



Charlestown Coalition Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Agenda-April 29th

- Introductions, organizations, role, and community Updates (10 mins)
 - **Phenice Zawatsky**, Director, Charlestown Coalition
 - **Melanie Soto**, Community Resource Specialist, Charlestown Coalition
 - **Courtney Grey**, Director of Disaster Behavioral Health at the Community Resilience Networks through the Boston Public Health Commission
 - **Adanarys Barragán Solorio**, Manager for the Community Resilience Network at the Boston Public Health Commission
 - **Brandon Washington**- Communities Program Manager at the Charlestown Health Center
 - Bunker Hill Parade coming up
 - All Roads lead to Charlestown- 11 am to 3 pm
 - **Corrine Kielbasa**- Family Engagement Specialist at the Kennedy Center
 - **John Killoran**- Community Engagement Specialist- Charlestown Boys and Girls Club
 - **Jeffery Kyi**- Assistant Chief Probation Officer at Charlestown Recovery Court
 - National Law Day at the courthouse on May 1st, 11 am to 1 pm. Collaboration with Harvard Kent 6th graders. All are welcome to attend.
 - **Elanie Donovan**- Community Liaison, City Councilor Coletta Zapata Office
 - **Jim Morrill**- Physician at the Charlestown Health Center
 - MGH is working to increase community access to primary care, behavioral health services, and new child psychiatry. Will expedite urgent referrals for the Trauma Team and Community Organizations.
 - **Michael Cain**- Charlestown Trauma Team Member and Charlestown Resident, Gavin Foundation
 - **Crystal Galvin**, Director of Community Engagement at the Kennedy Center
 - **Glendaly Pena-Soto**- Director of Community Engagement at MGB
 - **Megan Rouse**- Family Partner and Outreach Specialist, Kennedy Center
 - School Readiness program- Play groups/ Increase access to school readiness and preparation for kindergarten.
 - Book Club- Wednesday evenings, Art project, Keep a copy of the book
 - Raising a Reader- 18 months to 3 years, practicing reading skills, introducing to reading
 - STEM Program for younger kids
 - Community Baby Shower on May 17th. Welcoming expecting moms and providing them with community resources.
 - **Thara Fuller**- Director, Kennedy Center
 - **Analuisa DeLaCruz**- Spanish Speak Parent Partner
 - **Lillian Sgro**- Parent Partner, Kennedy Center
 - **Jaye Meakem** - Community Engagement Manager, Boston Harbor Now
 - Free tickets to the Harbor Islands during the summer
 - Free Community Cruises- Charlestown
 - <https://www.bostonharbornow.org/charlestowncruise/>
 - Mel mentioned that although flyers were in Spanish last year, people had trouble accessing the information and getting their tickets.
 - Jay mentioned they could do a Google form with language capacity.
 - Organizations can sign up and get hard copy tickets to provide to older folks.
 - Is it possible to attend Village Vibe to help people sign up for the cruise?



- Collin, Development Coordinator at the Kennedy Center
- Sean Breen, Community Services Liaison, Boston Mayor's Office
 - Coffee Hours at the Training Field on May 1st at 9:30 am
- Coalition updates:
 - Glendaly Pena-Soto, Director of Community Health Programs at MGB
 - MGB Updates
 - Working with a Consultant Company to see what we can do with
 - Peace Park
 - Construction will be happening at the end of May/June
 - Mel will send out a memo to the community to update the neighbors and community about
 - Bridge of Joy Project
 - Approved for an Art Installation in Charlestown that will be in the Navy Yard and under the Tobin Bridge near the Peace Park
 - Will brainstorm with the committee and bring back to this group
 - Art Installation will be there from July 2025 to July 2027
 - Looking for people to collaborate with and do programming to promote this project
 - Environment focus
 - Open to ideas from organizations
 - Trauma Team-
 - Narcan Training at the Charlestown Recovery House with 34 participants
 - Connected with Donald Osgood at the Boston Public Health Commission- Community Healing Response Network
 - Turn It Around- Will continue to meet until mid-June, then the program will break for the summer
 - TIA Graduation June 5th /TIA Jr. June 12th
 - If people cannot make it, Phenice will provide a card for people to sign at the next Steering committee meeting.
 - Unclear of what programming will look like in the Fall but we will keep the Coalition up to date concerning any changes.
 - Alternatives to Violence Breakfast (Phenice)
 - Alternatives to Violence Breakfast meets monthly to convene and bridge collaborations among youth-serving organizations throughout the city. The next meeting is on May 9th at 9:30 am at the BCYF Shelburne. Meetings are usually held on the Second Tuesday of every month.
 - I'm walking with the ATVBN for the annual Mother's Day Walk. Please consider donating to this organization and help me reach my goal. I will be taking donations until father's day.
 - <https://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org/PheniceZawatsky>
 - Race Dialogue
 - Waiting on the results of the survey from our evaluation team
 - Location Change- due to construction
 - I will meet with Councilor Coletta Zapata to discuss restarting these discussions
 - Kennedy Center offered their space
 - Newsletters (Phenice)
 - TIA and Coalition Newsletters will go out this month
 - The FSC Resource Newsletter will go out on the 15th of May.



- Boston Events
 - Mother's Day Peace Village Vibe, Charlestown, May 10th
 - <https://www.mothersdaywalk4peace.org/Member/MyPage/7940842/Phenice-Zawatsky>
 - Village Vibe May 28th in Charlestown at Eden St. Park
 - For more information contact Daniel Hudson at daniel.hudson@boston.gov
 - Move and Grove Festival, May 3rd/Interactive Resource Fair- Please Share Flyer
 - Looking for Charlestown youth to attend
 - Youth Job Fair
 - Registration required-
 - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/futurebos-youth-jobs-fair-tickets-1313204803919?aff=erelexpmt>
 - Art Healing Event with Councilor Mejia's office on July 8th-
 - The Coalition will partner with the CRA at this event
- Steering Committee Meeting Locations/Volunteers Needed
 - March (Youth Prevention Provider)- Boys and Girls Club
 - April- (Mental Health Group)-Kennedy Center
 - May- (Trauma and Violence)-MGH Charlestown
 - Will try and bring in Bridge Span for the May Steering Meeting
 - June (substance use disorder)
 - August (Access to Resources)-Kennedy Center
- **Courtney Grey, Director of Disaster Behavioral Health**, and **Adanarys Barragán Solorio, Manager, Community Resilience Network** through the Office of Health Preparedness through the Boston Public Health Commission
 - BPH would like to train Charlestown residents and organizations to become a local resilience team, which would respond to weather or trauma-related disasters (extreme heat, flood, etc.). Highlighting a holistic approach and taking care of one another, which has been seen in Charlestown.
 - Training would be provided to prepare neighbors with all the skills they would need to respond, including effective mothering, early childhood development, and elder services to empower communities. It would also include lifting all the work done and highlighting events with a community calendar on the BPH website that people could search.
 - BPH will notify local partners and neighborhood partners when something happens in the community and allocate an immediate response.
 - June 17th at UMass Boston- If we can highlight the work we have done in the community. Advanced Psychological First Aid Training and reenactment.
 - Adanarys-
 - Get ready, be safe, be healthy- Intro to emergency preparedness
 - Thinking about how we can be prepared for a situation if it should happen
 - Create a plan for yourself and your family
 - Looking for feedback from the community on what we should consider for the training
 - The training is a 1 ½ training and may be followed by a series of trainings in the future
 - Training the trainer could be an option
 - Neighborhood training for residents and the community



- Phenice is focused on connecting city resources with the Coalition, including BPH, the Mayor's office, and the Community Support Team to ensure that Charlestown's needs are met.
- Mel- Which training should we start with? Andanary stated that we could start with the 1 1/2 training on emergency preparedness and then see if it can be done with other groups in the community. Ex Elderly and Disabled folks/High school/. Andanary would like to work with partners to plan the training and adapt it based on the communities' needs. Can do it in different languages.
- People expressed interest in doing the training first and then thinking about how we would do the training in the community. They are doing the response not to the city system coming in and telling them how to do it. The best response is when the neighborhood response to take the lead.
- Courtney would like to do 12 neighborhood training courses with each community to create a neighborhood preparedness training. Examples include:
 - Ready, Safe, Healthy
 - Advanced Disaster Behavioral Health
 - By Stander PFA
 - Publishing this work and uplifting the communities to showcase what's been effective
 - People Centered Partner Neighborhood Directory- List on the partners in the neighborhood and all the agencies listing what they do and complimenting that with a calendar.
 - June training-
- Mel- expressed interest in doing the 1 ½ training course first to model behavior and then later decided what group would be best
- Dr. Morrill, Are there groups like the trauma response team in the community? Community Support team with training and capacity building in. How unique is the trauma response team.
- Courtney- If we train the local trauma teams then we just come and arrive to see how we can help as the BPHC Behavioral Disaster team.
- Community Healing Support Team- Donald Osgood.
- Boston Public Health Commission- When lost the Director of the Charlestown BCYF. We work collaboratively. We are pushing all the skills to a neighborhood. Neighborhood trauma team/ healing support networks, deploys around homicide. But the BPHC team for Disaster Behavioral health will work collaboratively as one system to coordinate.
- Elanie talked about her experience with PFA and its benefit in the neighborhood
- Crystal- Asked a question about the reduction in childcare fund and accessibility to Narcan. Does the Coalition have plans to advocate? Will follow up on this next meeting but as of now no plans. Phenice would like to connect the local Recovery Coaches and youth serving agencies to work on some of the key priorities mentioned below.
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- MGH Updates with Glendaly Director of Community Engagement at MGB
 - MGH has been in the news with layoffs and the system is changing throughout programing including the Coalitions to gather information and make recommendations to the MGB Community Health leadership. We hope they can attend a Steering Committee Meeting in May and have you all provider your input and recommendations to them.
 - Phenice met with Bridge Span and submitted her recommendations based on the conversations with Steering Committee Members in February. Advocating Bridge Span to come in May to a Coalition meeting.



- Bridge Span would like to know what Successes, Challenges, and barriers to the Coalition work over the years. Information will be a part of the report and given to leadership.
- Trying to bridge the Boston work with Charlestown
- Don't do anything for us without us.
- Funds will be utilized to invest in the community and work collaboratively/ Possible maternal health efforts
- In one of the meetings, it sounded as if MGB would be taking away funding from Charlestown (which would be detrimental to the community) to invest in communities in greater need. How can we bucket the money and reinvest it in the communities to address the priorities? We are shifting, and it will affect our programming. MGB is utilizing Bridgespan to determine where money will be allocated to create positive outcomes for the communities we serve.
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- Need Assessment Priorities, Charlestown/Boston
 - **Behavioral Health- Substance Use and Mental Health** (New Health Charlestown, Charlestown MGH, 76 Monument St. Clinic, FSC, AA Meetings, Kennedy Center, Charlestown Recovery Court, Charlestown Recovery House, Charlestown Schools, IHP, Home Base, AA)
 - **Trauma and Violence/Safety** (Trauma Response Team, Boston Trauma Teams, BPD, Fire Department, MGH Charlestown, New Health Charlestown, Home Base)
 - **Youth Prevention** (TIA, Charlestown Boys and Girls Club, BCYF, YMCA, Courageous Sailors, Kennedy Center, Charlestown High School, Road to Success, Charlestown Adult Education Center)
 - **Housing** (Boston Housing Authority, Newtown, Mishawum, Charlestown Resident Alliance)
 - **Economic and Financial Stability** (Charlestown Adult Education, YMCA)
 - **Food Insecurity** (Harvest on Vine, Charlestown Adult Education, Kennedy Center, New Health Charlestown)
 - **Access to services** (Childcare-Kennedy Center, Healthcare- New Health Charlestown, MGB Charlestown, MGH mobile vans, social services- Faith-based organizations, Kennedy Center)
 - **Policy-** (Charlestown Coalition, Charlestown Court House, National Alliance for Mental Health, MOAR, City Officials, Boston Public Health Commission).
- Next Steering Meeting
 - The next Steering Committee Meeting will be May 27th at noon.

VILLAGE VIBES CHARLESTOWN

FOODMUSIC
CITY DEPARTMENTS
SUMMER CAMPS
NEIGHBORHOOD ORGS.
SPORTS LEAGUES
CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS
+ MORE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WWW.BOSTON.GOV/VILLAGE-VIBES

CITY of BOSTON Community Safety



VILLAGE VIBES
Wednesday
May 28
3:00 - 6:30pm
Edwards Playground

CITY of BOSTON Community Safety

you can.
Help us understand and help others.

Have you responded to or witnessed an overdose?

Let us know, anonymously.

SCAN HERE



RedCap Link/
overdosereport

BOSTON Public Schools OFFICE OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT dcr

MOVE AND GROOVE FESTIVAL

MELNEA A. CASS RECREATIONAL COMPLEX

SATURDAY MAY 3 12:00PM TO 4:00PM

FREE ADMISSION

GIVEAWAYS MUSIC SNACKS GAMES

FEATURING:
DANCE CLASS BY BOSTON BALLET
ROLLER SKATING BY SKATE FIT
TENNIS LESSON BY SPORTSMEN'S TENNIS & ENRICHMENT CENTER
INTERACTIVE SCIENCE DEMONSTRATIONS WITH MIT PHYSICS AND HARVARD PHYSICS AND MUCH MORE

JOIN THE FAMILY-FRIENDLY FUN AT
120 M.L.K. JR BLVD, ROXBURY, MA 02119

CONTACT
COMMUNITYENGAGEMENT@BOSTONPUBLICSCHOOLS.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION

STEM

29TH ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

MAY 11TH, 2025



Cultivating Cycles of Peace

CITY of BOSTON



YOUTH JOBS FAIR

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center

