

Black Male Advancement

Quarterly Report

July 1, 2023 – September 30, 2023



City of Boston
Black Male
Advancement

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OVERVIEW

OUR MISSION

The Office of Black Male Advancement strives to improve outcomes and reduce systemic barriers to advancement for Black men and boys living in Boston. Our office works to empower Black men and boys. We want to ensure they have equitable access to opportunities in the City. As part of our work, we focus on policies, programs, resources, and local and national partnerships.

Our goal is to ensure Black men and boys have support to thrive and share in our City's prosperity.

OUR PRIORITIES

- Economic Opportunity & Workers Empowerment
- Public Health & Wellness and Fatherhood & Families
- Education & Youth Advancement
- Affordable Housing & Pathways to Homeownership
- Community Safety & Returning Citizens
- Equity & Racial Justice

DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

- Boston has approximately 90,000 Black male residents.
- 25% of Black males are children under 18.
- Black male residents are represented in every neighborhood in Boston, with a higher concentration residing in Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan and Hyde Park.
- The countries with the largest number of foreign-born Black males are Haiti, Jamaica, & Cabo Verde.

OVERVIEW

OUR FOCUS

- Facilitate Black Men and Boys Commission meetings.
- Publicize report on Status of Black Men and Boys in Boston.
- Assist Black male constituents in accessing programs, services & critical information.
- Connect Black male-serving organizations to resources to better serve their constituents.
- Publicize critical resources to the Black male community.
- Support city, state, and federal governments, community based organizations and private sector to more equitably serve our Black male residents.
- Educate Boston residents on the Black Men and Boys Commission and Black Male Advancement programs.
- Monitor and advise city agencies and departments on issues pertaining to Black men and boys
- Design projects and programs that promote equity for Black men and boys which are not currently being implemented by existing city agencies.
- Perform outreach, communication, and liaison to Black men and boys related to community groups and organizations.
- Coordinate dialogues and action on behalf of city government to issues of concern to Black men and boys and related organizations.



GENERAL

REPORTS AND RESOURCES

[**The State of Black Males in Boston:**](#) This is a comprehensive report created by the Office of Black Male Advancement (BMA) in partnership with Boston Planning and Development Agency's (BPDA) Research Division. Using data gathered from a number of different peer-reviewed sources, the report is meant to help guide the Office's efforts to adequately address the systemic barriers to the advancement of Black males in Boston.

[**BPDA Redlining in Boston:**](#) This report, created by BMA in partnership with BPDA Research Division, outlines redlining in Boston. Using data gathered from a number of different peer-reviewed sources, the report is meant to help guide the Office's efforts to adequately address the systemic barriers to the advancement of Black males in Boston.

[**Violence Prevention, Intervention, and Recovery Funding FY22 Dataset:**](#) This dataset was created by BMA in partnership with the Department of Innovation & Technology. This dataset provides a breakdown of the City of Boston's efforts to fund Community-based Organizations that do violence prevention, intervention, and recovery work within the City. It highlights the different cabinets/bureaus/departments that offer funding related to community violence prevention, the funded organizations and programs, the amount of funding that the city has offered, and the ways to get in contact with each of the funded organizations.

[**Black Male Advancement Resource Guide:**](#) The BMA Resource Guide provides a centralized location for City of Boston services for Black men, boys and families.

GENERAL

PROGRAM UPDATES

Black Men and Boys Commission: BMBC Subcommittees have each met with Economic Opportunity, Workers Empowerment, Boston Public Schools, Housing, Boston Planning and Development Agency, Office of Returning Citizens, Senior Advisor for Community Safety, Boston Public Health Commission and Human Service Cabinets. BMA will host regular working sessions with each Cabinet and invite Commission members to join on a quarterly basis. The BMBC request briefs/memos from each cabinet detailing how budget, policy, programs and staff are working to improve outcomes and advance equity of Black men and boys in the City of Boston. The BMBC will provide recommendations for open Commission seats after its November monthly meeting.

My Brother's Keeper Boston: The MBK Alliance is prioritizing each community's completion of the recertification process for 2023. This matters to the City of Boston because it may ensure a greater degree of access to resources (material and financial) that become available to communities that have fully completed the process. Additionally, full completion positions MBK Boston to be able to better build our national MBK Network with in-person convening options.

Project Opportunity is an initiative that creates equitable opportunities for Boston residents with CORIs. The program connects residents with free legal consultation for sealing or expunging records, has panel discussions to address challenges and solutions for residents with CORIs, connects residents with employment and training resources, connects residents with key resources for well-being, trains City departments to meet the needs of residents with CORIS. Through this initiative the office of Black Male Advancement created an all-inclusive/one-stop resource guide and webpage that includes all City of Boston-led quality-of-life improvement resources. In addition we hosted a CORI friendly job and resource fair in partnership with MassHire which included 35 employers and resources, resume review and support, job application assistance, digital business cards, and free headshots.



GENERAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Small Grants Awarded to 60 Community Organizations: BMA along with Mayor Michelle Wu awarded 60 community organizations grants totaling \$747,467 for the Community Empowerment Small Grants program. These grants, ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000, aim to empower Black male-serving community-based organizations and amplify their impact in alignment with the BMA's core values and strategies. The grants serve Black men and boys across Boston's neighborhoods to deepen their impact.

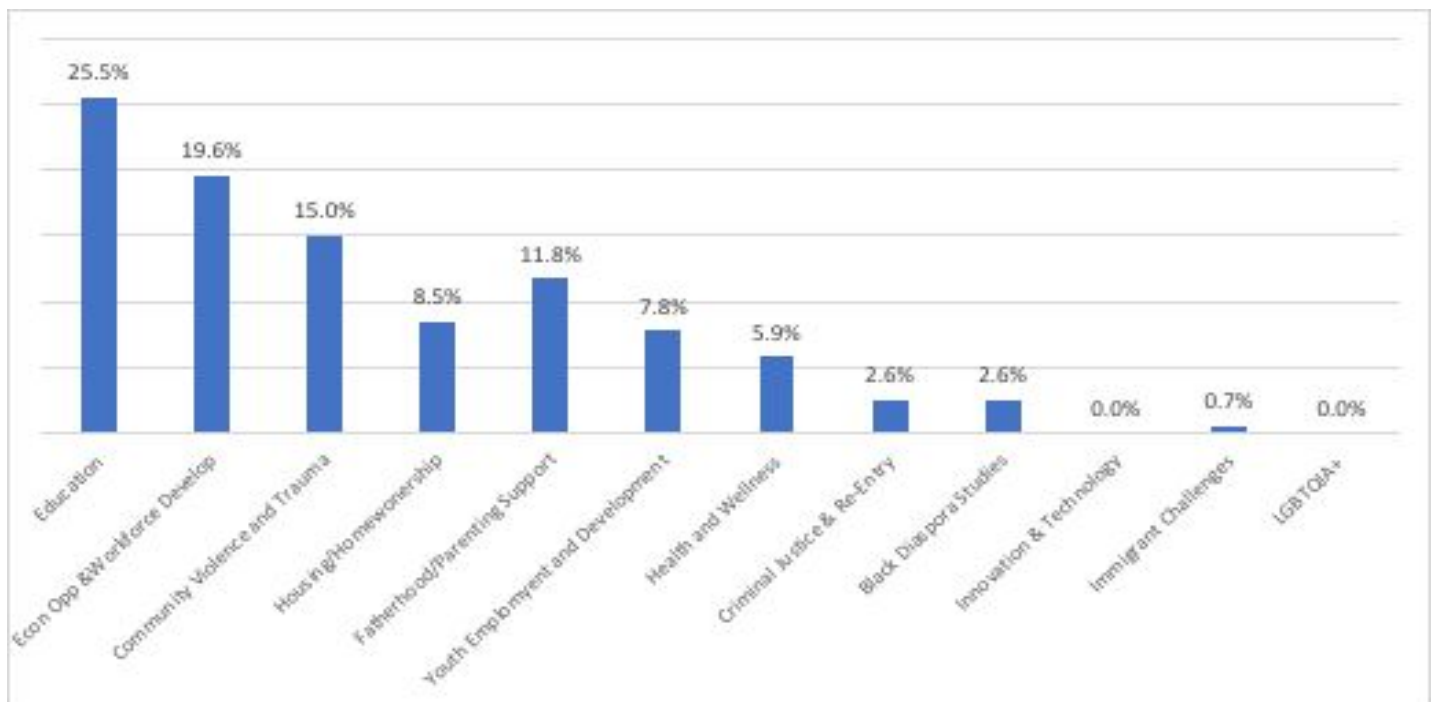
R.E.A.C.H. 1000: BMA is working in partnership with BPS to connect young people with a network of individuals and organizations that serve as mentors. To support the first iteration of this program, BMA is looking to recruit 1,000 adult mentors over the next two years to connect with participating BPS students. As part of R.E.A.C.H. 1000, schools and mentees will have access to the following programs and learning opportunities: Black studies through dual enrollment; financial literacy; reading literacy, digital literacy; college and career pathways; and Generational Talent Small Grant. Mentees will also have an opportunity to engage with an Opportunity Lab, tailored for BPS Black seniors. The Lab will offer expert level technical support to scholars with their post secondary level plans, including higher education and careers.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

BLACK MEN AND BOYS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Annual public event for Black men and boys to access information and resources.
- Black Male Advancement working sessions with Cabinet Staff responsible for program implementation and outreach to discuss decision-making, budget priorities, services, resources, and current outcomes of programming specifically for Black Men and Boys.
- Black Male Advancement creates a Black Men and Boys Equity Dashboard to be posted on City of Boston Office of Black Male Advancement Website along with resources.
- Black Male Advancement works with Cabinet Staff to evaluate the status of metrics that evaluate the spending and impact of programs and provide feedback, and to help improve current metrics, and provide guidance for new metrics and budget priorities where needed.
- [Previously shared policy recommendations.](#)
- The following chart from our Black Men and Boys Survey (FY 2023) shows that the areas of education (25.5%) and economic opportunity & workforce development (19.6%) represented the top priorities which should receive attention for Black men and boys in Boston. A total of 153 individuals, aged 18 – 64 years of age responded to this survey.



NATIONAL POLICY TRENDS

KEY TAKEAWAYS FOR BLACK MALE ADVANCEMENT

52nd Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference

- Addressing root causes addresses long-term inequities
- Holding leaders accountable to promises, services, and program implementation pushes a progressive strategy
- Policies that expand access create opportunities to leverage resources at greater scales
- [Vera Institute Racial Disparity Impact Statement](#) - a framework for measuring and proposing policy

U.S. Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys ACT NOW Summit

- Most dangerous threat to Black men and boys is racism
- Student assignment to greater proportions of ethno-racially matched teachers decreases the likelihood of suspension for Black students
- There is a shrinking supply of quality affordable housing
- Disproportionate arrests among Black men means using criminal background checks for Black men disadvantages Black male renters

Congressional Black Caucus Power For the People Economic Advancement Summit

- The gap between white and Black homeownership rates is wider today than in 1960 when race-based discrimination was legal
- Homeownership is a pathway to financial success and generational wealth
- Wealth disparities, lack of access to loans, and housing discrimination practices continue to perpetuate the homeownership gap in the U.S.
- Big banks and policymakers need financial literacy training just as much as individual consumers
- Housing prices today do not reflect when policies to address affordable homeownership opportunities were written



EVENTS HOSTED

BMBC Monthly Meeting on the first Wednesday of every month

August 2, 2023

Vine St. Community Center

Children's Services of Roxbury YPP Program City Hall Visit

August 10th, 2023

City Hall Plaza

Marcus Garvey Flag raising

August 17, 2023

City Hall Plaza

2nd Annual MBK Boston Back 2 School Jamboree

August 19, 2023

Marcella Playground

BMBC Monthly Meeting

September 13, 2023

BCYF Vine Street

Project Opportunity Job Fair Prep

September 15, 2023

1010 Harrison Ave

Lunch & Learn 2023 Prostate Awareness Conversation

September 20, 2023

MBK Fellows UMASS Boston Semester Kickoff

September 25, 2023

Umass Boston

Project Opportunity Cori Friendly Job and Resource Fair

September 27, 2023

1010 Harrison Ave

(Public) Virtual Boston Youth Basketball Listening Session

September 27, 2023

Black Men & Boys Commission Public Health & Wellness and Fatherhood and Families (BPHC)

September 2023

Black Men & Boys Commission Subcommittee meeting Education and Youth Advancement (BPS & OYEA)

September 2023

BMBC Subcommittee meeting Community Safety & Returning Citizens (OHS, OCS, ORC)

September 2023

BMBC Subcommittee meeting Economic Opportunity & Worker's Empowerment (OEOI & OWE)

September 2023

Black Men & Boys Commission Affordable Housing and Pathways to Homeownership Subcommittee meeting (MOH & BPDA)

September 2023



BMA IN COMMUNITY

Harvard Kennedy School State and Local Government Program

July 2023

Harvard University

Tour of Possible Zone

July 7, 2023

31 Heath St, Boston, MA 02130, USA

Emmanuel College Sports Camp (BPS Division of Student Support)

July 7, 2023

400 Fenway, Boston, MA

Dorchester Cares Coalition Rites of Passage

July 15, 2023

184 Norfolk St.

BPS Division of Student Support E-Sports Gaming Camp

July 17, 2023

Dearborn Academy

WORC2 Visit

July 21, 2023

2103 Washington St

Office of Returning Citizens Visit

July 21, 2023

30 Dimock St

U.S. Commission on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys ACT NOW Summit

July 24, 2023

Virtual

Tuice Foundation Bridge Program

July 26, 2023

MIT Innovation Lab

NAACP National Convention

July 26-Aug 2, 2023

Boston Convention Center

Harlem Boston Lacrosse Workshop with State Rep. Chris Worrell

August 3, 2023

White Stadium

Second Annual Heatwave with City Councilor Brian Worrell

August 12, 2023

Roberts Park

PowerCorps Boston Graduation

August 25, 2023

Franklin Park Clubhouse

Boston NOMA Project Pipeline

August 18, 2023

Northeastern University

4th Annual Men of Color Conference

September 6, 2023

Omni Boston Hotel

First Day of School at BPS

September 7, 2023

Various Locations

City of Boston Book Fair

September 13, 2023

City Hall Plaza



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BMA IN COMMUNITY

The Boston Foundation A Long Road Home Report Release

September 13, 2023

The Boston Foundation

Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference 2023

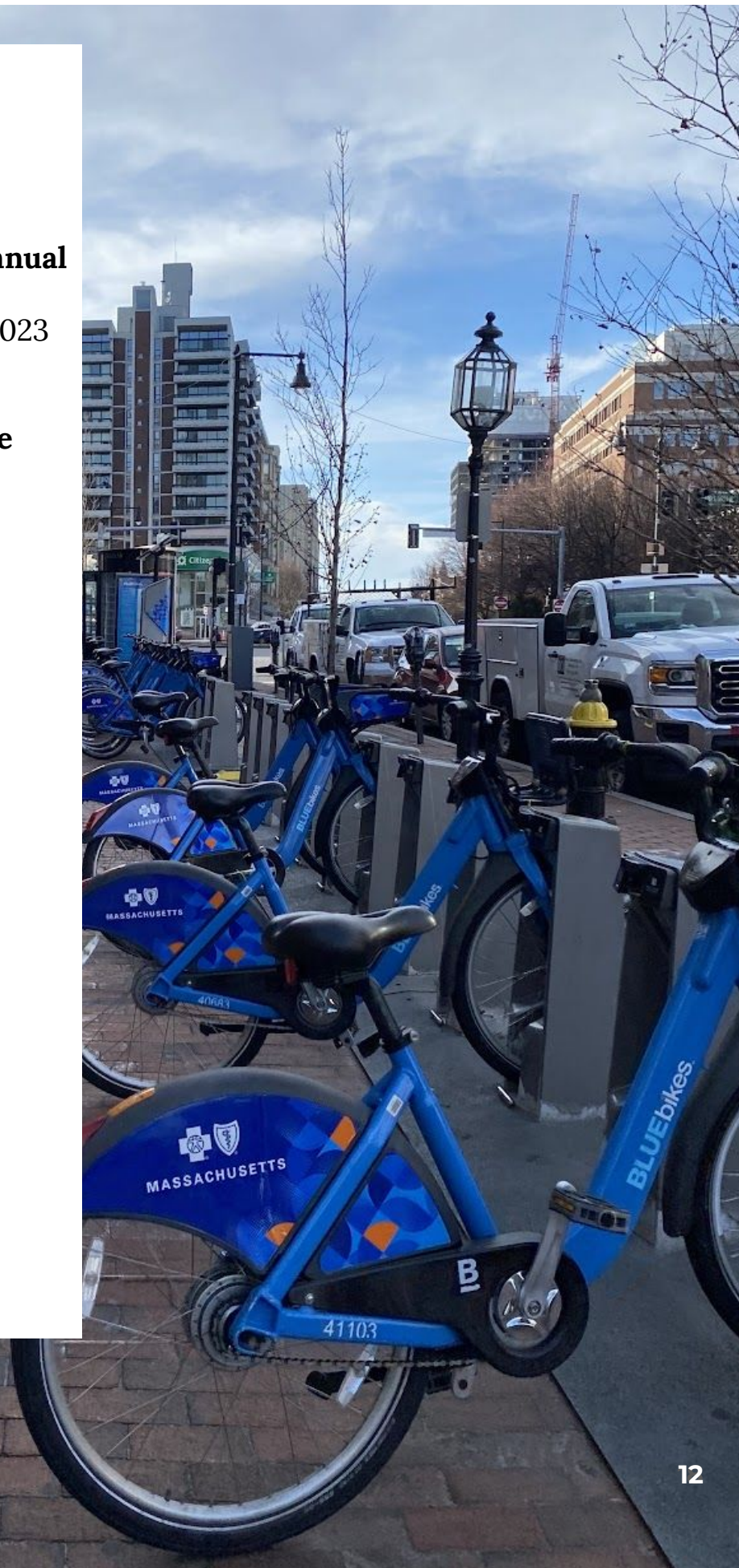
September 20- September 24, 2023

Washington D.C

OYEA Community Collaborative

September 29, 2023

Mattapan Branch Boston Public Library



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COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT SMALL GRANTS

Mentoring and Out of School Time

617 Peak

A Bright Future, Inc.

Beantown Panthers Inc.

Boston Chargers Youth Football

Boston Pirates Youth Sports INC

Boston Project Ministries

Boston Public Schools (Generational Talent Mentoring)

Boston Raiders Youth Football Pop

Warner Little Scholars, Inc.

Boys Without Barriers Inc.

Cornerstone Collaborative MA

Daddy & Me Inc.

Dorchester Eagles

Follow Suit

No Books No Ball

Not On My Watch Mentoring, Inc.

One Love Sports Academy

Panthers Legends Academic Youth Program

READY Prep Inc.

Team New England Youth Academy

The Bradshaw Family Foundation

Young Man with a Plan

Youth and Young Adult Pathways

A Different Path Foundation Inc.

Afrimerican Culture Initiative Inc.

Bikes Not Bombs

Cape Verdean Association of Boston/Cabral Leadership and Innovation Center

Children's Services of Roxbury

Chills Diamond Ring Education Foundation Inc.

Concrete LYFE

Dreamcatcher Boston, Inc.

Greatest MINDS Boston

Mbadika, Inc.

Next Leadership Development

The Clubhouse Network

The Loop Lab

The 3 Point Foundation, Inc.

The Blackbury Organization, Inc.

Housing Mobility

Justice For Housing, Inc.

Lives Are Meant To Be Changed

Resource Center

Economic Inclusion and Wealth Building

Dunk the Vote/Circle of Nations Inc.

The Nubian Square Foundation

Voices of Liberation Inc.

Workforce Training and Development

Black Biz Development Group LLC

Blue Collar Academy

He is Me Institute, Inc.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT SMALL GRANTS

Fatherhood Engagement

Codman Square NDC (Brothers Building)
Dadball Boston
Family Nurturing Center of MA
Fatherly Justice Association Corp.
Fathers' UpLift, Inc.
Kings Amongst Kings
Torch Light Recovery Inc.
Union of Minority Neighborhoods

Health and Wellness

Bmen Foundation
Hoops Collaborative Youth Development Program/Herc42skills
OJFit Foundation Inc.
Roulhac Enterprises Inc.
Score4more, Inc.
Yardtime Inc.



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NEXT QUARTER PREVIEW

UPCOMING PROGRAM LAUNCHES

Capacity Building & Impact Institute: This initiative will allow CBOs servicing the Black Male Community in Boston, to receive 1 on 1 coaching, nonprofit training courses, expert tools, & resources to help raise funds, maximize impact, and build capacity. The pilot cohort will consist of CBO'S with proven or promising programs that share our core values and are highly aligned with our strategies, goals and approaches to deepen their impact or bring their work to scale.

FY24 Community Empowerment Grant: These grants will empower community organizations that serve Black men across Boston's neighborhoods to deepen their impact and bring successful programming to scale.

Black Male Advancement Action Plan: The BMA Action plan will provide a framework for addressing historical and contemporary inequities faced by Black men and boys, and pathways to directly and indirectly close the racial wealth gap.



BMA CONTACT INFORMATION

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boston.gov/departments/black-male-advancement



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