

Charlestown Coalition FY'17 Report



In FY'17 (October 1, 2016-September 30, 2017), the Charlestown Coalition focused on strategies and activities related to their five overarching goals:

1. Enhance the support and capacity for community clinicians and lay people to both prevent and respond to traumatic situations
2. Increase community dialogue about racial and socioeconomic inequities and race relations to change perceptions of others and prevent racism and violence
3. Enhance protective factors among Charlestown youth
4. Improve communication and access to care between the Coalition and residents and community/city organizations and agencies
5. Understand and address community issues related to the redevelopment of the Charlestown Boston Housing Authority

Taskforces are in place to ensure the strategies and activities of the work moved forward.

Prevention and Education

TURN IT AROUND

Approx. **40 youth** participated in the group and organized community events including the annual Basketball Tournament and Prevention BBQ

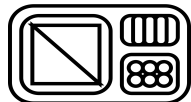
85%

Feel they have made a difference in the community



100%

Feel adults in Turn it Around are interested in their opinions, will help with problems, and respect them



Weekly 02129 lunches at the high school to inform students on resources and providers in Charlestown

100

Students participated in the LifeSkills/Stay in Shape program



Increased understanding on how alcohol and marijuana affect mind and body



Increase in eating more fruits and vegetables



Increased understanding on the importance of sleeping between 8-10 hours

Prevention Month at Edwards: organized a series of substance use prevention lessons and assemblies to de-stigmatize individuals who struggle with substance use disorders, and educate the youth.



In perception that people addicted to drugs do not want to stop using



In perception that it is safe to take medications prescribed to someone else



In perception that addiction only impacts the person addicted

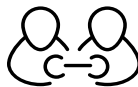
Navigation through Alcohol and Drug Recovery

68.2

Pounds of prescription medications were collected at the 8th Annual Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Turn it Around members assisted with weighing the prescriptions, handing out gift cards, and talking to community members.



Conducted 15 Narcan Trainings, with 250 people, in collaboration with the BPHC with the three housing developments, Charlestown Recovery House, MGH Nursing students, Recovery Community, and First Church



GRASP, the support group for those who have lost a loved one from drug use meets once a month, with approx. 8 participants at each meeting.



Held Charlestown's 9th Annual Overdose Vigil for all those who lost their battle to addiction and to give hope to those still suffering. 122 names of persons lost were read at this vigil.

218

People in recovery or struggling with addiction have been connected to needed services by a community navigator; **90 new clients in FY17**

Services Included:

- Education on overdose, prevention basics, and Narcan
- Getting into treatment
- Connecting to self-help groups
- Assistance with transportation
- Advocacy/support for court-related issues
- Assistance with job search/resume
- Obtaining insurance
- Connecting to GED/Education

17

Current drug court members. **All are currently in treatment.**

Gavin Group: Approximately **14 youth** (ages 14-18) participated in the after-school group in hope of reducing marijuana dependence. Students are referred to this group by the high school's substance abuse program because they need additional services and resources.



Decrease in 20-30 day marijuana use



Increase in talking to a friend and engaging in sports/exercise as a form of stress relief



Increase in students disagreeing with the statement, "I'm not strong enough to stop using marijuana"

Support Services for Youth and Families



Monthly Family Support Circle Provider Task Force meetings with providers, clinicians, and social service representatives from the community to build partnerships and increase knowledge on available services and resources

100%

Gained knowledge on services and resources in Charlestown (e.g. current housing construction, community-based programs, etc.)

92%

Collaborated with other members as a result of these meetings

47

Families and individuals were **provided case management services** by the Family Support Circle clinician

Trauma Response/Consultation Group



Monthly Trauma Response Group meetings with 2 clinicians and 6 non-clinical community members.



Sponsored trainings related to psychological and physical trauma response, including the MGH program, "Stop the Bleed"



608 students met with a clinician at the Adult Learning Center to address stressors and/or barriers to their education

Communication



Coalition website was developed (charlestowncoalition.org), which provides information on the mission, goals and activities of the coalition, news, events, and resources in the community.

Grant Awards

\$10,000 from the Attorney General's Office

Funding will be used for:
-Implementation of the LifeSkills prevention curriculum at the Warren Prescott, Kent, Edwards schools

\$5,000 Spaulding CNC Community Partnership Fund: for Turn It Around

\$5,000 City of Boston Charlestown Community Fund (casino money)



Monthly newsletter featuring updates of the coalition's work, Voices of Recovery, Turn it Around youth of the month, and events and updates from coalition members/organizations



Bimonthly coalition meetings with approx. 20 community members in attendance representing different sectors