

# SHANNON

SENATOR CHARLES E. SHANNON COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVE



**Grant Program:** Shannon Community Safety Initiative  
**Funding Agency:** Executive Office of Public Safety & Security  
**Amount:** \$1,075,915.41  
**Award Period:** January 09, 2018 - December 31, 2018

The Shannon Grant represents a significant investment by the State in the continued safety and well-being of Boston residents. Following the model of the OJJDP's Gang Reduction Program, this initiative draws its strength from a strong multidisciplinary collaboration, including not only various state and city agencies, but also partnerships with faith-based, philanthropic, and business organizations within the community, specifically hotspot locations within **District C11** Dorchester (Bowdoin Geneva, Codman Sq.); **District B2** South End/Lower Roxbury, (Egleston Sq., Grove Hall); and **District B3** Mattapan/North Dorchester (Blue Hill, Morton-Talbot) and **District A7** East Boston.

Shannon grant funds support the City of Boston's comprehensive strategy aimed at reducing gun, gang, and youth violence in the City by targeting services and interventions to at-risk and gang-affiliated youth within these neighborhoods. For the past twelve years, the Boston Police Department has built a successful collaboration balancing City, community, faith, social service and law enforcement partnerships within the community using the following elements, Opportunity Provision, Social Intervention and Prevention Strategies, Community Mobilization, and Organizational Change and Development.

In 2015 we introduced a competitive RFP process to apply for the Shannon grant, this opened the grant to all non-profits and allowed for funds to be granted to new organizations with a vested community interest in addressing and responding to youth violence. This process is now an annual part of the Shannon funding cycle occurring in August, for which we received over 50 applications for the grant and have taken on 5 new partners annually.

We believe Shannon programming has had an impact on youth violence Citywide. Since its inception in 2006 to the end of 2017 we have seen a 16% decrease in homicides, 9% decrease in aggravated assaults, and a 10% decrease in total violent crime all through an Initial investment of \$350 per young person.

## 2018 Funded Organizations

Boston Centers for Youth and Families; Youth Options Unlimited Boston YouthConnect;  
Boston Medical Center VIAP; Boston Asian YES; Project RIGHT; Maverick Landing Community Services;  
Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion; My Life My Choice; Louis D. Brown Peace Institute; Resilient Coders;  
Level Ground MMA; RFK Childrens' Action Corps; Sportsmen's Tennis Enrichment Center; ESAC;  
YouthBuild Boston; MissionSAFE; Black Ministerial Alliance

## Partnership Breakdown:

**YOUTH OPTIONS UNLIMITED (YOU)** - provides intensive case management and counseling, academic support and GED preparation, job training and placement, and a positive social environment to returning offenders and system-involved youth.

**YOUTHCONNECT (BGCB)** - places licensed social workers in Boston Police stations to provide prevention and intervention services to at-risk urban youth and families who are in crisis or experiencing acute problems.

**BOSTON CENTER FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES (BCYF)** - provides stipends to support Leadership Corps programs to teach and model non-violent conflict resolution, leadership, civic responsibility and self-esteem building to at risk girls

**BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER-VIAP- (BMC)** - Provide violence intervention to 150 victims of violence. Services to all clients include redirection, relocation education, and employment and life skills. Victims and Families link to BMC's behavioral, medical, mental health, and substance abuse services.

**BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT** - services through a Shannon Project Coordinator, data collection and analysis, special initiatives of the Boston Police Department, Operation HomeFront by School Police Unit and Operation Nightlight by the YVSF.

**BROOKLINE POLICE DEPARTMENT** - provide cross border warrant apprehension and intelligence sharing with the Boston Regional Intelligence Center, and police hours at the Brookline Youth Center.

**ECUMENICAL SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE (ESAC)** - provides GED classes in a few of the identified hot spot areas of the city.

**INQUILINOS BORICUAS EN ACTION (IBA)** - provides Advocacy Programming, which has an objective to meet high-risk young people where they are at (on the streets, in the park etc.), build trusting relationships and guide them away from trouble and towards positive programming.

**PROJECT R.I.G.H.T** - support a youth outreach worker to target hard to reach youth in the Grove Hall neighborhood

**JUSTICE RESOURCE INSTITUTE, INC** - Supports the "my life my choice" programs to support mentors to meet with girls identified through the Human Trafficking Unit's reporting system to be at high risk of commercial sexual exploitation.

**LOUIS D. BROWN PEACE INSTITUTE** - Provides services and support to families and victims of homicide

**RESILIENT CODERS** – Offers coding instruction to high and proven risk youth, leaving them with the skill to produce and administer websites

**BOSTON ASIAN Y.E.S.** - Provide culturally relevant gang prevention and intervention services to youth within the city of Boston, utilizing social justice activities to serve an outlet to escape the pull of Asian gangs and organized crime.

**MAVERICK LANDING COMMUNITY SERVICES** - Though a coordinated effort including case management of youth at risk for gang recruitment, support for families through neighborhood resources and services, safety task force meetings, and a youth task force.

**MISSION SAFE** - Works with youth who are gang- or court-involved, failing in school, experienced trauma, or have been thrown out of other programs. Working primarily with youth from Mission Hill, lower Roxbury and surrounding areas, providing an unconditionally supportive place that provides boundaries and healthy youth-adult relationships.

**BLACK MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE** –Working in collaboration with Vibrant Boston to identify and refer youth to job readiness training, leadership development support, as well as an 8 week job readiness training.

**YOUTHBUILD BOSTON** - YouthBuild Boston (YBB) is a nonprofit organization that provides opportunities for youth to build career and life skills via hands-on, innovative programming, leadership development, and service learning approaches.

**LEVEL GROUND MMA** - Level Ground MMA works with Boston youth to provide Mixed Martial Arts and Women's Self Defense skills within the corporate setting. Youth instructors serve in an apprenticeship, referrals are received from the Shannon partnership and through youth enrolled in the LGMMA program.

**SPORTSMENS TENNIS ENRICHMENT CENTER** - Volley Against Violence (VAV), a partnership between and the Boston Police Department that is focused on providing intentional mentoring, life skills training and educational experiences for over 1,000 youth a year.

**RFK CHILDREN'S ACTION CORPS** seeks to enroll Detention Diversion Advocacy Program youth referred from Dorchester Juvenile Court and lead them in a Restorative Justice process through restorative circles and case management.

Advocates develop comprehensive individual service plans and present them to the court and work from referrals through defense attorneys, public defenders, probation staff, families, schools and community based providers