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WWW.GETTINGTOTHEROOTS.ORG
The Youth Violence Systems Project is a two-year project that will develop a system dynamics model of youth violence in Boston. This computer model will help community, academic, political, and institutional stakeholders develop more effective strategies to reduce youth violence. By increasing our understanding of the systems dynamics of youth violence in Boston, including plausible outcomes for different actions taken, we will have stronger communication, agreement and cooperation around a community-wide response to youth violence in Boston, which will result in a safer, healthier city for everyone.
The name “Grove Hall” comes from the name of the mansion of the wealthy merchant, Thomas Kilby Jones, built about 1800 on a knoll overlooking the intersection of what is now Blue Hill Avenue and Washington Street. This area remained largely rural in character during the first half of the 1800s. However, after Roxbury was annexed to Boston in 1868, it developed more rapidly. From 1906 until the 1950s, Grove Hall and surrounding areas were important centers of Jewish life and religion. By the 1930s some African Americans had moved to upper Roxbury, and by 1950 the numbers had grown in the areas around St. Mark’s Congregational Church and Charles Street AME Church. The Grove Hall area experienced a major racial transition in the 1950s and 1960s with the Jewish population moving out to the suburbs. Those years and some of the following period were turbulent times. In the last 15 years the areas along Blue Hill Avenue and the heart of Grove Hall have seen considerable investment and renaissance with a new shopping center, renovations, and new buildings.

One of the early landholders in the area was Edward Payson who owned more than a thousand acres in the 1600s. He came to Roxbury in 1634 and moved to Dorchester near the Roxbury line in 1658. When he died in 1689, he left property to his sons and sons-in-law. His son Samuel received the western part of his lands near the Grove Hall area, including the homestead where he farmed all his life. He was a constable, selectman, and one of the leading citizens. This homestead or its site was then owned by John Goddard, and in 1747 he began operating a tavern there. Between 1754 and 1756, Stephen Kent moved from Chelsea to Roxbury, and in 1763 he received approval to operate the tavern at this site. “He hath lately hired a house in Roxbury which hath for many years been occupied as a tavern and was not


3 Ibid.

long since improved as such by one Goddard.” Stephen died in 1767, and his wife took over as innkeeper for about the next 30 years. In 1796 it ceased operations as a public house. Not many years after that, Grove Hall was built on this site (what is now the South East corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Washington Street).

In the 1700s, Governor Increase Sumner (Jr.) also owned land in the Grove Hall area. The governor’s grandfather, Edward Sumner, owned several lots in Roxbury and Dorchester, and his father, Increase (Sr.) was an industrious farmer with legendary strength who developed what was called the Morgan Farm. When his father died in 1774, Increase, Jr. inherited the farmland, although he made his home on what is now Bartlett Street in town. He was for many years a judge on the Massachusetts Supreme Court before becoming governor in 1797. He was also a talented farmer and taught his son the art of grafting fruit trees. His son, General William Hyslop Sumner, who inherited the estate in 1799, was a founder of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and the developer of East Boston. In 1832 Marshall P. Wilder purchased the Sumner estate, and for the next half century used the land to experiment with many varieties of fruit trees, plants and flowers. The property included most of the land between Washington Street, Columbia Road and Normandy Street. At one time his pear orchard included 2,500 trees of 800 varieties. He introduced several new pears including the Anjou pear. He also grew America’s finest collection of Camellias (300 varieties) and was the first in the US to grow and display a number of other flowers like orchids and Japanese lilies. In his own way, Mr. Wilder sought to bring beauty to Grove Hall. In general, Grove Hall in the first half of the nineteenth century was sparsely settled and mostly characterized by country estates, farms, and orchards.

Roads, street railways, and railroads have influenced the development of the Grove Hall neighborhood over the years. In 1663 a road was laid out along the lines of the present Warren Street and Washington Street (Dorchester) and was known as the “Way to Braintree” or the “Upper Road to Dorchester.” It was later known as “The Great Plymouth Road,” and

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6 Francis Samuel Drake, The Town of Roxbury (Boston: Municipal Print Office, 1908), 223.
9 Ibid.
10 Drake, 199.
the Roxbury segment was renamed “Warren Street” in 1825. In 1735 Paul Dudley set out the “Four Mile Stone” on this road near Bugbee’s Tavern opposite what is now 473 Warren St. In March 1805 the Brush Hill Turnpike Corporation was formed with the intent of laying out a new road from the west side of the Blue Hill in Milton to the “Four Mile Stone in Roxbury.” By 1809 this Brush Hill Turnpike had been built as a toll road, but it stopped at Grove Hall a half mile short. This enterprise was not very successful, and in 1856 the company gave it over to the county. It was renamed Grove Hall Avenue and in 1870 became Blue Hill Avenue. The part between Grove Hall and Dudley Street was also called East Street at one time. The road called “Long Crouch” was later named Seaver Street after Ebenezer Seaver whose house, built in 1721, was located near the intersection of Cheney Street and the present Blue Hill Avenue. Grove Hall was therefore a crossroads for travel to and from the south and southeast into Roxbury and Boston.

The Grove Hall estate and mansion stood at this crossroads for nearly a century from 1800 to 1898, although it served many different purposes over the years. The original owner, Thomas Kilby Jones, was “a prominent merchant and auctioneer of Boston and a gentleman of liberal hospitality.” He joined the First Church of Roxbury in 1804 and was a trustee of the Roxbury Latin School. In 1832 the original Grove Hall mansion was enlarged and became a hotel and summer boarding house resort. By 1837 it was owned by Edward D. Clarke and managed by C. A. Flagg. Bowen’s 1838 travel guide describes it as “a delightful resort for private parties, having every accommodation for their recreation and amusement.” The estate was converted into the American Orthopedic Institute in the 1840s by Dr. Alanson Abbe. The institute treated various medical conditions (curvature of the spine, paralysis of the limbs, club feet, etc.) and offered several regular school courses so young people could continue their studies.

In 1871, Dr. Charles Cullis remodeled the facilities, converting the estate into the CullisConsumptives’ Home. When it was founded in 1864 on Vernon Street, this was only the third free hospital in America for the treatment of consumption (tuberculosis). At Grove Hall it was able to care for 80 male and female patients in the last stages of pulmonary tuberculosis. This was a faith-based organization with a sign over the door, “Faith in God.” The earnest and kind workers rely upon no endowment, but believe their aid comes in answer to prayer; and upon that they depend for daily expenses. In 1897 a new, attractive building was erected

11 Ibid., 199-200.
13 Ibid., 146-148.
15 Henry A. Sprague, A Brief History of the Massachusetts Charitable Fire Society (Boston: Little, Brown, and Company, 1893), 35. (T.K. Jones was a trustee, vice president and president of this organization).
17 Abel Bowen, Bowen’s Picture of Boston or the Citizen’s and Stranger’s Guide to the Metropolis of Massachusetts, 3rd ed. (Boston: Otis, Broaders, and Company, 1838), 246.
20 Sammarco, Roxbury, 69.
facing Franklin Park opposite Seaver Street. The abandoned old building was considered an eyesore. Therefore, when neighborhood boys set fire to the historic structure in July 1898, the fire department let it burn. Near the new Consumptive Home, also under the same management, were two other homes: the Spinal Home and a Children’s Home for children of patients at the Consumptives’ Home. The facility always served those without funds and family to take care of them. It was still in operation in the early 20th century.

Because large landowners like the Wilder family, the Cullis Consumptives’ Home, the Wales family, Charles Cotting, William McKechnie, Warner Spencer, and the Adams family held on to large tracts of land on both sides of Washington Street at Grove Hall, much of the land south of Quincy Street was still undeveloped even by 1894. With better public transportation and the annexation of Roxbury (1868) and Dorchester (1870) to Boston, some new residential development began, but the economic depression of 1873 slowed new building construction for about a decade. Waban, Wyoming and Howland Streets near Warren Street were built up by 1884, but much of the land toward Elm Hill was still undeveloped. From Waumbeck St. to what is now Ruthven St. between Elm Hill Avenue and almost to Humboldt Avenue, land had been subdivided, but only four houses had been built by 1884. However, from 1885 to 1895 there was a building boom, especially west of Blue Hill Avenue. In 1886 Franklin Park was established south of Seaver Street. Also, Oakland Garden, an outdoor summer amusement park, was operating during this period. This so called “Summer Garden” was located between Erie Street and Columbia Road. It offered nightly theatrical presentations, regular band concerts, occasional outdoor sports, and an opportunity to see animals in a caged zoo. The Roxbury Highlands neighborhood of the 1870s and following decade was mostly middle and upper middle class Yankee Protestants or Irish. Although the highlands was dominated by native [born] American Protestants in 1880, 38.9 percent of the population of this area were foreign-born and their children; by 1905 the proportion had risen to 57.5 percent.”

Dorchester side, housing was developed earlier close to the Mount Bowdoin (Erie at Washington Street) and Harvard Street stations of the New York and New England Railroad. Other housing development was spurred on by the expansion first of the horse drawn street railways (Metropolitan and Highland Companies), and after 1889 by the electric street railways. The West End Railway Company located one of its large streetcar barns right at the northeast corner or Blue Hill Avenue and Washington Street. Until the coming of the street railways and their five-cent fares into town, it was simply impractical for most people to live in the Grove Hall area and commute into Boston. The street railways often expanded to areas before they were developed and therefore stimulated development and an increase in property values.

In 1894 the map of Dorchester shows no evidence yet of Jewish property owners along Blue Hill Avenue. However, by 1906 the maps reveal quite a number of Jewish property owners and a new and impressive synagogue on Blue Hill Avenue, called Adath Jeshurun. This huge and influential synagogue was built by a congregation of only 140 families in 1906. Some of the leaders of the synagogue were also in the real estate business. With the attraction of the new synagogue and the assistance of its leaders, the Jewish community nearby grew rapidly. Three other centers of Jewish settlement on Elm Hill, Erie Street/Mount Bowdoin, and Woodrow Avenue (Mattapan) grew rapidly in the coming years until they all merged into one large Jewish community. The early upwardly mobile, middle class Jewish residents were soon joined by thousands of lower income Eastern European Jews from the West End and Chelsea, where the 1908 fire had left many people homeless. For example, the Russian grandparents of the famous author and journalist, Theodore H. White, bought a wooden-frame house on Erie Street in 1912 for $2,000. He was born there three years later. His extended family was representative of the Eastern European Jewish immigrants settling into the area. White describes the neighborhood at that time, “When I was a child, milk was delivered in winter by horse-drawn sleigh... and Erie Street was lit by gas; and a real lamplighter passed before our house each dusk. Storekeepers had transformed Erie Street from the quiet residential neighborhood my grandparents had sought as Jewish pioneers in the district into a semi-permanent bazaar...Herrings were stacked in barrels outside fish stores...All butcher shops were kosher, sawdust on the floor, chopping blocks scrubbed clean every day, unplucked chickens piled in flop heaps in the store window...Pedlars, leading their horse-and-wagons through Erie Street, would yodel and chant their wares.”

In this same area about two blocks from the Mount Bowdoin train station, Beth El, the

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26 Jonathan D. Sarna and Ellen Smith, eds., The Jews of Boston (Boston: The Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, 1995), 144.


28 Ibid., 16, 26, 27.
Fowler Street Synagogue was completed in 1912. By that time 300 Jewish families had settled in the Mount Bowdoin/Franklin Park district, and by 1920 the number had grown to 1,300 families (6,000 people). The congregation itself had grown to 400 members, with a women’s club, a men’s club, a free loan society, adult study groups, a Young Israel group, and a large religious school. In 1915 the Crawford Street Synagogue was built in the Elm Hill district and by 1923, under the leadership of Rabbi Louis M. Epstein, had grown to 1,300 members. Also in the Elm Hill district, the Jewish community was building what would become a great central synagogue-center for New England. The $750,000 Temple Mishkan Tefila was dedicated on September 13, 1925 and became the dominant Conservative Jewish institution in the area. That same year the Young Men’s Hebrew Association (YMHA) building opened a block away to provide gymnasium and meeting facilities for young men of the area. To meet the needs of the rapidly growing Jewish population, many substantial apartment blocks were built during these years. Notable leaders included Rabbi Mordecai Savitsky, an authority on Jewish law and kosher inspections, who was “reputed to possess the greatest memory of any living Rabbi.” In 1932 Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik, who was regarded as the leader of modern Jewish orthodoxy, came to live on Ruthven Street. He and his wife Tonya founded the Maimonides School in 1937. Their educational goal was to produce young men and women who “integrated the secular knowledge that fits them for the American scene and the religious and spiritual wealth of their own tradition.”

In October 1926 St. Mark’s Congregational Church became the first African American church to move to upper Roxbury, purchasing the former Quaker Meeting House at Townsend Street and Humboldt Ave. Under Rev. Samuel Leroy Laviscount’s leadership, the church experi-

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30 Ibid.
32 Ibid., 193. (This is the building now owned by the United House of Prayer for All People.)
34 Ibid., 40.
enced considerable growth even though the neighborhood was not predominantly black. The church soon founded the St. Mark’s Social Center that for many years played an important role in service to the community, especially with programs for children and youth. Charles Street AME Church became the second African American church to move to Upper Roxbury when it bought the St. Ansgrarius Swedish Episcopal Church building in 1939. The African American community grew around these two churches, especially around Humboldt Avenue and northwest of St. Marks.\(^{35}\)

Theodore White and Nat Hentoff reveal in their tales of growing up in the area that there was a long-standing hostility between the Irish youth of nearby areas and the Jewish youth in the neighborhood.\(^{36}\) In the second half of 1943 violent attacks on Jewish youth increased from two or three reported incidents per month to eight in July, 11 in September, and many incidents in October.\(^{37}\) Wallace Stegner commented in the Atlantic Monthly, “Sometimes, fairly clearly, the violence was the ‘kid stuff’ that the Boston mayor and the police commissioner called it, and sometimes it was semi-organized warfare between neighborhood gangs. But very often it was a planned assault, preceded by the question, ‘Are you a Jew?’”\(^{38}\) After the anti-Semitic violence in the fall of 1943, Protestant clergy organized an inter-faith committee in the area for the purpose of promoting good will between all religious and racial groups and equal police protection for all groups.

In 1950 there were about 70,000 Jews in Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan. This was still the largest Jewish community in New England even though some families had moved to Brookline and Newton over the two previous decades. During the next seventeen years, almost every Jewish institution in Roxbury and Dorchester either closed or moved. The initial post-war exodus to the suburbs of synagogue members and a significant proportion of key leaders led the Jewish schools and synagogues to consider moving. For example, “by the early 1950s half of the approximately 800 families [of Mishkan Tefila] lived in the suburbs and commuted back to Roxbury for religious services and Hebrew school.”\(^{39}\) Also 28 out of 30 executive committee members lived in the suburbs or downtown.\(^{40}\) As key institutions such as the Hebrew Teachers College and four schools, along with several synagogues moved or closed in the 1950s, this triggered an even larger movement to the suburbs. In 1958, the move of Mishkan Tefila, which had been one of New England’s leading synagogues, to Newton, was especially significant.

\(^{35}\) Gamm, 61-64. See Map 11 and Map 12.


\(^{38}\) Ibid.

\(^{39}\) Hillel Levine and Lawrence Harmon, 59.

\(^{40}\) Ibid.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>TYPE OF INSTITUTION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hebrew College (Crawford Street; High school and college)</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>1952</td>
<td>Moved to Brookline; sold its building to Freedom House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menorah Institute (school of Adath Jeshurun Synagogue)</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>These three schools were discontinued and merged to form the Combined Roxbury Hebrew School that continued from 1955-1957 before closing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yavneh Hebrew School (Beth Hamidrash Hagadol Synagogue’s school)</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mishkan Tefila School</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>1955</td>
<td>Purchased land in Brookline in 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maimonides School</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>1956</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altereth Israel (Orthodox)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Building burned. Congregation closed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mishkan Tefila (Seaver St.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Moved to Newton. Building originally sold to an orthodox Jewish group. It eventually was renovated by United House of Prayer for All People.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sons of Abraham (Wayland St.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anshe Sheptovka (Lawrence Ave.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Israel of Greater Boston (Ruthven St.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agudath Achim (Intervale St.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1959</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shara Tefilo (Otisfield St.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1961</td>
<td>Closed. Sold to Mount Calvary Holy Church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nusach Sfard (Lawrence Ave.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1962-3</td>
<td>Closed. Sold to Rehoboth Church of God.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Hamidrash Hagadol (Crawford St. Synagogue)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Closed. City purchased the property for a community center.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Israel of Dorchester</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nusach Hoari Anshei Lubavitz (Glenway St.) Lubavitcher</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Closed. Sold to the Church of Christ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth-El School</td>
<td>School</td>
<td>1966</td>
<td>Relocated to Newton.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth-El (Fowler St. Synagogue)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Merged into the daughter synagogue it had started in Newton in 1956. Sold its building to Church of God and Saints of Christ church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linas Hazedek (Michigan Ave.)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Closed. Sold to Rehoboth Bethel Church Apostolic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adath Jeshurun (Blue Hill Ave)</td>
<td>Synagogue</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>Closed. Now 1st Haitian Baptist Church</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gerald Gamm argues in his book, Urban Exodus, that racial change took place more rapidly in Jewish neighborhoods like Grove Hall than in Catholic neighborhoods because the synagogues were not deeply rooted in a geographic area like Catholic parishes, the members were not required to live within the local neighborhood, and the synagogue congregations could make autonomous decisions to change or leave.\textsuperscript{42} These factors probably predisposed Jewish residents to move when faced with some other issues like real-estate agents encouraging panic selling and blockbusting, discriminatory lending and insurance practices, increased crime and arson, and racial change in adjacent areas.\textsuperscript{43} Blacks and other urban residents for many years faced discriminatory policies of the FHA and financial institutions which “redlined” some urban areas, refusing to give mortgage and home improvement loans. In the summer of 1968, the Boston Banks Urban Renewal Group (BBURG) was established to make available home mortgage funds to low-income black families within a designated area including Roxbury, South End, parts of Dorchester and Jamaica Plain, and the northern part of Mattapan. The BBURG program had some negative unintended consequences such as reckless speculation, a more rapid and tense process of racial change, and a later increase in foreclosures. However, as Gamm argues, it was not the primary cause of most of the Jewish exodus from the city.\textsuperscript{44} By 1970 that exodus was almost complete, even though some community members like Otto and Muriel Snowden had hoped for and worked to promote an integrated neighborhood.

One important community organization that has a long history of working to improve the neighborhood is Freedom House, founded in 1949 by Otto and Muriel Snowden. Otto had been directing the St. Mark Social Center, and Muriel was a graduate of Radcliffe and the New York School of Social Work. In 1952 they were able to raise funds to buy the Hebrew Teachers College building on Crawford Street. They set out with the mission “to conserve and improve the Upper Roxbury neighborhood and to provide opportunities for greater interracial contact and understanding both within the community itself and between its residents and those of Greater Boston.”

The Snowdens planned programs and events to bring together Jewish and Black youth. They sought to promote an integrated community living in peace and understanding. In those years their “efforts included the establishment of block organizations to deal with neighborhood services including public safety, recreation, trash removal, and street cleaning.”\textsuperscript{45} As most of the Jewish residents moved out of Roxbury, Freedom House began to work more on the Washington Park Urban Renewal project. In the 1960s, Freedom House’s Work and Study Project sought to improve the neighborhood by involving high school and college youth in

\textsuperscript{42} Ibid., 18,19.  
\textsuperscript{43} Ibid., 37-42.  
\textsuperscript{44} Ibid., 50.  
\textsuperscript{45} Hillel Levine and Lawrence Harmon, 57.
painting houses and tutoring school children. Over the years Freedom House worked on many issues such as affirmative action, innovative educational programs, school integration, urban renewal, and sponsored many programs to provide opportunities for urban youth. The organization became a nationally renowned civic center, and Muriel Snowden received a MacArthur Foundation Grant in 1988.

The most explosive events in Grove Hall’s history were the 1967 riots that took place on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 2-4. About a year before this, Doris Bland had organized a group called the Mothers for Adequate Welfare (M.A.W.), and they had held several marches during the year to seek improvements in the welfare system. On Thursday afternoon, June 1, about 30 M.A.W. members started a silent vigil in the Grove Hall welfare office at 515 Blue Hill Ave. A small group of protesters also marched outside, and the vigil became an overnight sit-in. The mothers were upset with their welfare checks being cut off without warning; and hostile treatment by social workers, supervisors, and police in the Blue Hill welfare office, in addition to several other grievances.46

On Friday afternoon about 50 men and women, including some children were still holding the sit-in when the welfare workers attempted to close the office for the weekend. The protesters chained the doors shut and requested to speak to the city Welfare Director, Daniel J. Cronin. When he came, they asked to speak with him in the presence of the crowd outside rather than let him come in. About this time a welfare worker inside was reported to have had a heart attack. Police then sought to assist the worker and get the other welfare workers out, but bystanders attempted to block their entry. The police eventually made their entry through a window and cutting the chains. A woman inside yelled that the police were beating people, a door window smashed, and things became chaotic as police tried to remove the workers and the women involved in the sit-in. Black leaders believed the excessive force used by police started and furthered the riot.47 A large crowd had gathered, and several times it surged across the street at the line of police. Rocks, bottles, and bricks flew through the air, battering civilian and police cars, and injuring people. Cars were overturned. The crowd grew to 1,000, and an equal number of police were called in. The police fired 60 rounds over the heads of the rioters. Through the night many store windows were broken and the stores looted and set on fire up and down Blue Hill Avenue. This resulted in 15 blocks of debris-scattered sidewalks and streets, with 45 persons injured and 44 arrested, including Civil Rights leader, Thomas Atkins and Byron Rushing. There were accusations of police brutality during and after the arrests.48

On Saturday night, June 3, the violence continued with a fireman being shot in the wrist, and dozens of gangs of roving youth engaging in spontaneous violence. They went around smashing windows, looting stores, and sounding false alarms, while police tried to control the area. Even with the presence of 1,900 policemen, rioting continued on Sunday night. Although there was still tension in the air, the situation had quieted down by Monday evening. Over the three nights of rioting 75 people were injured and 60-70 were arrested.49 In addition to the

48 “Sit-In Escalates to Riot,” (and other articles), Boston Globe, 3 June 1967, 1, 4 (regular and evening editions).
millions of dollars of property damage, the rioting had an impact on the social and business life of Blue Hill Avenue that lasted for many years. Twenty years later in 1987, a new 28,000 square foot welfare office was opened nearby on Washington Street offering assistance with employment and training, housing, and health care enrollment.

The following April there were more riots in the Grove Hall area (and other neighborhoods) after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Some looting and arson took place, as well as stoning of cars and buses. A group of black volunteers with white armbands went around the community seeking to cool things down. On Friday, April 5, a group of 400 protesters went to the Jeremiah Burke High School and vandalized some furniture and displays. One teacher was injured and a couple of others were pulled from their cars. With the help of black leaders, things were quiet by Saturday morning. Although 30 were arrested and 13 injured, these riots were far less extensive than in other cities at the time.\(^{50}\)

In 1977 Mayor Kevin White set forth an ambitious plan to revitalize Blue Hill Avenue and Grove Hall, but four years later very little had been accomplished.\(^{51}\) This seemed to be typical of the 25 years following the Blue Hill Avenue riots. Various politicians promised plans to revive the Grove Hall community, but actual progress was quite limited. In April 1983 Governor Dukakis spoke to 400 people in Grove Hall about economic development in the neighborhood comparable to Lowell’s revival, cautioning that it would not happen overnight.\(^{52}\) Indeed, it would not happen any time soon. In the 1987 Boston Globe article, “A Street Forgotten,” Mike Barnicle commented, “In the short stretch between Grove Hall and Dudley Street, Blue Hill Avenue gives every outward appearance of being ready for the grave... In this one-and-a-half mile strip of asphalt, there are 58 boarded-up apartment houses and storefronts. There are 24 vacant lots, some of them as big as prairies.”\(^{53}\) According to a 1987 city report, in the general area between Warren Street and Blue Hill Avenue, there were 360 empty lots and 117 vacant buildings (nine percent).\(^{54}\) In the 1980s the new state welfare office opened, a Burger King restaurant started up, and the Franklin Park Zoo reopened, but overall trends in the community were not positive. This was a time of increased drug-related crime, shootings, murders, and gang activity. This caused an increased level of fear and slowed redevelopment of the business district.

\(^{50}\) Tager, 185.  
\(^{52}\) Joanne Ball, “City Revival a Long Road, Dukakis Tells Grove Hall,” Boston Globe, 12 April 1983, 1  
\(^{53}\) Mike Barnicle, “A Street Forgotten,” Boston Globe, 1 April 1987, 17.  
\(^{54}\) The Boston Plan: Revitalization of a Distressed Area: Blue Hill Avenue (Boston: City of Boston, 1987), 1-9.
In 1988 Mayor Ray Flynn tried to reassure community leaders that the city was committed to redeveloping their neighborhood. Later that year the city’s Public Facilities Department and community leaders initiated a $7.8 million effort “to attract new businesses, create jobs, develop housing, and improve the infrastructure.” This involved the city selling five vacant buildings and making money available from Community Development Action Grants to develop other privately owned properties. Neighborhood leaders considered this a step in the right direction, but not a comprehensive enough plan.

In 1993 Mayor Menino promised to work for the revitalization of Blue Hill Avenue. The leadership of the Blue Hill Avenue Initiative Task Force, the coordination of various government resources, and the involvement of various other community groups like the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative over the last fifteen years have resulted in many positive and substantial improvements. Between 1993 and 2003, the area received approximately $90 million in public and private investment in housing, business, and infrastructure development. In that period, the investment “produced more than 200 units of affordable housing, created or improved more than 30 businesses, and created or retained more than 550 jobs.”

Map of Neighborhood Improvements Along Blue Hill Avenue


During this period one central building block in this effort has been the $13 million Mecca Mall in the heart of Grove Hall that opened in 2000-2001. The Neighborhood Development Corporation of Grove Hall was a key organization in developing the property. The Mall provided the retail anchor for the business district and also created many job opportunities. This has also encouraged additional business and housing development in the years since it opened. In 2007 the historic Silva Building (formerly called Regents Hall) was restored and reopened at the corner of Warren Street and Blue Hill Avenue, providing space for several businesses including OneUnited Bank and the Long Bay Management real estate firm (the owner and developer).  

58 Also in the area, Charles Street AME Church is redeveloping the former Skycap Plaza building into the Roxbury Renaissance Center, Habitat for Humanity is building 24 residential units adjacent to Blue Hill Avenue, and Nuestra Communidad Development Corporation is building 48 affordable apartments near the area at the former Kasanof Bakery site.  

59 These are just a few of the many recent redevelopment efforts in the community. In recent years Project RIGHT has provided a collaborative approach to improving other aspects of the community by supporting neighborhood associations, coordinating electoral advocacy efforts, and guiding community development.  

Over its history, Grove Hall slowly changed from an untamed wilderness to a thriving business and residential district, and back to a new wilderness of sorts, and once again has slowly changed back to a thriving business and residential district. In conclusion we should all remember the words of hope written by a young student at the Lewis Junior High School. In a 1965 prize-winning essay on “Urban Renewal in Roxbury,” eighth grader Brenda Bugg wrote, “Roxbury will be beautiful again because people cared. I hope people will always care.”  

58 Ron DePasquale, “Grove Hall’s Renaissance; New Development Caps Hub Area’s Revival as a Commercial Mecca.”  
60 Project RIGHT stands for Rebuild and Improve Grove Hall Together  
The center of the Grove Hall area is commonly understood to be the intersection of Blue Hill Avenue with Washington Street and Warren Street. For the purposes of this study, we will define the Grove Hall neighborhood to include the area of the five U.S. Census tracts that surround that central crossroads. These five census tracts are 820, 821, 901, 902, and 903. The overall boundaries follow Seaver Street from Blue Hill Avenue to Humboldt Avenue and then follow Humboldt Avenue to Townsend Street. The boundary follows Townsend Street and Quincy Street across Warren Street and Blue Hill Avenue to Columbia Road. It then follows the railroad tracks down to Harvard Street, following that street until it turns right on Glenway Street for several blocks. It then goes along Bradshaw Street until turning up McLellan Street. The boundary follows McLellan Street to Blue Hill Avenue and then to the intersection with Seaver Street again.
RACIAL AND ETHNIC TRENDS

Approximately 99 percent of the population in Grove Hall is non-white (73 percent black or African American, 20 percent Hispanic or Latino, 1 percent white, 2 percent some other race, and 4 percent two or more races). The youth population has similar demographics to the overall population (70 percent black or African American, 24 percent Hispanic or Latino, less than one percent white and six percent two or more races or some other race).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census Tract</th>
<th>People who are White alone*</th>
<th>People who are Black or African American alone*</th>
<th>People who are Hispanic/ Latino</th>
<th>People who are some other race*</th>
<th>People who are two or more races*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>2,218</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3,012</td>
<td>944</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3,642</td>
<td>698</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>1,237</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2,094</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove Hall Total</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>12,203</td>
<td>3,414</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*Not Hispanic or Latino
LINGUISTIC ISOLATION

Households in Grove Hall are more likely to be linguistically isolated than households across the nation and households across the state. Approximately nine percent of households in Grove Hall are linguistically isolated, which means that no person age 14 and over speaks only English, and no person age 14 and over who speaks a language other than English speaks English “very well.” Of the 555 linguistically isolated households in Grove Hall, 67 percent speak Spanish and 29 percent speak another Indo-European language. In census tract 902, 14 percent of the households are linguistically isolated, which is higher than the other Grove Hall census tracts and higher than the city overall.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total # of linguistically isolated households</th>
<th>% of total households that are linguistically isolated</th>
<th>% of linguistically isolated that speak Spanish</th>
<th>% of linguistically isolated that speak other Indo-European languages</th>
<th>% of linguistically isolated that speak other languages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>4,361,638</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>115,007</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Boston</td>
<td>25,660</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>total 820, 821, 901, 902, 903</td>
<td>555</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


62 In other words, a household in which all members age 14 and over speak a non-English language and also speak English less than “very well” (have difficulty with English) is “linguistically isolated” according to the 2000 U.S. Census.
To determine demographic information for Grove Hall, we utilized data from the 2000 Census for census tracts 820, 821, 901, 902 and 903. A higher percentage of the population is between the ages of five and 18 in Grove Hall than in the City of Boston overall, in the state, and in the nation.

**Youth Aged 10-19:** 3,030 (Ages 12-18: 2,031; Ages 5-18: 4,652)
- Males: 10-19: 1,511
- Females: 10-19: 1,519

The 10-19 year old group makes up 18.1% of the total population in Grove Hall (compared to 14% nationally, 13% statewide and 13% in the City of Boston).

The 12-18 year old group makes up 12.1% of the total population in Grove Hall (compared to 10% nationally, 9% statewide and 8% in the City of Boston).

The 15-24 year old group makes up 14.6% of the total population in Grove Hall (compared to 14% nationally, 13% statewide and 19% in the City of Boston).

The 20-24 year old group makes up 6.8% of the total population in Grove Hall (compared to 7% nationally, 6% statewide and 12% in the City of Boston).

The 5-18 year old group makes up 27.7% of the total population in Grove Hall (compared to 20% nationally, 19% statewide and 16% in the City of Boston).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MEDIAN AGE</th>
<th>Both Sexes</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>34.0</td>
<td>36.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>36.5</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>37.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Boston</td>
<td>31.1</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>31.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>34.3</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>36.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>25.9</td>
<td>30.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>30.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>19.5</td>
<td>27.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>25.1</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>28.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. 

The median ages of the census tracts that make up Grove Hall are all younger than the median ages of the state and of the nation. Additionally, each of the census tracts except census tract 820 has a younger median age than the City of Boston overall. The median age for census tract 902 is very low.

It is interesting to note the difference between the median age for males and females. This difference is greater in each of the Grove Hall census tracts than in the City of Boston, in Massachusetts and in the nation. Whereas females appear to have a slightly older median age than males in the City of Boston, in the state and across the nation, females in Grove Hall appear to have a much greater median age than males.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Under 110)</th>
<th>Census Tract 820</th>
<th>Census Tract 821</th>
<th>Census Tract 901</th>
<th>Census Tract 902</th>
<th>Census Tract 903</th>
<th>Total Grove Hall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>2,806</td>
<td>4,251</td>
<td>4,588</td>
<td>1,996</td>
<td>3,130</td>
<td>16,771</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Under 1 year</td>
<td>31 (1.1%)</td>
<td>69 (1.6%)</td>
<td>70 (1.5%)</td>
<td>39 (2.0%)</td>
<td>60 (1.9%)</td>
<td>269 (1.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 year</td>
<td>43 (1.5%)</td>
<td>79 (1.9%)</td>
<td>65 (1.4%)</td>
<td>46 (2.3%)</td>
<td>49 (1.6%)</td>
<td>282 (1.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>47 (1.7%)</td>
<td>67 (1.6%)</td>
<td>80 (1.7%)</td>
<td>53 (2.7%)</td>
<td>75 (2.4%)</td>
<td>322 (1.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>39 (1.4%)</td>
<td>71 (1.7%)</td>
<td>58 (1.3%)</td>
<td>45 (2.3%)</td>
<td>64 (2.0%)</td>
<td>277 (1.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>47 (1.7%)</td>
<td>93 (2.2%)</td>
<td>93 (2.0%)</td>
<td>38 (1.9%)</td>
<td>69 (2.2%)</td>
<td>340 (2.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>43 (1.5%)</td>
<td>75 (1.8%)</td>
<td>96 (2.1%)</td>
<td>61 (3.1%)</td>
<td>70 (2.2%)</td>
<td>345 (2.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 years</td>
<td>51 (1.8%)</td>
<td>90 (2.1%)</td>
<td>75 (1.6%)</td>
<td>42 (2.1%)</td>
<td>85 (2.7%)</td>
<td>343 (2.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 years</td>
<td>48 (1.7%)</td>
<td>78 (1.8%)</td>
<td>123 (2.7%)</td>
<td>58 (2.9%)</td>
<td>79 (2.5%)</td>
<td>386 (2.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 years</td>
<td>66 (2.4%)</td>
<td>79 (1.9%)</td>
<td>103 (2.2%)</td>
<td>57 (2.9%)</td>
<td>88 (2.8%)</td>
<td>393 (2.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 years</td>
<td>61 (2.2%)</td>
<td>99 (2.3%)</td>
<td>101 (2.2%)</td>
<td>60 (3.0%)</td>
<td>80 (2.6%)</td>
<td>401 (2.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>56 (2.0%)</td>
<td>99 (2.3%)</td>
<td>112 (2.4%)</td>
<td>43 (2.2%)</td>
<td>82 (2.6%)</td>
<td>392 (2.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>38 (1.4%)</td>
<td>89 (2.1%)</td>
<td>99 (2.2%)</td>
<td>56 (2.8%)</td>
<td>79 (2.5%)</td>
<td>361 (2.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 years</td>
<td>41 (1.5%)</td>
<td>88 (2.1%)</td>
<td>94 (2.0%)</td>
<td>37 (1.9%)</td>
<td>78 (2.5%)</td>
<td>338 (2.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 years</td>
<td>42 (1.5%)</td>
<td>71 (1.7%)</td>
<td>98 (2.1%)</td>
<td>43 (2.2%)</td>
<td>61 (1.9%)</td>
<td>315 (1.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>44 (1.6%)</td>
<td>79 (1.9%)</td>
<td>84 (1.8%)</td>
<td>49 (2.5%)</td>
<td>55 (1.8%)</td>
<td>311 (1.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>49 (1.7%)</td>
<td>82 (1.9%)</td>
<td>78 (1.7%)</td>
<td>31 (1.6%)</td>
<td>57 (1.8%)</td>
<td>297 (1.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>45 (1.6%)</td>
<td>69 (1.6%)</td>
<td>65 (1.4%)</td>
<td>24 (1.2%)</td>
<td>47 (1.5%)</td>
<td>250 (1.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 years</td>
<td>33 (1.2%)</td>
<td>60 (1.4%)</td>
<td>87 (1.9%)</td>
<td>37 (1.9%)</td>
<td>56 (1.8%)</td>
<td>273 (1.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 years</td>
<td>32 (1.1%)</td>
<td>58 (1.4%)</td>
<td>63 (1.4%)</td>
<td>37 (1.9%)</td>
<td>57 (1.8%)</td>
<td>247 (1.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 years</td>
<td>42 (1.5%)</td>
<td>65 (1.5%)</td>
<td>66 (1.4%)</td>
<td>24 (1.2%)</td>
<td>49 (1.6%)</td>
<td>246 (1.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 years</td>
<td>27 (1.0%)</td>
<td>56 (1.3%)</td>
<td>64 (1.4%)</td>
<td>17 (0.9%)</td>
<td>42 (1.3%)</td>
<td>206 (1.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 years</td>
<td>39 (1.4%)</td>
<td>68 (1.6%)</td>
<td>54 (1.2%)</td>
<td>30 (1.5%)</td>
<td>42 (1.3%)</td>
<td>233 (1.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 years</td>
<td>31 (1.1%)</td>
<td>82 (1.9%)</td>
<td>51 (1.1%)</td>
<td>24 (1.2%)</td>
<td>56 (1.8%)</td>
<td>244 (1.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 years</td>
<td>33 (1.2%)</td>
<td>57 (1.3%)</td>
<td>51 (1.1%)</td>
<td>31 (1.6%)</td>
<td>37 (1.2%)</td>
<td>209 (1.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 years</td>
<td>45 (1.6%)</td>
<td>57 (1.3%)</td>
<td>75 (1.6%)</td>
<td>21 (1.1%)</td>
<td>43 (1.4%)</td>
<td>241 (1.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 to 19 years</td>
<td>422 (15.0%)</td>
<td>750 (17.9%)</td>
<td>846 (18.4%)</td>
<td>381 (19.1%)</td>
<td>621 (19.8%)</td>
<td>3,030 (18.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 18 years</td>
<td>286 (10.2%)</td>
<td>507 (11.9%)</td>
<td>569 (12.4%)</td>
<td>258 (12.9%)</td>
<td>411 (13.1%)</td>
<td>2,031 (12.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 to 24 years</td>
<td>376 (13.4%)</td>
<td>654 (15.4%)</td>
<td>654 (14.3%)</td>
<td>276 (13.8%)</td>
<td>486 (15.5%)</td>
<td>2,446 (14.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 to 24 years</td>
<td>175 (6.2%)</td>
<td>320 (7.5%)</td>
<td>295 (6.4%)</td>
<td>123 (6.2%)</td>
<td>220 (7.0%)</td>
<td>1,133 (6.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 18 years</td>
<td>649 (23.1%)</td>
<td>1,116 (26.3%)</td>
<td>1,278 (27.9%)</td>
<td>635 (31.8%)</td>
<td>974 (31.1%)</td>
<td>4,652 (27.7%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FAMILY STRUCTURE

The average household size in each of the Grove Hall census tracts is similar to the nation, the state, and the city, and ranges between 2.5 and 3.0.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City of Boston</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data.
P17. AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE [1] - Universe: Households

Most children residing in households live with at least one biological parent, not only in Grove Hall, but also in the City of Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and across the nation. However, in each of the Grove Hall census tracts, the percentage of children living with at least one parent is lower. In Grove Hall, approximately 10 percent of children live with a grandparent, four percent live with other relatives, and two percent live with nonrelatives. The proportion of children living with adults other than their parents is highest in census tracts 820 and 901, where 13 percent of the children live with a grandparent, four percent live with other relatives and one to two percent live with nonrelatives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Living with Parent(s)</th>
<th>Living with Grandparent(s)</th>
<th>Living with Other Relatives</th>
<th>Living with Nonrelatives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>64,494,637 (90%)</td>
<td>4,533,016 (6%)</td>
<td>1,509,419 (2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1,382,189 (93%)</td>
<td>67,781 (5%)</td>
<td>19,721 (1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston city</td>
<td>100,177 (87%)</td>
<td>9,319 (8%)</td>
<td>3,851 (3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove Hall</td>
<td>4,931 (84%)</td>
<td>611 (10%)</td>
<td>233 (4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. P28. RELATIONSHIP BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE FOR THE POPULATION UNDER 18 YEARS [17] - Universe: Population under 18 years. Chart does not include children living in group quarters or children who were spouses or householders.

63 As opposed to institutions.
While the majority of children in Grove Hall live with at least one parent, only 23 percent live with their parent(s) in a married couple family. The majority of children (55 percent) live with their mothers with no husband present. This is much higher than the proportion of children living with their mothers with no husband present nationally, statewide and in the City of Boston overall. In census tracts 902 and 903, over 60 percent of the children who live in households live with their mothers with no husband present.

### LIVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NON-INSTITUTIONALIZED, NON-HOUSEHOLDER CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18 LIVING WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT, 2000

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Total Living with at least one parent</th>
<th>In married-couple family</th>
<th>Male householder, no wife present</th>
<th>Female householder, no husband present</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>64,494,637 (90%)</td>
<td>47,682,383 (66%)</td>
<td>3,505,157 (5%)</td>
<td>13,307,097 (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>1,382,189 (93%)</td>
<td>1,039,492 (70%)</td>
<td>57,705 (4%)</td>
<td>284,992 (19%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston city</td>
<td>100,177 (87%)</td>
<td>53,183 (46%)</td>
<td>5,294 (5%)</td>
<td>41,700 (36%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove Hall</td>
<td>4,931 (84%)</td>
<td>1,378 (23%)</td>
<td>301 (5%)</td>
<td>3,252 (55%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. P28. RELATIONSHIP BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE FOR THE POPULATION UNDER 18 YEARS [17] - Universe: Population under 18 years. Chart does not include children living in group quarters or children who were spouses or householders.

### LIVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NON-INSTITUTIONALIZED, NON-HOUSEHOLDER CHILDREN, 2000

- **Massachusetts**
  - With one parent in single parent household: 23%
  - With parent(s) in married couple family: 69%
  - With other relative: 8%
- **City of Boston**
  - With one parent in single parent household: 41%
  - With parent(s) in married couple family: 46%
  - With other relative: 11%
- **Grove Hall**
  - With one parent in single parent household: 61%
  - With parent(s) in married couple family: 23%
  - With other relative: 2%

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. P28. RELATIONSHIP BY HOUSEHOLD TYPE FOR THE POPULATION UNDER 18 YEARS [17] - Universe: Population under 18 years. Graphs do not include children living in group quarters or children who were spouses or householders.

---

64 In the 2000 U.S. Census, a married-couple family is a family in which the householder and his or her spouse are enumerated as members of the same household.
ECONOMICS AND INCOME

Poverty rates in Grove Hall are higher than they are in the City of Boston overall, in the state, and in the nation. In Grove Hall, 29 percent of individuals live below the poverty level compared to 20 percent in the city overall, nine percent in the state, and 12 percent in the nation. Additionally, a higher percentage of young people are living below the poverty level than in the general population. While 29 percent of the population in Grove Hall lives below the poverty level, 37 percent of youth under the age of 18 live below poverty level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>POPULATION LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL</th>
<th>YOUTH UNDER AGE 18 LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL</th>
<th>YOUTH AGES 12-17 LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston city</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>820, 821, 901, 902, 903</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


In each of the Grove Hall census tracts (820, 821, 901, 902, 903), there is a higher percentage of households receiving public assistance than in the city overall, in the state and in the nation. The Grove Hall census tract with the highest percentage of households receiving public assistance income is census tract 903, where 16 percent of families receive public assistance income, over five times the state and national averages.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS</th>
<th>HOUSEHOLDS WITH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INCOME</th>
<th>% WITH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>105,539,122</td>
<td>3,629,732</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>2,444,588</td>
<td>70,183</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston city</td>
<td>239,603</td>
<td>9,766</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>1,107</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>1,718</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>1,596</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>1,061</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 820, 821, 901, 02, 903</td>
<td>6,155</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data; P64. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INCOME IN 1999 FOR HOUSEHOLDS [3] - Universe: Households
As the neighborhood initially began to develop, many single family and two family homes were built. However, as many lower income immigrants came into the area, a large number of multi-unit apartment buildings were added to the housing stock. Compared to most other outlying Boston neighborhoods, this area has significantly more apartment buildings. Only 23 percent of the residential buildings have less than three housing units (Census Tract 821 has only 12.9 percent; Census Tract 902 has only 13.5 percent). Grove Hall has 6825 housing units. Of these, 6156 are occupied (90.2 percent) and 669 are vacant (9.8 percent). The U.S. average for vacant housing units is nine percent of units. In addition to having a normal vacancy rate, the area has far less abandoned and boarded up housing than it did 25 years ago. Grove Hall has 1,204 owner-occupied units, accounting for 19.6 percent of housing, while 80.4 percent of the units (4,952) are renter-occupied. The U.S. average is 66.2 percent of units owner-occupied and 33.8 percent renter-occupied. Grove Hall has a much lower rate of home ownership than in the US and in the city of Boston. In part this is due to the large number of apartment buildings in some parts of the neighborhood. A number of homes in the area have faced foreclosure. However, the Grove Hall Neighborhood Development Corporation has a Foreclosure Prevention Program to help homeowners. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Boston also has a foreclosure intervention plan for a number of properties just beyond Quincy Street. Both of these organizations plus several others have developed many housing units in the Grove Hall area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Tract 820</th>
<th>Tract 821</th>
<th>Tract 901</th>
<th>Tract 902</th>
<th>Tract 903</th>
<th>Grove Hall area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total no. of housing units</td>
<td>1198</td>
<td>1942</td>
<td>1770</td>
<td>770</td>
<td>1145</td>
<td>6825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of housing units occupied</td>
<td>1103</td>
<td>1712</td>
<td>1607</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>1058</td>
<td>6156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of units occupied</td>
<td>92.1%</td>
<td>88.2%</td>
<td>90.8%</td>
<td>87.8%</td>
<td>92.4%</td>
<td>90.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of housing units vacant</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of units vacant</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>12.2%</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
<td>9.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of housing units owner occupied</td>
<td>320</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>182</td>
<td>1204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of units owner occupied</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
<td>25.3%</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>19.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of housing units renter occupied</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>1531</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>562</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>4952</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent of units renter occupied</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>89.4%</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
<td>83.1%</td>
<td>82.8%</td>
<td>80.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of single family owner occupied units</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median value of housing units</td>
<td>$165,400</td>
<td>$165,500</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>$210,000</td>
<td>$185,400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHURCHES

Berea Seventh Day Adventist Church
108 Seaver St., Boston, MA 02121-1503
617-427-7221
www.tagnet.org/bereasda
Pastor: Dr. Ives McArthur Roberts
Youth Pastor: James Yansen
Youth program includes Friday meetings, service projects, retreats, music, tutoring, a day school (elementary and middle school)

Bethel Pentecostal Church
112 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-427-4317
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Marcus Bennett

Bethel Pentecostal Church
100 Esmond St./12 Bicknell St., Boston, MA 02121
617-282-6000 or 617-247-8735
www.betheltab.org
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Gwendolyn G. Weeks
The church has a youth ministry

Bethlehem Healing Temple
428 Blue Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-442-4848
www.bethlehemhealingtemple.com
Pastor: Joe Swilley

Beulah Pilgrim Holiness Church
455 Blue Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-445-8535
Pastors: Rev. Terrence and Marjorie Davis
Youth Programs: Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade, computer classes

Charles St. AME Church
551 Warren St., Boston, MA 02121-1806
617-442-7770 or 617-989-0167
ldorch@csame.org
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Gregory Groover, Sr.
Youth Pastor: Brian Barnes
Founded 1833

Church of Fire
10 Fenelon St., Boston, MA 02121
Pastor: Rev. George Johnson

Community Gospel Chapel
8 Intervale St., Boston, MA 02121-1818
617-427-4023
www.cgcofboston.org
Elder: Claudius Walker
Youth program: Youth meetings, Saturdays at 7 p.m.

Community House of Prayer and Worship (The)
14 Crawford St., Boston, MA 02121
Pastor: Rev. Sterling Saunders

Deliverance Temple Worship Center
232 Columbia Rd., Boston, MA 02124
617-442-4330
info@dtworshipcenter.org
www.dtworshipcenter.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Arlene O. Hall
Co-Pastor: Raymond G. Hall
Youth programs: Boys Club and Girls Club (Fridays, 7-9 p.m.); Daniel Generation Youth Ministry
Founded 1999

Door of Hope/Puerta de Esperanza
26 Wales St., Boston, MA 02124-1613
617-822-5172
jgarabot@use.salvationarmy.org
www.use.salvationarmy.org/mas (Locations: “Worship and Service Centers” > “Boston-Dorchester Hispanic”)
Pastors: Envoys Julio and Ruth Garabot

Eglise du Tabernacle de la Foi en Jesus Christ
158 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-989-1463
Pastors: Lenes F. Annevil and Emmanuel La-Fontant
Emmanuel Temple Pentecostal Church, Inc.
471 Warren St., Boston, MA 02121-1399
617-442-8500
Pastor: Rev. William Weeks

First Christian Union Church
158 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-427-5446
Pastor: Rev. Joannes Leatham

First Haitian Baptist Church
397 Blue Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-427-1028
Pastor: Rev. Verdieu Laroche
Founded 1969

Gospel Assembly Church of the Body of Christ/Eglise Assemblee L’Evangile du Corps de Christ
47 Lawrence St., Boston, MA 02121
617-541-2954
Bishop John Hilarion Remy
Pastor: Samford Remy

Greater Anointing Harvest Church
20 Charlotte St., Boston, MA 02121
617-442-7573
Pastor: Rev. Alton J. Beech

Holy Tabernacle Church
70 Washington St., Boston, MA 02121
617-427-8022 or 617-427-8510
holy_tabernacle@yahoo.com
www.holytab.org
Pastor: Bishop Arthur F. Jack
Youth Pastor: Elder Hu White
Associate Youth Pastor: Michael Wheeler
Youth Programs: youth group, retreats, convention, tutoring, computer center, music, sports, service projects, and work with high-risk youth
Founded 1966

Iglesia de Cristo Misionera
158 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121
339-927-8292
Pastor: Rev. Rosa Ortiz

Iglesia Ministerio Cristo en la Familia, Inc.
203 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121
781-581-5723
ministeriocristoenlafamilia@yahoo.com
www.ministeriocristoenlafamilia.org
www.myspace.com/cristoenlafamilia
Pastors: Eligio and Wanda Martinez
Includes ministries to youth and family

Life Church Ministries
270 Columbia Rd., Boston, MA 02121
(Meeting at Lilla Fredericks Middle School)
617-541-5433
info@lifechurchboston.org
www.lifechurchboston.org
Pastors Rocklyn and Eva Clarke
Youth group for teens
Founded 2003

Manning Temple Holy Church of Love
36 Lawrence Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-442-7573
Pastor: Rev. Betty Murray
Rev. Irvin Whitlow, Bishop
Founded 1957

Mount Calvary Holy Church of America
9 Otisfield St., Boston, MA 02121-1819
617-427-7596 or 617-427-7598
Pastor: Bishop Nellie C. Yarborough
Founded 1962

Mount Joy Church of God in Christ Jesus
94-98 Erie St., Boston, MA 02121
617-822-2329
Pastor: Rev. Harrison Edwards
Founded 1970

Holy Tabernacle Church
New Bethel Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ
153 Washington St., Boston, MA 02121
617-876-3256
Pastor: Rev. Gloria Morgan

New Faith Missionary Baptist Church
66 Geneva Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-445-8200
Pastor: Rev. Robert A. Washington

New Fellowship Baptist Church
616 Blue Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-929-0131 or 617-929-0131
www.newfellowshipboston.org
Pastor: Rev. Stanley Deas
Founded 1962 (now meeting at 618 Blue Hill Ave.)

New Mount Calvary Church
100 Erie St., Boston, MA 02121
617-876-0154

New Rehoboth Bethel Apostolic Church, Inc.
20 Michigan Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-825-7550
Pastor: Rev. Luther Washington, Sr.
Bishop: Rev. R. Murray

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church
155 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-427-0905
Pastor: Rev. Miniard Culpepper

Rising Star Pentecostal Church

Segunda Iglesia Defensores de la Fe
428 Blue Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02121
617-327-0085
Pastor: Rev. Johnny Maldonado

St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church (formerly St. John and St. Hugh’s)
517 Blue Hill Ave. Boston, MA 02121-3203
617-445-8915
Pastor: Rev. Oscar J. Pratt
Vicar: Rev. Anselm Nwagbara of Nigeria

St. Mark Congregational Church
200 Townsend St., Boston, MA 02121-1289
617-442-0481
Pastor: Rev. Carl Thompson
Youth Programs: youth fellowship; after school computer classes
Founded 1895

St. Mark’s Episcopal Church
73 Columbia Rd., Boston, MA 02121-3347
617-436-4319
office@stmarksdorchester.org
www.stmarksdorchester.org
Pastor: Rev. Cathy H. George
Assistant Priest: Rev. Eric Hillegas
Youth Director: Elijah Evans
Youth Programs: music (incl. drums); youth meetings (Sundays) and events; video projects, community service, and B-SAFE summer program
Founded 1906

Victory Christian Fellowship
14 Merrill St., Boston, MA 02121

Zion Assembly Apostolic Church
189 Glenway St., Boston, MA 02124
617-288-0839
www.zionassemblychurch.com
Pastor: Evangelist Maggie Martin
Youth Director: Maria Martin-Smith
Youth Program: youth meetings on Fridays 6 p.m.
Founded 1974

All addresses are given as Boston rather than Roxbury or Dorchester, since the boundary definitions of the neighborhoods are sometimes ambiguous.
OTHER RELIGIOUS GROUPS:

Masjid Al-Quran
35 Intervale St., Boston, MA 02121
617-445-8070

Muhammad’s Mosque #11
10 Washington St., Boston, MA 02121
Minister Don Muhammad

United House of Prayer for All People
218 Seaver St., Boston, MA 02121
617-445-3246 or 617-442-0105
EDUCATION OF ADULT POPULATION

The adult population of Grove Hall is less likely to hold formal educational degrees than the adult populations in the City of Boston, in Massachusetts, and across the nation. Statewide, while 85 percent of adults are high school graduates, in Grove Hall only 72 percent have graduated from high school. And while a third of Massachusetts adults have bachelor's degrees, only 12 percent of the adults in Grove Hall have bachelor's degrees. The Grove Hall census tract with the least formal education is census tract 821, where only 65 percent of the population has a high school degree and only seven percent of the population has a bachelor's degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Less than High School</th>
<th>High School Graduates</th>
<th>Bachelor's Degree</th>
<th>Master's Degree or Higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston city</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 820</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 821</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 901</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 902</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Census Tract 903</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 820, 821, 901, 902, 903</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MAP OF SCHOOLS IN THE GROVE HALL AREA

1. Boston Latin Academy
2. Quincy E. Dickerman Elementary School
3. Ellis Elementary School
4. Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School
5. Sarah Greenwood K-8 School
6. Higginson Elementary School
7. Holland Elementary School
8. Martin Luther King, Jr. School
9. George A. Lewis Middle School
10. Mother Caroline Academy and Adult Education Center
11. Trotter Elementary School
12. Jeremiah E. Burke High School
**Boston Latin Academy**

205 Townsend St., Roxbury, MA 02121 • 617-635-9957  
www.boston.k12.ma.us/bla • academy@bostonpublicschools.org

The Boston Latin Academy was named one of America’s Best High Schools by US News and World Report in 2007. This college prep exam school of 1,647 students grades 7-12 has a staff-to-student ratio of 1:21. The student body is 29.4% black, 14.6% Hispanic, 34.2% white, 21% Asian, and 0.7% other. Students can participate in a peer tutoring program, outdoor classroom greenhouse, and theatre arts program as well as honors and advanced placement classes. During the 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 school years, all students passed the English section of MCAS and almost all students passed the math and science sections. 32% of students did not speak English as their first language and almost 50% of the students receive free or reduced price lunch.

**Quincy E. Dickerman Elementary School**

206 Magnolia St., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-635-8255 • dickerman@bostonpublicschools.org

Beginning in September 2009 the Dickerman School will merge with the King Middle School to form the Martin Luther King, Jr. K-8 School at 77 Lawrence Ave., Dorchester. Currently the school serves 223 students in grades K1-5. The staff to student ratio is 1:13. The student body is 61.4% black, 31.8% Hispanic, 4.5% white, 0.4% Asian, and 1.8% other. 15% receive special education. Students are required to wear uniforms. All teachers at the Dickerman School are “highly qualified.” The school has a mentoring partnership with the Mass Housing Finance Agency and offers students 90 minutes of instruction in reading each day. In 2008 more than 90% of the students passed the English Language Arts MCAS tests (100% of fifth graders), and 76% to 82% of the students passed the Math MCAS tests.

**Ellis Elementary School**

302 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-635-8257 • ellis@bostonpublicschools.org

The Ellis School is a K-5 school serving 318 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:10. The student body is 40.9% black, 54.4% Hispanic, 2.2% white, 0.6% Asian, and 1.9% other. 15% receive special education. Science education is encouraged through exploratory science labs and a partnership with New England Wildlife Center. Under No Child Left Behind the school has a “restructuring” status for English Language Arts and a “needs improvement” status for mathematics. A large majority of student have passed the MCAS, although about 1/3 of 5th graders failed the math and science sections. 38% of students did not speak English as their first language, 27% remain limited English proficient, and 97% of students receive free or reduced price lunch.

**Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School**

270 Columbia Rd., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-635-1637 • frederick@bostonpublicschools.org

The Frederick Pilot Middle School is a pilot school for students in the 6-8 grades. 641 students attend this school with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:14. The student body is 56.9% black, 37.6% Hispanic, 3.1% white, 1.4% Asian, and 0.9% other. 27% of students receive special education and 12% receive bilingual education. Each student receives a laptop and can use before and after school programs as well as Saturday programming. All students take art, music, physical education, advising, and dance. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a general status of “restructuring”. MCAS scores at the school are below state averages. Almost 40% of students did not learn English as a first guage and 22% remain limited Enlish proficient. 86% receive free or reduced price lunch.
**Sarah Greenwood K-8 School**

189 Glenway St., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-635-8710 • sgreenwood@bostonpublicschools.org

The Greenwood School serves 372 students in grades K-8 with a staff to student ratio of 1:15. The student body is 31.5% black, 65.1% Hispanic, 1.1% white, 1.1% Asian, and 1.3% other. 21% of the students receive special education and 31% receive bilingual education. Under the No Child Left Behind, the school has a general status of “Needs Improvement” in both English and Math. All students in the school learn two languages, Spanish and English. The school emphasizes science with an outdoor science classroom and activities in robotics. Students in grade four and above scored 90% or above in the English Language Arts MCAS in 2008 and 80% to 95% in the Math MCAS (except grade eight students who scored 72%). The school also offers an extended day program for students who need extra help.

**Higginson Elementary School**

160 Harrishof St., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-635-8247 • higginson@bostonpublicschools.org

The Higginson School will merge with the Lewis Middle School in September 2009 to become Higginson-Lewis K-8 School. The combined school will meet at the current Lewis Middle School at 131 Walnut Ave. in Roxbury, MA. Currently, Higginson Elementary is a K-5 school serving 175 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:12. The student body is 63.9% black, 32.6% Hispanic, 2.9% white, 0% Asian, and 1.7% other. 25% receive special education. Higginson has a literacy partnership with Northeastern University, a music program with the Community Music Center of Boston, programs for autistic students, a grade three robotics program, and dance and theatre arts. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a “corrective action” status for English Language Arts and a “needs improvement” status for mathematics. Student MCAS scores are below the state average. Over the past two years, however, fifth graders improved their science scores significantly; percentage passing increased from 33% to 50%. 89% of students receive free or reduced price lunch.

**Holland Elementary School**

85 Olney St., Dorchester, MA 02121
617-635-8838
holland@bostonpublicschools.org

The Holland School is a K-5 school serving 690 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:11. The student body is 49.3% black, 30.3% Hispanic, 1.6% white, 17.4% Asian, and 1.4% other. 24% of students receive special education and 19% receive bilingual education. The school has an afterschool program including BELL Foundation tutoring, a fine arts program that includes Boston Ballet, and a school based therapy program. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a status of “restructuring”. MCAS scores are below state averages, except for 5th grade English Language Arts scores that are about average. 42% of students did not learn English as a first language and 34% remain limited English proficient. 87% receive free or reduced price lunch.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. School**

100 Maxwell Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124 (Sept. 2009: 77 Lawrence Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121)
617-635-8212 • king@bostonpublicschools.org

In September 2009 the King Middle School will merge with the Dickerman School to form the new Martin Luther King, Jr. K-8 School. In the 2008-2009 year, the school served 262 students from grades 6-8. The student body was 65.6% Black, 29.0% Hispanic, 2.3% White, 1.5% Asian, and 1.5% other. The staff to student ratio was 1:9, and 30.5% of the students were in Special Education. The King Community Learning Center offers afterschool activities and tutoring. In 2008, 82% to 87% of the students passed the English Language Arts MCAS, but only about 60% passed the Math MCAS.
George A. Lewis Middle School

131 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-635-6341 • lewis@bostonpublicschools.org

The Lewis School will merge with Higginson Elementary School in September 2009 to become Higginson-Lewis K-8 School. The combined school will meet at the current Lewis Middle School at 131 Walnut Ave. in Roxbury, MA. The current Lewis Middle School serves 249 students in grades 6-8 with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:13. The student body is 61.4% black, 36.1% Hispanic, 1.6% white, 0% Asian, and 0.8% other. Lewis is the only middle school in the Boston Public system with a full service health center through a partnership with Boston Public Health Commission. They also have a family anti-violence Second Step program and intramural sports. The school has a general No Child Left Behind status of “restructuring”. About 70% of students passed the English Language Arts section of the MCAS. Passing rates for math and science are significantly below state averages. 90% of students receive free or reduced price lunch.

Mother Caroline Academy and Adult Education Center

515 Blue Hill Ave., Boston, MA 02121 • 617-427-1177 • www.mcaec.org • info@mcaec.org

This private, Roman Catholic middle school serves fifth through eighth grade girls from the city. Most girls are admitted in the fifth grade, but an afterschool program called Shining Star serves third and fourth graders. The school has a free academic afterschool program for its students and evening study sessions. There is an adult education program for parents and others from the community. 100% of alumnae have gone on to graduate from high school. “The success of Mother Caroline Academy and Education Center attests to the power of its vision, ‘where there is great love there are always miracles.’”65 Mother Caroline Academy is a member of the national Nativity Miguel Network of Schools (www.nativitymiguelschools.org), which offers one of the most successful models for inner city schools.

Trotter Elementary School

135 Humboldt Ave., Boston, MA 02121 • 617-635-7915 • trotter@bostonpublicschools.org

The Trotter School serves 391 students in grades K-5 with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:12. They provide art and music education for all students while focusing on literacy and math. Other programs include an outdoor classroom, parent math classes, and an afterschool program. The student body is 75.7% black, 19.7% Hispanic, 1.5% white, 0.5% Asian, and 2.6% other. 22% of students receive special education. The school has a No Child Left Behind status of “restructuring” for both English Language Arts and Mathematics. On the MCAS English Language Arts section, between one-third and one-half of the students are failing. On the math and science sections between one-half and two-thirds of students are failing. 85% of students receive free or reduced price lunch.

Jeremiah E. Burke High School

60 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-635-9852
www.boston.k12.ma.us/burke • burke@bostonpublicschools.org

The Burke High School is a grade 9-12 high school with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:14. The school underwent a renovation and addition that was completed for the 2008-2009 school year, including a new library and technology center. Students join one of three small learning communities and focus on arts and humanities, health and human services, or information technology. 27% of students receive bilingual education, and 18% receive special education. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a general status of “needs improvement.” MCAS scores are lower than the state average. 40% of the students did not learn English as a first language, and 74% receive a free or reduced price lunch. Although the school lost its accreditation in the spring of 1995, it made a remark-

65 “History & Background” www.mcaec.org/theacademy.html (accessed 22 June 2009)
able turn-around in the next several years. Parents got involved, the city and state added $5 million in resources, more teachers and aides were hired along with Steve Leonard as Headmaster, and the school culture and attitudes were transformed. In 1998 the school was accredited again and in 2002 Burke received the College Board’s national Inspiration Award as “one of the nation’s most improved high schools.” The school added an onsite Parent Center, stronger parent group, and Advanced Placement courses in Calculus, Physics, Biology and English. In 2001 all eligible seniors were accepted at two or four year colleges. The Burke was also honored as an “Effective Practice School” by the Boston Public School Department from 2001-2005. One of the teachers won the Teacher of the Year Award in 2005, and in 2007 the school had first place winners in the city and state science fairs. Although budget cuts and other factors have created obstacles to progress, the Burke has some strong partnerships to support academic and enrichment programs in mentoring, jobs, scholarships, and incentives. University of Massachusetts, Boston offers Urban Scholars and Admission Guaranteed programs, while Bunker Hill and Roxbury Community Colleges offer dual enrollment courses.

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

The Jeremiah E. Burke High School is located at 60 Washington St., Dorchester. During the 2008-09 school year, there were 791 students enrolled in the four-year high school. Almost three quarters of the study body is low-income. The racial/ethnic breakdown is as follows: 67.6% African American, 23.6% Hispanic, 2.9% white, 2.7% Asian, 2.4% multi-racial, and less than 1% Native American or Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander. There are significantly more African American students and significantly fewer white students at the Burke High School than in other City of Boston public high schools or in public high schools across the state.

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For over 40% of the students at the Burke High School, English is not their first language. However only 24.8% are limited English proficient (LEP). Approximately three quarters of the students receive free or reduced lunch, which is similar to the city overall but higher than the 30.7% of student who receive free or reduced lunch statewide.

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GRADUATION RATES

In 2008, the four-year graduation rate for the Jeremiah E. Burke High School was 40.2%, which means that 40.2% of the students who were supposed to graduate in 2008, did graduate.\(^67\) This four-year graduation rate is one of the lowest in the state (number 336 out of 363 public high schools in Massachusetts). After four years, 40.2% graduated, 16.4% were still in school, 1.4% had gotten their GEDs, and 42.1% had dropped out. After five years, 42.6% of the students had graduated, 7.2% were still in school, and 43.9% had dropped out. Female students were more likely than male students to graduate in four years (44.2% versus 35.6%). Students with limited English proficiency (LEP) and students considered low income were more likely than students overall to graduate in four years (54.8% versus 40.2% and 46.8% versus 40.2% respectively). Special education students had the highest four-year dropout rate (57.5% versus 42.1%).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Group</th>
<th># in Cohort</th>
<th>% Graduated</th>
<th>% Still in School</th>
<th>% GED</th>
<th>% Dropped Out(^68)</th>
<th>% Permanently Excluded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>40.2%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>15.8%</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>45.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>44.2%</td>
<td>16.8%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ltd. English Proficiency</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>54.8%</td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>26.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
<td>22.5%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>57.5%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>46.8%</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>36.2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Afr. Amer.</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>38.4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>66.7%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>31.3%</td>
<td>10.4%</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
<td>56.3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>44.4%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


67 Graduation rates determined as follows: number of students in cohort who graduate in four years or less divided by number of first time entering ninth graders four years earlier – transfers out + transfers in.

68 Four year dropout rates (as opposed to one year dropout rate).
HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT\textsuperscript{69}

The Jeremiah E. Burke High School has one of the highest one-year high school dropout rates in the City of Boston.\textsuperscript{70} During the 2007-08 school year, the Jeremiah E. Burke High School had an annual dropout rate of 21.1\% while the overall City of Boston district rate was 7.6\% and the statewide rate was 3.4\%. Additionally, the Burke High School had the highest number of dropouts of any public high school in Boston during 2007-08. While the number of students at the Burke High School makes up only four\% of the total City of Boston high school enrollment, the school accounted for 11\% of the dropouts. Another area of concern is the increase in the dropout rate at the high school. While the statewide dropout rate appears relatively stable and the citywide dropout rate has wavered by only three percentage points over the past eight years, the annual dropout rate at the Burke High School has more than doubled since its eight-year low of 8.8\% in 2001-02.

\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{annual_high_school_dropout_rates_2001-2008.png}
\caption{Annual High School Dropout Rates, 2001-2008}
\end{figure}


OTHER HIGH SCHOOL INDICATORS

In addition to graduation rates and dropout rates, the Jeremiah E. Burke High School has other educational indicators that are of concern. Absenteeism, suspension rates, grade retention and MCAS results at the Burke High School are all worse than in the city and state overall.

On average, students at the Burke High School are absent nine more days than students citywide and 13 more days that students statewide. Additionally, the out-of-school suspension rate is over twice as high as it is citywide and over three times as high as it is statewide.

\textsuperscript{69} One-year dropout rate (as opposed to four-year dropout rate).

\textsuperscript{70} Other public high schools with high one-year dropout rates in 2007-08 include Community Academy (24\%), Egleston Comm. High School (30.51\%), Boston Adult Academy (21.43\%).
### 2007-2008 Educational Indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Burke HS</th>
<th>City of Boston</th>
<th>Statewide</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance Rate</strong></td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>91.9</td>
<td>94.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average # of days absent</strong></td>
<td>22.7</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>In-School Suspension Rate</strong></td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Out-of-School Suspension Rate</strong></td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Retention Rate (2006-07)</strong></td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


The percentage of students who repeat grades at the Burke High School is much higher than both the percentage statewide and in the City of Boston Public Schools district-wide. During the 2006-07 school year, over 40% of the ninth graders, over 25% of 10th graders, over 10% of 11th graders and over 17% of 12th graders at the Burke High School were repeating the year. While the Burke’s ninth grade retention rate was the highest of the four high school grades, the biggest disparity compared to other schools was in the 10th grade. The Burke’s 10th grade retention rate during the 2006-07 school year was over three times as high as the city district rate and seven times as high as the statewide rate.

### Annual Retention Rates by Grade, 2006-2007 School Year


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71 The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education defines student retention as: a student who was reported to have repeated the grade in which he or she was enrolled during the previous school year.
Students who took the MCAS exams at the Burke High School in 2008 scored lower than their peers statewide and across the city. While approximately three quarters of students statewide and over half of students in the City of Boston scored either advanced or proficient in the MCAS English Language Arts (ELA) section, less than one third of students at the Burke High School did so. 70% of the Burke students either needed improvement or failed.

![Tenth Grade English Language MCAS Results, 2008](image)


Results on the mathematics MCAS section were similar. Only 27% of students from the Burke High School scored proficient or advanced compared to 59% in the City of Boston overall and 72% statewide. A higher percentage of students at the Burke High School failed the math portion (34%) compared to those failing the English portion (23%).

![Tenth Grade Mathematics MCAS Results, 2008](image)

ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS IN THE GROVE HALL AREA
1. ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center
2. Boston Ten Point Coalition
3. Boston Urban Youth Foundation
4. Caribbean Foundation of Boston
5. Catholic Charities Yawkey Center/Haitian Multi-Service Center
6. Elm Hill Family Service Center
7. Freedom House, Inc.
8. Grove Hall Community Center
9. Grove Hall Library (after school)
10. Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center
11. Neighborhood Development Corporation of Grove Hall
12. Project R.I.G.H.T. Inc. (Rebuild & Improve Grove Hall Together)
13. Quincy Geneva Housing Corporation/New Vision CDC
14. Reflect and Strengthen
15. Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center
16. Roxbury MultiService Center
17. Roxbury Renaissance Center (of Charles St. AME)
18. Roxbury YMCA - Afterschool Program at Franklin Highlands

ABCD Dorchester Neighborhood Service Center
110 Claybourne St., Dorchester, MA 02124 • 617-288-2700 • www.bostonabcd.org/centersdorchester/

Part of Action for Boston Community Development, a citywide program promoting self-help for low-income people and neighborhoods, this center has services including an after school and summer enrichment program, free tax assistance, and applications for the citywide SummerWorks program. SummerWorks is a job, education and mentoring program serving low-income, at-risk youth ages 14 to 21 from Boston’s inner-city neighborhoods.

Boston Ten Point Coalition
215 Forest Hills St., Boston, MA 02130 • 617-524-4331 • www.bostonenpoint.org

Formed in 1992 in response to a surge of violence among inner-city youth, the Boston TenPoint Coalition (BTPC) is an ecumenical group of Christian clergy and lay leaders working to mobilize the Christian community around issues affecting Black and Latino youth. The Coalition also partners with other youth-serving organizations in the community.

Boston Urban Youth Foundation
P.O. Box 1545, Boston, MA 02130 • 617-445-3380 • www.buyf.org

Serving middle and high school students in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan, BUYF seeks to help at-risk youth develop spiritually, emotionally, academically, and economically. They serve over 500 youth in their in-school/after school programs. Programs include Watcha Looking For?, a program developing faith, identity, and leadership through mentoring, weekly discussions, and servant leadership initiatives; College Vision, which offers scholarships to private high schools, individual college counseling, preparation, and SAT preparation, and college tours; School Success, which includes case management, mentoring, academic skill-building, and family support and counseling; and Youth Enterprise Project. Their Youth Enterprise Project helps youth develop business and marketing skills and has launched two youth-run businesses: Boston Urban Designers and Hit Me on the Hip pager sales.
Caribbean Foundation of Boston

317 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-445-1228 • www.caribbeanfoundationofboston.org

For over 30 years CFB has been hiring and training local residents to provide services that prevent the unnecessary institutionalization of the elderly and disabled. They also provide services to keep children in homes where the mother is incapacitated. This is done through Homemaker/Home Health Aides, a Friendly Visitors Program, and training to assist applicants, particularly those who speak English as a second language, to gain their GED and pass the state exam for Home Health Aides.

Catholic Charities Yawkey Center/Haitian Multi-Service Center

185 Columbia Rd., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-506-6600

The goal of the HMSC is to prepare and assist immigrants in their quest for social and economic self-sufficiency in the United States. The center promotes community development through a “Haitians-serving-Haitians” model in a culturally and linguistically familiar environment. Approximately 4,500 individuals and families are served by the HMSC each year. The Center offers support services, including counseling, for children, youth, and families. It also offers counseling related to substance abuse, mental health, and pregnancy. Other support services are for young parents and elders. The center also offers ESOL classes and career training and job placement.

Elm Hill Family Service Center

22 Elm Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-442-5900 • www.bostonabcd.org

A site of Action for Boston Community Development, a citywide program promoting self-help for low-income people and neighborhoods, this location offers fuel assistance, free tax assistance, career development and counseling, computer classes, summer literacy assistance, and afterschool programs.

Freedom House, Inc.

14 Crawford St., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-445-3700 • www.freedomhouse.com

Freedom House’s mission is to promote educational excellence, economic self-sufficiency and social innovation through targeted educational development, increased civic and political engagement and progressive cultural advocacy. Their programs include: computer classes, open computer time, and a network of community, parent, and advocacy organizations working to develop family and community engagement in high school renewal in Boston. In addition, Freedom House runs the following:

Multi-Cultural Dropout Outreach Coalition: This coalition steers the reform and creation of new dropout prevention and recovery policies in the Boston Public School district. They have created One Step Closer, a mentorship program for students at proven-risk.

The Project REACH Reclamation Initiative: in the late 1980s and early 1990s Freedom House’s now defunct Project Reach invested in and provided 50 students a year with academic, financial, and personal support. Now they are finding these alumni to engage them with the community again.

Project Listen: A yearlong, out-of-school-time youth leadership program in which students create and promote socially conscious media, art, and culture.
**Grove Hall Community Center**

40 Geneva Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121  
617-635-2643

This community center, slated to open in the summer of 2009, will run a drop-in center for 25 youth who are too old for summer camp but too young to work. They will also hire older youth to work with younger children.

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**Grove Hall Library (afterschool)**

41 Geneva Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-427-3337 • [www.bpl.org/branches/grove.htm](http://www.bpl.org/branches/grove.htm)

The new library offers a Teen Book Club, Word Jam, Japanimation, a Jazz lounge, a craft and activity room, computers, and 45,000 books with a strong African American collection. The library is interconnected with the Burke High School and the Grove Hall Community Center. The library has a young adult room with a young adult librarian, a children's room, and pre-school programs. It is a part of the city's Community Learning Initiative.

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**Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center**

632 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-825-3400 • [www.harvardstreet.org](http://www.harvardstreet.org)

In addition to traditional medical services, Harvard Street provides an adolescent Child Care Clinic for those aged 12-21. Care is offered in a “one stop shopping” model, meaning that an individual who comes in for an ear ache but also needs a birth control method will receive everything they need during that visit. Preventative health services include screening for and management of reproductive services, violence prevention, and mental health services. In addition, the Women’s Center provides reproductive health services, STD and HIV testing, and counseling. The Men’s Health Clinic also provides counseling and mental health services.

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**Neighborhood Development Corporation of Grove Hall**

7 Cheney St., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-445-2284 • [www.grovehallndc.org](http://www.grovehallndc.org)

Grove Hall NDC provides home ownership and foreclosure prevention services, a small business resource center, and a Mothers/Men on the Move (MOM) Computer Program. The MOM computer program provides computer time for adults to look for jobs, do projects with their children after school, and receive training in computer based job skills. The organization has been instrumental in several important housing and business development initiatives.
Project R.I.G.H.T. Inc. (Rebuild & Improve Grove Hall Together)

320A Blue Hill Ave., Grove Hall MA 02121 • 617-541-5454 • www.projectright.org

This organization works to promote neighborhood stabilization and economic development in Grove Hall, green space improvements; partnerships with and referrals to safe havens for youth (afterschool programs, sports leagues, etc); basketball league working with high-risk youth; Grove Hall youth council (15-20 youth meet to participate in decision-making and advocacy efforts for youth issues in Grove Hall). Project Right is involved in the Grove Hall Safe Neighborhood Initiative/Weed and Seed, which is a collaborative effort with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office, the Mayor’s Office, the Boston Police Department and neighborhood residents to prevent and reduce violent crime, drug use and gang activity.

Quincy Geneva Housing Corporation/New Vision CDC

320B Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-442-5711
www.quincysileneva.org or www.newvisioncdc.com

Quincy Geneva/New Vision is a non-profit housing development corporation founded in 1983. It assists low- and moderate-income families and elders to obtain affordable rental housing through developing, renovating and managing residential property. The organization also provides services and programs “that raise the economic, educational and social levels” of children, youth, and families who live in their area. It also helps residents with job creation and training. The group also provides technical assistance to help local businesses make improvements. It has worked cooperatively with other organizations to renovate hundreds of housing units (over 500 units between 1983 and 2003).

Reflect and Strengthen

14 Crawford St., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-442-2355 • www.reflectandstrengthen.org

Reflect and Strengthen's mission is for young, working-class women, ages 14-30 from Boston's urban neighborhoods to create and nurture environments for positive social change through creative expression, political education, community building and organizing. They do this through coalition-based campaigns, culturally relevant education and artistic approaches to organizing, self-determination, self-expression and empowerment. At Girl's Rap licensed counselors guide women in examining internalized sexism and other barriers while supporting each other and healing from life's traumas and circumstances. What's the 411 holds circles for young women to think critically about society and the world through social justice education while organizing in collaboration with communities. Street Theater offers member created and performed plays. Our Sisters Behind the Walls works with incarcerated girls aged 14-16 to provide an environment for the girls to support each other, learn healthy decision-making skills, and better understand how sexism, racism, and classism have created situations that have led to their incarceration.

Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center

435 Warren St., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-442-7400

This community health center aims to offer primary care in a culturally, ethnically, and linguistically competent manner. Services offered include AIDS/STD prevention, family violence services, and mental health services, in addition to traditional primary care.
**Roxbury MultiService Center**

317 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-427-4470 • www.roxmulti.org

This community center provides a wide array of services. They have educational training and career development programs for youth, a technology training center, a homeless shelter, supportive housing, counseling and education, emergency assistance, and mental health services. In addition, they offer a multicultural and multidisciplinary clinical training program in mental health for graduate level interns of color. Violence prevention and intervention programs are available to youth and families.

**Roxbury Renaissance Center (of Charles St. AME)**

5 Elm Hill Ave., Roxbury, MA 02121 • www.csrrc.org
Dennis Earl Lloyd, Executive Director: 617-427-5570
Rev. Bernadette Hickman-Maynard, Program Director: 617-427-3050

The Center currently carries out three main programs: (1) The Maafa Middle School Project which includes a mentoring program and other services for middle school students; (2) The Hamilton Garrett Music and Arts Academy, and (3) the Roxbury Senior Care Program. Their building is under construction.

**Roxbury YMCA - Afterschool Program at Franklin Highlands**

164 Seaver St., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-427-5300

This program serves up to 30 children ages 5-12 with afterschool and summer programming.

**StreetSafe Boston**

617-338-2670 • www.tbf.org/Content.aspx?ID=9398

A public/private partnership between the city of Boston and private and community organizations seeking to reduce violent crime among Boston youth by focusing on 5 neighborhoods, including Grove Hall. They train and place street workers while social service organizations in these neighborhoods expand their hours and options of services for local at-risk youth, including job training.

**Women of Color AIDS Council, Inc: Women Connecting Affecting Change**

409 Blue Hill Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 • 617-541-1050 • www.wcacinc.org

The only peer-led, peer-driven, women of color specific organization in Boston, WCAC provides women with education, workshops, and counseling to prevent them from acquiring HIV. This is accomplished through street outreach, workshops, support groups, case management, individual counseling, and HIV Counseling and testing. They specifically design their services for women who are sex workers, welfare recipients, incarcerated, HIV-infected or at high risk for HIV, and/or substance abusers.
PUBLIC SAFETY

Many community initiatives have been launched to address issues of public safety in Grove Hall. The *Grove Hall Safe Neighborhood Initiative/Weed and Seed* is a collaborative effort between Project RIGHT, the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office, the Office of the Mayor of Boston, the Boston Police Department and neighborhood residents to prevent and reduce violent crime, drug use and gang activity. They have addressed crime against seniors, jobs for youth, drug education for youth, drug houses, and crime prevention. They particularly target issues resulting from large numbers of ex-offenders being released into the community (between 250-350 a month) and increasing the quality of life in multi-unit apartment buildings. The B-2 Area Police Department found that 31 percent of the crime in the Grove Hall area occurs in these multi-unit apartment buildings. Project RIGHT is using its organizing campaign approach to address this problem.

In late 2008 StreetSafe Boston was launched. This partnership between the Boston Foundation, Boston Police Department, Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, and a broad range of leaders hopes to cut violent crime among 16-24 year olds with an influx of $26 million and 25 street workers. The initiative will target five hot spots: Grove Hall, Dudley Square, South End/Lower Roxbury, the Morton and Norfolk Streets area, and the Bowdoin and Geneva Streets area.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SOURCES ON PUBLIC SAFETY IN GROVE HALL


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CREDITS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>First Haitian Baptist Church: Emmanuel Gospel Center photo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Photo by Rudy Mitchell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15, 27, 30, 33, 41</td>
<td>Photos by Rudy Mitchell.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>