

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUTH:

MENTAL HEALTH AND COMMUNITY VIOLENCE

Mental health is as important as physical health.



COMMUNITY MEETINGS May- August 2018

Goals

Step 1

Provide platforms to listen and respond to community concerns and priorities.

Step 2

Provide forums to discuss ongoing and emergent public health issues.

Step 3

Promote joint planning with new and non-traditional partners.

Partners

9
Partners

8
Meetings

405
Young Adults were present



Boston Public Schools, Boston Center for Youth and Families, Madison Park Development Corp., Child, Adolescent, and Family Health Bureau (BPHC), Boston Student Advisory Council, Bold Teens, Sociedad Latina, Boston Housing Authority, Teen Empowerment and Codman Square Neighborhood Council



Surveys

380 Submitted



Gender

139 young Men

223 young Women



Age Range

13-18 years old

Neighborhoods where students live

Dorchester
Roxbury
Hyde Park
Mattapan
Jamaica Plain
Roslindale



7 Cultural backgrounds

203
Black/
African
American

93
Hispanic/
Latino

12
Asian

9
White/
Caucasian

6
American
Indian
or Alaskan
Native

2
Native
Hawaiian
or Pacific
Islander

1
Middle
Eastern



High School grades of attendees

98
11th grade

103
10th grade



What we heard

1. Adults to authentically listen to, understand and engage with youth
2. Address youth and community attitudes including fear of seeking help
3. Improve access to mental health and trauma support resources including peer support groups
4. Increase access to youth programs and jobs throughout the year
5. Ensure mental health professionals and school staff represent the diversity of communities and are culturally competent
6. Support youth involvement and voice in decision-making
7. Support community organizing in violence prevention
8. Involve and inform youth of policy development, including school

