

Boston Community Health Collaborative News and Updates

CHIP Implementation - Become a 2025-2028 Recognized Boston CHIP Implementation Partner!

Building healthier, thriving communities is something no one organization can do alone. The Boston [Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\)](#), coordinated through the [Boston Community Health Collaborative](#) and the [Boston Public Health Commission](#), brings partners across sectors together around shared community priorities and strategies for action, in support of the City of Boston's [Live Long and Well Agenda](#) to improve health and wellbeing and close gaps in life expectancy across communities. A CHIP aims to help connect organizations and align resources to improve policies, systems, and the social conditions in which residents live.

CHIP Implementation Partners are organizations whose programs, services, or initiatives align with one or more strategies in the Boston Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Why become an Implementation Partner?

- Connect your organization's work with shared community priorities,
- Build relationships with others advancing similar strategies across Boston, and
- Participate in shared learning opportunities, strengthen collaboration and collective efforts to improve community health and wellbeing.

Implementation partners will be recognized on the Boston Community Health Collaborative webpage.

If you are interested, and you are not already connected to the Boston CHIP Partner Network, we encourage you to reach out to bostonchna@bphc.org to learn more.

We hope you will consider joining a community or partners working across sectors to strengthen connections, align efforts, and advance community goals across Boston.



Live Long and Well Black Men's Health Activation Summit

Mayor Michelle Wu, the City of Boston and the Boston Public Health Commission recently hosted the Black Men's Health Activation Summit, bringing together community members, public health professionals, advocates, and local leaders to discuss the unique health challenges facing Black men in Boston. The summit created space for participants to share experiences, identify barriers

to health and wellness, and highlight community-driven solutions that can improve health outcomes.

Through panel discussions, interactive sessions, and community dialogue, attendees explored topics such as access to healthcare, mental health, chronic disease prevention, economic stability, and the social factors that influence overall well-being.

Feedback gathered during the summit will help inform future strategies and investments aimed at advancing health equity for Black men across the city, including a new annual \$1 million commitment to support community-based initiatives focused on improving health and wellness outcomes.

A recording of the event is [available here](#).

Health of Boston: Black Men's Health Snapshot can be found [here](#).

Celebrating Magnolia Contreras: Recipient of the Lemuel Shattuck Award

Congratulations to Magnolia Contreras, Vice President of Community Health at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Co-Chair of the Boston Community Health Collaborative, on receiving the Lemuel Shattuck Award for Significant Contributions to Public Health Practice at the [Massachusetts Public Health Alliance](#) Spring Breakfast Awards.



Throughout her career, Magnolia has been a dedicated leader in advancing health equity and improving community health outcomes. Beginning her career at Lynn Community Health Center and later serving in leadership roles at the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, she has consistently championed efforts to address health disparities.

At Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Magnolia leads initiatives that expand equitable access to cancer prevention, screening, and care in historically underserved communities. She has helped develop innovative programs that improve patient support and strengthen community engagement in health initiatives. Her lifelong commitment to public health and community well-being continues to inspire efforts toward a healthier and more equitable future.

We congratulate Magnolia on this well-deserved recognition and thank her for her outstanding contributions to public health!

Coalition Partner Spotlight: Make Hunger History Coalition

The Coalition Partner Spotlight series highlights coalitions and cross-sector partnerships that are advancing strategies aligned with the Boston Community Health Improvement Plan and helping to build healthier, thriving communities.

The [Make Hunger History Coalition](#) is a statewide initiative to end hunger in Massachusetts. Convened by [Project Bread](#), the coalition brings together stakeholders across Massachusetts to advance coordinated, community-engaged strategies that take a systems-change approach to addressing food insecurity and improve access to healthy, affordable food.



The coalition's work is grounded in five key pillars:

- Ensure that all residents can access and buy food.

- Integrate food security and healthcare.
- Support residents to eat nutritious and local food.
- Enhance food support programs for targeted populations.
- Address root causes which contribute to hunger.

The Boston Community Health Collaborative is a supporting organization of the Make Hunger History Coalition, and its work closely aligns with the Boston Community Health Improvement Plan's Access to Healthy and Affordable Food priority area and strategies.

To learn more or join the Coalition, visit [Makehungerhistoryma.Org/Join](https://makehungerhistoryma.org/join)
Sign onto the Coalition today as an [organization](#) or [individual](#).

Upcoming Boston Community Health Collaborative Events

CHIP Housing Subcommittee June Topic: Housing, Climate and Health

Join the Boston Community Health Collaborative CHIP Housing Subcommittee for an upcoming conversation focused on the intersections of housing, climate resilience, and health.

This session will spotlight how CHIP implementation partners are advancing strategies to support healthy housing conditions and climate resilience in Boston and create space for shared discussion, learning, and connection across partners.

Date and Time: June 18th from 12pm – 1pm (virtual via Zoom).

Please register for the meeting link and calendar invite [HERE!](#)
This meeting is open to all BCHC community partners.

Community Data in Action

Thank you to the [Healthy and Well in Hyde Park Collaborative](#) for the opportunity to host a community data gallery walk featuring findings from the 2025 Boston Community Health Needs Assessment at their recent Hyde Park Health & Wellness summit! We appreciated the chance to spotlight perspectives and experiences shared by Hyde Park residents through the CHNA and explore how community-informed data can guide action toward healthier communities.

The data walk was held at [The Pryde Gallery](#), which features art that celebrates the stories, history, and creativity of LGBTQ+ communities in Boston.



Thank you to [Boston Little Saigon](#) for the opportunity to table at their Community Pickleball Tournament and Fundraiser at the Dot Tire Studios! We appreciated the chance to connect with community members, share the 2025 Boston Community Health Needs Assessment data about Dorchester in both English and Vietnamese, and engage residents in conversations about community health priorities and needs.

If your organization is interested in hosting a data walk, please reach out to bostonchna@bphc.org. We value every opportunity to share this data with the community and create spaces for conversation, learning, and engagement around community health priorities.

CHIP Partner Spotlights and Updates

Updated Website for Mental Health Resources in Boston

The Center for Behavioral Health and Wellness has launched a newly updated and expanded Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Health website designed to make finding mental health support clearer, easier, and more accessible for Boston residents.

The redesigned site brings together resources for people across all stages of mental health support — whether someone is looking for a therapist, navigating a mental health crisis, supporting a young person, helping a loved one, or simply trying to better understand available services and terminology.

The update reflects the Center's broader mission to reduce barriers to care, increase mental health literacy and help residents when seeking support.

Link: [Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Health | Boston.gov](#)

Opportunity Boston Releases Cradle to Career Outcomes Report

[Opportunity Boston](#) (previously known as Boston Opportunity Agenda) is a public/private partnership that works urgently and strategically to transform the Boston education landscape. Their focus is on removing the systemic barriers that create unacceptable outcomes and lack of opportunity for historically oppressed and economically disadvantaged populations and creating a just, equitable education system from cradle to career.

Their latest Cradle to Career Outcomes Report shows how partnerships across Boston are driving progress for children and youth and where additional work is needed to accelerate impact. The report highlights the importance of coordinated cross-sector efforts in improving outcomes at scale.

Full report here: [2026 Cradle to Career Report](#)

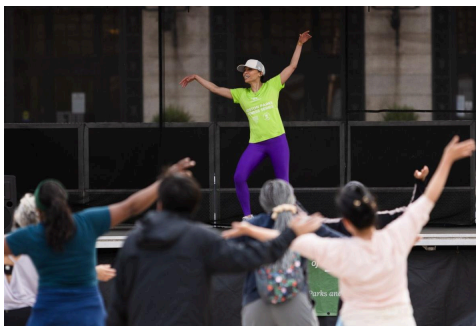


Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series Kicks Off

The 2026 Boston Parks Summer Fitness Series has kicked off! The program is designed to provide welcoming and accessible opportunities for residents of all fitness levels to stay active, connect with their communities, and support their physical and mental wellbeing throughout the summer.

The Parks Summer Fitness Series offers free fitness classes led by certified fitness instructors in Boston parks all summer long, in neighborhoods across Boston. This initiative is a partnership between the Boston Parks and Recreation Department, Boston Public Health Commission and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts.

Learn more, register for a class, and download the full schedule [HERE!](#)



Share Your CHIP Success Stories

We invite partners to share programs, initiatives, or successes that are helping advance CHIP strategies. If there is work your organization would like to amplify, please complete the survey for the opportunity to be featured in an upcoming newsletter.

[Submit Here](#)

About the Boston Community Health Collaborative

The Boston Community Health Collaborative (BCHC) is a multi-sector collaboration of Boston health institutions, community organizations, and public health working in partnership with Boston communities to improve the health and well-being of Boston residents. Boston Public Health Commission serves as the central coordinating agency. Together, the BCHC strives to address public health challenges and support healthier communities.



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