

Charlestown Coalition Work Plan – 2020/2022

Mission: To advance communities and transform lives by developing and supporting activities that promote overall health and bring about change, helping to end the cycles of addiction, poverty, violence, and racism using a racial equity lens.

Goal 1: Promote social and emotional wellness by fostering a resilient Charlestown and building equitable, accessible, and supportive systems of care.			
Objective 1: Use a collective impact model to make policy, systems and environmental changes to reduce substance use and high-risk behaviors, prevent opioid overdoses and deaths, provide trauma-informed support, and increase resiliency.			
Strategy 1: Enhance protective factors and provide prevention education to youth, parents/guardians, and other adults in the community.			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Life Skills/Stay In Shape prevention curricula at the local public schools (Harvard Kent, Warren Prescott, Edwards, BGCB)	Mswati	Ongoing	Life Skills/Stay in Shape Committee
Cofacilitate the Charlestown High support group for youth who have had an issue with substance use in school. <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Sarah Mswati	Ongoing	BPS, The Gavin Foundation, MGH Eval Team
Provide exposure to pro-social activities and prevention education through weekly meetings with Turn it Around (TIA) youth. <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Mswati	Ongoing	First Church, Community organizations
Prevention Month at Edwards Middle School. Organizing a series of substance use prevention lesson plans and assemblies to de-stigmatize individuals who struggle with substance use disorders provide education. <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Mswati Shannon	Annually in October	Edwards Middle School, Turn it Around
Activity tables will be displayed at events throughout the year with mindfulness and stress reduction activities taught and given to parents and families (Glitter jars, stress balls, bio-dots etc.)	Phenice	Ongoing	FSC, Harvard Kent Health Fair, BHA unity weekend
Conduct wellness groups to enhance copings and stress management skill to students, interns and staff at the Charlestown Adult Learning Center as needed.	Phenice	Ongoing	FSC, Adult Learning Center
Hold Hidden in Plain Sight workshops for local parents to learn where youth may be hiding drugs and the importance of parental disapproval when preventing youth substance use	Shannon	Ongoing	The Charlestown Mothers Association, BGCB, local schools, The Knights
Provide mentorship opportunities for youth, such as the Aging Adult and Youth Mentor program	Coalition staff	Ongoing	Charlestown Golden Age Senior Center, TIA, Community orgs., Residents
Objective 2: Provide opioid overdose prevention and harm reduction education to those struggling with addiction, families, and medical providers.			
Strategy 1: Reduce access to prescription pills			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators

Hold annual Take Back Day event to collect unwanted and unused prescription drugs	Coalition staff	Annually in June	TIA youth, Community orgs. and businesses, Residents
Strategy 2: Non-clinical response to prevent and respond to overdoses			
Hold Narcan trainings with residents and community organizations and agencies	Shannon	Ongoing	BPHC, MGH
Hold weekly Women's group meetings for women in recovery	Shannon	Ongoing	
Hold daily, outside COVID Defiance Group (CDG) AA meetings	Shannon	Ongoing	
Objective 2: Provide trauma response assistance to residents who are at high risk of harm or during a crisis situation			
Strategy 1: Provide outreach supportive services to community residents			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Trauma response team will meet monthly, participate in trauma response trainings, discuss and respond to incidents as needed, and create flyers/trauma education cards. <i>See Trauma Response Team work plan for details.</i>	Phenice Other coalition staff as needed	Ongoing	Trauma Response Team
Hold biweekly GRASP group meetings to provide support, compassion, and, understanding for people who have lost a loved one from drug use.	Shannon	Ongoing	Charlestown Health Center
Objective 3: Reduce social isolation and increase a stronger sense of community among Charlestown residents			
Strategy 1: Bringing systematically marginalized groups together through programming and events			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Host and support community events throughout the year, including the 3-3 Basketball Tournament, Prevention BBQ, Ctown Get Down	Coalition Staff	Ongoing	TIA, Community Organizations, Residents
TIA youth will call local seniors to check-in with them through the Aging Adult and Youth Mentor program	Coalition staff	Ongoing	TIA, Charlestown Golden Age Senior Center
In partnership with Councilor Lydia Edwards and staff, host monthly Race and Equity dialogues for residents to come together and explore topics on the impact of race, policing in urban settings, and equity	Coalition staff	Ongoing	TIA, Councilor Lydia Edwards, Community Orgs., Residents
Goal 2: Address and advocate for community issues related to the redevelopment of the Charlestown Boston Housing Authority			
Objective 1: Address the direct impacts of re-development on current BHA residents (evictions, increased anxiety, education of processes)			
Strategy 1: Impact Advisory Group (IAG) participation			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Sarah and a rotating TIA youth will attend regular Impact Advisory Group meetings to keep informed on progress of development and to hold voice of concerned residents and providers	Sarah Mswati	Ongoing	IAG members, TIA
Advocate for bills addressing housing issues that could affect the Charlestown community	Sarah	Ongoing	

Strategy 2: Family Support Circle (FSC) direct services and care coordination for residents impacted			
FSC will provide direct services and workshops for residents impacted by the redevelopment process to understand the process and assist with housing needs and connection to appropriate clinical supports. <i>See FSC workplan for detailed activities.</i>	Phenice Sarah	Ongoing	FSC Task Force
Goal 3: Improve and increase communication, collaboration, and partnerships among the Coalition, residents, and community/city organizations and agencies			
Objective 1: Increase knowledge of events, resources, and services in Charlestown among residents and community organizations			
Strategy 1: Maintain and expand consistent communication through social media and meetings			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Hold bimonthly steering committee meetings	Coalition staff	Bimonthly	Coalition members
Send monthly Coalition newsletters using best practices for communication, such as layout, content, timing of newsletter, etc. <i>See Communication workplan for detailed activities.</i>	Coalition staff	Ongoing/ Monthly	
Maintain Coalition website. <i>See Communication workplan for detailed activities</i>	Coalition staff	Ongoing	Winnie Tobin
Utilize social media to promote Coalition and community events, resources, and information through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn <i>See Communication workplan for detailed activities.</i>	Coalition staff	Ongoing	Coalition members
Send e-blasts each month highlighting Charlestown and Boston resources (mental health, summer programming, housing, youth and adult training and employment opportunities, etc.)	Phenice	Ongoing/ Monthly	
Strategy 2: Provide support and advocacy around issues that could impact the Charlestown community			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Write letters of support for organizations and speak on bills at the local and state level that could impact the community	Coalition staff	Ongoing	Steering Committee members
Strategy 3: Increase connections and collaborations among the FSC Provider Task Force members			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Hold monthly meetings to discuss program updates, share resources, conduct case reviews, utilize the Community Support Circle, and discuss relevant themes happening in the community. <i>See FSC Task Force workplan for detailed activities.</i>	Phenice	Ongoing	Task Force members Community Providers
Goal 4: Ensure Charlestown residents have access to coordinated and equitable health and family support services and resources to support overall health			
Objective 1: Increase knowledge, skills, and exposure to prosocial activities among youth to improve access to needed resources and services			
Strategy 1: Provide education and support to youth			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators

Charlestown High School 02129 Lunches – bring in community providers to educate Charlestown resident students on resources and providers available to them in the community. <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Mswati Phenice	Ongoing	Monument Street Behavioral Health Services, BPS, National Guard, YMCA, BGCB, 76 Monument Street, New Health Charlestown, PIC Program
Cofacilitate the Charlestown High support group for youth who have had an issue with substance use in school. <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Sarah Mswati	Ongoing	BPS, The Gavin Foundation, MGH Evaluation Team
Support the TIA youth in accessing necessary resources and services, such as obtaining a driver’s permit/licenses, HiSET completion, job searches and resume-building, and connecting with FSC for clinical services <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Coalition staff	Ongoing	
Lead the TIA Summer Enrichment program to provide professional development opportunities and expose youth to new activities and experiences (e.g., hiking, social justice, arts, and community service)	Mswati	Ongoing (summer)	
Strategy 2: FSC Clinical Services			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Connect families and individuals to services and support through one-on-one case management and therapy. <i>See FSC workplan for details.</i>	Phenice	Ongoing	FSC Task Force
Strategy 3: Recovery Services and Treatment Navigation			
Use Community Health Worker Model to connect residents in need of addiction or recovery services, addressing the barriers to accessing appropriate services and advocating for community change to address these barriers. <i>See Navigation workplan for details.</i>	Shannon	Ongoing	Overdose Prevention Task Force
Continue Coalition’s role on the Charlestown Division of Boston Municipal Court’s Recovery Court specialty session and increase awareness of its existence through inviting medical professionals and others in the community to sessions and quarterly Drug Court celebrations. <i>See Navigation workplan for details.</i>	Shannon Sarah	Ongoing	Charlestown Division of Boston Municipal Court South Bay House of Corrections Nashua Street Jail
Goal 5: Increase community dialogue on racial and socioeconomic inequities, social issues, and race relations to change perceptions and reduce stigma in the community.			
Objective 1: Provide instances in which community members of different racial and/or residential backgrounds come together			
Strategy 1: Hold events and create spaces/opportunities for community members to engage with one another			
Activity	Who is Responsible?	By when?	Collaborators
Maintain the Peace Park at Mount Vernon Street Plaza and co-lead the Peace Park Renovation Project to continue to provide a sanctuary for residents to have a peaceful place to sit and remember their loved ones and celebrate their life	Coalition staff	Ongoing	Peace Park Task Force, COGdesign Community orgs., Residents

Hold the Annual Candlelight Overdose Vigil dedicated to those that have been lost due to substance use and to give hope to those struggling with addiction.	Coalition staff	Annually in September	
In partnership with Councilor Lydia Edwards and staff, host monthly Race and Equity dialogues for residents to come together and explore topics on the impact of race, policing in urban settings, and equity	Coalition staff	Ongoing	TIA, Councilor Lydia Edwards, Community Orgs., Residents
Organize youth-driven events led by TIA youth to provide community members and youth to interact with one another, such as the TIA scavenger hunts. <i>See Youth workplan for details.</i>	Mswati Sarah	Ongoing	Community Orgs., Residents