.00
Emergency Assistance for Haitian Asylum Seekers	\$244,333.00	\$0.00	\$244,333.00

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Boston Food Sovereignty Program	\$202,208.00	\$0.00	\$202,208.00
St Mary's Center for Women and Children Grant	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
NamaStay Sober Grant	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
Gavin Foundation Grant	\$200,000.00	\$0.00	\$200,000.00
Support for families of victims of violence	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Harvest on the Vine Food Pantry Grant	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Halal Foods for Refugees	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
East Boston Community Soup Kitchen Grant	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
Boston School Food Distribution without Cost	\$90,000.00	\$0.00	\$90,000.00
DoIT-BHA Digital Equity Collaboration	\$305,499.18	\$305,499.18	\$0.00
Neighborhood Investments to Reduce Violence	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	\$500,000.00
Behavioral Health	\$26,383,000.00	\$9,554,413.63	\$16,828,586.37
Center for Behavioral Health & Wellness/Workforce &	\$6,553,680.00	\$3,963,883.71	\$2,589,796.29

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Pipeline			
Substance Use Services/Recovery Services Encampment Responses	\$4,468,000.00	\$21,666.38	\$4,446,333.62
Center for Behavioral Health & Wellness/Capacity & Resilience	\$4,330,000.00	\$3,718,838.89	\$611,161.11
Substance Use Services/Exploring Additional Engagement Centers	\$2,915,000.00	\$353,061.32	\$2,561,938.68
Center for Behavioral Health and Wellness/Communications	\$1,866,320.00	\$638,972.98	\$1,227,347.02
BPS Student Behavioral Health Supports	\$1,600,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,600,000.00
Substance Use Services/Coordinated Public Health Response in Target Areas	\$950,000.00	\$0.02	\$949,999.98
Substance Use Services/Workforce Development	\$915,000.00	\$62,901.69	\$852,098.31
Substance Use Services/Harm Reduction	\$700,000.00	\$0.01	\$699,999.99
Substance Use Services/Community Engagement to Address	\$685,000.00	\$225,745.64	\$459,254.36

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Substance Use and Unsheltered Residents			
Mental Health Crisis Response Pilot	\$500,000.00	\$499,559.81	\$440.19
BPS Family Mentoring and Leadership	\$400,000.00	\$44,444.42	\$355,555.58
Substance Use Services/HIV	\$250,000.00	\$6,075.00	\$243,925.00
Mental Health Services/Suicide Response	\$250,000.00	\$19,263.76	\$230,736.24
Arts & Culture	\$26,257,534.00	\$4,748,175.12	\$21,509,358.88
Elevating and Investing in BIPOC-led Cultural Organizations	\$8,463,400.00	\$1,501,500.00	\$6,961,900.00
Creative Neighborhood and Downtown Activations in our Public Spaces	\$6,916,619.87	\$832,129.46	\$6,084,490.41
Reopen Creative Boston Fund	\$2,765,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,765,000.00
Support for Cultural Ecosystem	\$1,555,499.76	\$606,953.50	\$948,546.26
Arts Corridor	\$1,999,900.00	\$1,322,872.19	\$677,027.81
Allston-Brighton Community Spaces	\$1,000,000.00	\$451,148.51	\$548,851.49

Priority / Project	Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Workforce and Career Development for Creative Workers	\$496,117.23	\$33,348.28	\$462,768.95
Direct Support for Creative Workers	\$485,997.14	\$0.04	\$485,997.10
Active Engagement for Seniors	\$100,000.00	\$0.03	\$99,999.97
Nazzaro Community Center Senior Programming	\$25,000.00	\$223.11	\$24,776.89
Brighton Affordable Housing Development with Cultural Space	\$2,450,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,450,000.00
Early Childhood	\$17,758,700.00	\$4,699,547.21	\$13,059,152.79
Growing the Early Education and Care Workforce	\$8,940,783.52	\$4,088,019.92	\$4,852,763.60
Stimulus Funds for Childcare Centers	\$5,134,536.38	\$0.00	\$5,134,536.38
Workforce Hiring and Retention for Childcare Sector	\$1,469,124.00	\$0.00	\$1,469,124.00
Streamlining Access and Enrollment	\$1,079,803.81	\$372,820.35	\$706,983.46
Non-standard Work Hours Childcare Pilot	\$698,607.79	\$238,706.94	\$459,900.85

Priority / Project	<i>Budgeted Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)</i>	Obligated Funds as of June 30, 2025 (\$)	Expenditures as of June 30, 2025 (\$)
Child Care Business Development	\$435,844.50	\$0.00	\$435,844.50
A&F Evaluation & Compliance	\$3,250,338.00	\$1,848,208.53	\$1,402,129.47
Evaluation, Compliance and Equitable Administration	\$3,250,338.00	\$1,848,208.53	\$1,402,129.47
Grand Total	\$558,709,038.00	\$129,334,892.76	\$429,374,145.2 4

PROJECT INVENTORY AS OF JUNE 30, 2025

Housing

Acquisition Opportunity Program

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9026

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Acquisition Opportunity Program Website](#)

Description: Through the Acquisition Opportunity Program (AOP), MOH provides funding to responsible developers to purchase occupied, unrestricted multi-family rental properties to preserve tenancies and create long-term affordable housing. The City has a rolling Request for Proposals for AOP funding for qualified developers, who must agree to preserve the tenancies of residents in good standing, keep rent levels affordable long-term, and set aside at least 40 percent of the units for low- and moderate-income families. ARPA funding is being used to accelerate and expand AOP, which has been an extremely effective anti-displacement tool, supporting the acquisition of thousands of rental units since its launch in 2016.

Structure and Objectives: The City will partner with developers to acquire buildings ranging in size from 3 units to upwards of 150. The City will target occupied properties where the majority of tenants are or likely are low-income and in need of rent protections.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: MOH encourages developers to apply who have not previously worked with MOH, and helps in supporting these developers to succeed. Also, this project is, at its core, an anti-displacement tool, and therefore seeks to keep people in their communities of choice by income-restricting their current homes. Developers often work with tenant organizations in identifying properties that might be a good match for AOP, and MOH requires that developers engage with tenants to prevent displacement.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Buildings Acquired through the AOP	6	77	12/31/2026
Outcome	Units Acquired through the AOP	150	694	12/31/2026

Output	Developers actively participating in AOP	7	24	12/31/2026
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Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of this project is to increase affordable housing inventory, protect affordable rental housing stock, and prevent displacement across Boston neighborhoods through the acquisition of occupied buildings.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Boston's Acquisition Opportunity Program helps buyers of unsubsidized housing purchase the property and income restrict it, providing an opportunity to both save existing tenants from displacement and create a long-term source of affordable housing. In 2020, Enterprise released "Preserving Affordability, Preventing Displacement: Acquisition-Rehabilitation of Unsubsidized Affordable Housing in the Bay Area." This study provides case studies of efforts in San Francisco, San Mateo County, and Oakland to purchase existing, unsubsidized rental housing and convert these properties into income restricted housing. Given that both the Bay Area and Greater Boston have high cost housing, and high development costs, this study is instructive to our efforts in Boston, where existing housing that is affordable to low- and moderate-income households are being lost due to rising rents. This report outlines the benefits of "acquisition-rehabilitation" as a:

- Direct anti-displacement strategy that advances racial and economic equity through a place-based approach;
- Fast and cost-effective strategy [the per unit costs are cheaper than new construction];
- Flexible strategy that expands housing choices; and
- Long-term, environmentally sustainable strategy.

In addition, among anti-displacement strategies, Chapple and Loukaitou-Sideris state that the acquisition of unsubsidized affordable housing has a high potential for preventing displacement.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$53,281,907.00

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$53,281,907.00

Type of Capital Expenditure: Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development

Written Justification: The AOP was created to support the acquisition of existing rental housing and take it out of the speculative market preserving its affordability for Boston's workforce for the long term. MOH first issued the RFP in May of 2016 and the program has been both successful and in high demand since its inception. As our most immediate tool to stem resident displacement, AOP has brought nearly 700 units onto the City's income-restricted inventory. This program is essential to support mission-oriented developers to compete in Boston's high cost market, where affordable housing buyers often see gaps upwards of \$100,000 per unit to maintain affordability, and are often competing with cash offers for condo conversions.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 694

Affordable Homeownership Development and Ownership

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9094

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: To address historical inequities in wealth and assets impacting communities of color, MOH is investing ARPA funding to promote homeownership for low and moderate income Bostonians. The majority of this funding is being used to develop green, affordable homeownership opportunities, leveraging a similar investment from the State's Commonwealth Builder program. To accelerate production, MOH launched the Welcome Home, Boston, initiative, which made available land and ARPA funding for affordable homeownership projects on dozens of City-owned parcels through a series of Requests for Proposals. MOH has also used ARPA funding to expand existing homebuyer financial assistance programs, including the One+ Boston Mortgage subsidy program and downpayment assistance for first-time homebuyers, and has worked with the Boston Housing Authority to offer enhanced downpayment assistance for BHA residents.

Structure and Objectives: This project includes affordable homeownership development & homebuyer financial assistance. The objectives are to create new affordable homeownership units & increase homeownership rates for communities disproportionately impacted by COVID.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: On the development side, outreach will be conducted to the development community with a focus on inclusion and MBE outreach. On the homeownership side, the goal is to financially assist 420 homebuyers with 75% being BIPOC households. In order to increase the purchasing power of BIPOC households, the Boston Home Center will increase the marketing of down-payment assistance programs to BIPOC households.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of new affordable homeownership units on City-owned properties	400	63	12/31/2026
Output	The # of homebuyers coming from public housing	25	76	12/31/2026
Output	Number of first time homebuyers assisted with purchasing a home	425	201	12/31/2026
Output	Percentage of first time homebuyers assisted belonging to BIPOC community	75%	77%	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals of the project include:

1. Create new affordable homeownership units on City-owned property
2. Increase homeownership rates in Boston with a focus on the BIPOC community

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Research shows that increasing the housing supply in high-demand urban areas is necessary for relieving the unaffordability crisis, and that financing opportunities with counseling can have positive effects on beneficiaries. Low Income homeownership unit creation: Extensive research shows that increasing housing supply is a key part of overall market affordability. Creating opportunity for low-income families has strong benefits. Been, Vicki, Ingrid Gould Ellen, and Katherine O'Regan. "Supply skepticism revisited." Housing Policy Debate 35.1 (2025): 96-113. Homeownership financing: Myhre, Marina L., and Nicole Elsasser Watson. Housing counseling works. US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research, 2017.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$65,431,865.13

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$42,000,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 63

East Boston Blue Line Portfolio

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9101

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: The Blue Line Portfolio Acquisition Opportunity Program (AOP) project involved the acquisition of 114 units of rental housing across 36 buildings in East Boston. All units were income-restricted upon acquisition, creating new long term affordable housing for low and moderate income renters. The \$47 million acquisition was made possible by a \$12 million investment by the City, including \$9 million from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), \$2 million from the CARES Act, and \$1M in Inclusionary Development funds.

Structure and Objectives: The City partnered with developers to acquire developments ranging in size from 3 units to upwards of 150. The City targeted occupied properties where the majority of tenants are or likely are low-income and in need of rent protections.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: MOH encouraged developers to apply who have not previously worked with MOH, and helps in supporting these developers to succeed. Also, this project was, at its core, an anti-displacement tool, and therefore sought to keep people in their communities of choice by income-restricting their current homes. Developers often work with tenant organizations in identifying properties that might be a good match for AOP, and MOH requires that developers engage with tenants to prevent displacement.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of units acquired through East Boston Blue Line Portfolio AOP	114	114	09/30/2022
Output	Buildings acquired through East Boston Blue Line Portfolio AOP	36	36	09/30/2022

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of this project was to increase affordable housing inventory, protect affordable rental housing stock, and prevent displacement in East Boston through the acquisition of occupied buildings.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Research demonstrates that policies that ensure housing affordability create housing stability for low income households.

Further, Galster et al. summary of the literature on housing affordability summarizes the links between affordability and mental health, child academic performance, and employment outcomes. (see page 15)

Favilukis, Jack, Pierre Mabilie, and Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh. "Affordable housing and city welfare." The Review of Economic Studies 90.1 (2023): 293-330.

Galster, George, and Kwan Ok Lee. "Housing affordability: A framing, synthesis of research and policy, and future directions." International Journal of Urban Sciences 25.sup1 (2021): 7-58.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,000,000.00

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$1,000,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 114

Housing Capacity Study for Dorchester YMCA Washington Street

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9103

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: Grant to the Dorchester YMCA for a housing feasibility study of their 776 Washington Street location. The goal of the study was to assess whether affordable housing units could be added to the existing YMCA building or on the existing YMCA owned property. The study evaluated existing conditions and topography; subsurface constraints; area infrastructure; environmental and geotechnical features; community needs, and impacts to the existing YMCA building.

Structure and Objectives: Grant agreement to Dorchester YMCA for a housing capacity agreement. The objective of the project was for the Dorchester YMCA to have a completed housing capacity study.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project explored affordable housing options within a QCT. This housing study contributes to solutions for low income residents, who still feel the effects of the pandemic's impact on housing costs.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal was for the Dorchester YMCA to have a completed housing capacity study.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: The purpose of the study was to: "investigate for evidence of recognized environmental conditions," i.e. hazardous material, as well as to assess the capacity for housing. Extensive evidence shows the negative effect of hazardous materials on public health. It was important for Boston to ensure the YMCA land site was not harming constituents before assessing housing capacity. (Brender, Jean D., Juliana A. Maantay, and Jayajit Chakraborty. "Residential proximity to environmental hazards and adverse health outcomes." American journal of public health 101.S1 (2011): S37-S52.) (Wigle, Donald T., et al. "Environmental hazards: evidence for effects on child health." Journal of toxicology and environmental health, part B 10.1-2 (2007): 3-39.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$400,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

People's Academy Pre-Development

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9104

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: This project provided pre-development funds for the proposed development of a mixed use building on City-owned land that would include institutional space for The People's Academy, a nonprofit organization that conducts a 2 year pre-apprenticeship program focused on providing inner city residents with the ability to adopt a trade for life. The site includes a workshop, machine shop, classroom, breakroom and office space, as well as 49 residential units for the trainees.

Structure and Objectives: Grant agreement to the People's Academy, with the objective to provide for pre-development costs.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project aimed to address the workforce needs exacerbated by the pandemic.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: To provide for the People's Academy pre-development costs.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Newton (2018) reviews the evidence of vocational training on return to prison, finding that uptake soon after release is most effective. They also find that older (over 27) offenders, and high-risk offenders, benefit more. Overall employment outcomes were influenced by the quality of program implementation. (Newton, Danielle, et al. "The impact of vocational education and training programs on recidivism: A systematic review of current experimental evidence." International journal of offender therapy and comparative criminology 62.1 (2018): 187-207.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$250,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

BHA Veteran Housing Capacity

Cabinet / Department: Boston Housing Authority

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9100

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Boston Housing Authority's Website](#)

Description: BHA will explore the feasibility of veteran's housing in the South Boston area.

Structure and Objectives: BHA will explore the feasibility of veteran's housing in the South Boston area.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project aims to address the workforce needs exacerbated by the pandemic. The approach is exploratory and addresses tangible housing needs for a protected class.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: BHA will explore the feasibility of veteran's housing in the South Boston area.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: HUD and VA have determined that veterans experience significant levels of homelessness. This study explores the positive impacts that veteran housing has on housing stability. Additionally, the VA's Housing First program has been found to cut homelessness among veterans by 50%.

Housing capacity studies investigate any potential environmental challenges as well as the spatial limits of developing new housing units.

Extensive research shows the importance of testing for hazardous materials and on the value of increased supply of housing to help address increasing unaffordability due to market demand and limited supply. (Molloy, Raven. "The effect of housing supply regulation on housing affordability: A review." Regional science and urban economics 80.100 (2020): 1-5.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$100,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Substance Use Services/Low Threshold Spaces

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9044

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#), [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: Funding will be used to provide low-threshold shelter/transitional housing and support services, including housing search and placement, for homeless individuals, especially those suffering from mental health and substance use disorders.

Structure and Objectives: Transitional housing support utilizing emergency hotel placement for people experiencing substance use disorders and homelessness.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The core focus of the program centers on our City's most vulnerable and disenfranchised individuals.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of people accessing housing services	100	515	All Time
Output	New low-threshold day or night time drop-in space	1	6	All Time
Output	New devices to be used for telehealth, treatment and housing services	20	10	All Time
Output	Number of placements into transitional housing by Substance Use Services/Low Threshold Spaces	50	169	All Time
Output	Number of housed individuals	0	170	All Time
Output	Individuals that accessed housing	0	85	All Time

	support services			
Output	Individuals that accessed low-threshold spaces	0	515	All Time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Provide shelter, supportive services, and housing assistance to the City's most vulnerable unsheltered individuals.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: A review of the literature of how best to support homeless individuals shows that providing housing and health services improves outcomes for the homeless population. (Fitzpatrick-Lewis, Donna, et al. "Effectiveness of interventions to improve the health and housing status of homeless people: a rapid systematic review." BMC public health 11 (2011): 1-14.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$19,785,772.51

Mortgage Relief Program

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.2-Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Unique ID: 9025

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: This program helped Boston homeowners at risk for foreclosure remain in their homes, providing stability for those homeowners and neighborhoods which have historically experienced high foreclosure rates, all of them majority-minority neighborhoods. The program began in early October 2021. Funding was added to existing contracts with foreclosure counseling providers. 160 homeowners were assisted with ARPA funds.

Structure and Objectives: The City of Boston created an Emergency Foreclosure Prevention fund for income qualified homeowners at high risk of foreclosure because of the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The target population for BHC's Foreclosure Prevention and Intervention services were all Boston owner-occupants who experienced difficulty

with their mortgage payments and/or other housing expenses or who anticipated difficulties with these payments due to life events. We also targeted some of our marketing efforts to city neighborhoods with lower income areas that have experienced higher petition numbers and rates of foreclosures, in particular Dorchester, Mattapan, Hyde Park, Roslindale, Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. The highest levels of foreclosures continue to occur in these low/moderate income census tracts where household income is less than 80% of the median income. Eighty nine percent (89%) of our closed cases were generally in these neighborhoods of Boston which historically experienced high foreclosure rates and 83% of these clients had incomes less than 80% of the median income. Eighty four percent of the clients assisted were homeowners of color and the mortgage relief program will prevent foreclosures in these neighborhoods. The contracted non-profit agencies who provide our foreclosure prevention services are in these Boston neighborhoods and offer multilingual services. The program was marketed to Boston Homeowners who are experiencing delinquencies and who are working with counseling agencies. In addition, we marketed these foreclosure prevention and intervention services as follows: postcards to homeowners in high-foreclosure neighborhoods; in partnership with Assessing, insert information in tax bills, and; promote information through social media, web pages, universal hub & newspaper ads.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Homeowners assisted with mortgage relief funds	50	160	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Prevent foreclosures among low/mod Boston homeowners who were impacted by the COVID crisis. A majority of these homeowners were low/mod households of color.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Economic analysis demonstrates that mortgage forbearance during the COVID-19 crisis avoided major debt amongst households and was effective at reaching the hardest hit. Relieving residents of mortgage debt affects other aspects of household wellbeing, such as health care spending. Evidence from CARES act spending on mortgage relief in Alabama shows mortgage defaults saw a 50% drop year over year, suggesting that targeted support kept people housed. (Humphries, John Eric, et al. Does eviction cause poverty? Quasi-experimental evidence from Cook County, IL. No. w26139. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2019.) (Cherry, Susan F., et al. Government and private household debt relief during COVID-19. No. w28357. National Bureau of Economic

Research, 2021.) (Lichtenstein, Bronwen, and Joe Weber. "COVID-19 and the CARES Act: racial disadvantage, mortgage relief, and foreclosure in Tuscaloosa county, Alabama." Housing and Society 50.2 (2023): 162-181.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,293,216.15

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 160

Emergency Housing Support Pilot for City Workers

Cabinet / Department: Human Resources

Project Expenditure Category: 2.2-Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Unique ID: 9102

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Human Resources Website](#)

Description: The City received \$750,000 toward emergency housing support for City employees. This funding was distributed directly to eligible City employees through an application process for emergency housing relief, with awarded funds used towards rent, mortgage, utilities or other eligible housing costs.

Structure and Objectives: We were very intentional in structuring this pilot so that it complemented existing resources available to City of Boston employees. The program was designed to offer the greatest possible benefit to the eligible employee applicants.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project centered equity in every aspect of design. The application focused on equitable development of eligibility criteria, approach to communication, and means of application access and submission.

As we continue to learn from and evaluate the program, we are prioritizing assistance to employee households with the highest risk of housing instability, which are most often Black, Indigenous and other People of Color, people with low incomes, people with limited English proficiency, and other traditionally underserved groups. By utilizing federal guidelines of Area Median Income and Qualified Census Tracts, we used that information to promote equitable outcomes.

In terms of the application process, the City continues to actively evaluate feedback and access patterns to reduce barriers to participation in the program including: creating an application that is written in simple language and easy to fill out, providing application materials in multiple languages, and leveraging multiple communication channels to ensure employees who work jobs in the field are notified about this program in multiple

ways.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Please describe the design of the evaluation: The evaluation is currently in progress. Data evaluated includes but is not limited to demographic information, outreach patterns, Area Median Income changes as related to the national census, and workforce data available to us through our Central Records Management.

Please list the research questions guiding the evaluation: The evaluation is currently in progress. Data evaluated includes but is not limited to demographic information, outreach patterns, Area Median Income changes as related to the national census, and workforce data available to us through our Central Records management Catalog.

Estimated date of completion: 10/31/2025

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$750,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

How many households have been served as a part of the project: 140

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of the project? 99

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Digital Equity in Public Housing

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Partner Department (if applicable): Boston Housing Authority

Project Expenditure Category: 2.4-Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs

Unique ID: 9021

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Housing Authority Website](#)

Description: This project supports internet access and digital literacy for City of Boston residents negatively impacted by the pandemic, by expanding free public Wi-Fi in public housing and/or supporting digital literacy, internet connectivity and access to modern technology. According to an August 2020 survey by the BHA, one in three seniors and one in three Limited English Proficiency residents whose first language is Spanish do not have internet access at home. BHA's public internet initiatives, coupled with digital literacy efforts and purchase of equipment brings digital equity to residents' doorstep, overcoming

financial, technological and educational barriers. BHA will support residents in accessing internet services in common spaces in their developments, as well as through distribution of devices and by enhancing access to digital literacy efforts.

Structure and Objectives: Expanding free Public Wi-Fi in public housing, supporting digital literacy, increasing internet connectivity and access to modern technology, simultaneously improving telecommunications systems that benefit BHA government operations.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Low-income residents, people of color, non-English speakers and seniors disproportionately face barriers to internet access. This project serves to overcome these barriers within BHA's population.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Buildings Wired and Configured (for Free Public/Community Internet Access)	15	15	All time
Output	Digital Literacy Class Cohorts	3	16	All time
Outcome	BHA Public Housing Communities With Free Public Internet Access	15	15	All time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Increase accessibility to internet access and foster digital literacy.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This research, studying a similar program, found that digital literacy learning participants showed significant improvement in digital literacy and self-reported autonomy. Public housing and affordable housing residents are much more likely to have limited access to the internet, which for vulnerable populations undermines their health and connectedness, especially during the pandemic. Further, research shows that ensuring equal access to the internet may have reduced the spread of Covid-19, since users could remain home more often for entertainment. Research shows extensive connections between reliable internet access and educational attainment, especially during the pandemic. (Ellison-Barnes, Alejandra, et al. "Limited technology access among residents of affordable senior housing during the COVID-19 pandemic." Journal of Applied Gerontology 40.9 (2021): 958-962.) (Chen, Wenhong, and Xiaoqian Li. "Digital inequalities in American disadvantaged urban communities: Access, skills, and expectations for digital inclusion programs." Information, Communication & Society 25.13 (2022): 1916-1933.)

(Goetz, Daniel. "Does providing free internet access to low-income households affect COVID-19 spread?" Health Economics 31.12 (2022): 2648-2663.) (Korkmaz, Özge, Elif Erer, and Deniz Erer. "Internet access and its role on educational inequality during the COVID-19 pandemic." Telecommunications policy 46.5 (2022): 102353.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,000,000.00

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$300,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Devices and equipment that assist households in accessing the internet (e.g., tablets, computers, or routers)

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 2,000

Cash assistance to individuals facing housing insecurity

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing, Boston Housing Authority

Project Expenditure Category: 2.3-Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

Unique ID: 9019

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Housing Authority Website](#)

Description: The Boston Housing Authority (BHA), a subgrantee of the City of Boston, conducted a cash assistance pilot. The BHA identified a subset of its tenants, voucher holders, or, in partnership with the Supportive Housing team at the Department of Neighborhood Development, Rapid Rehousing clients to deliver cash assistance. The BHA targeted several hundred households for either one-time or short-term recurring cash payments based on economic factors, existing benefits programs and housing-related needs. One target population was formerly homeless residents who are housed at BHA public housing, a project-based voucher site, or through BHA-run mobile voucher programs, with cash assistance beginning at time of placement or move-in to ensure basic needs are met. Based on data known to the BHA, the BHA structured payments to avoid interference with other benefit programs or excessive assistance/subsidy to a particular household.

Structure and Objectives: This project aimed to promote economic recovery and mobility for BHA households w/ children through direct cash assistance. New voucher recipients and public housing residents were selected through a lottery.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project intentionally focused on households who

experienced housing instability, and provided flexible financial assistance to low income households (at or below 30% AMI) with children.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress	Timeframe
Output	Public housing households, section 8 voucher holders, and/or Rapid Rehousing clients assisted.	500	500	Fall 2022

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes

Evaluation Design: The evaluation included a combination of surveys and interviews with eligible applicant households that received gift cards as well as eligible applicant households that received full payments.

Research question(s):

- What types of outcomes does cash relief produce on whole family outcomes such as housing stability, food security, mental health and child well-being?
- What impact does cash relief have on childhood poverty and economic insecurity?
- Are there differences between households who receive cash relief and households who participate in self-sufficiency programs?
- What connections did participating households make to public sources of cash or support, specifically the Child Care Tax Credit, being offered at the federal level?
- Does cash assistance for formerly homeless families receiving new housing choice vouchers help these families become more stable?
- Are impacts different for new voucher holders as opposed to existing public housing residents?

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 05/01/2023

Link to public report: [Cash Assistance Evaluation](#)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$800,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

How many households have been served as a part of the project? 500

First Generation Matched Savings Homebuyer Program

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.17- Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Unique ID: 9024

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Home Center Website](#)

Description: This project uses ARPA funds to supplement MOH's partnership with the Massachusetts Affordable Housing Alliance (MAHA) to support income qualified first-generation first-time homebuyers. Enrollees in MAHA's STASH matched savings program receive financial literacy and individualized coaching, and a grant match of up to \$20,000 towards the purchase of a home provided they can save \$2,000 of their own funds.

Structure and Objectives: Program is designed to provide first generation buyers with purchasing their home. Participants graduate from a Homebuying course and attend monthly meetings. Participants must save \$2k of their own funds and when they purchase a home they receive a \$5k grant.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Our main goal is to serve low- and moderate-income first generation BIPOC buyers who historically have not had access to familial sources of wealth/cash for a down payment. MAHA uses social media, email blasts and outreach to home buying education class participants to recruit participants into their program. Currently, there is a waiting list to participate. This program will help close the racial homeownership gap by providing financial support to income qualified predominantly BIPOC first generation buyers. The current program has been in existence since 2019.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Individuals enrolled in the First Gen Program	60	59	12/31/2026
Outcome	Enrollees who purchased a home in Boston	10	12	12/31/2026
Outcome	Percentage of enrollees who are BIPOC	75%	95%	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of the project is to increase the number of BIPOC first generation low and moderate income homeowners in Boston. Funds from ARPA will be used to support and expand an existing program/project.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Boston is among the first cities to have a homeownership program focused on first generation homebuyers. As such, no studies have been completed on this type of program. Research from the Urban Institute suggests such a program could be very important for overcoming barriers to homeownership, especially for households of color. According to a 2018 Urban Institute study, “Having a homeowner parent increases a young adult’s likelihood of being a homeowner by 7 to 8 percentage points.” In a 2021 follow up study, the Urban Institute found a down payment assistance program focused on first generation buyers would help to reduce the wealth disparities between white and non-white households, by helping upwards of 2.5 million households nationwide become homeowners. In August 10, 2021 testimony to the Boston City Council on this topic, Urban Institute’s Janneka Ratcliffe outlines the importance of multi-generational homeownership, “[Homeownership] forms the basis for further wealth by funding businesses, paying for higher education, and helping children buy their first home. In fact, all else equal, we find that when parents own a home, their children are more likely to be homeowners as young adults (ages 18–34).” She went on to add that it’s not enough that someone’s parents owned a home at some point in their childhood, but that, “Our research shows that only continuous homeownership by parents over the 16-year study period led to statistically higher home ownership for their children. In other words, parents having a late start to homeownership or intermittent episodes of homeownership does not have the same wealth-building effect as sustained homeownership.”

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$500,000

Healthy Housing and Environmental Justice in Public Housing

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.18-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Unique ID: 9097

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Boston Housing Authority's Website](#)

Description: BHA is improving ventilation and windows across 945 units at the federally-assisted Franklin Field, Ruth Barkley, Alice Taylor, Roslyn and Rockland developments, and also supporting window and ventilation work at the St. Botolph Apartments. These investments would improve air quality, increase efficiency and improve resident comfort across five federal sites. The Franklin Field, Ruth Barkley, Alice Taylor, Roslyn and Rockland Apartments are federally-assisted public housing located in Qualified

Census Tracts. The majority of residents are extremely low-income and hail from historically marginalized racial and ethnic groups who have been severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Structure and Objectives: This project seeks to address the capital backlog and environmental disparities in public housing developments through targeted preservation efforts.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Residents of public housing are predominantly low-income and extremely low-income and represent multiple categories of protected classes disproportionately impacted by the pandemic. Improving housing quality, preserving units and promoting public health will support the BHA's efforts to combat disparities in health and housing.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: By targeting upgrades to ventilation and windows across multiple sites, the project will improve health and housing outcomes for hundreds of low-income and extremely low-income households.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Coley, Leventhal, Lynch, and Kull (2013) show that poorly maintained dwellings are associated with children's emotional and behavioural problems, and lower test scores. [...] Chambers, Fuster, Suglia, and Rosenbaum (2015) find that damp conditions and mold in the house are associated with a higher incidence of childhood asthma. [...] The presence of damp, mold, vermin, poor upkeep, and overcrowding can lead to parental stress, depression, and hostility (Chambers et al., 2015; Coley et al., 2013). [...] Kim, Coulton, Fischer, Cho, and Richter (2016) find that growing up in poor-quality housing reduces readiness for kindergarten, primarily through heightened exposure to lead poisoning." (Galster, George, and Kwan Ok Lee. "Housing affordability: A framing, synthesis of research and policy, and future directions." International Journal of Urban Sciences 25.sup1 (2021): 7-58.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$32,000,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of this project?
0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Transforming Publicly-Owned Land into Green, Mixed Income Communities

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.18-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Unique ID: 9096

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: The Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH), working closely with the City of Boston Planning Department, is using ARPA funding to develop affordable multifamily rental and ownership housing as part of larger mixed-income communities on large city-owned land parcels. MOH and Planning are coordinating with the Streets cabinet to maximize City investments and produce well-designed, carbon neutral, transit-oriented communities that connect low and moderate income Bostonians to good paying jobs and essential services. This investment will serve as a catalyst to develop these underutilized parcels and create thousands of units of mixed income housing.

Structure and Objectives: MOH and BPDA will coordinate with the Streets cabinet to maximize City investments and produce well-designed, carbon neutral, transit-oriented communities that connect low and moderate income Bostonians to good paying jobs and essential services.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project will spur development on sites that can provide housing for a broad spectrum of Bostonians at risk of displacement, a problem exacerbated by COVID-19.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of units created on transformed city-owned land in transit oriented locations	44	0	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

Will an evaluation be conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Create 44 new rental units on transformed City-owned land in transit-oriented locations. Seed innovative approaches to accelerate production, including pilot projects using modular and/or prefabricated housing.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Extensive research on what causes rising housing costs points to the limitations on housing development caused by zoning and the capacity to build. This project directly addresses that challenge. (Molloy, Raven. "The effect of housing supply regulation on housing affordability: A review." Regional science and urban economics 80.100 (2020): 1-5.) (The Impact of Zoning on Housing Affordability Edward L.

Glaeser and Joseph Gyourko NBER Working Paper No. 8835)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$5,786,997.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of this project?

0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 44

Humphreys Studios

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Partner Department (if applicable): Arts, Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9047

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: Humphreys Street Studios (11-13 Humphreys Street) is an important hub of artistic endeavor and creative sector businesses. It is a cultural anchor located in Upham's Corner, the City's Arts and Innovation District. The City recognizes the value of the studios based on the belief that sustainable opportunities for local residents and businesses can be created by supporting and empowering the significant artistic and entrepreneurial talent that exists in the neighborhood. When the property was listed for sale, the Mayor's Office of Housing, the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, and the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion provided ARPA funding and technical assistance to the tenants, New Atlantic Development, and Place Tailor to purchase the property, preserving approximately 29 artists' studios. The partnership between the artists and New Atlantic Development, and their acquisition and development of the site, speaks directly to the principle of development without displacement, which is guiding the wider Upham's Corner Arts and Innovation District efforts.

Structure and Objectives: Funding will preserve the long-term affordability of 29 artist studios and enable development of 10 new homeownership units which will be affordable to households of 80%, 100% and 120% AMI.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Preservation of affordable artist commercial space and the creation of 10 units of affordable ownership housing to be sold to first-time homebuyers.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress	Timeframe
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			to Goal	
Outcome	Number of artist studios preserved	29	29	12/31/2026
Outcome	Number of affordable housing units created	10	10	12/31/2026

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$434,933.00

Type of Capital Expenditure: Other: This project incorporates two capital expenditure types: “Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing” & “Mitigation measures in small businesses, nonprofits and impacted industries”

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: The arts are recovering slower than other industries & COVID continues to disrupt in-person programming. By acquiring this building, it allows artists to stay in place and continue to operate their businesses.

Housing Pilot for Families Impacted by Violence

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.18-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Unique ID: 9028

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: This project aimed to address the housing related needs of households who have been impacted by community violence. The City of Boston, alongside other key stakeholders, had already established a bi-weekly Housing Assistance Network for households who have experienced violence to allow social service providers, medical providers, and other relevant stakeholders to coordinate care for households who have been impacted by violence in their communities. The funding for this project was primarily used to support households impacted by community violence by providing them with direct housing assistance and related support services. This included connecting households to emergency housing, facilitating transitions to stable housing, and ensuring they had access to trauma-informed care. By leveraging the existing Housing Assistance Network, the City effectively engaged with households already connected to organizations providing trauma response and medical care. These efforts enabled impacted households

to re-establish a sense of safety and stability by securing new housing.

Structure and Objectives: This program and funding aimed to provide support to families impacted by violence in their community. It addressed public safety issues by providing temporary housing and relocation assistance to families.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project aimed to address the housing related needs of households who have been impacted by community violence. The City of Boston, alongside other key stakeholders, had already established a bi-weekly Housing Assistance Network for households who have experienced violence to allow social service providers, medical providers, and other relevant stakeholders to coordinate care for households who have been impacted by violence in their communities. Many of the households assisted through this coordination are households of color, oftentimes single female heads of household, who are caring for children and other loved ones in the aftermath of community violence. The City leveraged this existing network to connect with households who were connected to existing organizations as part of their trauma response and medical care. This project enabled impacted households to re-establish a sense of safety by facilitating connections to new housing.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Households receiving housing related assistance	70	34	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals of this project were to secure new housing for households impacted by community violence to prevent doubling up of households and minimize risk of homelessness.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: A random experiment of individuals with severe mental illness shows that integrated mental health and housing supports proves to produce housing stability and improved mental health amongst participants. (McHugo, Gregory J., et al. "A randomized controlled trial of integrated versus parallel housing services for homeless adults with severe mental illness." Schizophrenia bulletin 30.4 (2004): 969-982.)

Extensive research shows the importance of coordinated care on vulnerable individuals struggling with income and/or mental health challenges. (Sadowski, Laura S., et al. "Effect of a housing and case management program on emergency department visits and hospitalizations among chronically ill homeless adults: a randomized trial." Jama 301.17

(2009): 1771-1778.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$199,999.58

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 34

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Housing Search and Stabilization Services for BHA Vouchers

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Partner Department (if applicable): Boston Housing Authority

Project Expenditure Category: 2.17- Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Unique ID: 9022

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Housing Authority Website](#)

Description: The Boston Housing Authority (BHA), a sub-grantee of the City of Boston, leveraged these funds to stabilize renter households by expanding programming to support the hardest hit households with housing search and stabilization services for BHA rental vouchers.

Structure and Objectives: The BHA will preserve and expand its capacity to support housing search for Section 8 voucher holders and, as appropriate, tenants in other BHA-administered voucher programs who lack housing search services.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The majority of BHA renters hail from underserved and/or historically marginalized communities. BHA's communities are diverse in ethnicity, origin and language. Voucher holders face severe discrimination in Boston's rental market and typically cannot access units advertised by real estate brokers. While source of income discrimination is a violation of state fair housing law, and while the BHA has partnered with fair housing enforcement agencies to deter discriminatory actions in the real estate market, the problems facing voucher holders persist. As such, it is appropriate to take additional measures to mitigate the barriers to fair housing choice, including expanding housing search services for this population.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
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Output	New landlords taking Section 8 vouchers	100	125	All-time
Output	Families provided housing search	250	225	All-time
Outcome	Families housed through expanded housing search	250	81	All-time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: This project aims to support households impacted most by the pandemic by offering housing vouchers and support.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Wood, et. al (2008): "Vouchers significantly reduced homelessness, crowding, household size, and the incidence of living with relatives or friends" Wood, Michelle, Jennifer Turnham, and Gregory Mills. "Housing affordability and family well-being: Results from the housing voucher evaluation." Housing Policy Debate 19.2 (2008): 367-412. IG Ellen (2020) discusses the challenges with securing vouchers, pointing to the need for supportive search services. Ellen, Ingrid Gould. "What do we know about housing choice vouchers?." Regional Science and Urban Economics 80 (2020): 103380.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$200,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of the project?
0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Deep Energy Retrofits for Affordable Housing

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22- Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9098

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: Emissions from buildings account for 70% of Boston's greenhouse gas emissions. Quickly reducing emissions in buildings is essential to achieve a Green New

Deal for Boston. In addition, retrofitting buildings to improve their energy efficiency and eliminate fossil fuel usage will improve indoor air quality, improve comfort and help lower energy costs. It is imperative that Boston's income-restricted housing be equipped to participate in this transition. MOH is using ARPA funding to address gaps in available financing for resilient deep energy retrofits of affordable housing, ensuring that low and moderate income residents, who are the most impacted by environmental conditions and climate change, do not get left behind. This program will be transformative for affordable housing owners and residents, and will demonstrate that zero-carbon, energy-efficient and resilient design can and should be accessible to all.

Structure and Objectives: MOH will partner with Environment, Inspectional Services, BHA and Boston Planning & Development Agency to retrofit 300 housing units, improve energy efficiency, improve indoor air quality and comfort in addition to helping lower energy costs.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Deep energy retrofits address negative impacts (such as air quality, heating costs, and life safety) that disproportionately impact low/mod income households, people with limited English proficiency, Black, Indigenous and other People of Color, and other traditionally underserved groups. The Deep Energy Retrofits for Affordable Housing program will prioritize funding work in these communities. Furthermore, this program will include efforts to identify and train minority-owned contractors and subcontractors to perform retrofit work, which will help to address inequities in economic outcomes and workforce development.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Fund deep energy retrofits for housing units	300	20	12/31/2026

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$19,340,503.44

Type of Capital Expenditure: Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development.

Create Permanent Supportive Housing for Homeless Individuals with Substance Use and Behavioral Health Disorders

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Partner Department (if applicable): Boston Housing Authority

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 - Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Unique ID: 9095

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: The COVID-19 pandemic and the humanitarian crisis at Mass/Cass have highlighted the urgent need for permanent supportive housing for people struggling with mental health and substance use disorders. The City is using the project funding to rapidly develop new low-threshold permanent supportive housing with specialized services for these individuals, leveraging additional resources from the State, corporations, hospitals, universities and other partners to acquire sites, identify existing buildings that can be repurposed, and secure ongoing funding for services.

Structure and Objectives: To create permanent supportive housing (PSH) for individuals experiencing homelessness & substance use/behavioral health disorders, MOH will utilize NHD's existing infrastructure to create new units of PSH & also a pipeline for future development.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: BIPOC communities consistently experience worse outcomes across areas of health and wellbeing, such as housing stability, income/wealth attainment, and physical and behavioral health conditions. This pattern of inequity is seen regardless of gender, sexual orientation, ability, age, or other identities. BIPOC communities disproportionately experience homelessness in Boston. By creating permanent supportive housing and ensuring equitable access among people experiencing homelessness, Boston will be addressing these inequities with safe, stable housing.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Permanent supportive housing units	200	169	12/31/2026
Output	Affordable Housing Units	240	205	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Create 200 new units of permanent supportive housing, and create a healthy pipeline of projects for future development.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This study evaluates a low threshold housing facility combined with SUD treatment opportunities in Boston, similar to this ARPA funded program. The combination of specialized services and low barrier housing was found to be an effective method in allowing people who have been living in tent encampments to exit homelessness. Extensive evidence shows that supportive housing is one of the most effective ways to address homelessness and keep people stably housed. (Komaromy M, Stone A, Peterson A, Gott J, Koenig R, Taylor JL. Facilitating exit from encampments: combining low-barrier transitional housing with stabilizing treatment for substance related problems. Addict Sci Clin Pract. 2023 Oct 26;18(1):66.) (Aubry, Tim, et al. "Effectiveness of permanent supportive housing and income assistance interventions for homeless individuals in high-income countries: a systematic review." The Lancet Public Health 5.6 (2020): e342-e360.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$24,083,409

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$24,083,409

Type of Capital Expenditure: Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of the project?
0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 205

Rapid Re-Housing for Returning Citizens

Cabinet / Department: Human Services

Partner Department (if applicable): Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.16 - Long-term Housing Security: Services for Unhoused Persons

Unique ID: 9099

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Returning Citizens Website](#)

Description: This project created a rapid rehousing program for City of Boston residents coming out of incarceration. The participants in the program were provided housing and intensive case management and support services to help them transition to stable housing

and jobs.

Structure and Objectives: To support Bostonians returning from incarceration to find long term stable housing & employment by providing stable housing, job search & other support services for a year so that participants can effectively transition back into society.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: We worked with a population who have struggled to maintain stable housing and employment.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The objective of this project was to support Bostonians returning from incarceration to find long term stable housing and employment. This was achieved by providing stable housing, job search and other support services for a year so that participants can effectively transition back into society.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Re-housing programs for returning citizens are deemed an evidence-based practice by U.S. Dept of HUD. Additionally, these two reports explore the positive impacts of re-housing programs on formerly incarcerated individuals. There's a large evidence base for the "Housing First Model" which shows that in order for someone to find stability and upward mobility, they need a reliable place to live first. (Stergiopoulos, Vicky, et al. "Long-term effects of rent supplements and mental health support services on housing and health outcomes of homeless adults with mental illness: extension study of the At Home/Chez Soi randomised controlled trial." The Lancet Psychiatry 6.11 (2019): 915-925.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,100,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of the project?
0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

MOH Admin Payroll Costs

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 7.1 - Administrative Expenses

Unique ID: 9108

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing](#)

Description: To more easily account for programmatic costs, administrators moved staff costs associated with ARPA funding into this project. Funds are used for staff salary and fringe benefit costs. The employees are administrative staff and programmatic staff working to ensure that housing projects funded by ARPA are effectively managed.

Structure and Objectives: Fund various positions at MOH to support new ARPA funded projects.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Funds will be used to support low/moderate income individuals and households.

Income Restricted Housing Development

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9123

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: This project supports the development of income restricted housing across the City including rental, homeownership, and cooperative housing, with a focus in areas with a high risk of displacement. Priorities will include the creation of housing for our older adults, supportive housing, and homeownership. In partnership with non-profit and for profit developers, this program will create units that are accessible to low-to-moderate income Bostonians.

Structure and Objectives: This project will support the development of income restricted housing across the City of Boston. The objectives are to secure permanent housing for communities disproportionately impacted by COVID.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Outreach will be conducted to the development community with a focus on inclusion and MWBE outreach.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Number of Housing Units Created	121	86	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of this project is to create income restricted housing units in the

City of Boston to secure housing for the City's most vulnerable populations.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This report summarizes multiple works of research that supports the critical link between stable, decent, and affordable housing and positive health outcomes, highlighting the need for Boston to expand affordable housing options.

Development: Extensive research on what causes rising housing costs points to the limitations on housing development caused by zoning and the capacity to build. This project directly addresses that challenge.

Glaeser, Edward L., Jenny Schuetz, and Bryce Ward. "Regulation and the rise of housing prices in Greater Boston." Cambridge: Rappaport Institute for Greater Boston, Harvard University and Boston: Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research (2006).

Molloy, Raven. "The effect of housing supply regulation on housing affordability: A review." Regional science and urban economics 80.100 (2020): 1-5.

The Impact of Zoning on Housing Affordability Edward L. Glaeser and Joseph Gyourko NBER Working Paper No. 8835.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$12,666,500

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$12,666,500

Type of Capital Expenditure: Affordable housing, supportive housing, or recovery housing development

Written Justification: These projects are individual projects and none of them are over \$10M. The following labor reporting questions are non-applicable.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 86

Revenue Replacement

Revenue Replacement

Cabinet / Department: Finance Cabinet

Project Expenditure Category: 6.1-Provision of Government Services

Unique ID: 0000

Description: City of Boston Revenue Replacement

Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Small Business Fund 2.0

Cabinet / Department: Office of Small Business

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9003

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Small Business Relief Fund Website](#)

Description: The SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF FUND 2.0 was designed to help small businesses with business expenses to help in their recovery, as well as assist businesses that seek to grow beyond the pandemic. Businesses were able to apply for two types of grants: 1. Relief Grant: Up to \$10,000 to support outstanding debts for rent/mortgage, inventory, payroll, or fixed expenses, and/or 2. Growth Grant: Up to \$10,000 to support business growth through tools, technology, materials, personnel, or other costs associated with investing in the growth of their business. All applicants were considered for either one or both grants. Grants were allocated primarily according to the budget included in this application. Businesses were able to apply for a Relief grant and/or a Growth grant. Relief grants must be used to help businesses address fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable, lost sales, lost opportunities, and other working capital expenses that could have been recognized had the COVID-19 pandemic not occurred. Growth grants must be used on tools, materials, or personnel to invest in the growth of the business.

Structure and Objectives: The SBRF 2.0 is designed to help small businesses that experienced negative economic impacts by providing grants to assist small businesses with expenses to help in their recovery and will assist businesses that seek to grow beyond the pandemic.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: In order to promote equity, we avoided using a first-come-first-serve model of awarding grants as we found business owners with the most need are often informed of opportunities later than others. The application remained open for several months, with business owners and landlords able to add on or update applications at any point. Our team also provided support to applicants who were not comfortable submitting a digital application, needed help gathering application components, or needed other in-person support.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Businesses Funded by Small Business Fund 2.0	1016	1027	By December 31, 2022

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 1,027

Commercial Rental Relief Fund

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity & Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9004

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Commercial Rental Relief Fund Website](#)

Description: The COVID-19 Commercial Rent Relief Fund worked with business owners and their landlords as a partnership to ensure their survival through, and growth beyond, the pandemic. This Fund supported small businesses through a direct payment to landlords. The Commercial Rent Relief Fund sought to serve at least 250 small business owners. Landlords received up to \$15,000 in the form of a grant to cover rent between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021. Landlords agreed to work with business owners so they may remain in their commercial space for a minimum of 12 months from the date of the grant.

Structure and Objectives: The objective of this program was to assist small businesses in commercial spaces that experienced a negative economic impact through a direct payment to landlords, and reduce commercial space evictions.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: In order to promote equity, we avoided using a first-come-first-serve model of awarding grants as we found business owners with the most need are often informed of opportunities later than others. The application remained open for several months, with business owners and landlords able to add on or update applications at any point. Our team also provided support to applicants who were not comfortable submitting a digital application, needed help gathering application components, or needed other in-person support.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Small businesses funded	250	694	By August 31,

	through this fund in an agreement with Landlords			2022
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Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 694

Research on Boston's History of Slavery

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9118

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Task Force on Reparations Website](#)

Description: Funds from this project will be used to support research and a report on the history and legacy of slavery in Boston. Through an RFP, the City will select partners to produce a report on the City's role in and historical ties to the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the history and legacy of slavery, including original historical research and a comprehensive review of the secondary literature.

Structure and Objectives: Teams of historians will be selected to research and document the City of Boston's role in and historical ties to the transatlantic slave trade and the institution and legacies of slavery.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This research will focus on the economic injustices rooted in slavery. A final report will focus on Boston and Bostonians' economic growth and involvement in the trans-Atlantic slave trade and trans-Atlantic slave economics from 1620-Present.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of this project is to produce a comprehensive report detailing the City of Boston's role in and historical ties to the slave trade and the institution and legacies of slavery. This will help build the foundation for the City of Boston Reparations Task Force's recommendations on local reparations.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: This project is a study itself.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$0.00

Technical and Trade Education

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9119

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity and Inclusion Website](#)

Description: Funds from this project supported the technical and trade education ecosystem in Boston. Specifically, these funds aided in moving and the construction of the new Nubian Square Campus for the FCIT (Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology). This relocation enables FCIT to continue its mission of providing a technical college education tailored to working-class and low-income students. The expanded campus helps FCIT grow its programs, offering enhanced opportunities for students to gain the skills necessary for success in today's workforce.

Structure and Objectives: Jobs with existing programs and a new bioscience training program developed with Mass Life Science, Gingko Bio Works, Moderna and Nubian Square Life Science.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Franklin Cummings Tech trains the diverse college-prepared technical and trade workforce the City of Boston needs to keep our economy growing in fields such as: IT systems support, cybersecurity, renewable energy, electric power grid design and installation, EV/hybrid automotive service, HVAC & Refrigeration, construction management and other critical clean fields where skilled local talent is in high demand.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of the project is to further the new construction of the FCIT educational facility in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: As deemed "evidence-based" by Social Programs that Work Clearinghouse, this research displays the long term positive impacts of technical and trade education. "Education and training systems are a major factor structuring the pathway from school to work. General education at the primary and secondary level provides the necessary foundation, but available evidence shows that vocational training, in particular in a dual fashion, is able to establish an early link with employers, acquire skills relevant in the labor market and to move to skilled permanent positions later on." Various evidence suggests that improved facilities positively impact student outcomes.

(Jim Lindsay, Katherine Hughes, Shaun M. Dougherty, Kelly Reese, Megha Joshi. What We Know About the Impact of Career and Technical Education: A Systematic Review of the Research. Career and Technical Education Research Network.)

(Earthman, Glen I. "School facility conditions and student academic achievement." (2002).)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$4,000,000.00

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$4,000,000.00

Type of Capital Expenditure: Schools and other educational facilities or equipment to address educational disparities

All-Inclusive Boston Campaign

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35-Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Unique ID: 9002

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [All Inclusive Boston](#)

Description: This project funded efforts to return foot traffic to downtown and incentivize spending at small businesses impacted by the pandemic. Initially, this project launched two marketing campaigns; first extending the All-Inclusive Boston tourism campaign, then the B-Local app. The All Inclusive campaign allocated funding to event activations and a block party series to attract residents, workers, and visitors, supporting the tourism and hospitality industry's recovery. The B-Local app, encouraging and incentivizing shopping local, drove over \$1.6 million in user spending at small businesses and issued over \$40,000 in direct payments to businesses through user reward redemptions. Additionally, funds were used for special event activations, including the national NAACP convention, plus neighborhood block parties, community-based nightlife events, and downtown public programming.

Structure and Objectives: To aid in the recovery of our local tourism industry, support small businesses, and neighborhood and downtown revitalization.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Our goal was to attract new and diverse visitors to Boston, to spotlight all neighborhoods across Boston, and support and highlight small businesses.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Redeemed B-Local Boston Points Rewards	455,000	405,828.56	Redeemed by users by 12/31/2021
Output	B-Local User Downloads	10,000	13,289	12/31/2021
Output	Redeeming B-Local Businesses	500	350	Registered by 12/31/2021
Output	Digital ad impressions	18,000,000	18,200,000	6/30/2022
Output	Video views on social media platforms (by 5/30/22)	750,000	1,013,697	6/30/2022
Output	Pageviews on the microsite (as of 5/30/22)	150,000	33,407	6/30/2022
Outcome	B-Local Economic Activity generated (Redeemed amount + Total Transactions)	\$1,000,000	\$1,781,252.02	12/31/2021
Output	Downtown Events Hosted	30	50	10/31/2022
Output	NAACP Convention - Delegate Reception Attendees	4,000	4,000	7/29/2023
Outcome	Out of State Tourism from NAACP Convention	8,000	8,000	7/30/2023

Reimagining Boston's Main Streets

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35-Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Unique ID: 9076

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Reimagine Boston's Main Streets](#)

Description: As we advance the Re-Imagine Boston's Main Streets initiative, this funding would be used to close the racial wealth gap by increasing the capacity of our Main Streets to better support the community and provide opportunities for new and existing businesses to enhance the local economic development in neighborhoods and create more jobs to reverse the long standing and systemic disinvestment. These funds will focus

on two main areas -- much needed beautification efforts in Main Streets Districts and relief to Main Street Organizations negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This proposal would complement the \$1 million operating budget investment in Main Streets districts and help increase the capacity of each organization. In addition these funds will help us to understand the inequity among the Main Streets which will allow us to dedicate more attention and resources in certain areas.

Structure and Objectives: OEOI will provide grants to the Boston Main Streets district organizations to aid in their economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic so that they may carry out their mission to support neighborhood revitalization through beautification projects.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This funding will be used to close the racial wealth gap by supporting new and existing businesses in our commercial districts to enhance the local economic development in neighborhoods, create more jobs, and reverse the long standing and systemic disinvestment. These funds will focus on much needed beautification efforts in Main Streets Districts. This proposal would complement the \$1 million operating budget investment in Main Streets districts and help increase the capacity of each organization.

By aiding Boston Main Street organizations to fulfill their mission of neighborhood revitalization this program will benefit BIPOC, and women-owned businesses.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Improved physical infrastructure, space, or aesthetics at 20 of our Main Street districts	40	45	All Time
Outcome	More programs held within the community for the community	80	498	All Time
Outcome	Number of jobs created by Main Streets	100	572	All Time
Outcome	Number of new storefront small businesses	30	82	All Time

Workforce Digital Literacy

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Partner Department (if applicable): Office of Workforce Development

Project Expenditure Category: 2.4-Household Assistance: Internet Access Programs

Unique ID: 9001

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Office of Workforce Development](#)

Description: The Digital Literacy Initiative helped Boston residents in underserved communities and the community organizations that assist them. The funds were used to provide computers and internet access to those who need it, as well as to give organizations the tools, training, and support to create strong digital literacy programs. Due to increased demand from COVID-19, these programs need more funding to better serve their communities. This initiative focused on working closely with organizations to improve their operations. Additionally, grant money helped keep students enrolled at two local two-year colleges by providing laptops, tuition assistance, and coaching. Funds were also given to the Office of Financial Empowerment and the Boston Housing Authority in Charlestown to boost their literacy and digital skills training programs. This approach not only met immediate digital access needs but also supported long-term education and economic growth in Boston's underserved areas.

Structure and Objectives: The Project enhances digital skills, increases technology access, and promotes economic empowerment through partnerships with local organizations, addressing disparities worsened by COVID-19 to support low-income residents and communities of color.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The Digital Literacy Initiative promotes equitable outcomes by targeting underserved Boston residents, especially low-income individuals and communities of color. It provides tailored digital skills training, resources, and partnerships to reduce disparities in digital access and inclusion.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of current Providers of ABE and ESOL programs to be surveyed and assessed for digital literacy capacity and needs.	21	25	Year 1
Output	Number of current ABE (12) and ESOL (16) programs that will receive survey/be assessed	28	25	Year 1
Output	Number of provider ABE (750) and ESOL (2,000) seats/clients to benefit from new or enhanced curriculums, access to hardware/software, access to wifi, and better trained provider staff.	2750	5451	Year 2
Outcome	Provider staff to be trained at programs	67	73	Year 2

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

What are the goals for this project?: Although a formal evaluation is not planned at present, data will be collected to determine how many individuals will be served and to measure results. The overall goal is to improve digital literacy to equip residents with access to technology and improve their work, education, and/or at-home situation.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, please cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This research, studying a similar program, found that digital literacy learning participants showed significant improvement in digital literacy and self-reported autonomy. Digital literacy courses that involve an online component may be more effective than fully in-person courses.

Digital literacy is associated with improved outcomes, such as for health equity. Further, strong digital literacy is related to effort put forth in a work task, and thus individual performance.

(Campanozzi, Laura Leondina, et al. "The role of digital literacy in achieving health equity in the third millennium society: A literature review." *Frontiers in public health* 11 (2023): 1109323.) (Stoumpos, Angelos I., Fotis Kitsios, and Michael A. Talias. "Digital transformation in healthcare: technology acceptance and its applications." *International journal of environmental research and public health* 20.4 (2023): 3407.) (Marín, Victoria I., and Linda Castaneda. "Developing digital literacy for teaching and learning." *Handbook of open, distance and digital education*. Singapore: Springer Nature Singapore, 2023. 1089-1108.) (Mohammadyari, Soheila, and Harminder Singh. "Understanding the effect of e-learning on individual performance: The role of digital literacy." *Computers & Education* 82 (2015): 11-25.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$2,405,270.07

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 5,451

Commercial Space Supports

Cabinet / Department: Office of Small Business

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9049

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Small Business Development Website](#)

Description: The Commercial Space supports project funds revitalization of underserved neighborhoods and businesses that do not qualify for CDBG funds, filling a critical gap in rebuilding neighborhood revitalization equitably across our City. The project has supplemented the City's ReStore program, which helps improve signage and external business appearance.

Structure and Objectives: To assist businesses who would not qualify for CDBG funding under the City of Boston's Restore & Design program. This funding will allow us to expand to all neighborhoods of Boston to ensure citywide revitalization and business recovery.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Our team's ReStore program focuses primarily on areas that are low to moderate income. We will create equitable outcomes by continuing our focus in these areas.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Restore projects funded	10	7	December 31, 2025

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$254,001.00

Type of Capital Expenditure: Other- Finishing the outside of a business, repairing and replacing storefront windows or doors, creating new signs, adding lighting for the building or signs, removing solid roll-down grates, awnings outside a business, and design services.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 4

Commercial Rental Rebate Pilot

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity & Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9077

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [SPACE Grant Website](#)

Description: This program incentivises new leases into vacant storefronts by providing business owners with a grant for starting or expanding their physical locations in Boston. The beneficiaries of this pilot program are small businesses that have been identified as suffering disproportionate impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic per the guidelines in the Final Rule. This includes small businesses (25 or fewer employees) based in Qualified Census Tracts (QCTs) and small businesses in the following classes of business: food service and production; childcare; repair & maintenance services; laundry services; art, entertainment, and creative economy; and fitness & recreation. Funding these categories of small businesses will ensure requested ARPA funds are used to ameliorate the disproportionately negative impact that the pandemic has had on important small businesses across the City of Boston. Moreover, we aim to outreach to small businesses that have traditionally been underrepresented in high commercial areas. Whereas evidence demonstrates more diverse commercial areas are also correlated with higher overall commercial traffic and sales, redressing continuing and historic inequities will also generate broad public benefits and advance the cabinet’s mission of promoting prosperity for all.

Structure and Objectives: Our objectives include increasing the diversity of storefront businesses in major commercial hubs, increasing money invested in new and existing businesses, reducing commercial vacancies, and increasing the number of employee-owned firms in Boston.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The COVID-19 Pandemic not only put a spotlight on historical inequities but also exacerbated these inequities by disproportionately ravaging the health and economic status of certain residents like BIPOC and low-income Bostonians that are often the first to come in contact with risk and the last to receive private or social assistance.

Using ARPA funds to address this reality will not only help disadvantaged community members to recover from the COVID recession but is also expected to produce greater prosperity for all based on research demonstrating the superior value generated by diverse commercial areas and agglomeration economies.

As business owners apply for the program, an internal committee of reviewers will be scoring applications based on several criteria ensuring we are considering equity throughout the project delivery.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Number of grantees that are BIPOC-owned businesses	40	68	All Time

Output	Number of SPACE Grantees	91	91	All Time
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Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 91

Basic Needs Assistance for Families Not Eligible for Previous COVID-19 Benefits

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement

Project Expenditure Category: 2.3-Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

Unique ID: 9014

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Immigrant Advancement Website](#)

Description: The City of Boston Equity and Inclusion Cabinet and the Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement awarded \$1 million dollars of ARPA funds to the Massachusetts Immigrant Collaborative (MIC) to support Boston residents who were not eligible for federal COVID-19 relief benefits. MIC distributed the funds as cash assistance to families in need, regardless of immigration status. Eligible Boston households could apply for up to \$1,000 in cash aid until funding was exhausted (the program will run from September 2021 to December 2021). Approximately 1,200 households in need benefitted from this pandemic relief grant to help pay for rent, utilities, food, school supplies or other basic needs.

Structure and Objectives: This program is intended to serve immigrant families facing economic struggles that have not been able to access certain social safety-net programs for financial relief. The nonprofit group selected serves immigrant communities across Boston.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This program is intended to serve immigrant families facing economic struggles that have not been able to access certain social safety-net programs for financial relief. The non-profit group selected to administer the program, MIC, has 11 partner organizations located in Boston serving multiple neighborhoods. Their emergency relief efforts have benefitted immigrant communities in Dorchester, Hyde Park, East Boston, Mattapan, Roslindale, Brighton, West Roxbury, Charlestown, South Boston, Jamaica Plain, and Allston, among others. All organizations in the collaborative are currently working with immigrant communities and serve populations with different age groups, nationalities and ethnicities, and immigration status. They have expertise in supporting immigrant youth, immigrant workers, Temporary Protected Status recipients, the undocumented, as well as Haitian, Muslim, Cape Verdean, Latinx, Brazilian,

Afro-Caribbean, and Asian immigrants. All organizations have intake processes both for providing services and cash or food assistance, which help communicate with the communities directly. Partners are also trained and well-equipped to serve undocumented immigrants who are not eligible to receive emergency relief from other funding sources or programs.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of immigrant households to receive financial relief for basic needs	1200	1219	2023
Outcome	Percentage of funds used to cover rent	40	46	2023

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: This program is intended to serve immigrant families facing economic struggles that have not been able to access certain social safety-net programs. The program provides one time cash assistance for financial relief for those unable to cover the basic needs.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong Evidence: The following research confirms that cash assistance is an evidence-based method of supporting low-income families or families facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Strongest effects were found amongst those making very little in income. (1) Natasha V. Pilkauskas, Brian A. Jacob, Elizabeth Rhodes, Katherine Richard, H. Luke Shaefer. The COVID Cash Transfer Study: The Impacts of a One-Time Unconditional Cash Transfer on the Well-Being of Families Receiving SNAP in Twelve States. Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 2022; 00: 1-25. (2) New Data Confirms Cash Assistance Helps Lift Families from Poverty (3) Understanding the Impact of Cash Transfers: The Evidence July 2016 • By Jessica Hagen-Zanker, Francesca Bastagli, Luke Harman, Valentina Barca, Georgina Sturge and Tanja Schmidt

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,000,000

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 1,219

Young Adult Job Opportunities (19-24)

Cabinet / Department: Department of Youth Engagement and Employment

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Unique ID: 9015

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Youth Engagement and Employment Website](#)

Description: The Young Adult Workforce Development grant is now the Young Adult Career Pathways Project (YACP). This project will increase access to career development for young adults in Boston, aged 18-24 years old, with barriers to career employment. This YACP project seeks to:

- Support programs that offer career pathways with high-value credentials;
- Support programs with robust wrap-around services designed to meet the needs of young adult clients with barriers to employment, including stipends/wages;
- Build partnerships amongst grantees by encouraging participation in referral, co-enrollment and the Boston Youth Services Network.
- While this RFP offers one-time, non-renewable funding, OWD is looking to engage youth development organizations who are interested in learning more about other funding offered by our office, like WIOA Youth funding (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity)

Structure and Objectives: This project supports four Boston youth programs for 18-24-year-olds, offering pathways to high-value careers, support services (including stipends/wages), and fostering partnerships between grantees and other Boston youth programs.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This Young Adult Career Pathways grant intends to further Boston's equity goals by creating fair, accessible, and timely access to equitable workforce readiness opportunities for Boston's young adults (specifically, Black, Indigenous, or People of Color) and historically marginalized or economically disadvantaged populations.

The outcomes of this grant-funded initiative should support local efforts to address gaps in job preparation and access to sustainable workforce development opportunities. The Intended Outcomes:

- Closing skills gaps to ensure young adults are prepared to compete for new and existing jobs.
- Expand academic credentials, certification and/or educational attainment.
- Job attainment paying at least 30% above the living wage.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Target Young Adult Participants Across Grantees	60	84	All time
Output	Minimum workforce/job training, coaching or workshop sessions completed	5	0	All time
Output	Minimum workforce/job training, coaching or workshop service hours completed	50	0	All time
Outcome	Young adults are connected to workforce development program that leads long-term employment	100	0	All time
Outcome	Young adults will increase awareness and improve confidence about career options and pathways	85	0	All time
Outcome	Young adults will transition into a desired career track	75	0	All time
Outcome	Young adult participants will receive certificate, credential and educational attainment at the end of the program.	70	0	All time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

What is the total project spending allocated towards evidence-based interventions?
\$500,000

Evaluation Design: Data Collection & Evaluation: As a requirement to accept funds, each accepted grantee must collect geographic and demographic data of participants to ensure funding is targeting underrepresented and marginalized young adults. At minimum, the following data should be collected: Neighborhood, Zip code, Race, Ethnicity, Age, Disability, Employment, Language Spoken, Gender Identity, Veteran Status, Etc. Accepted grantees will be required to develop an evaluation plan that consists of a pre and post surveys to assess the program experience and impact of young adult participants. We will also provide access to a secure file sharing platform where organizations can submit youth participant data and demographic information,

activities participants engage in, services rendered, and outcome achieved.

Research question(s):

1. What are the goals and intended outcomes of your workforce development program and what metrics will be put in place to track progress and inform how you will meet those outcomes?
2. Please share how the education/training program components will aim to close skills gaps to ensure young adults are prepared to compete for new and existing jobs, expand academic credentials, certification and/or educational attainment - and eventually lead to a job placement with livable wages.
3. Describe the measurable impact the education/training program aims to have on the young adult participants and/or the primary area of focus. What does the program anticipate will change as a result of its activities?
4. Describe your education/training program framework and design that ensures employment, economic and/or educational outcomes are achieved.

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Please indicate the evaluation's estimated date of completion: 9/30/2025

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 17

Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 8

Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: 0

Life Sciences Job Hub

Cabinet / Department: Office of Workforce Development

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Unique ID: 9075

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Office of Workforce Development Website](#)

Description: This initiative combines Early College STEM Pathway and Life Sciences Workforce Development funds to promote upward mobility in the life sciences and STEM industries for Boston workers without bachelor's degrees. It specifically targets lower-wage workers in need of credentials and engages employers and training programs through a consortium led by an intermediary organization. Grants have been awarded to organizations providing life science and STEM-related training for residents, as well as to

the intermediary and two additional partners responsible for developing career awareness campaigns. Through this initiative, the intermediary will collaborate with training programs to connect participants with a network of employers offering living wage jobs in these growing industries.

Structure and Objectives: The project raises awareness of life sciences jobs, offers training to Boston residents, and places participants in well-paying roles, equipping them with the skills and credentials needed for sustainable careers in the industry.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The RFGA, and contract language specifically state that programs must prioritize enrolling participants in Boston, from marginalized communities which experienced more negative economic impact due to COVID.

The local life sciences and related STEM industries have generated significant wealth for Boston's economy, but many jobs have been out of reach for those without a bachelor's degree.

The project aims to expand opportunities in the Life Science Industry so Boston residents without higher education degrees can find employment and careers in this growing industry.

Project Objectives are:

- Eliciting job descriptions from employers of the skills that are needed for entry-level roles in their companies
- Guiding training partners in building curricula and academic programming to support the development of needed skills in Boston residents quickly and at reasonable cost
- Encouraging employers to re-conceptualize entry-level roles so that candidates can be selected based on skills as opposed to academic credentials.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

What is the total project spending allocated towards evidence-based interventions?
\$3,594,729.93

Evaluation Design: Evaluation is incorporated into the project's RFP. The programs with performance based contracts will be paid out based on a negotiated rate. For final payments to be made, participants must accomplish program goals for employment and retention. We will be evaluating enrollment, job placement and retention throughout the contract. We will be collecting data on a rolling basis.

Research question(s): The research questions will include the following questions that gauge for positive outcomes for program participants:

- How many program participants are enrolled in training?

- When did they complete training?
- Are trainees employed in related fields after program completion? If so, how many?

Placements must meet the project's job quality standards for hours and rate of pay. Once a participant has reached 30 days of job retention, programs may invoice for placement. Documentation of employment will be required.

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Please indicate the evaluation's estimated date of completion: 12/31/2027

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 118

Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 27

Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: 0

YouthBuild Boston Grant

Cabinet / Department: Office of Workforce Development

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Unique ID: 9083

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [YouthBuild Boston's Website](#)

Description: YouthBuild Boston (YBB) noticed an increase in mental health and behavioral issues among their clients—Boston youth aged 16-24—due to the pandemic. This trend reflects a nationwide decline in youth mental health. To support these young people, YBB's ARPA project funded in-house mental health services, life skills workshops, and transportation assistance. Many of YBB's clients came from communities with limited mental health resources, making these programs crucial for bridging the gap. By providing comprehensive mental health and well-being services, along with essential life skills training and transportation support, YBB aims to create lasting positive impacts on both clients and staff.

Structure and Objectives: The project aimed to promote wellness, deliver mental health support, and teach life skills to youth. Services were provided directly to YBB participants to address mental health challenges exacerbated by COVID-19.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: YouthBuild Boston (YBB) is a community-based organization focused on serving youth from underserved communities with limited resources. Most YBB clients are low-income, and funding from this project provides them

access to essential mental health and wellness services they might not otherwise receive. Additionally, the training YBB staff receive will enhance the support provided to future YouthBuild Boston participants. Given that studies indicate youth mental health has been severely impacted by the pandemic, this project aims to address these disparities, promoting equitable outcomes for all participant

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

What are the goals for this project?: The goal of this project was to enhance the mental health & wellness of YouthBuild Boston participants by directly addressing mental health issues, increasing engagement, and supporting overall well-being while facilitating community connections. Additionally, by providing transportation access and promoting life skills and soft skills development, the project aimed to strengthen participants' workforce readiness.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, please cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This study evaluates YouthBuild programs, finding they are effective at increasing receipt of high school credentials, college enrollment, employment rates, and civic engagement. CrimeSolutions Evidence Base rates the Youthbuild program as promising. Miller, Cynthia; Cummings, Danielle; Millenky, Megan; Wiegand, Andrew; Long, David. Laying a Foundation: Four-Year Results from the National YouthBuild Evaluation. MRDC.

What is the total project spending allocated towards evidence-based interventions?
\$350,000

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of residents served through this program	100	133	12/31/24

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 0

Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 0

Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: 0

Newmarket Business Association Workforce Development

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Unique ID: 9084

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Newmarket Business Association Website](#)

Description: Through this project, BPHC partnered with the Newmarket Business Association to provide employment training and job readiness assistance to disenfranchised individuals in the Newmarket/Mass/Cass area.

Structure and Objectives: The objective of this program was to provide meaningful employment opportunities for disenfranchised individuals creating a long-term solution to the homelessness, food insecurity and substance abuse that plagues the immediate Newmarket neighborhood.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Funds promote equity by targeting at-risk residents with services to unhoused individuals with mental health and substance use disorders.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress	Timeframe
Output	Execute Subrecipient contract for services	1	1	4/30/2023
Output	Number of participants in Workforce Development program	100	125	7/1/2025

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

What are the goals for this project?: Engage individuals in meaningful employment.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, please cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: This study explores several experimental program evaluations and trials that support the City's program goals of decreasing homelessness by providing job training to disenfranchised individuals in high-need areas.

Nathan Dunlap with Amy Rynell, Melissa Young, Chris Warland, and Ethan Brown. Employment Program Models for People Experiencing Homelessness: Different

approaches to program structure. National Transitional Jobs Network.

What is the total project spending allocated towards evidence-based interventions?
\$100,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 0

Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 0

Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: 0

High Roads Kitchen Restaurant Relief Fund

Cabinet / Department: Office of Small Business

Partner Department (if applicable): Office of Workforce Development

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9005

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Re-FRESH Program](#)

Description: This project provided emergency relief to the restaurant industry during the pandemic. Phase 1 was an emergency relief fund. Phase 2 focused on providing recovery support to a wider variety of food businesses, including bars/taverns, juice bars, and other similar establishments. It provided monetary aid without a tuition reimbursement component. Phase 2 of this program launched in November 2023. Our office received over 170 applications from businesses across Boston. This project also funded The Revitalization of Food Restaurants and Establishments to Stabilize Holistically (Re-FRESH) grant program.

Structure and Objectives: The objective of this program is to assist food establishments that experienced negative economic impacts by providing grants and employee retention and recruitment programs.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project will allow for businesses that face hardship due to COVID, to use funding to fill in much needed gaps for their business. We want to ensure that each neighborhood in Boston is represented as well as the many different kinds of food businesses that Boston has.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
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Output	Emergency Relief Grants	57	57	2022
Output	Businesses Funded by High Road Kitchen Restaurant Relief Fund	120	142	December 31, 2025

Number of small businesses served: 184

Credit Booster Program

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.18-Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance

Unique ID: 9023

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Home Center Website](#)

Description: This program provided a \$5,000 grant incentive to low- and moderate-income homebuyers who can raise their credit score by at least 20 points to a minimum score of 680 by taking a credit bootcamp or counseling program at an approved non-profit partner agency. Funds were distributed through an RFP process to qualified non-profit partner agencies, who conduct credit boot camp-type counseling programs. The intended outcome was to have 70 percent of enrollees increase their credit score to 680 within two years.

Structure and Objectives: A contract for \$25k was awarded to UrbanEdge to provide these services: 5 credit bootcamps per year, counseling, and anticipate providing the grant to 38 low/mod participants who complete the counseling and raise their credit score by 20 points.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: We intend to serve low and moderate income, primarily BIPOC first time homebuyers who have been shut out of the homebuying market because of a low credit score. Our non-profit agencies will use social media, email blasts, and outreach through existing programs to recruit participants. The City will also use the same to direct participants to the program. Our project will help close the racial homeownership gap by assisting primarily BIPOC residents to become homeowners in Boston.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Individuals enrolled in the Credit Booster Program	100	134	12/31/2026

Outcome	# of enrollees working on getting their score up to 680 within 2 years	70	30	12/31/2026
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Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of the project is to close the racial homeownership gap in Boston, primarily for low and moderate income buyers.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: The study shows that financial education, including credit knowledge, improves financial management, particularly in avoiding mortgage delinquency. Research shows that financial education can boost credit scores for young adults. A lack of financial education can be a significant factor in decisions that negatively impact credit. Older evidence shows that highly targeted training has long been deemed effective.

(Urban, Carly, et al. The Effects of State Policies Requiring High School Personal Finance Education on Credit Scores. Working Paper 2016-002. Madison: University of Wisconsin, Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs, 2016.) (Modestino, Alicia S., Rachel Sederberg, and Liana Tuller. "Assessing the effectiveness of financial coaching: Evidence from the Boston Youth Credit Building Initiative." Journal of Consumer Affairs 53.4 (2019): 1825-1873.) (Mottola, Gary R. "In our best interest: Women, financial literacy, and credit card behavior." Numeracy 6.2 (2013): 4.) (Hathaway, Ian, and Sameer Khatiwada. "Do Financial Education Programs Work? Working Paper 08-03." Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (2008).)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$60,000

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Small Business Technical Assistance

Cabinet / Department: Office of Small Business

Project Expenditure Category: 2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

Unique ID: 9050

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or More

Link to Website: [Small Business Technical Assistance Website](#)

Description: This project funded various technical assistance contracts to support eligible businesses. The Small Business Technical Assistance grant was awarded to one subrecipient to provide Technical Assistance to our small businesses who receive SBRF 2.0 funding. The OEOI Small Business Unit runs a successful Technical Assistance Program and provided oversight of these services and programs. This program provided Technical Assistance to businesses who receive the Small Business Relief 2.0 funds. Small Business Strong is a non-profit organization empowered to help women and minority owned small businesses navigate the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through this partnership with Small Business Strong, the Small Business Unit of OEOI was able to provide expedited resources to small businesses ranging from access to capital to consulting, business restructuring, business growth, digital marketing and customer engagement plans. The contract awarded to Small Business Strong through LISC Boston was broken down into 3 key components to spearhead capacity building for the economic ecosystem in Boston: 1. Small Business Unit training, 2. Technical Assistance & community workshops, and 3. Bos Network convenings.

Structure and Objectives: This program provided Technical Assistance to businesses who received the Small Business Relief 2.0 funds. This project also supported the capacity of staff to support these businesses as well.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project focused on providing accessible support to help businesses grow. We promoted equitable outcomes by ensuring that this support is widely available to our already diverse small business grantee population. This project targeted communities that have been historically underinvested, which will create more access and opportunities for small businesses, which is key to the survival and growth of small businesses. In addition, the program used a diverse group of business coaches/mentors to support small businesses who have a variety of experience, and were able to respond to the needs of each unique business, which will in turn give back to the overall community.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Businesses participated in Technical Assistance Programs	70	60	All Time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal was to provide Technical Assistance to businesses who received

the Small Business Relief 2.0 funds as well as build the capacity of the team to support these businesses in need.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: There's a mix of research on technical assistance, given the wide use of the term and its variants. TA provided by experienced councilors with targeted approaches is effective. An RCT from Mexico showed strong positive effects of management consulting on earnings and hiring. Bruhn, Miriam, Dean Karlan, and Antoinette Schoar. "The impact of consulting services on small and medium enterprises: Evidence from a randomized trial in Mexico." *Journal of Political Economy* 126.2 (2018): 635-687.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$603,282.23

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 165

Creating an Ecosystem to Grow BIPOC-Owned Employer Firms

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

Unique ID: 9078

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Website](#)

Description: One of the key drivers of generational wealth creation is through entrepreneurship and business ownership. Therefore, the Mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity & Inclusion seeks to grow and sustain employer firms owned by people of color in all sectors, with a particular focus on emerging industries as well as sectors that have little to no participation in the City's procurement.

These businesses often encounter difficulties accessing financial capital, business resources, and acquiring the knowledge necessary to effectively bid for and compete in government, private and institutional contracts. The Supplying Capital And Leveraging Education (SCALE) business accelerator program will provide access to business development tools, industry-specific technical assistance, and financial capital for small, diverse businesses, helping them effectively scale to meet the demands of performing larger public contracts in specific industry categories. The SCALE program will assist a cohort of small, diverse businesses - selected through a competitive process - in specific industry categories through general business development tools and consulting, industry-specific technical assistance, and additional access to capital opportunities.

Structure and Objectives:

- Sector Selection: Jan-Feb 2023
- Contracting Opportunity Fund: Announced March 2023
- Contractor Academy: Summer/Fall 2023
- Boston PPP Finance Support: Nov 2023- April 2024
- Contract Bid Opportunities: Spring 2024
- SCALE Grant: Spring 2025

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: OEOI will convene a group of organizations that support small businesses in the City of Boston as part of the initial planning activities. There are a plethora of small business incubators, accelerators, technical assistance providers, and other programs meant to support small business owners, particularly entrepreneurs of color in the City of Boston. These stakeholders can improve the experience of small businesses by better collaboration and coordination to ensure that as many entrepreneurs as possible are receiving needed support while also helping to fill gaps in the availability of BIPOC firms in critical sectors that will experience tremendous growth over the long term.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Our goal is to support the development or scaling of women- and BIPOC-led businesses in industry categories that the 2020 Disparity Study shows the City needs to spend with more diverse companies.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Longstanding disparities exist between the prevalence of Black, Hispanic and Asian population levels and their representation within public procurement supplier diversity. The challenge of diversifying suppliers is a multi-level challenge, both on the side of procurement and on the supply of businesses.

Recently Boston and NYC have seen substantial increases in the diversity of contracting, given targeted efforts to support and inform business owners.

Lack of capital to conduct work and wait for payment is a key barrier, which this ARPA project directly confronts.

(Saunders, Marielle. "Pursuing Greater Diversity in Public Procurement." (2022).) (Orser, Riding, and Liao. "Action Strategies to increase the Diversity of SME Suppliers to the government of Canada." Telfer School of Management, University of Ottawa (2018).) (Parker, Chris, and Dwaipayan Roy. "A granular examination of gender and racial disparities in federal procurement." Data & Policy 6 (2024): e25.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$7,317,150.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 78

Supports for Immigrant-Owned Businesses

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.30-Technical Assistance, Counseling, or Business Planning

Unique ID: 9082

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or More

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Website](#)

Description: This project will create a baseline for providing data about immigrant-owned businesses in Boston. The project designates \$150,000 for a study, and funding for an Immigrant Business Liaison.

Structure and Objectives: The data from this project, allows us to now move into our next phase of this work which is creating a strategy and organizing the small business ecosystem to better support immigrant-owned small businesses.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The results of the study will create a baseline understanding of the immigrant owned small businesses in Boston, and identify what their unique needs and challenges are. The goal is to use this data to drive the programs and support services provided through our small business unit.

We are now at a point where we can use the information gathered by the study in order to create programming that meets the needs of the community.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Hire staff member	1	1	7/31/2023
Output	Establish Baseline Data for Immigrant owned businesses	5000	5000	12/23/2023

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: To build a baseline dataset about immigrant owned businesses and assess their needs and connect these business owners with programs and resources.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Longstanding research demonstrates the link between social capital and small business performance. The Immigrant Business Liaison is charged with ensuring that businesses are connected to the resource ecosystem and other businesses.

(Cooke, Philip, and David Wills. "Small firms, social capital and the enhancement of business performance through innovation programmes." *Small business economics* 13 (1999): 219-234.) (Cooke, Philip, Nick Clifton, and Mercedes Oleaga. "Social capital, firm embeddedness and regional development." *Regional Studies* 39.8 (2005): 1065-1077.) (Street, Christopher T., and Ann-frances Cameron. "External relationships and the small business: A review of small business alliance and network research." *Journal of small business management* 45.2 (2007): 239-266.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$534,396.60

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 0

Immigrant Economic Resilience Initiative

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9080

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Massachusetts Immigrant Collaborative](#)

Description: COVID-19 and the disproportionate impact of the economic downturn has highlighted the systemic inequities that many immigrants face. This proposal aims to 1) provide immediate financial assistance to 200+ struggling households for a year to ease the burden of daily basic needs; 2) increase domestic savings through a matching incentive program to help families build financial health; and 3) provide financial support to participants to engage in language and skills training so they can increase their resiliency through the changing conditions of the labor market.

Structure and Objectives: 1) provide immediate financial assistance 2) increase domestic savings; and 3) provide funding to engage in language and skills training. For the implementation of the project an administrative partner will be selected as well as an impact evaluator

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: It provides immediate financial assistance to those in acute need while also filling the equity gaps that made immigrant households more vulnerable to the negative economic impacts of COVID-19. The goal is to provide

transformation beyond the programmatic phase.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of times the eligibility screener was initiated by interested residents (all languages)	600	2,353	All time
Outcome	Number of times the eligibility screener was initiated in languages other than English	400	1,671	All time
Output	Number of applications received that meet all eligibility criteria after screening	500	547	All time
Output	Number of eligible families that completed the first quarter of the project	200	231	All time
Output	Number of participants throughout the project that completed their cycles	200	239	All time
Outcome	Majority of participants with annual incomes below \$35,000	70%	95%	All time
Outcome	Participants are who are unbanked go to banked by the end of the program	60%	100%	All time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$2,993,826.00

Evaluation Design: A Methodology and Evaluation Contractor will be selected via RFP. This contractor will provide an evaluation design and also create a final analysis of the project's impact on the selected families.

Research question(s): What was the impact of providing disproportionately affected households funding with additional financial incentives for 1 programmatic year? + Was there any transformational change to the families economic and financial health after participating in the program? + Any other relevant research question the Contractor sees fit to explore

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 12/31/2025

Supporting Small Businesses in Digital Commerce

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36- Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9079

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion's Website](#)

Description: This program supported the facilitation of programs by digitizing processes that support small businesses and impacted industries. This ensured the minimal spread of COVID-19 while the city worked to support impacted industries.

Structure and Objectives: This project supported digitization efforts in the early phases of the pandemic, when the City launched several grant programs that needed to be quickly administered.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project ensured that businesses most impacted by the pandemic could access city supports during the pandemic.

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: Many of the beneficiaries of this service were in those industries, but there may have been some businesses in related industries that benefitted from digital paperwork.

Expanding Tuition Free Community College

Cabinet / Department: Office of Workforce Development

Project Expenditure Category: 2.25- Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services

Unique ID: 9074

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Tuition Free Community College Website](#)

Description: This project will expand TFCC eligibility to include additional categories of students. Beginning in Spring 2023, all Boston residents who are income-eligible (either PELL-eligible or, for students whose immigration status renders them ineligible for PELL, at or below 150% of AMI) will be eligible to have their full tuition and fees covered, along with a \$250 per semester stipend. Students must complete a FAFSA and apply/enroll via their college of choice. Colleges will notify OWD of eligibility and billable amounts on a

semester by semester basis. Eligibility and enrollment will be determined by the schools. TFCC currently has six community college partners who will benefit from this project. We will also use these funds to support a pilot program with MassArt (MassArt Transfer Pathways), where TFCC students can transfer to MassArt.

Structure and Objectives: Support 1400 additional students; Graduation rate of 30%, yielding 420 associate's degrees; Leverage \$40 million in PELL Grants; expansion to undocumented and adult learners; Refine transfer pathway for future iterations of Boston Bridge.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: As previously stated, the pandemic had a profound impact on the enrollment of students in community colleges, especially low income students and students of color. See for example, from the Boston Globe - <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/11/29/metro/community-college-students-struggle-return-their-studies>

Students living in communities that bore the brunt of the pandemic have been slower to return to school. We know that completion of an associates degree is associated with higher earnings over a lifetime, and that it is therefore important to reverse the trend of declining enrollment to ensure equitable outcomes. To enhance accessibility, marketing materials are available in ten other languages that are readily available on the TFCC website. Equity was one of the reasons TFCC decided to hold virtual info sessions and office hours. Lastly, we recently hired a part-time Research and Policy Associate who is bi-lingua in Haitian-Creole and English.

Performance Report

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	# of students enrolled	1500	960	Fall 2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Evaluation Design: The evaluation will be conducted by Dr Alicia Sasser-Modestino, Director of the Dukakis Center at Northeastern University. Dr Sasser-Modestino will employ a quasi-experimental design to compare persistence, graduation and post-grad wages for students who receive funding support from TFCC vs students who do not. She will build on an existing data partnership with DHE and DESE to compare prior academic outcomes for student groups.

Research question(s):

- What impact do we have on student metrics (credit accumulation, persistence, completion, and wages after completion)?

- What programmatic improvements can be suggested?

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 12/31/2026

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

National Center for Education Statistics School ID(s) or District ID(s): 2502790

How many students have participated in evidence-based tutoring programs as a part of this project? 0

OEOI Admin Costs

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity & Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 7.1- Administrative Expenses

Unique ID: 9124

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Website](#)

Description: Funding will support the creation of an ARPA Grants and Contracts Manager position. The staff member will provide project management and financial/accounting support for OEOI's ARPA-funded projects.

Structure and Objectives: This new staff position will give OEOI much needed staffing capacity to administer our ARPA funds.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: OEOI has done outreach to diverse candidate pools to ensure equitable access to this employment opportunity.

Covid Economic Impact Study

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity & Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9125

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Website](#)

Description: This project funds a study that includes the context of the economic conditions impacted by COVID-19, reviews the efficiency and efficacy of economic development strategies and programs, and recommends actionable short- and long-term steps that can be taken to ensure the continued equitable economic development of all of Boston's neighborhoods.

Structure and Objectives: Through the RFP, OEOI is looking for a vendor or vendors to collaborate with in order to develop a comprehensive, robust, and innovative five (5) year economic development study and strategic plan.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The selected vendor(s) should conduct the analysis in the context of the economic conditions impacted by COVID-19, review the efficiency and efficacy of the aforementioned economic development strategies and programs, as well as recommend actionable short- and long-term steps that can be taken to ensure the continued equitable economic development of all of Boston's neighborhoods.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Contract Awarded	1	1	12/24/2024
Outcome	Economic Development Study Complete	100%	0%	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: OEOI sought a vendor(s) to undertake a comprehensive economic development study to evaluate and inform its strategies over the next five years. They should conduct the analysis in the context of the economic conditions impacted by COVID-19, review the efficiency and efficacy of the aforementioned economic development strategies and programs, as well as recommend actionable short- and long-term steps that can be taken to ensure the continued equitable economic development of all of Boston's neighborhoods.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: No strong or moderate evidence - This project is a study itself.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$0

Increasing Low-Income Family Access to Tax Preparation and Tax Credits

Cabinet / Department: Department of Innovation and Technology

Project Expenditure Category: 2.19-Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators

Unique ID: 9128

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Tax Help Coalition](#)

Description: The Boston Tax Help Coalition's mission is to broaden pathways from poverty to financial empowerment. It does this by maximizing the impact of tax credits through: free tax preparation, financial education, and economic stability opportunities. ARPA funding will be used to support a network of partner sites which will provide free tax preparation between January-April 2025.

Structure and Objectives: We provide free tax prep in several languages to reach the significant number of Boston immigrants eligible for the service. The Coalition also does outreach to Boston's immigrant communities and provides tax prep in 9 languages.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: BTHC maintains a coalition of community organizations that support outreach efforts to diverse constituencies. Our "ambassadors" serve key constituencies including diverse linguistic populations, deaf taxpayers, seniors, and others who need targeted outreach and support to file.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Increase utilization of tax credits designed to lift low-income, working families above the poverty line.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: There is strong evidence for the effectiveness of tax credits in reducing poverty. See for example from the Brookings Institute - "Although it was not originally billed as an antipoverty program, in its 40 years, the EITC has become one of the nation's most effective tools for lifting low-income workers and their families above the poverty line. In 2013 alone, Brookings estimates that the EITC lifted 6.2 million people, including 3.1 million children, out of poverty (Kneebone and Holmes, 2014)." - <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-earned-income-tax-credit-and-community-economic-stability/>

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$0

Strengthening Impacted Small Businesses and Industries in Boston through Tailored Financial Support

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity & Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9129

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or less

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Website](#)

Description: This project funds loans and/or grants to small businesses in Boston that are

supported by the Boston Local Development Corporation or a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). The beneficiaries of this funding are either in QCTs, impacted industries, or facing financial hardship as a result of the pandemic.

Structure and Objectives: The objective of this project is to support small businesses that were negatively impacted by the covid 19 pandemic.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project promotes equitable outcomes by intentionally focusing its support on small businesses located in or serving QCTs, as well as businesses in industries severely impacted by COVID-19 or still experiencing pandemic-related financial hardship.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 0

Persistent Office Vacancy Recovery Tools

Cabinet / Department: Economic Opportunity and Inclusion

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9130

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or less

Link to Website: [Economic Opportunity & Inclusion Website](#)

Description: This project funds efforts to address the pandemic's impact on commercial vacancy rates, especially downtown. The vacancy rate has grown since the pandemic, and poses a serious risk to Boston's long term financial stability. This project compliments SPACE and other efforts to revitalize downtown and other areas.

Structure and Objectives: The will fund a new website or improvements to an existing website & outreach efforts to potential space renters. The city wants to ensure that securing a lease is simple.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project aims to address the economic impact the pandemic has had on commercial centers, which disproportionately support hourly wage, low income workers. By addressing the challenge with major drops in pedestrian traffic in commercial areas, this work supports vibrancy and opportunity for all.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Begin commercial office leases in previously vacant off-street spaces & Contribute to the return of pre-pandemic foot traffic levels in these areas.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is

appropriate: Strong evidence: Research shows that the amount of information available to prospective renters has an impact on vacancy rates, suggesting that creating tools to share information about available units could lead to shorter vacancies and thus lower the vacancy rate. Chau, Kwong Wing, and Siu Kei Wong. "Information asymmetry and the rent and vacancy rate dynamics in the office market." The Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics 53 (2016): 162-183.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$250,000.00

Climate & Mobility

Fare Free Bus Pilot

Cabinet / Department: Boston Transportation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9048

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Free Route 23, 28, and 29 Bus Program](#)

Description: The City of Boston will eliminate fares on the 23, 28 and 29 bus routes for a two-year period starting in early March 2022. The four-year investment will allow the City of Boston and transit partners to measure the benefits of fare-free bus service. The pilot funding currently runs through February 2026.

Structure and Objectives: Free fares save money for low-income households by reducing transportation cost burden. The objective is to maximize that reduction in cost burden.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The three routes selected for this program serve many of Boston's historically underserved communities. They run where subway service does not reach. These communities are primarily black and brown, and include many low-income households. Throughout the project, we will be monitoring for service quality and economic benefits, as well as investigating potential environmental impacts of free fares. We will use equitable engagement strategies and collect anonymized demographic data from those who participate to ensure we are reaching a representative sample of folks, especially hard to reach populations such as those for whom English is not their first language.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Percentage ridership change	22%	22%	2/24/2024
Outcome	Percentage travel time change	0%	15%	2/24/2024

Outcome	Change in reliability perception	20%	0%	2/24/2024
Outcome	Percent of riders saving money	50%	42%	2/24/2024

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$16,987,312.64

Evaluation Design: The evaluation consists of surveying, focus groups, modeling, and data analysis. For surveying and focus groups, we will complete: four (4) surveys of riders of routes 23, 28, and 29, aiming for 250 respondents per route for each survey, to take place roughly every six months; ten (10) focus groups of roughly five (5) riders each (of routes 23, 28, and 29), half of which will take place in or around September of 2022 and the other half in or around September 2023; two (2) focus groups of operators of routes 23, 28, and 29, each containing roughly five (5) operators; one (1) survey of business owners located immediately adjacent to routes 23, 28, and 29; two (2) focus groups of business owners located immediately adjacent to routes 23, 28, and 29; and two (2) focus groups of community leaders in the neighborhoods where routes 23, 28, and 29 run. Modeling will investigate the environmental and economic program impacts. We will use information from the surveys and focus groups to determine the economic impact of the fare-free program for riders, including how much money is saved per rider per month. Where data is available, we will also attempt to model the extent to which rider savings from the program are spent in the local economy. Where data is available, we will evaluate the impact of the fare-free program on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the local transportation sector and improving air quality for adjacent communities. We will also use MBTA operational data to evaluate the program's impact on ridership, travel times, and reliability.

Research question(s): The main goals of the program are as follows: Provide a direct benefit to many of Boston's transit-critical residents, provide monetary support to some of Boston's most economically disadvantaged residents and businesses, bring people back to transit, and make it easier to attract new riders. Additionally, the program seeks to improve rider experience and satisfaction on these bus routes, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve air quality, and improve travel times and reliability on routes that frequently run behind schedule. The research questions seek to evaluate how successful this program is in reaching each of these goals.

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 7/31/2026

Link to completed evaluation: [Fare Free Mid-Program Report](#)

Green Jobs Program

Cabinet / Department: Environment

Partner Department (if applicable): Office of Workforce Development

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Unique ID: 9012

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to website: [Green Jobs Powercorps](#)

Description: The City of Boston will develop programs to support expansion of green job training opportunities for Boston residents, with a particular focus on women, people of color, immigrants and returning citizens. Our intent is to support the Boston community's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and to connect unemployed and underemployed residents to quality employment opportunities in the green jobs sector. This includes both grantmaking for external organizations that are training and connecting residents to green jobs, and building further pathways for green jobs with the City of Boston's workforce (e.g., horticulture and tree maintenance, green stormwater infrastructure, building management). We also intend to conduct targeted outreach to improve the efficacy of programs to conduct green jobs training and hire residents into green job opportunities. We expect job placement rates in the range of 70-80% for mature programs, but want to also support emerging programs where there is high potential, but which may have lower placement rates early on.

Structure and Objectives: The "earn-and-learn model" gives participants access to job training and subsidized employment, giving them qualifications and job experience to succeed in the green jobs industry.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The priority of this program is to create training and equitable/growing job opportunities for people from marginalized communities to fight climate change. The project exposes people who have traditionally not been involved in environmental conservation work - particular people from Black and Brown communities. This project gives them the tools and knowledge to create a career path into jobs in the growing green industries.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Partnerships with job training programs	50	60	All time
Output	Number of people enrolled in training programs	150	240	As of

				Cohort 5
Output	Workers completing sectoral job training programs	30	102	All time
Output	Women enrolled in training programs	9	46	All time
Output	People of color enrolled in training programs	30	234	All time
Outcome	Graduated placed into jobs	30	76	All time

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$9,000,000.00

Evaluation Design: We are in the process of designing an evaluation process by adapting the PowerCorpsPHL evaluation process.

Research question(s): We are in the process of designing an evaluation process.

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 6/30/2025

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of workers enrolled in sectoral job training programs: 240

Number of workers completing sectoral job training programs: 102

Number of people participating in summer youth employment programs: 0

Traffic Calming and Street Safety Improvements

Cabinet / Department: Boston Transportation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9030

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Neighborhood Slow Streets Website](#)

Description: The Boston Transportation Department expanded the existing Slow Streets program with a \$2 million investment that focuses on improving street safety at the neighborhood level. Speed humps were installed on "zones" of connected, small streets to

reduce the prevalence of speeding. Near some public places, crosswalk features that improve visibility were added, reinforcing yielding to pedestrians, and slow drivers moving through.

Structure and Objectives: This project improved pedestrian access and safety in our neighborhoods by adding speed humps and building better crosswalks near parks, schools, libraries, and other community centers.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Our priority areas serve higher populations of HHs with youth, people with disabilities, and people aged 65 and older -- groups more likely to suffer severe injury or death in a car crash. We also account for past crash rates on local streets and the presence of pedestrian generators, such as community centers, parks, libraries, and schools. In Boston, the prioritized areas tend to be of lower-income and with more residents of color.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Constructed speed humps	60	80	By Winter 2024
Output	Raised crosswalks	4	12	By Winter 2024
Output	Curb Extensions/Daylighting Areas	0	76	12/31/2025

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$2,000,000.00

Type of Capital Expenditure: Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities. sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks

Green Residential Building Retrofits

Cabinet / Department: Environment

Project Expenditure Category: 2.23-Strong Healthy Communities: Demolition and Rehabilitation of Properties

Unique ID: 9013

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to website: [Boston's BERDO Decarbonization Program](#)

Description: The City of Boston will develop programs to support efficiency,

electrification and renewable energy (e.g., solar PV, battery storage, heat pump installation) in residential properties, nonprofits, and small businesses, including addressing barriers to such installations, like roof replacement and electrical upgrades. This will be done in concert with energy service providers to leverage existing programs, such as weatherization incentives. By making programs more accessible to EJ communities, this project is intended to improve air quality and decrease energy cost burden for residents and small business owners.

Structure and Objectives: This is intended to bring the benefits of efficient homes powered by renewable energy to Environmental Justice communities by partnering with trusted local community groups to conduct outreach, including in languages other than English.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project is intended to bring the benefits of efficient homes powered by renewable energy to Environmental Justice communities. We will partner with trusted local community groups to conduct outreach to low- and moderate-income residents and small businesses owners in languages other than English. We will also collect demographic data for program participants to measure the populations that are being served by this program.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Households installing some combination of solar PV, battery storage, and/or heat pumps	65	0	2026
Outcome	Decarbonization Projects supported with ARPA funds	15	0	2026

Walkable City

Cabinet / Department: Boston Transportation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9063

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Safe Routes to School](#)

Description: This program will create walking environments that are designed to raise expectations for what a comfortable and accessible street looks like. This funding will complement routine state of good repair programs with a focus on specific outcomes

related to helping small businesses and improving access to schools. The primary investment would be to support planning and design of walk-friendly neighborhood business districts. Working hand-in-hand with local business groups to invest in improvements for those walking and biking in neighborhood business districts. The funds would also be used to promote safe walking and biking to schools. The program will establish partnerships with specific schools to design wait areas, wider sidewalks, safer street crossings, more bike parking, and defined access to school buses. Finally, we will pilot targeted sidewalk snow clearance in areas with heavy pedestrian traffic in several neighborhood business corridors. This will bolster local businesses and encourage more local shopping in the winter months.

Structure and Objectives: Funding complements state of good repair (sidewalk repair, ADA ramp compliance) to help small businesses and schools, and for sidewalk snow clearance. Public health is improved by making it safer and more convenient for students to walk to school.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Small business districts in currently underserved and underinvested areas will be prioritized. The snow clearance project represents a new approach to maintaining walkability throughout the winter season, and a potential opportunity to put dollars towards equity and justice by contracting with an MWBE. For schools, we are using pediatric crash data to prioritize schools to ensure that our selection process is equitable.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Students in schools that have been prioritized for Safe Routes to School	10,000	3,356	12/31/2026

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$3,386,557.10

Type of Capital Expenditure: Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities. sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks

America's Best Biking City

Cabinet / Department: Boston Transportation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9062

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Bikes](#)

Description: Boston is poised to become the country's foremost biking city by dramatically expanding the appeal and accessibility of bicycling through critical investments in safety and connectivity. Our primary focus is a critical, one-time investment in working with residents at the neighborhood scale to plan and design connected networks of bike routes. Together, we co-create design plans that close gaps in the existing network and add new low-stress routes for people of all ages. These networks will connect homes with health centers, parks, schools, and local business districts; construct accessible pedestrian routes; and calm traffic to benefit all users.

While infrastructure investments will have the greatest impact on increasing the number of people biking in Boston, we recognize there is an age and ability imbalance among everyday bicyclists that requires a targeted investment. This one-time funding provides a unique opportunity to increase biking rates among Boston's older adults and/or residents with disabilities. We will create a limited-time subsidy program for qualifying residents to purchase electric-assist bikes ("e-bikes"). E-bikes have been proven nationally to increase rates of cycling among older adults and people with mobility disabilities. This will be a proof of concept investment, accompanied by research to understand the impacts of e-bikes on everyday bicycling among these populations within Boston.

Structure and Objectives: We will work with residents to co-design connected networks of bike routes to improve access to everyday destinations like grocery stores and parks.

We will pilot an e-bike rebate program for older adults and people with disabilities.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: While the City's bike network has grown significantly, it mainly serves job centers and the surrounding neighborhoods -- which are whiter and more affluent than Boston as a whole. We intend to use these funds to open dialogue and build trust with constituents and communities who may not have access to or even know about low-stress bike routes today.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Percentage of households within a 3-minute walk of a low-stress bike route	40%	0	12/31/2025
Output	Number of residents with a disability who have been able to purchase an e-bike	100	151	12/31/2025
Output	Number of residents aged 55+ who have been able to purchase an e-bike	600	388	12/31/2025

Output	Number of Low-Income residents who have been able to purchase an e-bike	500	489	12/31/2025
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Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$4,626,130.26

Type of Capital Expenditure: Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities. sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks

Electrification of BPS School Buses

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Schools

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9060

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Schools Website](#)

Description: This program supported the electrification of the BPS school bus fleet, including the purchase and installation of the charging infrastructure needed at BPS. The Boston Public Schools Department of Transportation, in coordination with the Environment Department, Mayor's Office of Policy, and other partner agencies, used \$2,500,000 to supplement \$7,000,000 in already planned FY23 lease purchase funds to pilot up to 20 electric school buses during the 2022/2023 school year, including purchase and installation of charging infrastructure needed to support the initial set of electric buses. As part of the project, BPS also sought third-party technical assistance to develop a long-term fleet electrification strategy, with a goal of full fleet electrification by 2030. BPS plans to seek additional outside funding, including through the EPA Clean School Bus program, to support continued electrification beyond the initial pilot.

Structure and Objectives: Electric vehicles will help reduce emissions across Boston. Transportation represents the second highest source of emissions across our city and the first, highest, source of emissions if you look statewide.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: BPS school buses serve a disproportionately high share of students with higher needs who will be disproportionately impacted by reduced emissions.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Charging Stations	20	39	2025

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$2,499,004.85

Type of Capital Expenditure: Other - Chargers and charging infrastructure to support electric school buses

Growth & Maintenance of Boston's Tree Canopy

Cabinet / Department: Parks & Recreation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9061

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston's Urban Forest Website](#)

Description: The Parks Department is committed to increasing and properly maintaining our Boston's Tree Canopy. This investment would allow us to clear our maintenance backlog and more quickly replace and plant new sidewalk trees, as well as increase our capability to perform warranty checks, ensuring that newly planted trees are surviving. We have also used these funds to expand our tree planting and care programs into our cemeteries, so we can better expand and care for the canopy in these large open spaces.

Structure and Objectives: Contract with tree care companies to support our Urban Forestry Division in increasing plantings and catching up on care of our City owned trees.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The Urban Forest Plan has had equity at its core from its inception. The Parks Department has been intentional about engaging and listening to communities of color, disproportionately impacted communities, and communities that are and will be most impacted by climate change in our coastal city. As we grow the Forestry Division, these communities will be prioritized in terms of where we look to expand our tree canopy.

Additionally, the communities identified above will be prioritized in the implementation of tree planting and care projects, inclusion and support for partnering community based and non-profit organizations, and through education and engagement opportunities.

Chinatown Microgrid Pilot

Cabinet / Department: Environment Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9065

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Environment Department's Website](#)

Description: Chinatown is an environmental justice (EJ), low income community that suffers disproportionate environmental impacts and which also suffered a disproportionate economic impact from the pandemic. Chinatown is also the city of Boston's worst heat island and a flood threatened zone.

The purpose of this project is to increase community resilience in the face of climate impacts, ensure that energy efficiency and savings accrue to impacted residents, and create local democratic control, to benefit and stabilize the Boston Chinatown community, particularly its vulnerable and underserved working class, immigrant residents.

The project aims to fund unsubsidized pre-weatherization gaps and fossil fuel conversion or electric upgrades as a precursor to installing Air Source Heat Pumps, Induction Stoves, and Solar and Battery Storage in historic row house properties owned by the Chinatown Community Land Trust (CCLT).

Another aspect of the project is to support climate resilience through redesign of Reggie Wong Memorial Park with a focus on heat and flooding mitigation. The project will support plans for improved stormwater drainage and installation of utility lines to add cooling water features to the park.

Structure and Objectives: Bring decarbonization, energy savings, clean energy, and resilience to a disproportionately impacted community. The community benefit corporation structure is designed so impacted residents make key decisions about how the project serves Chinatown.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: An example of how the project considers equity in project delivery is the work we are undertaking to advocate for new guidelines around utility allowances for affordable housing tenants. By assessing the project from the impacted residents' perspective, we must advocate for administrative changes that will ensure that residents will receive the benefits of energy efficiency and resilience. The specific details will vary from building to building, based on whether or not tenants pay for heat and/or air conditioning, whether electrification or decarbonization measures will

change the payment structure, and whether tenant-paid utility bills will increase or decrease based on the particular building design. Despite these administrative and regulatory complexities, this work is core to our equity principles and goals of the project.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Decarbonized buildings	4	TBA	July 2026
Outcome	Residents benefitting from improvements at Reggie Wong Park	4783	TBA	July 2026

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$750,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Other - Equipment purchase for decarbonization and energy resilience in multifamily affordable housing in Chinatown.

Center for Hard to Recycle Materials

Cabinet / Department: Public Works Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9068

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Public Works Department Website](#)

Description: Boston has found a location to develop a Center for Hard to Recycle Materials (CHARM) and purchase equipment to facilitate a series of pop-up events throughout the City. The initial JP location had many obstacles with the planned MBTA and housing development. We have onboarded a waste consultant to provide a comprehensive site plan and also an operational program for 300 Frontage Road, Boston 02118.

Structure and Objectives: The objective of this project is to provide a safe and accessible way to dispose of hard-to-recycle items properly. We are also aiming to reduce our waste by 80% by 2030 outlined in our Zero Waste Boston Plan.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: We currently only hold five special waste drop-off days in two locations throughout the year. These two new assets will provide more access and

reach for these services.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Zero Waste and Pop-up event attendees	0	3,500	Annually

East Boston O'Donnell Playground

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Schools

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9067

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Schools Website](#)

Description: This project installed a new playground structure at the Hugh Roe O'Donnell Elementary School in the Eagle Hill neighborhood of East Boston.

Structure and Objectives: This project will ensure that students at the school have safe and accessible outdoor play space.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project ensured that all students can access the playspace. The school disproportionately serves low-income students (87% of students at the time of reporting).

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Addition of new play structure	1	1	September 2024

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$500,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks

District 4 Parks and Green Spaces

Cabinet / Department: Parks and Recreation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9066

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Parks & Recreation Website](#)

Description: This project included necessary improvements to athletic fields, playgrounds, fencing, walkways, lighting, green infrastructure, and enhancement of the tree canopy in Walsh Playground in Dorchester (District 4). ARPA funded a portion of the overall project to renovate the park.

Structure and Objectives: Improvements to this park were beneficial to the communities, encouraging and providing more opportunities for athletics, unstructured play, exercise and activity, as well as green space to maintain and improve the tree canopy.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Equity is at the forefront of all Parks projects. From the way we engage with community members during the public comment phase to ensure that all voices are heard, to ensuring that elements of parks are as accessible as possible to people of all physical abilities. We will continue to be sensitive to equity issues.

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$500,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Parks, green spaces, recreational facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian safety features like crosswalks

Mission Hill Last Mile Transportation

Cabinet / Department: Boston Transportation Department

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood

Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9069

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Mission Hill Link Website](#)

Description: The Mission Hill Link is a community run bus program that has been historically funded by the MBTA and New England Baptist Hospital. The Link services key

destinations in Mission Hill including: the Mission Main apartments, Stop and Shop, the Alice Heyward Taylor apartments, New England Baptist Hospital, Roxbury Crossing MBTA Station, Brigham Circle MBTA Station, and Ruggles MBTA Station. The Link is a free service that fills a key MBTA gap in service for vulnerable populations that may have difficulty traversing the grade changes common in the Mission Hill neighborhood. BTDC has been coordinating with the Mission Hill Link Board to brainstorm strategies to expand service and ridership. The Link is run through a shuttle contractor, TransAction, and this project will use a large portion of funds to ensure continued service. Additional funding will be used for a marketing campaign to raise local awareness and drive ridership numbers upward. The project also plans to explore expanded service hours and capture additional morning commuter ridership.

Structure and Objectives: The project aims to continue reliable service for Mission Hill residents and those commuting into the area as well as increase ridership through advertisement and increased operational capacity..

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project elevates vulnerable populations by ensuring they have the mobility necessary to access opportunity as well as providing a free service to reduce transportation spending.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Ridership Increase	15%	TBA	2025
Output	Increased service hours	50%	TBA	2026

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$137,500

Type of Capital Expenditure: Other: New vehicle to replace aging current vehicle

Farmers Market Coupon Program

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9107

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Office of Food Justice Website](#)

Description: The Office of Food Justice (OFJ) expanded the farmers market coupon program with ARPA funding. The program made local food accessible to immigrant families who do not have access to safety-net programs. OFJ worked with 25 farmers market managers and 25 CBO partners to implement distribution and redemption of coupons every summer. OFJ partnered with all farmers markets to redeem the coupons. For the CBO partners, OFJ released an application, prioritizing organizations that have screening processes in place to identify low-income, food insecure families that don't qualify for state and federal resources.

Structure and Objectives: Goals (1) to give residents the power to buy and choose the food they need and want (2) to support regional farmers and fisher people; (3) to support local economy and urban agriculture; and (4) to support neighborhoods with limited fresh food access

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: During summer 2024, the Farmer Market Coupon Program was implemented to meet the food needs of food insecure residents, especially migrants ineligible for benefits. By partnering with over 30 community based organizations and community health centers and over 20 farmers markets, OFJ targeted low income, people of color and immigrant households with higher rates of food insecurity.

Partners organizations have demonstrated experience addressing food access issues in populations that historically experience food insecurity and connecting residents with resources beyond food, especially the immigrant population. They also have an authentic connection to the community that they serve by providing sustainable services to the target populations to meet food access and insecurity needs, including but not limited to safety net programs, emergency funds, and delivery services.

Farmers Markets increase the accessibility and consumption of healthy and culturally relevant foods among communities, especially low-income neighborhoods with the largest concentrations of immigrants and food insecure residents.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Total non-unique # of households that receive coupon booklets yearly	32,000	15,606	12/31/2024
Output	New Vendors or markets supported by OFJ in target neighborhoods	14	14	Summer 2022 through Fall 2024
Output	Of coupons redeemed, yearly, total percent redeemed for	75%	84%	Summer 2022 through Fall 2024

	fresh fruits and vegetables			
Output	ARPA \$ reimbursed to Farmers Market managers for coupons	800,000	801,495	Summer 2022 through Fall 2024
Output	Of total coupons distributed yearly, percent distributed to target neighborhoods	63%	72%	Summer 2022 through Fall 2024
Outcome	Total # of organizations serving immigrant households	35	32	Summer 2022 - Fall 2024
Outcome	Percent of coupon booklets redeemed, yearly, of total distributed	75%	75%	Cumulative, summer 2022 through fall 2024

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$920,463.90

Evaluation Design: Between August 2024 and December 2025, an evaluation will be conducted in partnerships with the Boston Public Health Commission's Chronic Disease Prevention and Control Division, by a consultant who will be facilitating a planning process to evaluate this program and design a sustainable program to address affordability at farmers markets as a follow up to the end of this program.

-These will include engagement with market managers and CBO partners, residents who have received farmers market coupons and those who were not able to, as well as focus groups (likely virtual) with vendors and at participating farmers markets.

- Monthly reporting on demographics of coupon recipients.

- We have developed a dashboard with DoIT to track all coupon redemptions in 2023 and 2024 geographically and by organization, and redemption relative to distribution by neighborhood and by distributing organization. This will help us in future program planning, help vendors understand what kinds of food populations throughout Boston are most interested in receiving or purchasing, and help CBOs and CHCs who have been distributing coupons understand where their members/participants are shopping/traveling to for food.

Research question(s): The research questions are currently being developed with the strategic planning committee and a consultant for a cumulative program evaluation for the years 2022-2024, that will be used to develop and implement a sustainable approach to affordability at Boston farmers markets starting in the summer of 2026.

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 12/15/2026

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have been served as a part of the project? Unknown: 48,801 booklets were provided to residents, but it should be noted that these numbers do not represent unique households or individuals.

Building New Neighborhood Food Systems

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1 - Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9105

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Grow Boston Website](#)

Description: GrowBoston: Office of Urban Agriculture (situated within the Mayor's Office of Housing) and the City's Office of Food Justice (OFJ) is using \$1,600,000 in ARPA funding to expand neighborhood food systems. Specifically, GrowBoston has committed \$1 million to build two rooftop farms by 2026, with produce directed towards low-income residents, as well as \$600,000 to build 800 raised beds for low-income individuals and families. Raised bed program implementation is a collaboration between GrowBoston and OFJ, with GrowBoston taking the lead on raised bed development and OFJ connecting with low-income families. In addition to building beds for low-income residents, a portion of the 800 beds will be built at public facilities including libraries, community centers, and public housing communities. Residents and public facilities will receive garden-education support through GrowBoston's Urban Agriculture Ambassador Program.

Structure and Objectives: Program Manager will work with OFJ to determine raised bed recipients, and run a grant program for builders of the raised beds. They will also procure the building of two rooftop farms. Low-income households will be primary recipients of food.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Food insecurity and the climate crisis impact low-income communities of color the hardest. This proposal allows MOH to make key investments in increasing food security and climate resilience through local food production. MOH has collaborated with a diverse group of stakeholders in developing the GrowBoston program, including nonprofit, for-profit, community gardens, different models of farms, food forests, rooftop growers, those who serve a range of communities of color and range of incomes levels, those who do educational programming in addition to food production. Specific organizations include the Office of Food Access, Urban Farming Institute, The Food Project, Recover Green Roofs, Trustees of Reservations, Boston Food Forest Coalition, Eastie Farm, Codman Square Neighborhood Development Corporation,

Higher Ground Rooftop Farm, NUBIA, Green City Growers, and We Grow Microgreens.

Procurement opportunities include service contracts for fruit tree maintenance and harvest, delivery of educational programming, and creation of educational materials. There are many established and emerging small businesses and organizations led by minorities and women working in urban agriculture, and GrowBoston would seek to engage them through these opportunities.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of rooftop gardens	2	1	12/31/2026
Output	Number of raised garden beds for low-income gardeners	1000	508	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

What are the goals for the project? To strengthen local food production and food sovereignty for low-income households

Is there strong or moderate evidence, if so, please cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate. No strong or moderate evidence

How much of the project budget will be spent on evidence-based interventions: \$0.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have been served as a part of the project? 808

Equitable Pandemic Response

COVID-19 Testing

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.2-COVID-19 Testing

Unique ID: 9034

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project supported testing services to high transmission communities within the City of Boston. These services were provided by a combination of private testing companies, community health centers, and our Public Health Preparedness staff. This project funding allowed us to provide equitable, low-barrier, access to testing

services for all Boston residents across the city, with the intended outcome of reduced COVID rates across the city. This work is now complete.

Structure and Objectives: ARPA funds were utilized to support COVID-19 PCR and repaid testing efforts throughout the grant period. This service has ended.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project is completed.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of PCR Tests Performed	2,500	2,645	All time

COVID-19 Vaccination

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Partner Department (if applicable): Health and Human Services

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1-COVID-19 Vaccination

Unique ID: 9035

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This funding of this project is meant to support vaccination services to high transmission communities within the City of Boston. These services are provided by a combination of private vaccination companies, community health centers, and our Public Health Preparedness staff. This project funding allows us to provide equitable, low-barrier, access to vaccination services for all Boston residents across the city, with the intended outcome of reduced covid rates across the city.

Structure and Objectives: ARPA funds are being utilized to support ongoing COVID-19 vaccination efforts throughout the grant period. This includes funding vaccination sites for operations including supplies, staff, and clinic infrastructure.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Throughout the pandemic, we have utilized COVID-19 infection data to determine where to focus efforts. COVID-19 infection and death rates have impacted those identifying as black/African American and Latinx. We will keep our focus on ensuring equitable, low-barrier, access to vaccination for vulnerable populations and in neighborhoods with high transmission rates as needed. Outreach efforts will continue to include partnerships with CBOs, FBOs, and CHCs. We will also utilize the Mayor's Health Line to inform residents about these services as vaccination events occur.

COVID-19 Wastewater Prevalence Tracking

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.14-Other Public Health Services

Unique ID: 9111

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project funds measurement of the virus that causes COVID in wastewater at multiple sewer access sites representing each of Boston's neighborhoods. This is being done to allow for more real time reporting on increases of COVID in the community. With this neighborhood data we will be able to report area specific spikes in COVID allowing more precise outreach, and targeted testing and vaccination services. In October 2023, respiratory viruses like influenza and respiratory syncytial virus became part of measurement. Sites will be continuously evaluated to ensure they continue to meet the goal of equitable representation of Boston's population. In February 2024, psychoactive substances were added to this monitoring program to observe patterns in substance use behavior in Boston and its intersection with populations disproportionately impacted by respiratory viruses. In June 2024, the monitoring of psychoactive substances concluded. In August 2024, wastewater testing was switched from the original vendor, Biobot, to a new vendor, Ginkgo Bioworks. In August 2024, BPHC presented the implementation of the program to CDC NCEZID leadership during a site visit. In July 2025 wastewater testing was switched from Ginkgo Bioworks, to a new vendor, GT Molecular.

Structure and Objectives: Wastewater tracking for COVID reporting, allowing for more targeted outreach, testing, and vaccination. In the second phase of the program we have expanded to other respiratory viruses (influenza and RSV).

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The catchment sites were selected in communities with disproportionate burdens of hospitalization from respiratory illness to assist in providing a more accurate and prompt response to increases in viruses that cause respiratory disease.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of neighborhoods with catchment sites across the City	10	10	Monthly
Output	Influenza Wastewater Prevalence Tracking Sites	10	10	Monthly

Output	RSV Wastewater Prevalence Tracking Sites	10	10	Monthly
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Food Rescue and Distribution

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9122

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Food Justice Website](#)

Description: The purpose of this project is to support an increase in fresh food distribution for Boston residents facing food insecurity by supporting collaborative food storage and distribution of low or no-cost perishable foods, including rescued food. The project will provide support to collaborative non-profit organizations who partner to identify more efficient ways to increase the volume of non-perishable food available to food insecure residents with an increased level of dignity and choice of food. We will support the ability of organizations and food distribution sites that serve food insecure residents to provide increased access to fresh food through collaborative cold storage, coordination, transportation and/or distribution logistics, including through partnerships with regional producers or food waste generators wishing to donate surplus food to Boston residents. Grantees will develop opportunities to collaborate and to build in efforts to connect participating individuals and families with nutrition assistance, workforce development, health and other social services that address root causes of food insecurity, on site or otherwise through the distribution of food.

Structure and Objectives: This grant program will (1) Increase access to fresh, perishable food for residents facing food insecurity and (2) address barriers to increasing the scale of rescued surplus food available for Boston residents who want it.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Supporting initiatives that increase dignity and choice and destigmatize rescued surplus food for all residents; engaging pantry users and pantries across a number of languages, focusing on neighborhoods with sustained high levels of food insecurity as a result of historic disinvestment in order to determine strategies the City should undertake; ensuring grantees prioritize language justice and racial equity in program design and implementation; and building pathways to increased access to programs that address the root causes of inequities in food insecurity.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
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Output	Total number of individuals served per quarter	90,000	73,168	Quarterly
Output	Average weekly pounds of recovered produce (ie: fruits and vegetables) distributed	30,000	19,612	Quarterly
Output	Average weekly pounds of total produce (ie: fruits and vegetables) distributed	130,000	82,820	Quarterly

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

How much of the project budget will be spent on evidence-based interventions: \$2,500,000.00

Evaluation Design: An external evaluator, the Institute of Community Health hired by Mass General Brigham, started in February 2025 and will work with the core partners to determine the best way to measure and report on key project indicators of importance to stakeholders. The design of the evaluation is under development with a logic model being created in March 2025. The evaluation plan will be a translation of the logic model and how to get there.

Research question(s): TBD

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: No

Estimated date of completion: 07/31/2026

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have been served as a part of the project? 56,065

CHC COVID Recovery Support

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.14-Other Public Health Services

Unique ID: 9115

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project will provide investment in CHCs across Boston to support long-term COVID response needs, including vaccination and testing, community outreach and staffing support.

Structure and Objectives: To continue to support CHCs in their integral work in the community supporting the reduction of COVID transmission via vaccination, referral, and follow-up services.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The CHCs in Boston primarily serve communities that have faced significant barriers to services, such as Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color, people with low incomes, people with limited English proficiency, and other traditionally underserved groups. Their covid testing and vaccination services have been key to addressing and limiting COVID outbreaks across these communities, as these providers have unique relationships with the residents in their area and can provide services and information that address their particular needs and concerns.

Food Access Community Grants

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9016

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Food Justice Website](#)

Description: The Mayor's Office of Food Justice (OFJ) endorses a just, resilient, and robust food community in Boston that supports the wellbeing of all Boston residents. We recognize that root causes of food insecurity are complex and that addressing food access issues requires multi-dimensional solutions. \$2.13 million of the American Rescue Act Funding was made available through two different grant opportunities for the Boston community - one focused on equity in the food system and the second on destigmatization and outreach.

Structure and Objectives: Goals: Increase awareness of different food resources; Address stigma associated with food insecurity; Enhance outreach efforts around the food safety net network; Support community-driven solutions to create a more just food system.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Required grantees to serve 8 target populations most impacted by food insecurity as well as selected grantees that serve low-income neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by food insecurity. 8 target populations are BPS students, Immigrants, Older adults, persons with disabilities, persons experiencing homelessness, residents of public housing or rental voucher holders, veterans and youth. Grantees are asked to collect demographic data quarterly on populations served.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of nonprofits, Community-Based Organizations receiving Community Solutions grants	14	14	12/31/22
Output	Number of nonprofits, Community-Based Organizations receiving Food Safety Net De-stigmatization grants	20	18	12/31/22
Outcome	Grants awarded to nonprofits and CBO's serving people in priority neighborhoods and low income residents	34	34	12/31/22
Outcome	Outreach interventions sent to Boston residents seeking information related to safety net and emergency food programs	3,000	53,765	Quarterly

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

How much of the project budget will be spent on evidence-based interventions:
\$2,130,014.61

Evaluation Design: - Quarterly reports on demographics, activities, goals and challenges.

- Biweekly meetings to review challenges and quarterly meetings to problem solve.
- Quarterly analysis of reported data
- Final survey of grantees

Research question(s):

Process questions:

- What is the number of households served by this project this quarter?
- What activities have you conducted as an organization?
- What challenges are you experiencing?
- What is your awareness of City of Boston food resources?
- How have you spent your funds?

Demographic Questions

- What populations are your services reaching?
- How are you prioritizing diverse and inclusive participation?

- What is the demographic breakdown of households served?

Feedback questions

Scale answer to whether these statements apply:

- Through this grant, our organization connected to other organizations in Boston in new or deeper ways:
- Through this grant, our organization increased our knowledge of food resources available for residents:
- Through this grant, our organization increased our understanding of the City of Boston grant process:
- Through this grant, our organization improved our ability to collect data and report data:
- Through this grant, our organization increased language and accessibility options for the programs we offered:

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 3/31/2023, [Public Evaluation Link](#)

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 74,157

Halal Food for Refugees

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9106

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement Website](#)

Description: This project supported access to halal meat and other culturally-appropriate groceries for the Muslim refugee population in Boston in keeping with families' religious dietary needs. When refugees are resettled to the US, the agencies that receive and settle them often cannot provide all the initial services and help they need to be successfully integrated into the US due to funding constraints. As a result, many clients are in need of food security support beyond their initial resettlement period due to unemployment and delays in benefits as a result of COVID-19.

Structure and Objectives: Under this project, the grantee distributed vouchers to approximately 150 refugee families over one year that enabled them to purchase meat and other culturally-appropriate food items at halal vendors.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project supported access to culturally-appropriate

food resources for communities that are marginally served with existing food access opportunities.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Families served	1,000	2,704	12/31/2024

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

How much of the project budget will be spent on evidence-based interventions:
\$100,000.00

Project Goals: The overall goal for the project will be to help address food insecurity within Muslim refugee populations in Boston by providing access to culturally-appropriate food items to 150 families.

Is there strong or moderate evidence, if so, please cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: The intervention provided food distribution. Robust analysis shows that public food assistance support directly impacts food security. Borjas, George J. "Food insecurity and public assistance." Journal of Public Economics 88.7-8 (2004): 1421-1443.

Increasing access to food increases food security, but the nutrition of the food content is important for overall nutrition. Oldroyd, Lucy, et al. "The nutritional quality of food parcels provided by food banks and the effectiveness of food banks at reducing food insecurity in developed countries: a mixed-method systematic review." Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics 35.6 (2022): 1202-1229.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 2,704

Social Determinants of Health Community Grant Program

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9041

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: These funds supported sustainability of local non-profit community-based organizations & family childcare small businesses (Organizations) that promote and provide resources for food insecurity, active living, environmental health, healthy housing, and chronic disease prevention in lower-income neighborhoods, with a focus on the Boston neighborhoods most adversely impacted by COVID-19 infections. The funds addressed six of the 'Key Recommendation' areas in the "Healthy Equity Now Plan": Provide Meaningful Employment, Provide Quality Housing, Eliminate Food Insecurity, Provide Free or subsidized child care, Promote Active Living and Invest in Youth. Funds were provided for up to 75 Organizations with a sustainability grant to support program operations, payroll, services, and activities. These organizations provide meaningful employment and services directly to Boston residents. The focus was on Organizations serving residents who live in Dorchester, East Boston, Hyde Park, Mattapan, and Roxbury. Some examples of funded activities include: supporting payroll and benefits for employees (Rec 2), rental or mortgage assistance (Rec 2, 3), continuity of food insecurity, active living, or youth programs and education (Rec 5, 8, 9), improvements to Organization facilities including housing (Rec 3), childcare scholarships for families (Rec 2, 6, 9.)

Structure and Objectives: This project supported operating costs for CBOs providing direct SDH services to Boston neighborhoods. Funds were delivered by subcontracts managed by BPHC's Division of Chronic Disease Prevention & Control & related city depts to ensure alignment w/all city efforts.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: CBOs were chosen based on 1) the population they serve 2) their demonstrated work in the community and 3) their demonstrated financial need. The BPHC team was very purposeful to choose a mix of organizations that touch all priority neighborhoods and social determinants of health topics, and demonstrated a financial need.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	# of CBOs supported	34	34	12/31/2023
Outcome	Organizations offering services that address at least 1 of the six identified Health Equity Now Plan Key Recommendation areas: 2, 3,5, 6, 8 and 9.	34	34	12/31/2023

Community Violence Intervention Program

Cabinet / Department: Health and Human Services

Partner Department (if applicable): Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Centers for Youth and Families

Project Expenditure Category: 1.11-Community Violence Interventions

Unique ID: 9040

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project directs funding to the system-involved and proven-risk population in our city to reduce the risk of gun violence. ARPA funds bolstered services and programs for high risk, system-involved and gang-involved individuals and proven-risk men over the age of 25 that are underserved in communities with highest rates of gun and gang violence. In 2021, grants were awarded to Boston nonprofits to increase or scale up programs for 2021-2022 that improve economic, education and health outcomes for the participants by providing training, case management, mental health services, employment opportunities, among other support services. In addition, Boston Public Health Commission will expand case management services with a specific focus on addressing gaps relating to outreach and engagement to proven-risk men over the age of 25 in the city of Boston. This initiative focuses on outreach, case management, connection to services and training and technical support.

Structure and Objectives: Objectives of assistance program is to address inequitable rates of Covid-19 infection, vaccinations and community violence experienced by proven risk males over the age of 25 in Boston via case management & pro-social activities.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Initially this project addressed inequitable rates of Covid-19 infection, vaccinations and community violence experienced by proven risk males over the age of 25 in Boston. The project focused its outreach and service delivery to individuals from the communities of Mattapan, Dorchester, Hyde Park and Roxbury, which are populated by majority residents of color and represent the highest rates of firearm activity and victimization in the city. In 2020-2021, Black males over the age of 25 were identified via Boston Police data as the highest risk for being perpetrators and victims of gun violence in the City of Boston. Additionally, these neighborhoods have the highest rates Covid-19 infections and lowest rates of vaccination.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Outreach Enrollment & Case Management: Clients are active in strength based,	45	13	4/1/23 - 6/30/23

	stabilizing developmental activities			
Output	Clients enrolled in MHI programming are males of color from neighborhoods most impacted by Covid-19 and community violence	80%	100%	4/1/23 - 6/30/23

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals of this project are to reduce inequitable rates of Covid-19 infection, vaccinations and community violence experienced by proven risk males over the age of 25 in Boston through the delivery of case management and connection to services. Case management includes providing Covid-19 related health education, services and supplies, prosocial programming, re-entry planning, an assessment of social needs, creating a service plan, coordination of services for clients, and transition planning upon the conclusion of the service plan. Connection to services and social resources includes assistance with scheduling vaccinations, education, employment, legal (court advocacy/probation/parole) behavioral health services and other necessary stabilizing efforts such as nutritional support and emergency housing referrals.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Evidence shows that engaging teen youth can help prevent arrests and dropouts. Street outreach can also reduce probabilities of arrests. Further, a RCT showed that targeted employment and mental health support for at-risk youth reduced arrests and violence amongst those at greatest risk.

(Heller, Sara, et al. Preventing youth violence and dropout: A randomized field experiment. No. w19014. National Bureau of Economic Research, 2013.) (Ross, Marisa C., Erin M. Ochoa, and Andrew V. Papachristos. "Evaluating the impact of a street outreach intervention on participant involvement in gun violence." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 120.46 (2023): e2300327120.) (Bhatt, Monica P., et al. "Predicting and preventing gun violence: An experimental evaluation of READI Chicago." The quarterly journal of economics 139.1 (2024): 1-56.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,169,975.64

Digital Infrastructure for City Services

Cabinet / Department: Department of Innovation and Technology

Project Expenditure Category: 1.7-Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Unique ID: 9011

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Innovation and Technology Website](#)

Description: This project invested in (1) the expansion of Wicked Free Wifi by funding the “Wicked Free WiFi on the Go” pilot and expanding Wifi in city buildings including BPHC’s Mattapan campus, (2) the Secure Boston app, a free, privacy-first mobile security app that alerts and protects you when suspicious activity is detected, (3) a digital equity survey and a Community Broadband Plan and Design, (4) a strategic roadmap on bringing the City’s ecosystem of digital infrastructure up to security, scalability, and digital experience standards, (5) and enhancing of BHA residents’ access to affordable, high-speed internet.

Structure and Objectives: Expanding free wifi access and access to information on public health awareness and preparation; bringing the City’s ecosystem of digital infrastructure up to security, scalability, and digital experience standards to enhance the experience for all.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The Digital Equity Survey funded by this project gave us data on where to concentrate our efforts. This project also created wifi access for the Mattapan campus of the Boston Public Health Commission and funded the “Wicked Free WiFi on the Go” pilot which gave access to those who need it most. Our digital roadmap for bringing our digital infrastructure up to security, scalability, and digital experience standards will help us to provide better service and more accessible information to those who need it most.

Public Housing Food Assistance

Cabinet / Department: Mayor’s Office of Housing

Partner Department (if applicable): Boston Housing Authority

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9020

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Housing Authority Website](#)

Description: The BHA, a subgrantee of the City of Boston, addressed food security at targeted public housing communities through outreach from its management staff, through its resident-facing programs, and through resident task force leaders. Means of distribution included a combination of: delivery of groceries; delivery of prepared meals; coordination with or subsidy or expansion of mobile service providers who bring fresh produce to underserved neighborhoods; distribution of gift cards; and distribution of coupons to facilitate discounted purchasing of healthy food. The BHA is currently in the process of auditing food resources across and adjacent to its housing portfolio and will make programmatic decisions based on how funds can effectively be leveraged to fill gaps

in access. The project also supported expansion of community gardens.

Structure and Objectives: In order to address the public health and negative economic impact of food insecurity exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, the BHA used these funds primarily for distribution of grocery delivery at public housing sites.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: BHA identified sites for food distribution based on need, conducting multilingual outreach at these sites, and reviewing distribution over time during the ARPA-eligible period.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Maintain or expand food distribution services at 6 or more public housing communities	6	14	Winter 2022
Output	Improve food security for at least 500 residents during grant period	500	500	Fall 2022

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: To address food insecurity at public housing communities

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: The intervention provided food distribution. Robust analysis shows that public food assistance support directly impacts food security. Increasing access to food increases food security, but the nutrition of the food content is important for overall nutrition. (Borjas, George J. "Food insecurity and public assistance." Journal of Public Economics 88.7-8 (2004): 1421-1443.) (Oldroyd, Lucy, et al. "The nutritional quality of food parcels provided by food banks and the effectiveness of food banks at reducing food insecurity in developed countries: a mixed-method systematic review." Journal of Human Nutrition and Dietetics 35.6 (2022): 1202-1229.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$500,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many households have been served as part of the project? 500

Personal Protective Equipment

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Partner Department (if applicable):

Project Expenditure Category: 1.5-Personal Protective Equipment

Unique ID: 9036

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: As part of performing public safety services during COVID-19, a critical responsibility of BPHC has been to ensure the safety of its employees and the constituents which they served. One critical component has included providing proper personal protective equipment (PPE) and hygiene supplies to both staff as well as the community partners served through the work of BPHC's department bureaus. The Office of Public Health Preparedness maintains a storeroom of PPE supplies for these needs. The storeroom is maintained by a dedicated staff member of the department who oversees inventory, distribution, and restocking.

Structure and Objectives: The Office of Public Health Preparedness maintains a storeroom of critical personal protective equipment (PPE) & related hygiene supplies, manages a distribution program to distribute these resources to BPHC staff, programs, & community partners.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Through our resource request process, we ensure that organizations who are requesting PPE will be distributing these resources to communities and populations that have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. Equitable distribution of these supplies promotes equitable outcomes by reducing the risk to residents from COVID-19 and all of the associated health impacts that it causes.

Creating Language Access for Federal Funding

Cabinet / Department: Office of Language Access and Communications

Project Expenditure Category: 7.1-Administrative Expenses

Unique ID: 9031

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Office of Language Access & Communications Website](#)

Description: LCA is working with City of Boston departments who received ARPA funds to further increase access to their projects and ensure collaboration, engagement and participation with persons who speak a Language other than English and persons with a disability. We are meeting with departments to discuss their projects including their outreach, meetings, documents, etc. and go over the LCA standards in the City while providing guidance on the accommodations that should be present within their projects. The goal is to ensure that we are able to have the accommodations already available to projects based on the department's audience and recorded need and also, provide

additional accommodations as appropriate and needed based on the standards within the Language and Communications Access Policy and Language and Communications Access Ordinance. Accommodations may include but are not limited to, translation of documents, presentations, flyers and interpretation at meetings, assistive technology as needed, CART, and ASL.

Structure and Objectives: The ARPA projects support food insecurity, health and well-being, immigrants, women, neighborhood development, and small businesses. The goal is to provide funding for departmental projects to reach LOTE (Language Other Than English) residents and residents who have a disability.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The goal is to ensure that we are able to have the accommodations already available to projects based on the department's audience and recorded need and also, providing additional accommodations as appropriate and needed based on the standards within the Language and Communications Access Policy and Language and Communications Access Ordinance. LCA's standards for language access are determined by the City's language and communications access policy which adopts HUD's guidelines for determining threshold languages using the data from the American Community Survey. However, LCA doesn't limit departments from going above the standards to provide greater access.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Timeframe
Output	ARPA projects provide ASL Services	70	Annual
Output	ARPA funded grant opportunities translated into the top 5 languages	90	Annual
Output	ARPA funded community meetings provide interpretation	80	Annual
Outcome	Increase in involvement from persons who identify as blind or low vision and/or persons who are deaf and hard of hearing	50	Annual
Outcome	Increase in LOTE constituents applying to grants	60	Annual
Outcome	Increase involvement and engagement from persons who speak a language other than English	60	Annual

Emergency Assistance for Haitian Asylum Seekers

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9029

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Immigrant Advancement Website](#)

Description: IFSI-USA used the Grant funds to provide emergency food assistance and hire four (4) full-time staff members to support the organization's work with recently-arrived Haitian asylum seekers. These positions included: two (2) case managers, one (1) social worker, and one (1) legal case coordinator/manager. These four (4) new staff members were responsible for providing the following services: Case managers: Wraparound support, including connecting families to housing, food/basic needs, healthcare, legal services, and assisting with school enrollment. One case manager focused on supporting the adults with services, and the other on supporting youth and children. Social worker: Deliver culturally-competent, trauma-informed therapeutic interventions to families and connect individuals with additional mental health services. Legal case manager: Assist lawyers with case coordination in preparation for asylum hearings and applications for other forms of immigration benefits and relief.

Structure and Objectives: The aim of this project was to provide wraparound support, including mental health, legal, and case management, to Haitian families seeking asylum that were impacted by COVID-19 and experienced heightened food and housing insecurity due to unemployment.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This program intended to serve asylum-seeking immigrant families that were impacted by COVID-19 and faced economic struggles due to unemployment. The non-profit organization selected to administer this program, Immigrant Family Services Institute, Inc., serves multiple neighborhoods across Boston and has participated in COVID-19 emergency relief efforts benefitting immigrant communities in Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan, South Boston, and Jamaica Plain, among others. They have expertise in supporting immigrant youth, immigrant workers, Temporary Protected Status recipients, and the undocumented, with a particular focus on the Haitian community.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of this project was to connect Haitian asylum-seeking families to support services that can comprehensively address their psychosocial, legal, and basic

needs. The administrator used funding to hire support staff in order to meet these goals.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: (1) This intervention was nonprofit capacity support (case managers, legal case manager). Evidence shows that capacity support leads to expansion of program services and revenue diversification. Minzner, Amy, et al. "The impact of capacity-building programs on nonprofits: A random assignment evaluation." Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly 43.3 (2014): 547-569. (2) The intervention also provided food distribution. Robust analysis shows that public food assistance support directly impacts food security. Borjas, George J. "Food insecurity and public assistance." Journal of Public Economics 88.7-8 (2004): 1421-1443.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$244,333.00

Emergency Assistance for Migrants

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Immigrant Advancement

Project Expenditure Category: 2.37-Economic Impact Assistance: Other

Unique ID: 9109

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Immigrant Advancement Website](#)

Description: Immigrant-serving community based organizations used this grant funding to support the provision of emergency and supplemental housing assistance for recently-arrived immigrants to the City of Boston experiencing housing instability.

Structure and Objectives: Under this project, grantees provided households with supplemental funding to help reduce instances of homelessness by supporting access to financial assistance in order to maintain or secure housing.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project supported individuals and families with incomes of equal to or less than 30-80% AML. Recipients had limited to no access to federal benefits-granting programs to help supplement their incomes, experienced delays in securing employment, and were from systematically marginalized populations that also face challenges and barriers due to language.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	# of individuals assisted	250	291	12/31/2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been

and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The overall goal was to help address housing insecurity and combat instances of homelessness amongst newly-arrived immigrant populations through supplemental funding to help these households maintain or secure housing.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This research confirms that cash assistance is an evidence-based method of supporting low-income families or families facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Strongest effects were found amongst those making very little in income.

1. Natasha V. Pilkauskas, Brian A. Jacob, Elizabeth Rhodes, Katherine Richard, H. Luke Shaefer. The COVID Cash Transfer Study: The Impacts of a One-Time Unconditional Cash Transfer on the Well-Being of Families Receiving SNAP in Twelve States. Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 2022; 00: 1-25.

2. New Data Confirms Cash Assistance Helps Lift Families from Poverty (this isn't experimental, just making the claim that cash transfers were the reason for census data changing)

3. Understanding the Impact of Cash Transfers: The Evidence July 2016 • By Jessica Hagen-Zanker, Francesca Bastagli, Luke Harman, Valentina Barca, Georgina Sturge and Tanja Schmidt

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,100,000.00

Boston Food Sovereignty Program

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9017

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Food Justice Website](#)

Description: This program increased growing spaces for low-income households of color. In Boston, there were no more spaces available for residents to participate in community gardens and the waiting list is years long for most. During the Food Access Assessment, we heard low-income residents asking for available space to grow their own food, especially ethnic vegetables that are difficult to locate in the local markets. This initiative also sought to create space that helps growers cope with stress, create links between neighbors, and pass farming and cooking knowledge between generations. We partnered with local Boston farmers to build and install raised beds, and provide supplies to low-income households in Boston including all BHA locations and the Boston Public

Schools. The program also funded farmers and community-based organizations to provide technical assistance, conduct gardening workshops, and distribute CSA boxes to low-income, elderly, and/or disabled Boston residents, prioritizing neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 and food insecurity.

Structure and Objectives: Goal 1. The goal of this program was to increase growing spaces for low-income households of color. Goal 2. Support low-income households disproportionately affected by COVID 19 through a subsidized Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: OFJ used targeted advertising in priority neighborhoods and worked with organizations that provide direct services to target populations. Raised beds were awarded to low-income residents, prioritizing applicants from target neighborhoods.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	CSA boxes distributed to low-income, elderly, and/or disabled Boston residents	1800	1800	Fall 2021 through Summer 2022
Output	Gardening workshops	20	57	Fall 2021 through Summer 2022
Outcome	Raised beds installed at low income households	100	281	Fall 2021 through Summer 2022
Output	Farmers, gardeners, or CBOs building raised beds and providing TA	10	5	Fall 2021 through Summer 2022

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Evaluation Design: Over the course of six weeks, MONUM fellow Jessica Young interviewed the five grantees of the Food Sovereignty Grant, stakeholders at Boston Public Schools, Boston Public Works, and Boston Housing Authority, and several raised bed recipients. For the most part, the interviews were conducted during site visits. Interviews covered feedback on the following 1) application process and logistics 2) capacity and staffing 3) Maintenance and follow up 4) Impact and Value and 5) Reflections on the CSA program

Research question(s): Overall questions that framed the conversation:

- Did the Food Sovereignty Grant reduce food insecurity for raised bed recipients?

- What long-term impact did the grant have upon grantees and raised bed recipients?
- How could the City of Boston scale this grant up for higher impact?

Some sample questions asked growers and raised bed recipients (when applicable):

- Was the grant application process accessible?
- Did you need to hire new staff to complete installations?
- Were you connected with people that are experiencing food insecurity?
- Have you heard stories or updates from residents?
- What do you see as the impact of this grant program in your community?
- Is there a structure in place for maintaining the raised beds?
- Do you provide gardening education for raised bed recipients?
- What would you change about the process?
- What other ways can we help connect the urban farming and gardening community?

In addition to these questions, grantees were asked to report quarterly on the following

- # of and type of activities conducted
- Challenges experienced
- # of raised beds built
- Budget expenditures
- Demographics of recipients

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 08/24/2022, [2021 Food Sovereignty Grant Evaluation](#)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$202,208.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 2,081

BPHC Staffing Supports

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 3.1-Public Sector Workforce: Payroll and Benefits for Public Health, Public Safety, or Human Services Workers

Unique ID: 9037

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: These funds supported temporary, contract staff positions that provided testing, vaccination, and contact tracing services to staff and thus protected City of Boston residents and their families and friends. More than ½ of current BPHC permanent

staff reside in 3 neighborhoods (Dorchester, Hyde Park, Roslindale) and providing testing and vaccine availability also protects employees' family members and neighborhoods. These funds also supported childcare staffing for our employees allowing them to continue providing services. Childcare service availability has been significantly negatively impacted in the City due to COVID.

Structure and Objectives: ARPA funds were utilized to support ongoing staffing for employee nursing support, childcare services throughout the grant period.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Funded staff for testing, vaccination, & contact tracing at BPHC, which protects City of Boston residents. These funds also supported childcare staffing for our employees allowing them to continue providing services. More than ½ of current BPHC permanent staff reside in 3 neighborhoods (Dorchester, Hyde Park, Roslindale) and providing testing and vaccine availability also protects employees' family members and neighborhoods. Childcare service availability has been significantly negatively impacted in the City due to COVID.

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

How many full-time equivalent (FTE) government employees are responding to COVID-19 through this project? 1

Boston School Food Distribution without Cost

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.1-Household Assistance: Food Programs

Unique ID: 9018

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Food Justice Website](#)

Description: This project supported BPS families and neighboring community members by offering culturally relevant food distribution at no cost. This project complimented school meals and increased food access for BPS families and communities near schools—keeping dignity, freedom of choice, and cultural relevance front and center of solutions.

Structure and Objectives:

- 1) Increase access to healthy and culturally relevant foods provided at no cost for BPS students and families, and communities surrounding the schools,
- 2) Increase power and dignity for people to choose food

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: By partnering with Community Hub Schools and

community-based organizations near Community Hub Schools, OFJ is targeting BPS schools with higher proportions of low-income, multi-lingual students who are from some neighborhoods that experience higher rates of food insecurity compared to the city average: Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of transactions made	5,400	17,656	12/24/2024
Output	Total number of items taken	4,500	133,959	12/24/2024
Outcome	Culturally relevant items ordered in addition to typical items	30	12	12/24/2024

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes

Evaluation Design: The grantee will create qualitative data collection methods to gather feedback from families about the schedule (time/day of distribution), food options available, if the food distribution is meeting their needs, and feedback on how to improve. The grantee will also create quantitative data collection methods to gather information from families on: Race/Ethnicity, Language Spoken, Neighborhood, Number of food items distributed, and Number of individuals served.

Research question(s): The number of foods distributed by neighborhood, the type of foods distributed by category, the amount of regionally produced food distributed, and the number of people/ households served. The experiences of participants with regard to the increased dignity afforded by this pilot will also be included in the evaluation.

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 3/31/2025, [Evaluation Link](#)

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households served: 17,656

Tech Goes Home Grant

Cabinet / Department: Department of Innovation and Technology

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9085

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Department of Innovation and Technology Website](#)

Description: This project implemented a long-term connectivity response using resources through our broadband provider(s) to bring a connectivity safety net to families and seniors. It provided under-served Boston residents with the opportunity, tools, education, and/or access required for digital skills development. It focused on reducing entrenched barriers to technology adoption and Internet access in Boston.

Structure and Objectives: Engaged 100+ new community-based organizations across Boston to host TGH programming, expand access for thousands of Boston residents, and enable instructors to connect families with new federal programs offering affordable, reliable internet access.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project provided under-served Boston residents with the opportunity, tools, education, and/or access required for digital skills development. Services to income-eligible Boston populations were prioritized.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Instructors trained to support TGH learners and other community members enrolling in ACP	100	436	12/31/2024
Output	Number of Learners TGH provided direct 1:1 support to	1,000	544	12/31/2024
Output	TGH learners and graduates contacted directly to offer information and 1-on-1 guidance to enroll in the ACP	5,000	5,911	12/31/2024

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

South Boston Community Health Center Grant

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9086

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This is a one-time investment of funds, directed by the Boston City Council, to support the expansion of activities at the South Boston Community Health Center.

Structure and Objectives: This is a one-time investment of funds, directed by the Boston City Council, to support the expansion of activities at the South Boston Community Health Center.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project focuses on our city's most vulnerable populations, disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Execution of subaward recipient contract	1	1	3/31/2023

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

Villa Victoria Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion Grant

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9087

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: This project funded a grant for operating expenses at Villa Victoria Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA). IBA empowers and engages individuals and families to improve their lives through high-quality affordable housing, educational, financial, and cultural programs.

Structure and Objectives: Grant agreement to Villa Victoria Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción for operating expenses.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: IBA provides affordable, high-quality and safe housing for Boston's low-moderate income individuals and families. Their educational and financial programs are targeted at empowering residents (majority BIPOC) in achieving upward economic mobility.

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

The Phoenix Grant

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9088

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project provided a one-time investment of funds, directed by the Boston City Council, to support the expansion of activities at The Phoenix gym. The Phoenix operates a free gym offering access to fitness equipment and classes to people in recovery from substance use disorder.

Structure and Objectives: This project was a one-time investment of funds to support the expansion of activities at The Phoenix gym. The Phoenix operates a free gym offering access to fitness equipment and classes to people in recovery from substance use disorder.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project served Boston's most vulnerable residents, particularly those affected by substance use disorder, homelessness and food insecurity.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Fully-executed subaward recipient contract	1	1	4/30/23
Output	Number of unique participants	3000	3320	Annual
Outcome	Percent reporting feeling empowered	75%	82%	Annual

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

NamaStay Sober Grant

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9089

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This one-time investment of funds, directed by the Boston City Council, supported the expansion of activities at NamaStay Sober. NamaStay Sober offers yoga and meditation-based programming to support those pursuing recovery from substance use disorder.

Structure and Objectives: This one-time investment of funds supported the expansion of activities at NamaStay Sober. NamaStay Sober offers yoga and meditation-based programming to support those pursuing recovery from substance use disorder.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Funds promoted equity by targeting at-risk residents with services to those with mental health and substance use disorders.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Subaward recipient contract execution	1	1	1/31/23

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

St. Mary's Center for Women and Children Grant

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9090

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: Created a grant agreement to cover operating expenses at St. Mary's Center for Women and Children. St. Mary's Center is a multi-service organization supporting women and families that believes shelter is not enough to erase the devastation of cyclical poverty and homelessness. Grounded in social justice, they empower families to achieve emotional stability and economic independence through education, workforce development, and permanent housing.

Structure and Objectives: Grant agreement to SMCWC for operating expenses. St. Mary's

Center is a multi-service organization that empowers families to achieve emotional stability & economic independence through education, workforce development, & housing.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: SMCWC services women and children experiencing poverty and homelessness. They promote equity among their employees (84% of personnel are people of color) and also allow equitable public access to their services.

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

Gavin Foundation Grant

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9091

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This one-time investment of funds, directed by the Boston City Council, supported the expansion of activities at the Gavin Foundation. The Gavin provides important services to those pursuing recovery from substance use disorder and re-entry from incarceration.

Structure and Objectives: This one-time investment of funds supported the expansion of activities at the Gavin Foundation. The Gavin provides important services to those pursuing recovery from substance use disorder and re-entry from incarceration.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Funds promoted equity by targeting at-risk residents with services to individuals with mental health and substance use disorders and those pursuing reentry from incarceration.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Women served by Eileen's House	30	41	Annually

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

Support for Families of Victims of Violence

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.17- Housing Support: Housing Vouchers and Relocation Assistance for Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Unique ID: 9110

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: The project funded a grant to cover operating expenses at Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. The funds were used to support the families of victims of violence.

Structure and Objectives: Grant agreement to Louis D. Brown Peace Institute for operating expenses.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: LDBPI employs a majority of BAIPOC employees in order to best serve their constituents comprised of mostly BAIPOC families. They provide training, tools, technical assistance and professional development to providers/stakeholders so they can serve and advocate for families impacted by murder equitably and effectively.

Evaluation & Evidence

Will an evaluation be conducted on the project? No, an evaluation hasn't been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: To provide support to families of victims of violence.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, please cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This study explores how losing a loved one to homicide has profound impacts on mental health, highlighting the need for programming to support these victims.

Survivors are more likely to face acute mental health challenges such as a depressive episode. These funds supported services such as support groups, which are shown to positively impact mental health.

(Zinzow HM, Rheingold AA, Hawkins AO, Saunders BE, Kilpatrick DG. Losing a loved one to homicide: prevalence and mental health correlates in a national sample of young adults. J Trauma Stress.) (Worrall, Hugh, et al. "The effectiveness of support groups: a literature review." Mental Health and Social Inclusion 22.2 (2018): 85-93.) (Pfeiffer, Paul N., et al. "Efficacy of peer support interventions for depression: a meta-analysis." General hospital psychiatry 33.1 (2011): 29-36.)

Total project spending allocated towards evidence-based interventions: \$100,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many households have received eviction prevention services as a part of this project?

0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

East Boston Community Soup Kitchen Grant

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9093

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Office of Food Justice Website](#)

Description: Food insecurity increased during the acute phase of the pandemic and still remains high. The Greater Boston Food Bank reported that in MA, pantry use among adults with food insecurity increased from 1 in 3 in 2020 to 1 in 2 in 2021. The higher demand had not been matched with greater resources for smaller pantries such as EBCSK. This project directly supported operations of EBCSK.

Structure and Objectives: Goals: 1) gain an understanding of common challenges faced by smaller pantries like EBCSK in order to 2) support EBCSK operations and 3) apply these learnings to address challenges experienced by other small food pantries.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The Food Security Design Fellow with the Office of Food Justice has provided best practices to EBCSK to design solutions that consider equitable outcomes. In particular, the EBCSK has used the funds to facilitate the purchase of culturally appropriate food, including Halal meat, aligning with their commitment to honor the traditions and preferences of those we serve.

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

Harvest on the Vine Food Pantry Grant

Cabinet / Department: Office of Food Justice

Project Expenditure Category: 2.34- Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Unique ID: 9092

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Office of Food Justice Website](#)

Description: Food insecurity increased during the acute phase of the pandemic and still remains high. The Greater Boston Food Bank reported that in MA, pantry use among adults with food insecurity increased from 1 in 3 in 2020 to 1 in 2 in 2021. The higher demand had not been matched with greater resources for smaller pantries such as Harvest on Vine. This project directly supported operations of Harvest on Vine Food Pantry.

Structure and Objectives: Goals: 1) gain an understanding of common challenges faced by smaller pantries like Harvest on Vine in order to 2) support Harvest on Vine operations and 3) apply these learnings to address challenges experienced by other small food pantries.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: There were 5 co-design sessions focused on culturally appropriate food offerings, summer public programming, and use of shared community spaces. Based on these sessions, focused on developing cooking and nutrition education to expand the current offerings of the food pantry. In addition to setting up a cookbook library for pantry users to utilize whenever they'd like.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of co-design sessions held	12	14	12/23/2023
Output	Pounds of fresh produce distributed	5,000	2,000	12/23/2023
Output	Percentage of foods distributed that are whole foods	75	60	4/24/2024

Additional Federal Reporting Questions:

How many non-profits have been served as a part of this project? 1

DoIT-BHA Digital Equity Collaboration

Cabinet / Department: Department of Innovation and Technology

Project Expenditure Category: 3.4-Public Sector Capacity: Effective Service Delivery

Unique ID: 9127

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or less

Link to Website: [Innovation and Technology Website](#)

Description: Based on data from the American Communities Survey and a comprehensive survey of the current state of digital access in the City of Boston, DoIT has identified the need to prioritize targeted digital inclusion interventions for public housing residents. Findings from the comprehensive survey include the measurement that only 78% of

residents in public housing have a home internet connection. Utilizing the funding available through the American Rescue Plan, DoIT will work with BHA to develop, design and implement digital equity initiatives in public housing and/or serving public housing residents.

Structure and Objectives: This project aims to increase the portion of BHA residents with access to an internet connection to improve access to critical information and services that could improve upward mobility.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: A reliable internet connection is critical for access to information, including government services and public service announcements. Low income households were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, and access to support is critical for an equitable recovery. The level of low-income household access to the internet trails the city-wide level of access. In an increasingly digital world, this project aims to further increase the portion of BHA residents with access to an internet connection to improve access to critical information and services that could improve upward mobility.

Arts & Culture

Reopen Creative Boston Fund

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9006

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: The Reopen Creative Boston fund was a \$2.675M grant program to cover expenses related to reopening the arts and culture sector and resuming cultural programming and services. The Arts and Culture sector had been identified as one of the hardest hit industries due to the cancellation of all live events and venue closures in 2020. As a result of the industry shut down, cultural organizations and venues did not have the revenues required to resume business at FY2019 levels. Additionally, there continues to be uncertainty around the economics of live events both in terms of successfully booking full seasons of artistic content as well as consumers' comfort level returning to in-person activities.

Structure and Objectives: Grants were made up to \$50,000 to cover costs for restarting programs and reopening facilities. Eligible costs included payroll, facilities expenses, and costs related to ongoing organizational shifts.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: MOAC is addressing equity concerns by using the Boston Cultural Council application as the baseline questions for Reopen Creative Boston. The

Boston Cultural Council application is focused on equity, and includes questions on: the demographics served and represented by the grantee, the amount of funding going to artists directly, and the grantee's demonstrated commitment to DEIB (diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging). All applications were scored on these questions in addition to their financial need as a result of COVID-19. The Boston Cultural Council grant is also only available to organizations with budgets under \$2M and includes many first time grantees, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) organizations, and organizations that serve areas hardest hit by COVID-19. By leveraging that application and outreach process for ARPA, we aimed to make it that much easier for those small and historically underserved organizations to access these federal funds.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Organizations supported by Reopen Creative Boston	75	128	By 2022
Output	Number of cultural facilities supported by Reopen Creative Boston	20	29	By 2022

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: Arts/Culture was among the hardest hit sectors due to COVID. In MA, by 2021 cultural organizations experienced \$588M in revenue loss, with the Boston area experiencing the worst. Unemployment rates increased by as much as 50%.

Support for Cultural Ecosystem

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9120

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: This project will fund high-quality arts programming at BCYF centers across the city, and \$350,000 for the Cultural Access Pilot with Boston Museums, which provides eligible children free access to participating institutions (this became known as BPS Sundays and later Boston Family Days). Additional ARPA funds were added over time to expand the program.

Structure and Objectives: This project is bringing free arts programming to community

centers that are serving populations most impacted by COVID-19. It is also granting to cultural institutions to support free access to those museums.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project will ensure that populations that have historically not had access to the social/emotional benefits of arts, culture, and creativity are able to access both our cultural anchor institutions and instructional classes close to where they live.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: Arts/Culture was among the hardest hit sectors due to COVID. In MA, by 2021 cultural organizations experienced \$588M in revenue loss, with the Boston area experiencing the worst. Unemployment rates increased by as much as 50%.

Elevating and Investing in BIPOC-led Cultural Organizations

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9053

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: As we begin to recover from the significant financial and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we see investing in Boston's artists and creative economy as a crucial step to creating a healthier, more vibrant, and more welcoming city. This level of funding support would put the City on par with major American cities in terms of per capita operating support to cultural organizations. This proposal aims to tackle the systemic lack of investment in BIPOC and immigrant cultures in Boston. Lack of public and philanthropic funding for cultural infrastructure in BIPOC communities has prevented creative innovation, sustainability, and growth. Addressing this head-on with ARPA funds would be an investment in the future cultural anchors that we want to see thriving in the city. This would take the form of multi-year grants for organizations, grants for cultural facilities and venues, contracts with festivals and event producers, and support for individual creative workers. We used a Cultural Advisory Team throughout this process to ensure that ARPA funding was distributed in a way that is equitable and provides the most benefits to Boston's cultural ecosystem. This project also includes funding for two RFPs, one to assist with strategic communications regarding the Cultural Investment Grant (also project-funded) and one to provide technical assistance and professional development programs for creative workers in Boston.

Structure and Objectives: To invest in transformational multi year grants to BIPOC and Immigrant cultural organizations. Funds will be committed over a four-year period, giving

organizations a path to thrive in Boston and bring their services and impact to scale.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Cultural Investment Grant (CIG) is a \$7 million multi-year investment through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). It aims to grow and sustain arts and cultural organizations that have a clear vision of a creative, equitable, and more just city. CIG will build capacity for organizations working with communities in Boston that have been most harmed by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly communities of color. Grant amounts will range from \$400,000-\$1 million, distributed over four years.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: This funding will put the City on par with major American cities in terms of per capita operating support to cultural organizations.

Creative Neighborhood and Downtown Activations in our Public Spaces

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9052

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: The project funds place-based activations around the City for artists, cultural workers, and communities. Activities include City-produced & contracted events in target areas that further City policy goals and initiatives such as reanimating downtown, creating a sense of community connection to new infrastructure investments like those along Blue Hill Ave, or working with Main Streets. This would also support and expand existing programs that work to reduce barriers and expand opportunities for Boston residents to be active citizens in their communities like the Love Your Block program. This work cuts across many departments including MOAC, ONS, Streets, Tourism, MONUM, & Small Business. While Boston aims to activate spaces in all of our neighborhoods, the City is also seeking to ensure its Downtown core is flourishing. In addition, the City Hall Plaza renovation presents a unique opportunity for the City to contract with local businesses, artists, events, and cultural organizations, ensure a space for civic engagement, & host programs that prioritize Boston's many intersectional BIPOC communities. This project also funds an RFP for a Consultant for Research and Evaluation of Equity and Impact in Arts Funding to assess MOAC's grant programs, including the activations described above, with a focus on how well the programs meet their intended goals and serve their recipients, identifying broad challenges and barriers in the local arts funding landscape.

Structure and Objectives: City Hall Plaza Engagement Grant: MOAC aims to highlight

programming that uplifts Boston's neighborhoods, responds to the current arts and culture climate, and restores the use of City Hall Plaza as a core space for people within the arts and culture sector. All programs will demonstrate the need for additional cultural spaces in Boston due to the loss of space or inability to afford space.

Activation Grants: fund community-focused arts, cultural, and creative activations in public spaces that foster joy, strengthen community wellbeing across, and advance placemaking across Boston neighborhoods.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This placemaking fund will support individuals, nonprofit organizations, collectives, fiscally sponsored groups, and/or businesses working alongside community partners to implement creative activations across a variety of scales in Boston, with a priority for projects that center communities who have been impacted by long-standing systemic inequities. Priority will be given to activations that occur or include the following neighborhoods: Mattapan, Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park, East Boston, and Chinatown.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: This proposal addresses the challenge of reactivating our public spaces meaningfully connecting people to their communities at a time when local economies have shifted.

Arts Corridor

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.36-Aid to Other Impacted Industries

Unique ID: 9054

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: These funds invested in artists, activations, and placemaking activities along the Art Corridor in District 7 through strategies including: (1) grant opportunities for artists' professional development and free community events, (2) City-commissioned murals on public or private buildings that are pre-approved for artwork, and (3) activation grants for community and artist-led artworks, events, and public realm interventions. In addition, the Mayor's Office of Arts + Culture (MOAC) partnered with the Office of Small Business to fund small business beautification.

Structure and Objectives: MOAC onboarded a Creative Placemaking Project Manager who has drafted an RFP for three consultants to carry out this work with the goal of supporting small businesses and raising the profile of a community heavily impacted by COVID-19.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: It will hire local artists and creative practitioners in a very racially diverse and predominantly Black neighborhood. Results will include increased access to the arts, neighborhood beautification, and contracts for local artists and creative workers.

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Please provide additional rationale for providing aid to an industry outside of the travel, tourism, and hospitality sectors: Both the Arts and Culture and Tourism sector have been identified as two of the hardest hit industries.

Allston-Brighton Community Spaces

Cabinet / Department: Boston Centers for Youth & Families

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Health Communities: Neighborhood Features that promote health and safety

Unique ID: 9055

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Boston Centers for Youth & Families- Jackson Mann Website](#)

Description: The Jackson/Mann Community Center (JMCC) is the only BCYF center in Allston-Brighton. Given the projected growth of population in Allston-Brighton, the City has an exciting opportunity to partner with residents to plan a welcoming, state-of-the-art community center. Currently, the Community Center offers afterschool and teen programs, adult literacy programs, and a variety of sports programming. JMCC is also a community space for civic group meetings and other neighborhood entities that utilize the gym. The Center also serves as a cooling center during heatwaves and a polling location for five voting precincts. For all these reasons, it is imperative that BCYF ensure continuity of services in Allston-Brighton. This project will complement the City's plan to build a full-service BCYF community center in Allston-Brighton by supporting the transition to a short-term facility, providing key programs and services while working with stakeholders on the long-term plans. The planning process for the new BCYF facility has several phases that start with a siting study.

Structure and Objectives: The goal of the project is to sustain a temporary community center and fund a study for a future long term site.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Equity and inclusion of the diverse communities in the Allston-Brighton community is of paramount importance and critically important to the success of this project. The City of Boston and BCYF are committed to promoting equitable outcomes as follows:

- Address inequities using data to inform key decisions like resource allocation and programming needs.

- Actively engage residents and partners in the process that reflect the diversity of this vibrant community.
- Create mechanisms and opportunities to amplify voices that have not traditionally been heard, particularly those of underrepresented communities.
- Strive to remove barriers (to access and information) that prevent an inclusive and welcoming environment.
- Remain open and make space for collecting and responding to feedback and suggestions for more equitable practices.

Active Engagement for Seniors

Cabinet / Department: Age Strong Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Health Communities: Neighborhood Features that promote health and safety

Unique ID: 9056

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Age Strong Commission Website](#)

Description: Over the past few years, the demand for programming focused on older adults has grown. Without a strong citywide senior center network, programming varies significantly by neighborhood and target population. This project aims to create new programming where it doesn't currently exist and expand it where it is lacking, thus promoting equitable and diverse programming that meets community needs. To shape the program, gathered input from older adults and community partners. Based on their feedback, coordinated internal programming with the goal of equitable expansion and increased engagement. By launching 15 new weekly classes in nine neighborhoods and continuing existing ones, we strive to ensure that all older adults have access to quality programming, enhancing their well-being and social connections.

Structure and Objectives: Structure: Increase community partnerships to expand outreach and programming in underserved communities. Objective: Decrease negative health outcomes resulting from social isolation.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project is entirely focused on promoting equitable outcomes. We identified areas of inequity, particularly highlighted during the pandemic, and designed this project to address these gaps. The project promotes equitable outcomes by enhancing access throughout the planning and implementation phases. Key strategies include:

- Linguistically and Culturally Appropriate Programming: Offering grant opportunities and programs that are tailored to the linguistic and cultural needs of our target populations, ensuring inclusivity.

- **Neighborhood Focus:** Implementing programs in neighborhoods where our target populations reside, such as Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, South End, Hyde Park, West Roxbury, Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, and West End.
- **Effective Communication:** Using linguistically and culturally appropriate channels to communicate program details, ensuring all older adults are informed and able to participate.
- **Free Access:** Providing all programs free of charge to eliminate financial barriers.
- **Participant Involvement:** Giving participants the opportunity to shape all aspects of the programs, ensuring the offerings meet their needs and preferences
- By addressing these key areas, This project aims to create a more equitable environment for older adults across Boston, ensuring they have access to quality programming that improves their well-being and social connections.

Nazzaro Community Center Senior Programming

Cabinet / Department: Age Strong Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Health Communities: Neighborhood Features that promote health and safety

Unique ID: 9057

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Age Strong Commission Website](#)

Description: This program was a vital community initiative targeting older adults in Boston, addressing the need for cohesive, citywide programming. It offered a variety of activities including fitness, arts, and cultural events, all facilitated by local vendors. Emphasizing inclusivity, the program provided bilingual classes, catering to the linguistic diversity of the community. These activities combat loneliness, improve physical and mental health, and help older adults manage chronic diseases, enhancing their overall quality of life. This initiative responded to increasing advocacy for more older adult-focused programming across Boston, reflecting the community's call for equitable access to enriching activities.

Structure and Objectives: Structure: Increase outreach and expand programming in the North End that meets the interests and needs of older adults. Objective: Decrease negative health outcomes resulting from social isolation.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The Nazzaro project promotes equitable outcomes by increasing access and breaking down barriers to participation. We are committed to addressing digital access and language challenges to ensure all older adults feel welcomed and included. By offering bilingual classes, we cater to the linguistic diversity of the community. Additionally, we have met with stakeholders to identify preferred types of programming and are focused on creating accessible options for those with physical and

cognitive challenges. Our door-to-door outreach ensures we reach residents without internet access, further enhancing inclusivity and equity in our programming.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of older adults attending ARPA sponsored events and programs	0	625	All time

Workforce and Career Development for Creative Workers

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.10-Assistance to Unemployed or Underemployed Workers (e.g., job training, subsidized employment, employment supports or incentives)

Unique ID: 9008

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website): [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: The Workforce and Career Development for Creative Workers project funded technical assistance and professional development programs for creative workers and artists who have been negatively economically impacted by COVID-19. An RFP was released for providers who can assist with a variety of immediate needs for workers, including: financial and business workshops, financial wellness and business development, building working capital, asset-building, microenterprise development, pricing work, marketing and fundraising strategies, and legal technical assistance for sole proprietors.

Structure and Objectives: The goals of the project are to help artists and creative workers stabilize their financial health by helping them grow their business, build a savings practice, and participate in workshops and training that further their careers.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project builds on an existing program that focused both on low-income workers and workers of color. We built requirements into the RFP to ensure that populations hardest hit by COVID-19 are prioritized with these services, and also rated providers more favorably if they have language access programs. The resulting pending contracts are 58% with W/MBE and include our first artist services provided entirely in Spanish.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: RFP for consultants who can create professional/business development programs for artists, with a focus on COVID demographics and post-COVID content

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: There's a mix of research on technical assistance, given the wide use of the term and its variants. TA provided by experienced councilors with targeted approaches is effective. An RCT from Mexico showed strong positive effects of management consulting on earnings and hiring. Bruhn, Miriam, Dean Karlan, and Antoinette Schoar. "The impact of consulting services on small and medium enterprises: Evidence from a randomized trial in Mexico." *Journal of Political Economy* 126.2 (2018): 635-687.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$496,117.23

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of creative workers served through technical assistance and professional development programs: 2,942

Direct Support for Creative Workers

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29-Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Unique ID: 9007

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture](#)

Description: Direct Support for Creative Workers funded remaining applications for relief from the 2020 City of Boston Artist Relief Fund, as well as support payments to artists for artist-driven projects. For all direct artist payments, we prioritized funding for populations hardest hit by COVID-19. Funding for artists took into account the financial impact of COVID-19 on gig workers particularly in performing arts and live events businesses who lost significant portions of their income continue to have difficulty returning to pre-COVID-19 income levels.

Structure and Objectives: To support individual creative workers who have been negatively economically impacted by COVID-19 due to the cancellation of paid work. Additionally, funding supported low-income and BIPOC creative workers specifically.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Review criteria for funding includes prioritizing creative workers who have been most impacted by COVID-19, including BIPOC and immigrant individuals and low-income individuals. Additionally, we prioritized individuals living in or serving geographies of Boston that were most impacted by COVID-19. By including this in the weighting of review criteria in the application, we ensured that these populations were most served. Lastly, we are always working to improve our communications and process to make sure that BIPOC and Immigrant residents take advantage of City services.

Evidence of this can be found in the majority BIPOC/Immigrant demographics of the applicants to the Opportunity Fund, and the fact that respondents' demographics closely mirrored the demographics of Boston.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Timeframe
Output	Artists served through Direct Support for Creative Workers Program	150	Calendar Year 2022

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of small businesses served: 146

Brighton Affordable Housing Development Cultural Space

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Housing

Project Expenditure Category: 2.15-Long-term Housing Security: Affordable Housing

Unique ID: 9126

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Mayor's Office of Housing Website](#)

Description: The redevelopment of 290 N Beacon Street in Brighton aimed to address two acute challenges in the Allston-Brighton neighborhood. Through the development of one or more mixed-use properties including at least 40,000 square feet of musical rehearsal space, new affordable housing, and additional cultural space, this project addressed the need for housing for low-income households who were disproportionately impacted by the pandemic in addition to serving musicians who lost critical rehearsal space in the last five years.

Structure and Objectives: MOAC and BHA will work in partnership on the development of this space based on community engagement and solicitation, reporting on expenditures starting on July 1st 2025 as laid out in the BHA-MOAC Memorandum of Agreement.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project promotes equitable outcomes by creating more income restricted housing opportunities and adheres to the City's Equity standards.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goal of this project is to create income restricted housing units in the City of Boston to secure housing for the City's most vulnerable populations.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Increasing the supply of housing in general initially relieves housing cost pressure in the city, but it may also drive demand up, as workers seek to be closer to job opportunities, making income-restricted housing a critical need. Affordable housing has demonstrated positive effects on many areas, such as: Health, Education, & General child enrichment spending

Brennan, Maya, Patrick Reed, and Lisa A. Sturtevant. "The impacts of affordable housing on education: A research summary." Washington, DC: Center for Housing Policy and National Housing Conference. 2011.

Newman, Sandra J., and C. Scott Holupka. "Housing affordability and investments in children." Journal of Housing Economics 24 (2014): 89-100. .

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$2,450,000.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of households receiving eviction prevention services (including legal representation): 0

Number of affordable housing units preserved or developed: 0

Behavioral Health

BPS Student Behavioral Health Supports

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Schools

Project Expenditure Category: 2.26-Addressing Educational Disparities: Mental Health Services

Unique ID: 9009

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [BPS Behavioral Health Services Website](#)

Description: This project expanded student and family behavioral health support in the Boston Public Schools, including a social worker in every school. The funding also moved social workers from part to full-time in 23 schools. The pandemic negatively impacted student mental health, creating an urgent need for these services.

Structure and Objectives: Expand student and family support in the Boston Public Schools for behavioral health, including additional dollars to ensure a full time social worker in every school.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The project considered equity by directing work to our most impacted and most historically marginalized communities.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Full time social worker or social worker equivalent positions hired and placed in schools	13	13	Annual
Output	Social Work Counseling Sessions	443	443	Annual
Output	Students served and rate of service	489	489	Annual
Output	home visits (virtual and in person)	43	43	Annual
Output	Restorative Justice circles kept to resolve harm or infractions	83	83	Annual

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals of this project were to provide social work support to families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: (1) This experimental study found a significant reduction in theft, truancy, bullying, hard-drug use and net exclusions. This study suggests that school social work can be effective in improving school climate and teacher morale. 9009 - BPS Student Behavioral Health Supports

Bagley, and Pritchard, (1998), The reduction of problem behaviours and school exclusion in at-risk youth: an experimental study of school social work with cost-benefit analyses. Child & Family Social Work, 3: 219-226. (2) Important context showing the negative impact of Covid-19 on youth mental health. Mansfield, Rosie, et al. "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on adolescent mental health: a natural experiment." Royal Society Open Science 9.4 (2022): 211114. (3) Behavioral interventions have a strong positive effect on adolescents, especially females. (Highly cited) Weisz, John R., et al. "Effects of psychotherapy with children and adolescents revisited: a meta-analysis of treatment outcome studies." Psychological bulletin 117.3 (1995): 450.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,600,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

National Center for Education Statistics School ID(s) or District ID(s): 2502790

How many students have participated in evidence-based tutoring programs as a part of

this project? 0

Mental Health Services/Suicide Response

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12-Mental Health Services

Unique ID: 9039

Status of Completion: Completed

Program Website: [DeeDee's Cry LOSS Team Website](#)

Description: DeeDee's Cry created a new LOSS (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivor) team to promote a healthy grief process and trauma protection for Boston residents who are impacted by suicide and to increase education on resources regarding suicide prevention and behavioral concerns. The overall intended outcome of the project was to increase awareness of mental health issues in the City and increased access to mental health services in targeted communities. The mission of the DeeDee's Cry LOSS Team is to help those people who have tragically lost someone to suicide while working to reduce the incidence of suicide within our community, through available education, awareness, and prevention services. The L.O.S.S. Team coordinator and volunteers provide bereavement service that is specific to suicide. Note: If the LOSS team is contacted in the event of a sudden or traumatic death, we will provide referrals to other organizations that can best support the family. The L.O.S.S. Teams are activated either from a referral by the local police department, district attorney and/or family referral. The L.O.S.S. Team coordinator and volunteers will be dispatched to support families and friends who have lost a loved one, friend, or colleague to suicide.

Structure and Objectives: Family members and friends impacted by death suicide often do not access services or are delayed in accessing services. The response team aimed to shorten that time. This project was to advance plans to create a response team.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The goal of this project was to ensure our support is targeted to BIPOC by partnering with organizations and CBO's that focus on that population.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Develop a framework for death by suicide response team, advocate for going support for the team, and connect response effort to prevention efforts.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: Evaluations of LOSS programs, such as the City of

Boston's ARPA funded LOSS team, has found that this suicide postvention component significantly decreased needs for grief services overall, and significantly impacted survivor's grief processes.

Andriessen (2019): "Based on this scant evidence, interventions which seem to show promise include supportive, therapeutic and educational approaches, involve the social environment of the bereaved, and comprise a series of sessions led by trained facilitators."

Some research suggests that exposure to suicide increases suicide risk. While the quality of studies in the literature is low overall, enough evidence shows the importance and value of supporting families impacted by suicide.

(Linde, Katja, et al. "Grief interventions for people bereaved by suicide: A systematic review." PLoS one 12.6 (2017): e0179496.) (Andriessen, Karl, et al. "Effectiveness of interventions for people bereaved through suicide: a systematic review of controlled studies of grief, psychosocial and suicide-related outcomes." BMC psychiatry 19 (2019): 1-15.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$250,000

Center for Behavioral Health & Wellness/Workforce & Pipeline

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12-Mental Health Services

Unique ID: 9117

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Program Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: Workforce & Pathway programs for behavioral health help fill a significant gap in behavioral health workforce needs, especially as behavioral health issues have increased in recent years and identified as a priority need by the Boston Community Health Needs Assessment -Community Health Improvement Plan (CHNA-CHIP). This project allows the City of Boston to build a more diverse, culturally and linguistically responsive workforce, meeting the needs of all Boston citizens, prioritizing neighborhoods experiencing a behavioral health workforce shortage, and where disparities in mental health outcomes among Black, Latinx, and immigrant and otherwise historically marginalized residents have been indicated in available data. This project aims to prioritize historically marginalized students in entering and graduating from programs (certificate and degree) that prepare them to enter the behavioral health workforce in Boston, with a priority focus on youth-facing providers. This project aims to support non-clinical and clinical training programs, assist students in placements to city departments, high school and college pipeline programs, and increase enrollment in behavioral health programs.

Structure and Objectives: Increase enrollment/graduation from behavioral health (BH) training, certification and/or degree programs; prioritize students from historically oppressed populations serving similar populations; increase the number of diverse BH providers in BPS.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: Pathway programs help fill a significant gap in workforce needs and allow us to build a more diverse workforce that is more culturally and linguistically responsive. Our project covers non-clinical training programs, clinical training support, placements in BPHC and city departments, high school and college pathway programs, and staff and administrative needs to run the program. Our vendors will address SDOHs, health disparities, & health equity; demonstrate history of collaboration/support of students from diverse backgrounds; for those completing internship, placement or engaged in workforce in community behavioral health organizations/settings, these organizations/settings must show they provide BH care to diverse Boston residents, with priority to serve youth from BIPOC and LGBTQ+ communities.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Individual youth being served by programming	1400	1798	3 years
Output	Students enrolled in Behavioral Health academic programming or BH licensure	245	416	3 years
Output	Non-youth clients being served by programming	1000	314	3 years
Output	Individuals placed in Behavioral Health positions	100	27	3 years
Output	Increase in supervision and training hours for BH staff supported by programming	2500	4139	3 years
Output	Students receiving supervision and training supported by programming	325	620	3 years
Outcome	Unique supervisions supported by programming giving supervision	36	49	3 years
Outcome	Increase in community partnerships developed for workplace placement	10	63	3 years

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: To increase the number of BIPOC and LGBTQ+ individuals, those with low incomes, people with limited English proficiency, and other traditionally underserved groups in non-clinical training programs, clinical training support, placements in BPS and city departments, high school and college pathway programs that serve Behavioral Health needs.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: Research shows that financial incentives can help incentivize worker training and behavior.

The behavioral health workforce lacks diversity, even though a diverse workforce results in higher patient satisfaction. International evidence proves that financial incentives lead to reduced teacher absenteeism. Incentives to keep health workers in rural areas proved effective.

Duflo, Esther, Rema Hanna, and Stephen P. Ryan. "Incentives work: Getting teachers to come to school." American economic review 102.4 (2012): 1241-1278.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$6,553,680.00

Center for Behavioral Health & Wellness/Capacity & Resilience

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12-Mental Health Services

Unique ID: 9116

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Program Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: People who work with Boston residents are being confronted with the mental and behavioral health needs of residents but aren't fully equipped to help. Capacity building and training for Boston's workforce would enable City employees, youth-providers, and community members working directly with residents to better support them, reduce strain and vicarious trauma on employees and community members and more fully promote holistic wellness practices for employees, community members and residents alike.

Structure and Objectives: Our objectives are City and BPHC staff training programs, training programs for the community, training for youth-serving organizations in Boston, and staff and administrative needs to run the program.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project's goal is to increase behavioral healthcare support to workforce and community members providing BH services to residents across

the City and City staff members, by building supportive capacity building in trauma informed care and evidence-based mental health supports for youth and youth-providers. This will be of particular urgency within communities of Color, and in other underserved populations. Project(s) will seek to prioritize capacity and training in organizations in neighborhoods that often face disproportionate barriers to care and experience the most need for BH care support for constituents, students, and youth experiencing BH issues and needs.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Programs/Organizations participating in capacity building trainings	50	131	3 years
Output	Workforce resiliency (etc) trainings/workshops received/completed	15	103	3 years
Output	Youth receiving trainings/workshops/certifications	100	0	3 years
Output	Adults receiving trainings/workshops/certification	100	563	3 years
Outcome	Participants with increased knowledge of trauma-informed care practices	100	93.3	3 years
Outcome	Programs integrate trauma-informed care practices into organization structure	100	100	3 years
Outcome	Youth impacted by programmatic activities	10,000	67,076	2 years

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Capacity building and training for the general workforce would enable city employees, adults serving youth, and community members working directly with residents to better support constituents and their behavioral health needs.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This study provides evidence that training staff about trauma-informed practices improves staff knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. Purtle, J. (2018). Systematic Review of Evaluations of Trauma-Informed Organizational Interventions That Include Staff Trainings. *Trauma, Violence, & Abuse*, 21(4), 725-740.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$4,330,000.00

Center for Behavioral Health & Wellness/Communications

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12-Mental Health Services

Unique ID: 9059

Status of Completion: Completed

Program Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project developed and implemented a City-wide, youth-informed communications/public awareness campaign to promote general behavioral health and positive help-seeking behavior. The campaign was based on cultural competence, racial justice, and linguistic appropriateness to engage and effectively reach Boston's youth and other key audiences. Both grant vendors had a principal focus on engaging and supporting youth and others from BIPOC and other historically marginalized communities. They engaged and educated communities about broadly reducing the stigma associated with engagement in behavioral health support and treatment, how/where to seek support and treatment, and provided tools for peer support and individual support in promoting mental health and wellness.

Structure and Objectives: Provided youth opportunities to discuss and learn about impact of BH; worked to reduce stigma and contributing factors; collaborated with communities across Boston, especially youth, increased awareness of when/where to seek support for BH issues.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This project is largely based around the need for equity in Behavioral Health (BH) communications. Its primary function is outreach to underserved communities. The reach of campaign messaging aims to prioritize neighborhoods in Boston where youth are experiencing the most BH impact; use intersectional approach to recognize youth who reside in neighborhoods that often face barriers to care or who are members of certain groups (e.g., BIPOC, immigrant, and/or LGBTQ+ youth).

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Youth engaged in programmatic activity	200	430	1 year
Output	Unique neighborhoods engaged in programmatic activities	15	20	1 year
Output	Workshops/Community Engagement sessions to support mental health	15	30	1 year

Outcome	Reach of communications campaign messaging across Boston (via impressions)	5,000,000	8,900,000	1.5 years
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Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The Heads Up Boston! campaign aimed to increase conversation about mental health, address how youth perceive and understand mental health in relation to lived experience, including within the cultural experience outside of the traditional western/medical system, how youth currently deal with their mental health and those of their peers, how youth currently engage in coping skills, and address the stigma regarding mental health. The Arts and Wellness project fostered community conversation about mental health with a youth panel and artwork exhibition, as well as offered important resources and creative therapeutic opportunities (i.e., sessions on poetry, creative writing, crochet) to address youth behavioral health.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This study examines the positive effects of youth-focused communications/public awareness campaigns in influencing increased mental health treatment, suicide risk awareness, and reducing perceived barriers to help seeking. (Wright A, McGorry PD, Harris MG, Jorm AF, Pennell K. Development and evaluation of a youth mental health community awareness campaign - The Compass Strategy. BMC Public Health.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,866,320.00

Mental Health Crisis Response Pilot

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.12-Mental Health Services

Unique ID: 9058

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Program Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This is a community led pilot designed to help improve mental health crisis responses that will be piloted in one or two high need/priority neighborhoods. The program is meant to provide a community response model alternative to police response to mental health crises for residents in Boston. BPHC will contract external support to design a data-informed crisis response pilot.

Structure and Objectives: This project is shaped by those with lived or professional

experience in mental and behavioral health care. It allows for the development of non-police, community-based response to individuals experiencing mental health crises where appropriate.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: This pilot will serve neighborhoods in Boston identified as priority-need via data collection. Those with mental and behavioral health issues are the focus of service, and those working with this community will be leading the response process. Communities of Color and those of lower or moderate income have been significantly impacted by the exacerbation of mental health issues due to COVID, and are expected to be both lead participants and beneficiaries of this project.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Timeframe
Output	Reduction in crisis calls serviced by police	10%	6 months
Output	Self-reported improved perception of care from those receiving services	10%	6 months
Outcome	Increase in mental health crisis responses ending with medical treatment	10%	6 months

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is an evaluation being conducted on the project: Yes, an evaluation has been or will be conducted.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$500,000.00

Evaluation Design: The finalized evaluation has been designed yet, however evaluation metrics are being reviewed, with input from key thought leaders including Harvard Kennedy School Government Performance Lab guide for Essential Metrics for Alternative Emergency Response Programs, attendance at a recent national conference Alternative Mobile Services Association.

Research question(s): The evaluation has not been designed yet- stakeholder reviews are underway to inform the pilot in order to shape evaluation, including: reviewing program evaluations and data, standard operating procedures, council reports, and best practice standards associated with 10 program cases. Conducting interviews with leaders of alternative response programs in US and Canadian localities to learn about the pilot development process and on-the-ground implementation challenges. Local Landscape Analysis to understand current efforts and locate key gaps in the crisis response landscape for the MHCR model, and identify existing efforts that may be scaled or adapted to prototype the model, interviewing leaders of key BH crisis response programs in the Boston behavioral health ecosystem that provide support to residents during, after and/or before mental health crises, interviewing key stakeholders in the City of Boston to identify

what systems the pilot design needs to align with, and how best to collaborate in the delivery of the pilot. Each conversation also includes recommendations for other programs or leaders who should be consulted – ensuring broad and informed input into this process, summarizing statewide reports, standards, and data related to Massachusetts and Boston’s crisis care landscape (e.g. Roadmap for Behavioral Health Reform).

Y/N can disaggregate outcomes by demographics: Yes

Estimated date of completion: 12/31/2026

Neighborhood Investments to Reduce Violence

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 2.22-Strong Healthy Communities: Neighborhood Features that Promote Health and Safety

Unique ID: 9121

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project was completed in 2021 and funded grants to four non-profit organizations that provided community violence prevention and intervention services to residents and supported them during pandemic recovery.

Structure and Objectives: The structure of this project was 4 large grants that provided an infusion of funds to violence prevention and intervention organizations at a time during an uptick of violence in Boston.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: All program activities were delivered in neighborhoods that are hot spots for violence.

Substance Use Services/Coordinated Public Health Response in Target Areas

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9046

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: Led by the Office of Recovery Services, ARPA funds will support 5 core priorities for individuals with substance use disorder: (1) workforce development, (2) short-term/transitional housing and low-threshold spaces, (3) harm reduction services,

(4) coordinated public health response in target areas, and (5) strategies to address the uptick in HIV. Within (4), funds will be used to: Expand medical and behavioral health supports in the target areas, including: LICSW support for people in crisis, expanding medical and psychiatric supports for unhoused individuals in the area, and expanding medical and psychiatric support for newly housed individuals. Increase cleaning efforts, targeting the cleaning of encampments, as well as in the collection of needles. Storage service to address the collection and storage of personal belongings for unhoused individuals for up to 60 days. Enhance transportation to treatment and services outside of Boston. Enhance engagement between the task force and the community by creating funding opportunities to support targeted efforts.

Structure and Objectives: Increase security measures, behavioral health support and medical care on the street and in the Engagement Center.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The core focus of the program centers on Boston's most vulnerable and disenfranchised individuals.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Increase number of people accessing medical services	100	32,408	Annual
Output	Increase nursing staff available to assist	2	1	Weekly
Output	Transports to care	500	5,234	Annual

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Minimize biohazard waste (i.e. discarded syringes) to improve public health and safety. Engage vulnerable populations in the process of community improvement.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate: This research provides evidence that similar programs, focusing on providing community based responses to those in mental health or substance use related crises, successfully reduced reports of crimes. (Dee TS, Pyne J. A community response approach to mental health and substance abuse crises reduced crime. Sci Adv. 2022) (Fitzpatrick-Lewis, Donna, et al. "Effectiveness of interventions to improve the health and housing status of homeless people: a rapid systematic review." BMC public health 11 (2011): 1-14.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$950,000.00

Additional questions for projects with capital expenditures:

Capital Expenditure? Yes

Total Expected Capital Expenditure? \$45,000

Type of Capital Expenditure: Other: The capital expenditure is the purchase of a van for use by our street outreach team. This is necessary to facilitate engagement of vulnerable citizens impacted by homelessness, mental health issues and substance abuse.

Substance Use Services/Exploring Additional Engagement Centers

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9113

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: The BPHC currently runs a large engagement center space located at 26 Atkinson Street. There is a need to create smaller day spaces in the city for people to gather and congregate safely. While the capacity of this center is at 75, increased crowding on the street outside the center has been observed, particularly in warmer temperatures. This funding request will provide funding for three additional smaller Engagement Centers in the City of Boston, located in neighborhoods with demonstrated need and at locations with existing infrastructure to provide supportive harm reduction services and referrals.

Structure and Objectives: Through this project, BPHC will partner with 3 community organizations to provide safe day-space with medical care, snacks and referral to programs in impacted neighborhoods.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: By definition, the project focuses on the most impacted residents, addressing the needs of our city's most vulnerable.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Individuals attending City-funded day spaces	200	230	Quarterly
Output	Number of wellness sessions held	25	17	Quarterly
Output	Number of recovery/support groups held	15	24	Quarterly

Output	Case management sessions held	50	1,099	Quarterly
Outcome	Naloxone doses distributed	150	1,568	Quarterly

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Improve health outcomes and treatment and housing referrals for homeless citizens and those impacted by substance use disorder and mental health issues.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: These studies highlight the importance for low-barrier threshold congregation spaces for people with drug use disorders and who face homelessness. (Marit Edland-Gryt, Astrid Helene Skatvedt, Thresholds in a low-threshold setting: An empirical study of barriers in a centre for people with drug problems and mental health disorders, International Journal of Drug Policy, Volume 24, Issue 3, 2013, Pages 257-264) (Fitzpatrick-Lewis, Donna, et al. "Effectiveness of interventions to improve the health and housing status of homeless people: a rapid systematic review." BMC public health 11 (2011): 1-14.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$2,915,000.00

Substance Use Services/Recovery Services Encampment Responses

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9112

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project continued the Recovery Services encampment response services funded by previous ARPA funding and scheduled to end June 30, 2022. These services have been pivotal to the stabilization of homeless individuals with SUD both throughout the encampment crisis and during post-tenting clearing and stabilization. Without continued support, Recovery Services would not be able to sustain the level of services or support provided at the Engagement Center and new satellite sites in new locations. This project included continued expanded medical and behavioral health supports through Boston Health Care for the Homeless, cleaning efforts, enhanced transportation to services outside Boston, expanded services to address housing stability, biohazard encampment response and provision of security.

Structure and Objectives: BPHC partnered with 5 organizations to provide security,

housing referrals, employment assistance, treatment referrals and sanitation services to reduce the encampment's footprint and impact on the community.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: By its very nature, this project promotes equity by targeting at-risk residents with services to unhoused individuals with mental health and substance use disorders.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Increase number of people accessing housing services	100	301	6/30/2024
Output	Increase in individuals accessing low-threshold spaces	100	142	6/30/2024
Outcome	Increase number of placements into transitional housing by Substance Use Services/Low Threshold Spaces	50	91	6/30/2024
Outcome	Increase number of housed individuals	10	26	6/30/2024

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: 1. Reduce the size of the encampment by providing residents with positive, meaningful alternative (housing, employment)

2. Reduce the impact of encampment activities on nearby neighborhoods

3. Improve the sanitation and overall conditions at the encampment site

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: This research provides evidence that similar programs, focusing on providing community based responses to those in mental health or substance use related crises, successfully reduced reports of crimes.

Fitzpatrick-Lewis, Donna, et al. "Effectiveness of interventions to improve the health and housing status of homeless people: a rapid systematic review." BMC public health 11 (2011): 1-14.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$4,468,000.00

Substance Use Services/Community Engagement to Address Substance Use and Unsheltered Residents

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9038

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: This project funds will support a community engagement process with three communities in Boston and advance the City's initiative to expand capacity building to communities outside of the Mass/Cass neighborhood. Faith and community leaders of up to three neighborhoods will expand opportunities to engage with community members, businesses, residents and the City to create a more coordinated approach to dealing with the unique challenges historically impacted by the "war on drugs," the most recent increase in fatal overdoses among Black men, and the disproportionate impact of Covid-19 on communities of color. This team will be led by a community coalition and will develop relationships with individuals spending time on the street and be a resource to the businesses/residents to create consistent communication and support to address needs and challenges as they arise.

Structure and Objectives: Through this project, BPHC will partner with 2 community organizations to engage high-risk citizens in relationships centered on employment, housing and recovery discussions.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: By its very nature, this project promotes equity by targeting at-risk residents with services to unhoused, unemployed, addicted and disenfranchised individuals.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number of interactions between the team and individuals.	4433	4140	Quarterly
Output	Number of service referrals	211	1217	Quarterly
Output	Combined hours of recovery coaching and motivational interviewing.	32	198	Quarterly
Output	Number of interactions between the team and businesses.	516	712	Quarterly

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Increase engagement with disenfranchised members of the community in order to improve housing, employment and recovery outcomes.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: Both of these studies highlight low-barrier threshold community spaces as a solution for the City of Boston's overflow in the Mass/Cass area. Older, robust research shows the importance of street outreach, given that those on the street face the most acute challenges. (Marit Edland-Gryt, Astrid Helene Skatvedt, Thresholds in a low-threshold setting: An empirical study of barriers in a centre for people with drug problems and mental health disorders, International Journal of Drug Policy, Volume 24, Issue 3, 2013, Pages 257-264) (Lam, Julie A., and Robert Rosenheck. "Street outreach for homeless persons with serious mental illness: is it effective?." Medical care 37.9 (1999): 894-907.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$685,000.00

Substance Use Services/Workforce Development

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9043

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: Led by the Office of Recovery Services, ARPA funds supported 5 core priorities for individuals with substance use disorder: (1) workforce development, (2) short-term/transitional housing and low-threshold spaces, (3) harm reduction services, (4) coordinated public health response in target areas, and (5) strategies to address the uptick in HIV. Within (1), funds were used to: Increase syringe collection efforts and cleaning through incentive programs for individuals on the street or in shelter; Expand opportunities to engage with community members, businesses, and the City to create a more coordinated approach to dealing with the unique challenges of specific neighborhoods, and; Add peer-led street cleaning services in the Mass/Cass area.

Structure and Objectives: Increase peer-led syringe collection and cleaning program & expand community-led mobile outreach in Nubian Square.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The core focus of the program centered on our City's most vulnerable and disenfranchised individuals.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Provide paid workforce opportunities to individuals	100	112	Annual
Output	Provide on-the-job training to individuals returning from incarceration and/or experiencing homelessness	20	112	Annual
Output	New treatment, medical or wellness referrals	75	1562	Annual
Outcome	Sustained supervised employment for 6 months	50	22	Annual
Outcome	Engaged treatment, medical or wellness services	50	59	Annual

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Engage homeless, addicted and other vulnerable citizens in meaningful work that improves safety and reduces the threat of disease in the community.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: There is an abundance of research supporting the peer-led needle collection program, from increased proper disposal, to lower HIV rates.

The workforce development work focused on individuals that face addiction and/or homelessness has moderate evidence.

Moderate evidence for employment placement: Poremski, Daniel, Daniel Rabouin, and Eric Latimer. "A randomised controlled trial of evidence-based supported employment for people who have recently been homeless and have a mental illness." *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research* 44 (2017): 217-224.

Mental health and work supports combined have positive impacts on mental health: Kashner, T. Michael, et al. "Impact of work therapy on health status among homeless, substance-dependent veterans: A randomized controlled trial." *Archives of General Psychiatry* 59.10 (2002): 938-944.

Moderate: Nelson, Sarah E., et al. "Moving ahead: Evaluation of a work-skills training program for homeless adults." *Community Mental Health Journal* 48 (2012): 711-722.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$915,000.00

Substance Use Services/Harm Reduction

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9045

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: Led by the Office of Recovery Services, ARPA funds will support 5 core priorities for individuals with substance use disorder: (1) workforce development, (2) short-term/transitional housing and low-threshold spaces, (3) harm reduction services, (4) coordinated public health response in target areas, and (5) strategies to address the uptick in HIV. Within (3), funds will be used to: Provide services to address substance use disorder exacerbated by the pandemic, including: Mass & Cass specific expenses related to direct outreach and expansion of services hours, and specific outreach to vulnerable populations on substance use disorder. Expand syringe service hours into the evening to meet the need for additional skilled providers. Adding harm reduction vending machines in high use areas will allow individuals to access safer use supplies (syringes, condoms, Narcan, etc.) at any time of the day or night. Sterile syringes and supplies.

Structure and Objectives: Increase syringe access at 26 Atkinson street and on evening outreach routes. Expand access to transitional housing and syringe services through the Roundhouse Low Threshold Housing Program.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The core focus of the program centers on our City's most vulnerable and disenfranchised individuals.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Increase number of placements into transitional housing by Substance Use Services/Harm Reduction	50	788	Annual
Output	Increase number of syringes collected	100,000	7,801,615	Annual
Outcome	Increase number of doses of Narcan given	5	60,783	Annual
Outcome	Reduction in 311 calls for needles	10	28,237	Annual

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Increase in people accessing services	5	23,624	Annual

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Provide harm reduction and general health welfare services to the City's most vulnerable unsheltered individuals and improve the quality of the impacted neighborhood for residents.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This research provides evidence that similar programs, focusing on providing community based responses to those in mental health or substance use related crises, successfully reduced reports of crimes and harmful alcohol use. Collins, Susan E., et al. "Randomized controlled trial of harm reduction treatment for alcohol (HaRT-A) for people experiencing homelessness and alcohol use disorder." International Journal of Drug Policy 67 (2019): 24-33.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$700,000.00

Substance Use Services/HIV

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Health Commission

Project Expenditure Category: 1.13-Substance Use Services

Unique ID: 9042

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Boston Public Health Commission Website](#)

Description: IDB supported the provision of HIV services across the care continuum through multiple funding streams including: CoB, RWHAP, EHE. The three priority populations for the Boston Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA): was 1) heterosexual women of color; 2) persons who inject drugs (PWID) and 3) MSM (men who have sex with men) of color. Within these groups, there is a need to expand HIV care affecting our immigrant communities (non-US born individuals), transgender individuals, & youth (20-44 years). These priority populations underscore a critical need to ensure an equity lens to planning and implementation of HIV services. The changing landscape of public health in Boston presents an opportunity for BPHC to conduct more nuanced and comprehensive assessments of the state of HIV in Boston, specifically with a focus on understanding key risk factors for HIV transmission, how we prioritize equity in our current approach, and

the gaps in HIV prevention and treatment. This assessment will allow BPHC to understand the current unmet needs more fully in addressing HIV in Boston, review how internal & external resources are aligned & distributed for maximum benefit.

Structure and Objectives: Will lead to better understanding of unmet needs for addressing HIV in Boston, how internal & external resources are aligned & distributed, inform the next procurement for prevention funding, & build on existing Suffolk County HIV strategic plans.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: In addition to the continued emphasis of social determinants of health at all levels of the assessment, BPHC will utilize its equitable community engagement framework to ensure the voices of those groups most impacted by HIV are at the forefront of the assessment. Finally, the results of the assessment will influence the funding of new and existing investments in the prevention and treatment of HIV in Boston. This will include the identification of new partnerships that promote equitable access to care across the HIV continuum.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Number RFP applications reviewed	2	3	Annual
Output	Number of IDB programs engaged in the RFP review process	4	4	Annual
Output	Number of IDB workgroup meetings completed	10	10	Annual
Output	Number of focus groups completed	8	8	Annual
Output	Number of surveys completed	256	185	Annual
Output	Number of BIPOC/minority-owned CBOs/groups engaged	3	3	Annual
Output	Number of other survey methods completed	2	2	Annual
Outcome	Number of prevention opportunities identified	5	3	Annual
Outcome	Number of new investments in resources in underserved communities	4	2	Annual
Outcome	Number of new funding recipients/partnerships	2	1	Annual

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Number of improvements to IDB infrastructure/processes	3	2	Annual

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: To evaluate the current needs of people at risk of or living with HIV post Covid-19 Emergency Response., better understand how internal & external resources are aligned & distributed, and inform the Infectious Disease Bureau's strategic vision for STI/HIV prevention and early intervention services.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: This research examines experimental and quasi- studies that support the conclusion that HIV intervention programs can lead to sexual risk reduction among drug users. (Semaan, Salaam*; Des Jarlais, Don C.†; Sogolow, Ellen*; Johnson, Wayne D.*; Hedges, Larry V.‡; Ramirez, Gilbert§; Flores, Stephen A.*; Norman, Lisal; Sweat, Michael D.¶; Needle, Richard**. A Meta-analysis of the Effect of HIV Prevention Interventions on the Sex Behaviors of Drug Users in the United States. JAIDS Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes 30():p S73-S93.) (Sengupta, Sohini, et al. "HIV interventions to reduce HIV/AIDS stigma: a systematic review." AIDS and Behavior 15 (2011): 1075-1087.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$250,000.00

BPS Family Mentoring and Leadership

Cabinet / Department: Boston Public Schools

Project Expenditure Category: 2.25-Addressing Educational Disparities: Academic, Social, and Emotional Services

Unique ID: 9010

Status of Completion: Completed

Program Website: [Boston Public Schools Website](#)

Description: Boston Public Schools values strong family-school partnerships in support of student achievement, and recognizes that parents deserve and have the right to the appropriate resources to aid in informed discussions with school and district leaders. Thus, the Parent Mentoring program created through this investment builds the confidence and skills of parents to be active in their children's school life and further

creates conditions in which schools demonstrate the value parents contribute to their school community and their students' learning.

Structure and Objectives: The model seeks to support linguistically and culturally diverse families that often face barriers to serving in leadership roles at the school and district level, or being effectively engaged as partners in educating their children.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: A Parent Mentoring program in schools will strengthen parent leadership and professional skills, building a strong understanding of the American education system including equitable literacy, multilingual education, special education, inclusive learning, anti-racism, equity and social justice, as well as the important role their engagement plays in these outcomes.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Schools participating in parent mentoring program	6	6	School Year 2024-25

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: When parents gain leadership skills, they can be powerful advocates for equity.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Research shows that parent involvement in school is key for student engagement, and improves parent-teacher relationships. Further, interventions that focus on parental engagement with their child's learning are most effective. (Smith, Tyler E., et al. "Evaluating the effects of family-school engagement interventions on parent-teacher relationships: A meta-analysis." School Mental Health 14.2 (2022): 278-293.)

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$400,000.00

Additional Federal Reporting Questions

National Center for Education Statistics School ID(s) or District ID(s): 2502790

How many students have participated in evidence-based tutoring programs as a part of this project? 0

Early Childhood

Workforce Hiring and Retention for Childcare Sector

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Early Childhood

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11-Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Unique ID: 9033

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Office of Early Childhood Website](#)

Description: The Childcare Sector, already a low-paying sector before the pandemic, has a severe workforce shortage after the COVID-19 pandemic. This workforce shortage limits childcare programs' ability to serve the number of children they are licensed to care for. To incentivize hiring, the Mayor's Office of Women's Advancement provided direct grants to childcare businesses in the City that have hired new childcare staff (or rehired previously laid-off staff) since July 1, 2021. The grant was for the Family Child Care providers to reimburse themselves or as a bonus for the employees they hired or re-hired. The intended outcomes of this program was to draw qualified caregivers back into the childcare workforce with better pay, help childcare workers remain in the field with augmented pay, and help childcare businesses retain their workers with annual bonuses, and to avoid more FCCs from permanently closing.

Structure and Objectives: Provide all 457 family child care providers a one-time flexible spending grant for their businesses to provide additional financial support to stabilize providers as they continue to recover from the negative economic impacts of the pandemic.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: These funds will empower women, specifically women of color and immigrants. In Boston, 92% of childcare providers are women, 62% are people of color, and 39% are immigrants. Also, by providing a one-time grant, we keep qualified caregivers and prevent more closures that lead to a further gap between the supply and demand of childcare and increased prices. These increases significantly impact the most vulnerable families and children and lead to more women leaving the workforce to stay home.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Organizations share information about the hiring and retention program on social media	15	100	In the first week
Outcome	Recipients open email about grant program	459	97.6%	Within 1 week of sending
Output	Individuals reach out to MOWA with questions about the program	50%	75%	Within first month of the program
Output	Childcare businesses apply for grants	457	446	Within one month

				of sending application
Output	Family Child Cares that remain open in the City of Boston	457	457	In the first year of receiving the grant

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: Draw qualified caregivers back into the childcare workforce with better pay, help childcare workers remain in the field with augmented income, and help childcare businesses retain their workers to prevent more FCCs from permanently closing.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: In 2019, using funding from a federal Preschool Development Grant, Virginia piloted the Teacher Recognition Program, which offered early educators up to \$1,500 if they remained teaching at their sites over an 8-month period. At centers with access to the financial incentives, 15% of teachers left, compared to 30% of teachers at centers without access to the incentives. <https://vecf.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/6de6fd54-e921-4c88-a452-ad7cabccc362.pdf>

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,469,124.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of children served by childcare and early learning services): 3,720

Number of families served by home visiting: 0

Childcare Business Development

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Early Childhood

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11-Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Unique ID: 9032

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Office of Early Childhood Website](#)

Description: This project included training and grants for Family Child Care (FCC) businesses. FCCs are small businesses that offer childcare in the provider's home. This project focused on training these small business owners in technology and marketing and conducting developmental screenings. The training took place in cohorts of 30 or fewer participants and was intended to enhance the provider's skill in the training area while also providing the provider with a community of similarly situated entrepreneurs to

support them. Entrepreneurs in the technology and marketing workshop cohort received a Chromebook or laptop and a grant in order to support their efforts to expand their childcare businesses. MOWA issued RFPs for these workshops in early 2022, with workshop cohorts taking place over the following two years. The intended outcome of this program is to 1) improve FCC marketing and technology skills to help 50 Boston childcare providers serve more children and 2) teach 165 FCC providers how to conduct developmental screenings and follow up with families if additional intervention is warranted.

Structure and Objectives: Structure: Training in technology, marketing, grants for 50 FCCs, and trainings on developmental screenings for 165 FCCs. Objective: Help childcare providers serve more children and increase the quality of the early interventions they provide.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: All training and materials are in Spanish and English. Coaching is based on participants' preferred communication method and timing. The program is designed to work with their comfort level with technology to ensure their success.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Output	Proposals submitted in response to RFP for technology and marketing workshops	3	1	By June 30, 2022
Output	Proposals submitted in response to RFP for developmental screening workshops	5	1	By June 30, 2022
Output	FCC applicants for the workshops	75	90	Annual
Outcome	FCC operators completing developmental screening workshops	165	160	By June 30, 2024
Outcome	Increase in family childcare businesses in Boston conducting developmental screenings	90	90	Annual
Outcome	FCC operators completing marketing and technology workshops	50	48	By April 30, 2023

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals of this program are to 1) improve FCC marketing and technology skills to help 50 Boston childcare providers serve more children and increase their outreach and income 2) teach 100 FCC providers how to conduct developmental screenings and follow up with families if additional early intervention is warranted, to increase the quality of their program.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: 1. This study examines the impact of professional development on both Early Childcare providers and their students, finding significant improvements in skills and knowledge. (Anne E. Cunningham, Kelly Etter, Linda Platas, Sarah Wheeler, Kelly Campbell, Professional development in emergent literacy: A design experiment of Teacher Study Groups, Early Childhood Research Quarterly, Volume 31, 2015, Pages 62-77.) 2. This training document has a section on evidence base for developmental screenings in children ages 0-5. (Moodie, S., Daneri, P., Goldhagen, S., Halle, T., Green, K., & LaMonte, L. (2014). Early childhood developmental screening: A compendium of measures for children ages birth to five, OPRE Report 2014-11, Washington, DC: Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (pg 16 of PDF report))

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$435,844.50

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

Number of children served by childcare and early learning services (pre-school/pre-K/ages 3-5): 375

How many families have been visited as a part of the project?: 0

Stimulus Funds for Childcare Centers

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Early Childhood

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11-Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Unique ID: 9071

Status of Completion: Completed

Link to Website: [Office of Early Childhood Website](#)

Description: In order to support the childcare sector, grants were provided to childcare centers in the City of Boston. Grants were designed to meet three objectives: immediate wage and benefit relief (uses include but are not limited to hiring and retention bonuses,

new benefits, educational debt remediation, etc); consulting work to design a new compensation structure focused on equity; and a sustainability plan for the compensation plan based on the state reimbursement system, braided funding streams, and other funding sources. This investment further strengthened Boston's early education and care ecosystem, giving centers time to recover and rebuild their finances by the time the ARPA funding runs out, and created equitable compensation structures while informing public policy efforts.

Structure and Objectives: Grants to childcare centers in Boston. So they provide immediate wage & benefit relief, get consulting work to design a new compensation structure of \$22/hour for teachers by Dec 2025, & a sustainability plan to implement it.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the early education and care ecosystem. Low wages for many early childhood educators lead to high staff turnover, while high childcare costs impose financial burdens on working families. The childcare workforce in Boston is 92% women, 62% people of color, and 39% immigrants. These funds will increase the low wages and provide benefits to these communities, without imposing financial burdens on working families. They give child care centers the financial and technical resources to create a compensation strategy to increase the wages of their early educators, and a sustainability plan to continue implementing their compensation strategy without this source of funding.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Anticipated # of current staff to receive compensation	953	1317	By December 2025
Outcome	Anticipated # of new staff hired	230	382	By December 2025
Outcome	# of compensation plans received	22	22	By December 2025
Outcome	# of sustainability plans received	22	22	By December 2025
Outcome	Anticipated # of classes to reopen	47	27	By December 2025

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals are that child care centers in the City of Boston produce new compensation plans that move towards equitable and just compensation for childcare

workers. By providing wage and benefit relief (uses include but are not limited to hiring and retention bonuses, new benefits, educational debt remediation, etc), and they create sustainability plans for their new compensation plans, which take into account EEC reimbursements and other investments in childcare to continue implementing their compensation plans in the future.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence showing that financial support stabilizes small and medium businesses: 1) Evidence from Saudi Arabia on the impact of “external support” on business survival. “The external support provided to SMEs during the COVID-19 pandemic, whether in the form of training, consultancy, or finance, supports the continuity and survival of these enterprises.” Adam, Nawal Abdalla, and Ghadah Alarifi. "Innovation practices for survival of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the COVID-19 times: the role of external support." Journal of innovation and entrepreneurship 10.1 (2021): 15.

2) “We find that, absent government support, SME failure rates would have increased by 6.01 percentage points, putting 3.1 percent of employment at risk. Our results also show that in the presence of financial frictions and in the absence of government support, the firms failing due to COVID have similar productivity and growth to firms that survive COVID.” Gourinchas, Pierre-Olivier, et al. "SME failures under large liquidity shocks: An application to the COVID-19 crisis." Journal of the European Economic Association (2024): jvae041.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$5,134,536.38

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

How many children have received childcare or early learning services as a part of the project? 5,000

How many families have been visited as a part of the project? 0

Growing the Early Education and Care Workforce

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Early Childhood

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11-Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Unique ID: 9072

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Office of Early Childhood Website](#)

Description: ARPA funding supports the supply of childcare and enhances the available workforce by supporting aspiring early educators in accessing apprenticeships, earning their Associate’s degree, gaining licensure from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC), and receiving business development training from the

Childcare Entrepreneurship Fund. A three-year infusion of funds can significantly grow both the number of FCCs in Boston and the number of trained educators to be placed in center-based programs.

Structure and Objectives: Support aspiring & current early educators in accessing apprenticeships & earning a degree debt-free, & gain licensure from EEC. To expand the supply of childcare, increasing the number of FCCs & trained educators to be placed in centers in Boston.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: These funds will serve childcare educators and ensure that those entering the field and those upskilling can do so debt-free. The childcare workforce in Boston is 92% women, 62% people of color, and 39% immigrant (ACS, 2014-2018). The selected applicants will deliver the material in different languages, and locations, and in partnership with several childcare centers in the City of Boston. They are required to provide wrap-around services like free childcare, computers, and other educational materials.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Proposed CDA	248	237	By December 2026
Outcome	Persistence CDA	248	237	By December 2026
Outcome	Completed CDA	248	140	By December 2026
Outcome	Proposed Teacher Lead Certification	241	147	By December 2026
Outcome	Persistence Teacher Lead Certification	241	147	By December 2026
Outcome	Completed Teacher Lead Certification	241	113	By December 2026
Outcome	Proposed Director's Certification	55	36	By December 2026
Outcome	Persistence Director's Certification	55	38	By December 2026
Outcome	Completed Director's Certification	55	27	By December 2026
Outcome	Proposed AA Degree	80	50	By December 2026

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Persistence AA Degree	80	42	By December 2026
Outcome	Completed AA Degree	80	13	By December 2026
Outcome	Proposed BA Degree	61	66	By December 2026
Outcome	Persistence BA Degree	61	47	By December 2026
Outcome	Completed BA Degree	61	27	By December 2026
Outcome	Proposed MA Degree	7	6	By December 2026
Outcome	Persistence MA Degree	7	5	By December 2026
Outcome	Completed MA Degree	7	0	By December 2026
Outcome	# of family childcare providers licensed	75	68	By December 2025
Outcome	# of family childcare providers open	75	63	By December 2025
Outcome	# of family childcare providers enrolled	75	75	By December 2025
Outcome	Round 2 Proposed BA Degree	25	14	By December 2026
Outcome	Round 2 Persisted BA Degree	25	14	By December 2026
Outcome	Round 2 Completed BA Degree	25	5	By December 2026
Output	# of family child care providers participating in incubator	3	3	By December 2026

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals are to expand the supply of childcare and enhance the available

workforce by supporting aspiring early educators in accessing apprenticeships, earning their Associate's degree, and gaining licensure from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) debt-free. To reduce the workforce shortage in Boston, decrease the supply and demand childcare gap, and support providers and families.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Strong evidence: Financial incentives have a proven positive impact on educational completion, and placement into jobs of interest to the entity offering the incentive. Bärnighausen, Till, and David E. Bloom. "Financial incentives for return of service in underserved areas: a systematic review." BMC health services research 9 (2009): 1-17.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$8,940,784.00

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

How many children have received childcare or early learning services as a part of the project? 0

How many families have been visited as a part of the project? 0

Streamlining Access and Enrollment

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Early Childhood

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11-Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Unique ID: 9070

Status of Completion: Completed 50% or more

Link to Website: [Office of Early Childhood Website](#)

Description: The Office of Early Childhood used funds to create a user-friendly, multilingual process, accessible via a dynamic, streamlined web portal, for enrollment in early education programs three to five, including UPK seats, other center-based programs, and family-based programs; and aligned the enrollment process so that all families know what options are available for their children. The interface is called Great Starts and launched in March 2024 with 807 EEC licensed providers, serving children under 5. It has since expanded to include all BPS locations. Including BPS schools with K0 & K1 classrooms. In October 2024, we expanded the platform to serve up to 12th grade, including all BPS Schools, bringing the total to 846.

Structure and Objectives: Create user-friendly, accessible, & streamlined web portal that is a one-stop shop for enrollment in early education programs for children under 5 so families know what options are available and can enroll. Expand to enrollment in BPS, up to 12th.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: By engaging the families and the UPK providers throughout the process, we ensure that the website we create is easy to use, accessible, and transparent. Understanding families' needs allow us to include the information that families need to know their options and make decisions, making enrolling their child easy. While the provider's input allows us to understand what makes enrollment easier on their end. We will include families and providers that represent the City of Boston, including BIPOC, not native English speakers, immigrants, low-income, or experiencing difficulties with technology. Communities that have faced significant barriers to these services in the past.

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: The goals for the project are to create a user-friendly, multilingual, accessible, & streamlined web portal that is a one-stop-shop for enrollment in early education and care programs for children 3-5. So all families in the City of Boston know what options are available to them and can enroll their children in a program that closely responds to their needs around childcare, and increase the number of children enrolled in early education programs.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: Moderate evidence: This research backs the program: Garver, K., Weisenfeld, G. G., Connors-Tadros, L., Hodges, K., Melnick, H., & Plasencia, S. (2023). State preschool in a mixed delivery system: Lessons from five states. Learning Policy Institute. <https://doi.org/10.54300/387.446>

Experimental research: Weixler, Lindsay, et al. "Increasing access in the ECE enrollment process: Evidence from an information intervention in New Orleans." Early Childhood Research Quarterly 68 (2024): 54-64

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$1,079,803.81

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Launch explore function for 0 - 5 childcare	100%	100%	4/24/2024
Outcome	Launch apply function for Universal Pre-K	100%	100%	4/24/2024
Outcome	Launch explore function for school age (K - 12)	100%	100%	12/24/2024
Outcome	Launch apply function for school	100%	100%	12/24/2024

	age (K - 12)			
Outcome	Outreach and communication	100%	70%	12/24/2026

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

How many children have received childcare or early learning services as a part of the project? 0

How many families have been visited as a part of the project? 0

Non-Standard Work Hours Childcare Pilot

Cabinet / Department: Mayor's Office of Early Childhood

Project Expenditure Category: 2.11-Healthy Childhood Environments: Child Care

Unique ID: 9073

Status of Completion: Completed less than 50%

Link to Website: [Office of Early Childhood Website](#)

Description: Essential workers in health care, education, and construction are critical to the City of Boston's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. This grant supported the ability of essential workers to find, access, and pay for early childhood programming, including childcare. The Office of Early Childhood provided grants to applicants in the City of Boston that: Increase the number of childcare providers who offer non-traditional hours; and, Provide support for families and childcare providers that address additional burdens related to non-traditional hours.

Structure and Objectives: Increase the number of childcare providers who offer non-traditional hours & financial support for families and providers. To increase the ability of essential workers to find, access, & pay for childcare.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes: To achieve the Pilot's mission to improve the economic self-sufficiency of low-income Black, POC, and immigrant home-based child care providers and single-mother families in Boston. The project is considering: 1) Close partnerships with strong base-building organizations, 2) Deep community-based outreach and recruitment activities, 3) Financial support both for child care providers and for families, and 4) Close partnerships with high-quality training programs.

Performance Report:

Type of Metric	Metric	Goal	Progress to Goal	Timeframe
Outcome	Childcare providers offering extended hours	36	27	By December 2025

Outcome	Anticipated # of families to receive scholarships	24	23	By December 2025
Outcome	# of families enrolled in extended hours	50	23	By December 2025
Outcome	# of children served	54	28	By December 2025

Evidence & Evaluation:

If there is no evaluation being conducted on the project: No, an evaluation has not been and will not be conducted.

Project Goals: This project aims to increase the number of childcare providers who offer non-traditional hours and provide financial support for families and childcare providers to address additional burdens related to non-traditional hours. To reach two goals: 1) essential workers can find, access, and pay for childcare, and 2) provide financial support for child care providers to improve their financial stability, instrumental in organizing and increasing the supply and availability of childcare for the families.

If there is strong or moderate evidence, cite the evidence for why this intervention is appropriate: The coalition has been conducting extensive research about nonstandard-schedule child care before and after the Pilot launch. They found that "one of the biggest gaps is our system's inability to accommodate families with nontraditional schedules." And that "with so many workers facing nonstandard hours, with women in the workforce as a rule rather than an exception, and as grandparents transition from potential caregivers to potential care recipients, child care options available around the clock have become a necessity. Worker protections like fair scheduling and paid family medical leave will also play an important role in supporting working families...Stronger public investment in the care sector is critical to support the provision and accessibility of care during nonstandard hours, and to ensure care providers earn living wages and benefits that reflect the full value of their labor."

Bivens et al., It's time for an ambitious national investment in America's children. Economic Policy Institute, April 2016

Parker, Kim and Eileen Patten, The sandwich generation: Rising financial burdens for middle-aged Americans. Pew Research Center, January 2013.

Total project spending allocated toward evidence-based interventions: \$0

Additional information for specific expenditure categories:

How many children have received childcare or early learning services as a part of the project? 28

How many families have been visited as a part of the project? 0