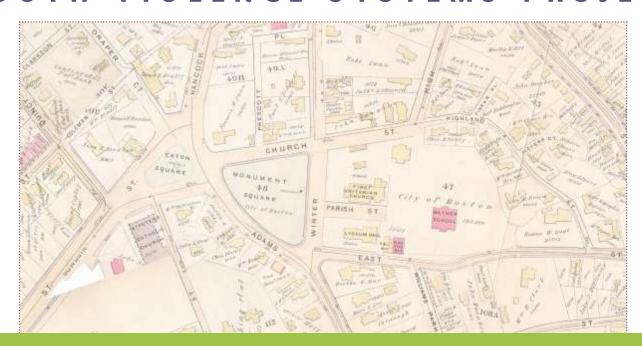
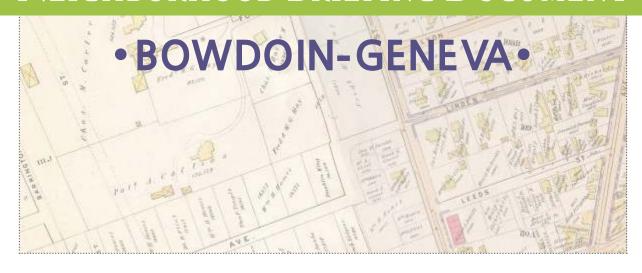
YOUTH VIOLENCE SYSTEMS PROJECT



Neighborhood Briefing Document





A P A R T N E R S H I P O F :

Emmanuel Gospel Center · Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston · Boston TenPoint Coalition High Risk Youth Network · United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley

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YOUTH VIOLENCE SYSTEMS PROJECT

Getting to the Roots

Neighborhood Briefing Document

BOWDOIN-GENEVA

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.

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HISTORY

orchester was settled in 1630 by English Puritans. Later in the century (1670) the First Parish Church moved up to Meeting House Hill, providing a central focus for the village neighborhood in that area. This section retained its small town feel, with a church on the village green, until after 1900 when extensive housing development took place around the neighborhood. In the late 1800s the second major focal point, St. Peter's Catholic Church, was completed. With its strong institutional base



First Church and Lyceum Hall

established, the working class Catholic population of the neighborhood grew rapidly, occupying the many new triple-deckers. In the 20th century, St. Peter's continued to be one of the leading parishes in the diocese, eventually adapting to serve new groups of people in the neighborhood. Although there was loyalty to the parish, some residents left in the general movement to the suburbs. Over time the neighborhood experienced racial transition as increasing numbers of African Americans, Cape Verdeans, Hispanics, and Vietnamese settled in various parts of the area and adjacent sections. In recent years Bowdoin-Geneva has experienced a significant amount of violence and other neighborhood problems. However, there have also been positive signs with the construction and renovation of housing, some commercial improvements, and the creation of community and youth centers.

The historic congregation meeting at the First Parish Church on Meeting House Hill is a reminder of the neighborhood's ties to the first settlement of Dorchester. The person most responsible for gathering the first group of settlers into a congregation to immigrate to Dorchester was John White, pastor of Trinity Parish, Dorchester, England. He had been active in recruiting English Puritans to immigrate to Cape Ann, Massachusetts between 1623 and 1625 under the original Dorchester Company, but this enterprise based on fishing failed by 1626. In the spring of 1630, he gathered a group from the west of England, and they met at New Hospital, Plymouth, England, where he preached to them, helped them organize their church, and sent them off to the new world. John Maverick and John Warham were chosen as pastors. The group of about 140 departed on March 20, 1630 in the ship "Mary and John." The settlers arrived at Nantasket Point on May 30, 1630 and shortly after that decided to settle at Dorchester. The official founding date of Dorchester was June 6, 1630. Their ship was the first to arrive of the Gov. Winthrop fleet. Therefore, the congregation is the oldest in the present day city of Boston. The town was probably named Dorchester in honor of John White who was pastor in Dorchester, England or because a number of the settlers were from Dorchester (of 108 early Dorchester freemen, 26 were from Dorchester, England).²

² Samuel J. Barnes, "Dorchester in the Colonial Period," in *The Memorial History of Boston*, ed. Justin Winsor, 4 vols. Boston: James R. Osgood, 1881), 1:426.



¹ Samuel Eliot Morrison, Builders of the Bay Colony, pb. ed. (Boston: Northeastern University Press, 1981), 27-29.

In 1633 the plantation of Dorchester formed the first town government in New England and chose 12 selectmen. Also, that year 80 more settlers came from Weymouth, England. In 1633 the town assessment of Dorchester was far larger than other area towns including Boston, indicating that Dorchester must have been the largest or richest town at that time.



Richard Mather, Pastor of the First Parish Church, Dorchester

Although many original settlers moved to Connecticut during the years from 1635 to 1637, new immigrants arrived from England in 1635 along with Pastor Richard Mather. He played an important role in the church and community during the following years. He helped write the Bay Psalm Book, the first book printed in the American colonies. Under the guidance of pastoral meetings in Cambridge, he helped to compose the Cambridge Platform of 1648, concerning church membership, discipline and polity. He also contributed to the Half-Way Covenant in 1662 that revised requirements for church membership. The Mather family including his son, Increase Mather, and his grandson Cotton Mather, had a deep influence on the shape of colonial religion. Although these religious issues may not seem as important today, they were quite central in those days because many people had uprooted their lives to come to Massachusetts primarily for religious reasons. The first church building was built in 1631 near the present

Cottage and Pleasant streets. In 1645 a new building was constructed, and in 1670 it was moved to Meeting House Hill.³

In May 1639 the town established a school later known as the Mather School, which still exists near the First Church on Meeting House Hill. The town voted to support the school by taxing those using Thompson's Island. Thus the Mather School is one of the oldest schools in the country. All students were to be admitted and taught, whether rich or poor. In those days there was no need for an afterschool program since the school hours were 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.



Mather School

for most of the year. On Mondays students were questioned about what they had learned the day before at church. On Saturdays they were taught the principles of Christianity according to the catechism.

In 1654, according to Captain Edward Johnson, there were about 140 houses, 450 cattle, various orchards, gardens full of fruit trees, and corn land.⁴

One of the earlier youth organizations in this neighborhood was the Young Men's Association, which formed on December 25, 1697 on Meeting House Hill and lasted for 150 years until 1848. "Several serious young men of the town joined themselves into an association for religious purposes, which was to continue until they formed family connections or left the

⁴ Edward Johnson, Wonder-Working Providence of Sions Saviour in New England, ed. by William F. Poole (Andover, Mass.: W. F. Draper, 1867). Cited in Memorial History of Boston, 1:429.



³ New church buildings were built in 1678, 1743, 1816 and 1896-7 (the present building).

town." This group of young men met on Sunday afternoons for reading and prayer.

From the late 18th century until at least the early decades of the 19th century, the Eaton family ran the Eaton Tavern and a grocery and general store on the site of the present Eaton Square. Their home, Eaton Hall, was a landmark for many years and the site of parties and dances. Captain Ebenezer Eaton (born in 1787) worked in the Custom House and was a representative in the state legislature.

By the middle of the 19th century there were a number of streets laid out around Mount Bowdoin off Washington Street. Hancock Street connected Uphams Corner with Meetinghouse Hill. The Lyceum



Eaton Tavern

next to the First Church was dedicated in 1840 and provided space for community meetings and activities. The town center retained its historic character for many decades, although new housing was developed in some of the surrounding areas as better transportation became available. In the 1850s the New York and New England Railroad began to provide service between Boston and central Dorchester. Some Irish Catholics had settled at Glover's Corner below Meeting House Hill before the 1870s, but with the extension of horse drawn streetcar service during that decade many more started moving into Dorchester. ⁶In 1870 Dorchester voted to unite with Boston, and this annexation brought increased utility and sanitation services. By 1890 the streetcars were electrified, and by 1895 cross-town streetcar service made mid-Dorchester and St. Peter's Parish accessible to lower middle class workers. ⁷ Many of these new Canadian and Irish residents bought or rented the increasing number of triple-deckers being built. Previously, many of the new houses had been single family or two family residences. As the 1894 Bromley map of Dorchester shows, large areas southwest of Meeting House Hill were beginning to be subdivided, but were still undeveloped except along Longfel-



Dorchester triple deckers

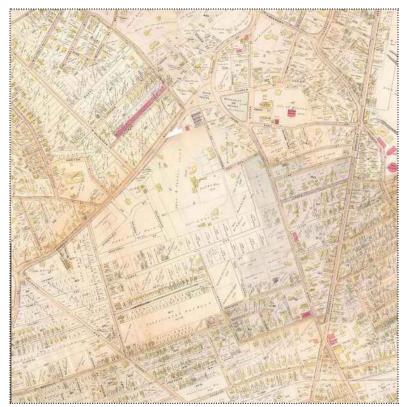
low Street, some parts of Geneva Avenue, and the area south of Westville Street. There were still large estates and tracts of land owned by families like the Mays, the Baileys, the Cushings, the Carters, and by Patrick A. Collins and the Robert Treat Paine family. By 1894 some northern parts of the neighborhood like Coleman and Richfield streets were quite fully built up while Hamilton Street (then called Barrington Street) and Barry Street were still largely undeveloped.



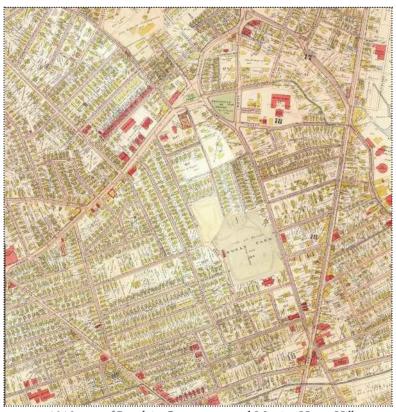
⁵ Dorchester Antiquarian and Historical Society, *History of the Town of Dorchester, Mass.* (Boston: E. Clapp, Jr., 1859), 269.

⁶ Sam Bass Warner, Jr., Streetcar Suburbs: The Process of Growth in Boston, 1870-1900, 2nd ed. (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1978), 83.

⁷ Ibid., 85.



1894 map of Bowdoin-Geneva area and Meeting House Hill



1918 map of Bowdoin-Geneva area and Meeting House Hill, showing full development with triple decker housing

In 1898, Edwin Bacon observed that in spite of the great changes, Monument Square, flanked by old single family homes, large trees, the impressive Lyman Fountain in Eaton Square, the classic Lyceum Hall and the colonial First Parish Church still gave the center of Meeting House Hill the feel of an old New England town:

With the great upbuilding of Dorchester since its annexation to Boston, the cutting of streets through homestead lots and large family estates, the erection of lines of dwellings where before were groves, wooded hill-slopes, pastures and meadows, transforming the place from a sedate rural town to a smart and thickening residential district—with all these changes which have marked its development by real estate operators and 'syndicates,'—the character of the Meeting House Hill centre has remained quite as in the town life.⁸

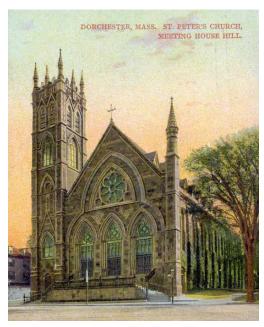
The second important institution that has influenced and served the community for many years, besides the First Parish Church of Dorchester, is St. Peter's Catholic Church. These two churches and their associated programs have been a strong focal point for much of this area.

St. Peter's Congregation grew initially out of a Sunday School when Father McNulty started holding a church service in the Lyceum Hall in 1869. After initially planning to build on East Street, Bishop Williams decided to purchase the former estate of Captain Jack Percival, a naval hero of the War of 1812, on the west side of Meeting House Hill. In the fall of 1872, the bishop appointed Rev. Peter Ronan as pastor of the new parish. The bold, young Father Ronan would become an important leader in Dorchester. He called in a new, highly respected architect, Patrick Keeley, to redesign



Rev. Peter Ronan, pastor of St. Peter's Church

the planned brick church as a much larger Gothic-style cathedral using stone from the building site itself. The cornerstone was laid on August 24, 1873, the church basement was ready to use in 1875, and the building was dedicated on February 18, 1884.9 In 1896-98 the parochial school was



St. Peter's Church

built, and in 1905-06, the large convent was completed. St. Peter's parish became the largest in the diocese numerically and with its institutions was a center of the community. 10 Father Ronan "was universally consid-

ered the first citizen of Dorchester, and Catholics and Protestants alike regarded that familiar face and smile as a benediction." His name lives on in the nearby Ronan Park, created out of the Patrick Collins estate and other properties. Father Ronan also helped establish St. Paul's

⁸ Edwin Monroe Bacon, Walks and Rides in the Country About Boston (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., Appalachian Mountain Club, 1898), 390.

⁹ Robert H. Lord, John E. Sexton, and Edward T. Harrington, *History of the Archdiocese of Boston, 3* vols. (New York: Sheed and Ward, 1944), 3:249.

¹⁰ Ibid., 3:250.

¹¹ Ibid.

Church (now Holy Family Parish), the Church of St. Leo, and St. Margaret's Church (now Mother of Teresa) as daughter churches out of the territory of St. Peter's parish. St. Williams (1910) and St. Ambrose's (1914) parishes were also created out of the former territory of St. Peter's. After Father Ronan, the pastors of St. Peter's were Bishop Anderson and Monsignor Richard J. Haberlin. 12

The large parochial school and impressive church continued to attract new residents to the neighborhood and hold established parishioners. Comparing the 1918 Bromley map with the 1894 one of the Bowdoin-Geneva area reveals that almost all the old estates and undeveloped land had been tightly packed with triple-deckers during the intervening 25 years. The William Emerson estate between Rosseter Street and Geneva Avenue, the Free Home for Consumptives on Quincy Street, and Ronan Park were among the few large tracts and open spaces still preserved.

During the first six decades of the 20th century, this neighborhood was primarily a working class, white Catholic neighborhood. Between 1960 and 1970 the Mount Bowdoin/Bowdoin North section on the west began to go through a significant racial transition. The following decade this transition continued, and the Fields Corner West sub-neighborhood also experienced rapid racial change. Perhaps some of this change was influenced by the program organized by the Boston Banks Urban Renewal Group (BBURG) making easy home mortgage loans available within a specified area of Boston that included the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood. In recent years the broader neighborhood has seen a growth not only in the number of African Americans, but also in the number of Cape Verdeans, Hispanics, Vietnamese, and people from the Caribbean. While there were many abandoned buildings, vacant lots and cases of arson in the past, there have been many housing improvements and some new construction



Bowdoin Street Health Center

in recent years. Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation and other groups have built affordable housing like the Bowdoin-Geneva I, II, and III developments. The Main Streets program has had some success in improving the commercial district and bringing business owners together for neighborhood improvement. Several other positive community collaborations and new developments hold promise for the future, even though the neighborhood has experienced a number of traumatic acts of violence in recent years. The Bowdoin Street Health Center and the recently renovated St. Peter's Teen Center are both involved in initiatives to serve youth and reduce violence. Major new centers are serving the neigh-

borhood, including the Catholic Charities Yawkey Center and the Vietnamese American Community Center. The neighborhood has a great heritage dating back to the 1600s, and a rich present diversity to create a solid future.

NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING DOCUMENT: Bowdoin-Geneva Page 6

¹² Ibid., 683-84.

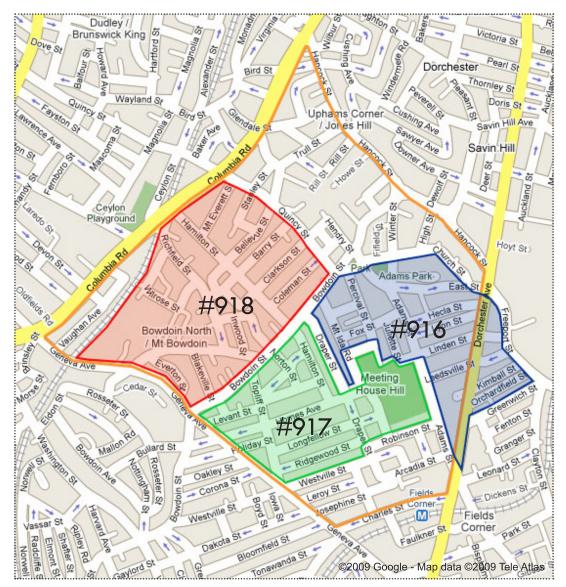
¹³ See the "1894 Dorchester Bromley Combine 1," and the 1918 Dorchester Bromley Combine Final" maps at the Boston Atlas website, www.mapjunction.com/BRA/ (accessed 1 July 2009).

BOUNDARIES

The boundaries of the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood are not clearly defined, but in broader terms they may be described as running up Geneva Avenue from Charles Street to Columbia Road, up Columbia Road to Hancock Street, down Hancock Street to Dorchester Avenue, and following Dorchester Avenue to Charles Street and back along it to Geneva Avenue. Some of this area might also be considered to be in the Uphams Corner neighborhood.

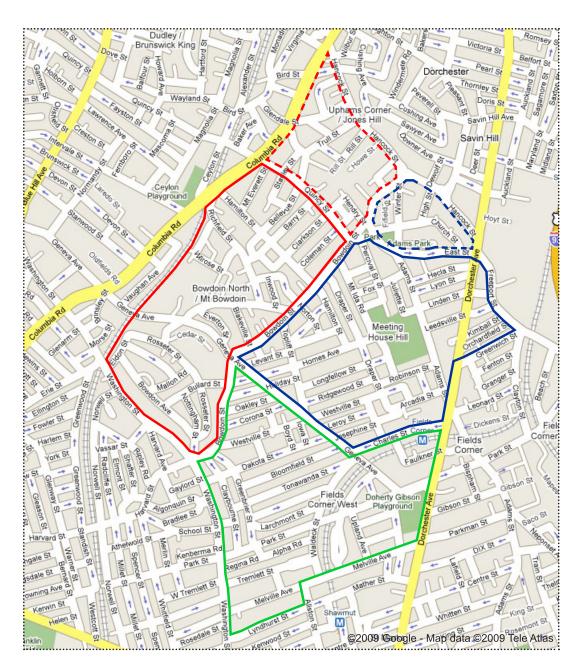
The city of Boston has defined several sub-neighborhoods or Neighborhood Statistical Areas of Dorchester. The three areas related to the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood are (1) Bowdoin North/Mount Bowdoin, Area 12; (2) Fields Corner West, Area 16; and (3) Meeting House Hill, Area 17. Together these form a somewhat larger area bordered on the west by Washington Street, then by the commuter railroad tracks and Columbia Road up to Quincy Street. The boundary then follows Quincy Street to East Street and thus to Dorchester Avenue and includes a small section east of Dorchester Avenue bounded by Freeport and Greenwich streets. Then it follows Dorchester Avenue south to Melville Avenue and back over to Washington Street.

The heart of the neighborhood includes the three census tracts 916, 917 and 918. For convenience, these will be used to present most of the statistics about the neighborhood. The combined area of these census tracts is bordered by Geneva Avenue from Westville Street to the commuter railroad tracks and follows those to Columbia Road and up Columbia Road to Quincy Street down to Church Street and from there to Dorchester Avenue (census tract 916 includes the little section east of Dorchester Avenue bounded by Freeport and Greenwich streets). The eastern boundary follows Dorchester Avenue then up Adams Street to Robinson Street and thus back to the vicinity of Westville Street.



BOWDOIN-GENEVA BOUNDARIES AND CENSUS TRACTS

Broader Overall Boundary



BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY DEFINED SUB-AREAS



POPULATION TRENDS

Although the population of the area was higher in 1970, it has been growing again from 1980 to 2000. However, from 1990 to 2000 the Mount Bowdoin/Bowdoin North area declined in population. Between 1960 and 1980 each sub-neighborhood became more diverse, but Mount Bowdoin/North Bowdoin experienced racial transition earlier than Fields Corner West, which went through a change between 1970 and 1980.¹⁴

BRA NSA NEIGHBORHOODS	1970 POP.	1980 POP.	1990 POP.	2000 POP.	POP. CHANGE 1990-2000
Mount Bowdoin/ Bowdoin North	9,600	4,921	5,487	5,132	-355
Fields Corner West	7,000	5,881	5,461	5,997	+536
Meeting House Hill	10,000	6,803	7,348	8,135	+787
Area totals	26,600	17,605	18,296	19,264	+968

RACIAL TRENDS IN THE AREA'S THREE SUB-NEIGHBORHOODS									
BRA NEIGH- BORHOODS	1960 BLACK POP.	1960 % BLACK	1970 BLACK POP.	1970 % BLACK	1980 BLACK POP.	1980 % BLACK			
Mount Bowdoin/ North Bowdoin	30	1%	2,200	23%	3,101	63.0%			
Fields Corner West	5	0%	230	3%	3,090	52.5%			
Meeting House Hill	0	0%	100	1%	1,412	20.8%			

^{14 1960} and 1970 statistics are from: Boston Redevelopment Authority, Dorchester/Fields Corner: District Profile & Proposed 1978-80 Neighborhood Improvement Program (Boston: City of Boston, BRA, 1977), 7. 1980 Statistics are from: Boston Redevelopment Authority, Boston Population and Housing by Neighborhood Areas, 1980 (Boston: BRA, 1983), P2. Statistics for 1990, 2000 from BRA, PD 12 South Dorchester Report based on the U.S. Census SF1 files.

DEMOGRAPHICS FOR SUB-NEIGHBORHOODS: BRA NEIGHBORHOOD STATISTICAL AREAS IN THE 2000 CENSUS¹⁵

Mount Bowdoin/Bowdoin North Neighborhood

Total Population: 5,132

Total Hispanic Population: 828 Total Number of Families: 1,176

Average Family Size: 3.76 Average Household Size: 3.43

Median Age: 27.5 years

Number of 10-19 Year Olds: 1,030

MOUNT BOWDOIN/BOWDOIN NORTH							
	Total Population Hispanic Non-Hispanic						
White	357	145	212				
Black/African Am.	3,371	141	3,230				
Asian	69	0	69				
Total other races	971	443	528				
Two or more races	364	99	265				

FIELDS CORNER WEST NEIGHBORHOOD

Total Population: 5,997

Total Hispanic population: 971 Total Number of Families: 1,350

Average Family Size: 3.73 Average Household size: 3.38

Median Age: 29.3

Number of 10-19 Year Olds: 1,081

FIELDS CORNER WEST							
	Total population	Hispanic	Non-Hispanic				
White	872	165	707				
Black/African Am.	3,584	238	3,346				
Asian	448	1	447				
Total other races	668	483	185				
Two or more races	425	84	341				

¹⁵ Boston Redevelopment Authority, PD 12 South Dorchester Report, U.S. Census 2000, Summary File 1 (SF1) (Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority, 2002), 51-75; 151-175; 176-200. This report is the source of all Census 2000 data in this section.



Meeting House Hill Neighborhood

Total Population: 8,135

Total Hispanic population: 1,232 Total Number of Families: 1,796

Average Family Size: 3.75 Average Household Size: 3.28

Median Age: 27.4

Number of 10-19 Year Olds: 1,636

MEETING HOUSE HILL NEIGHBORHOOD							
	Total population Hispanic Non-Hispanic						
White	1,167	235	932				
Black/African Am.	3,827	277	3,550				
Asian	965	4	961				
Total other races	1,488	600	888				
Two or more races	688	116	572				

RACIAL AND ETHNIC COMPOSITION

Almost half of the population in the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood is black (47%), 15% is Hispanic, 10% is white, 8% is Asian, 13% is some other race and 7% is two or more races. The nonwhite population (90%) is much higher in the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood than in the city overall (51% nonwhite), in the state (18% nonwhite) and in the nation (31% nonwhite). The percent of the population that is black is almost twice that of the city overall (47% compared to 24%), over nine times more than the state overall (47% compared to 5%), and almost four times more than the nation (47% compared to 12%). The youth population has similar demographics to the overall population but a little more nonwhite (50% black, 17% Hispanic, 7% Asian, 5% white, 14% some other race, and 8% two or more races).

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY								
	Census 91		Censu 91		Census Tract 918		Total Bowdoin- Geneva	
People who are white alone*	581	17%	242	7%	162	5%	985	10%
People who are Black or African American alone*	1,269	37%	1,660	50%	1,965	55%	4,894	47%
People who are Hispanic or Latino	458	13%	458	14%	658	19%	1,574	15%
People who are Asian alone*	612	18%	177	5%	58	2%	847	8%
People who are some other race alone*	295	9%	511	15%	491	14%	1,297	13%
People who are two or more races*	233	7%	299	9%	213	6%	745	7%
Total	3,448	100%	3,347	100%	3,547	100%	10,342	100%

^{*}Not Hispanic or Latino

TOTAL POPULATION BY RACE/ETHNICITY								
	USA		Massachi	usetts	Bost	Boston		
People who are white alone*	194,552,774	69%	5,198,359	82%	291,561	49%		
People who are Black or African American alone*	33,947,837	12%	318,329	5%	140,305	24%		
People who are Hispanic or Latino	35,305,818	13%	428,729	7%	85,089	14%		
People who are Asian alone*	10,123,169	4%	236,786	4%	44,009	7%		
People who are some other race alone*	2,890,162	1%	56,556	1%	10,003	2%		
People who are two or more races*	4,602,146	2%	110,338	2%	18,174	3%		
Total	281,421,906	100%	6,349,097	100%	589,141	100%		

^{*}Not Hispanic or Latino

AGE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

To determine demographic information for the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood, we utilized data from the 2000 Census for census tracts 916, 917 and 918. A higher percentage of the population is between the ages of 5 and 18 in Bowdoin-Geneva than in the City of Boston overall, in the state, and in the nation.

Youth Aged 10-19: **2,079** (Ages 12-18: 1,426; Ages 5-18: 2,895)

Males 10-19: 1,039

Females 10-19: 1,040

The 10-19 year old group makes up 20% of the total population in Bowdoin-Geneva (compared to 14% nationally, 13% statewide and 13% in the City of Boston).

The 12-18 year old group makes up 14% of the total population in Bowdoin-Geneva (compared to 10% nationally, 9% statewide and 8% in the City of Boston).

The 15-24 year old group makes us 18% of the total population in Bowdoin-Geneva (compared to 14% nationally, 13% statewide and 19% in the City of Boston).

The 20-24 year old group makes up 8% of the total population in Bowdoin-Geneva (compared to 7% nationally, 6% statewide and 12% in the City of Boston).

The 5-18 year old group makes up 28% of the total population in Bowdoin-Geneva (compared to 20% nationally, 19% statewide and 16% in the City of Boston).

	10 to 19	12 to 18	15 to 24	20 to 24	5 to 18
	years	years	years	years	years
United States	14%	10%	14%	7%	20%
Massachusetts	13%	9%	13%	6%	19%
Boston	13%	8%	19%	12%	16%
Census Tract 916	19%	13%	18%	9%	25%
Census Tract 917	22%	15%	19%	8%	29%
Census Tract 918	20%	14%	16%	7%	30%
Bowdoin-Geneva	20%	14%	18%	8%	28%

	Censu 91	s Tract		Census Tract Census Tract 917 918			Total Bowdoin- Geneva (916, 917, 918)		
Total (ages 0-110)	3,4	48	3,3	47	3,5	47	10,0	10,342	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Under 1 year	68	2.0%	41	1.2%	61	1.7%	1 <i>7</i> 0	1.6%	
1 year	59	1.7%	55	1.6%	62	1.7%	1 <i>7</i> 6	1.7%	
2 yrs.	57	1.7%	57	1.7%	56	1.6%	1 <i>7</i> 0	1.6%	
3 yrs.	59	1.7%	55	1.6%	58	1.6%	172	1.7%	
4 yrs.	60	1.7%	55	1.6%	65	1.8%	180	1.7%	
5 yrs.	46	1.3%	45	1.3%	<i>7</i> 1	2.0%	162	1.6%	
6 yrs.	57	1.7%	54	1.6%	74	2.1%	185	1.8%	
7 yrs.	69	2.0%	69	2.1%	88	2.5%	226	2.2%	
8 yrs.	57	1.7%	68	2.0%	87	2.5%	212	2.0%	
9 yrs.	69	2.0%	83	2.5%	82	2.3%	234	2.3%	
10 yrs.	65	1.9%	63	1.9%	92	2.6%	220	2.1%	
11 yrs.	71	2.1%	81	2.4%	78	2.2%	230	2.2%	
12 yrs.	71	2.1%	93	2.8%	77	2.2%	241	2.3%	
13 yrs.	57	1.7%	65	1.9%	73	2.1%	195	1.9%	
14 yrs.	45	1.3%	64	1.9%	76	2.1%	185	1.8%	
15 yrs.	68	2.0%	63	1.9%	85	2.4%	216	2.1%	
16 yrs.	75	2.2%	70	2.1%	53	1.5%	198	1.9%	
17 yrs.	54	1.6%	74	2.2%	62	1.7%	190	1.8%	
18 yrs.	62	1.8%	86	2.6%	53	1.5%	201	1.9%	
19 yrs.	79	2.3%	65	1.9%	59	1.7%	203	2.0%	
20 yrs.	73	2.1%	64	1.9%	64	1.8%	201	1.9%	
21 yrs.	56	1.6%	43	1.3%	48	1.4%	147	1.4%	
22 yrs.	49	1.4%	49	1.5%	45	1.3%	143	1.4%	
23 yrs.	61	1.8%	67	2.0%	40	1.1%	168	1.6%	
24 yrs.	55	1.6%	60	1.8%	53	1.5%	168	1.6%	
10 to 19 yrs.	647	18.8%	724	21.6%	708	20.0%	2,079	20.1%	
12 to 18 yrs.	432	12.5%	515	15.4%	479	13.5%	1,426	13.8%	
15 to 24 yrs.	632	18.3%	641	19.2%	562	15.8%	1,835	17.7%	
20 to 24 yrs.	294	8.5%	283	8.5%	250	7.0%	827	8.0%	
5 to 18 yrs.	866	25.1%	978	29.2%	1,051	29.6%	2,895	28.0%	

The median ages of the census tracts that make up Bowdoin-Geneva are all younger than the median ages nationally, statewide and citywide. While the median ages for females are similar in the three Bowdoin-Geneva census tracts, census tract 917 has a lower median age for males than the other two census tracts. In census tract 917, the median age for males is 24.3, over 10 years younger than the Massachusetts median age.

MEDIAN AGE								
	Both Sexes	Male	Female					
United States	35.3	34.0	36.5					
Massachusetts	36.5	35.4	37.7					
Boston	31.1	30.4	31.8					
Census Tract 916	27.8	27.2	28.4					
Census Tract 917	26.6	24.3	28.7					
Census Tract 918	27.1	26.0	28.0					

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. P13. MEDIAN AGE BY SEX [3] - Universe: Total population

LINGUISTIC ISOLATION

Households in the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood are more likely to be linguistically isolated than households across Massachusetts and the nation. Linguistic isolation 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." Approximately 12 percent of households in the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood are linguistically isolated compared to four percent nationally and five percent statewide. Of the 370 linguistically isolated households in Bowdoin-Geneva, 27 percent speak Spanish, 20 percent speak Asian and Pacific Island languages, and 53 percent speak other Indo-European languages.

	Total # of linguisti- cally isolated house- holds	% of total house- holds that are lin- guistically isolated	% of lin- guistically isolated that speak Spanish	% of lin- guistically isolated that speak other Indo- European languages	% of linguistically isolated that speak Asian and Pacific Island Languages	% of lin- guistically isolated that speak other lan- guages ¹⁸
United States	4,361,638	4%	59%	20%	18%	3%
Massachusetts	115,007	5%	33%	46%	19%	3%
City of Boston	25,660	11%	36%	34%	27%	3%
Census Tract 916	159	15%	25%	41%	35%	0%
Census Tract 917	127	13%	24%	61%	14%	0%
Census Tract 918	84	8%	37%	63%	0%	0%
Bowdoin-Geneva	370	12%	27%	53%	20%	0%

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data. P20. HOUSEHOLD LANGUAGE BY LINGUISTIC ISOLATION [14] - Universe: Households.

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸ Other Indo-European languages include French (Cajun, Patois), French Creole (Haitian Creole), Italian, Portuguese, Portuguese Creole, German, Yiddish, Other West German Languages (such as Dutch), Scandinavian languages (Danish, Norwegian, Swedish), Greek, Russian, Polish, Serbo-Croatian (Croatian, Serbian), Other Slavic languages (Czech, Slovak, Ukrainian), Armenian, Persian, Gujarati, Hindi, Urdu, Other Indic languages (Bengali, Marathi, Punjabi, Romany), Other Indo-European languages (Albanian, Gaelic, Lithuanian, Rumanian).

FAMILY STRUCTURE

The average household size¹⁹ in each of the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood census tracts is greater than the average household size in the City of Boston overall, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in the nation. In census tract 916, the average household size is 3.1 people, and in census tracts 917 and 918 the average household size is 3.5 people.

	AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE
United States	2.6
Massachusetts	2.5
City of Boston	2.3
Census Tract 916	3.1
Census Tract 917	3.5
Census Tract 918	3.5

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

Most children residing in households²⁰ live with at least one biological parent, not only in the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood, but also in the City of Boston, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and across the nation. In the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood, 86 percent of children under age 18 live with at least one parent, nine percent live with their grandparent(s), four percent live with other relative(s), and one percent live with non-relative(s).²¹

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18 LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS, 2000					
	Living with Parent(s)	Living with Grandparent(s)	Living with Other Relatives	Living with Nonrelatives	
United States	64,494,637 (90%)	4,533,016 (6%)	1,509,419 (2%)	1,362,11 <i>5</i> (2%)	
Massachusetts	1,382,189 (93%)	67,781 (5%)	19,721 (1%)	22,486 (2%)	
Boston city	100,177 (87%)	9,319 (8%)	3,851 (3%)	1,939 (2%)	
Bowdoin-Geneva	3,059 (86%)	311 (9%)	137 (4%)	48 (1%)	
Census Tract 916	90%	6%	2%	1%	
Census Tract 917	88%	8%	3%	1%	
Census Tract 918	81%	11%	6%	2%	

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



¹⁹ A measure obtained by dividing the number of people in households by the total number of households (or householders).

²⁰ As opposed to institutions.

²¹ Fewer than 1% were householders or spouses.

While the majority of children in Bowdoin-Geneva live with at least one parent, only 34 percent live with their parent(s) in a married couple family.²² Approximately 46 percent of children live with their mothers with no husband present and five percent live with their fathers with no wife present. The proportion of children living with their mothers with no husband present in Bowdoin-Geneva is higher than that proportion nationally, statewide and in the City of Boston overall.

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 18 LIVING WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT, 2000						
	Total living with at least one parent	In married- couple family	Male householder, no wife present	Female householder, no husband present		
United States	64,494,637 (90%)	47,682,383 (66%)	3,505,1 <i>57</i> (5%)	13,307,097 (18%)		
Massachusetts	1,382,189 (93%)	1,039,492 (70%)	57,705 (4%)	284,992 (19%)		
Boston city	100,1 <i>77</i> (87%)	53,183 (46%)	5,294 (5%)	41,700 (36%)		
Bowdoin-Geneva	3,059 (86%)	1,223 (34%)	193 (5%)	1,643 (46%)		
Census Tract 916	90%	38%	7%	45%		
Census Tract 917	88%	36%	4%	48%		
Census Tract 918	81%	30%	6%	46%		

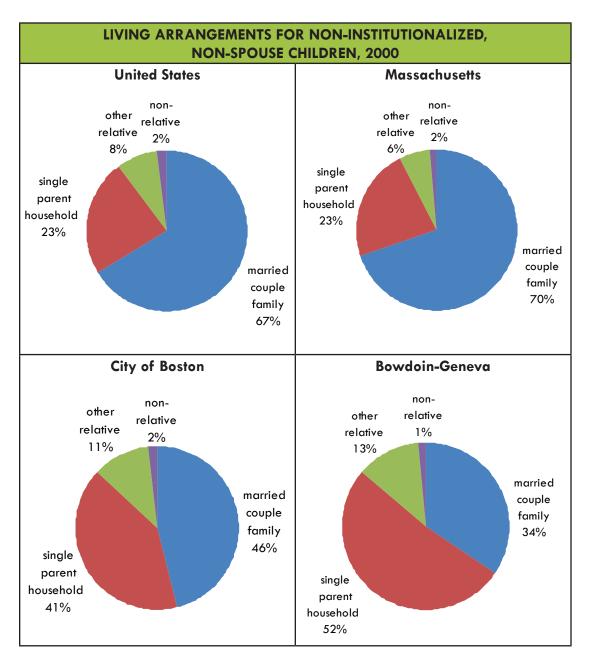
Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 1 (SF 1) 100-Percent Data. P28. RELATIONSHIP BY HOUSE-HOLD TYPE FOR THE POPULATION UNDER 18 YEARS [17] - Universe: Population under 18 years. Table does not include children living in group quarters (such as institutions) or children who were spouses or householders.



Offices of Dorchester CARES Coalition for Families and Children

²² 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.





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

ECONOMICS AND INCOME

Poverty rates in the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood are higher than in the state and in the nation but similar to poverty rates in the City of Boston overall. In the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood, approximately 20 percent of the population lives below the federal poverty level, compared to 12 percent nationally and nine percent statewide. A higher percentage of youth live below the poverty level. In the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood approximately 24 percent of youth under the age of 18 and 26 percent of the youth ages 12-17 live below the poverty level. Poverty levels for youth are slightly higher in census tract 918 where over 30 percent of youth live below the poverty level.

	PERCENT OF POPULATION LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL	PERCENT OF YOUTH UNDER AGE 18 LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL	PERCENT OF YOUTH AGES 12- 17 LIVING BELOW POVERTY LEVEL
United States	12%	17%	15%
Massachusetts	9%	12%	11%
Boston	20%	26%	25%
Census Tract 916	22%	19%	23%
Census Tract 917	17%	23%	20%
Census Tract 918	22%	31%	35%
Bowdoin-	20%	24%	26%
Geneva			
Neighborhood			

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data. P87. POVERTY STATUS IN 1999 BY AGE [17] - Universe: Population for whom poverty status is determined.

In the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood approximately seven percent of households receive public assistance income. In each of the Bowdoin-Geneva census tracts (916, 917, 918), there is a higher percentage of households receiving public assistance than in the city overall, in the state and in the nation.

	TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	HOUSEHOLDS WITH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INCOME	% WITH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE
United States	105,539,122	3,629,732	3%
Massachusetts	2,444,588	70,183	3%
Boston city	239,603	9,766	4%
Census Tract 916	1,088	86	8%
Census Tract 917	962	72	7%
Census Tract 918	989	55	6%
Total Bowdoin-Geneva	3,039	213	7%

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data; P64. PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INCOME IN 1999 FOR HOUSEHOLDS [3] - Universe: Households

CHURCHES

Azusa Christian Community Center

411 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02124 617-282-6704 Rev. Eugene F. Rivers, III, Pastor Works with high-risk youth

Bethel Pentecostal Haitian Church

137 Dakota St., Dorchester, MA 02124 617-247-8735 Rev. Rosette Falaise, Pastor

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

34 Adams St., Dorchester, MA 02122 617-288-0664 freef47@aol.com www.bbc.veritaz.com Rev. Gary W. Corbin, Pastor Youth group for teens; academic assistance

BORN AGAIN HOUSE OF PRAYER MINISTRY

301 Columbia Rd., Dorchester, MA 02121 617-265-2525 Rev. Bridget Ogboe Aikionbare, Sr. Pastor Rev. John Aikionbare, Co-Pastor

Calvary Church International

21 Parish St., Dorchester, MA 02122 617-822-1343 Bishop Edward W. Hoffman, Pastor Founded 1982

Church of God Bethel of Boston

347 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02124 617-825-4229 Rev. J. Michelet Dumornay, Pastor Ms. Marjorie Jean-Pierre, Youth Director Youth group meeting Sundays 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Deliverance Temple Worship Center

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

First Parish Church of Dorchester

10 Parish St., Dorchester, MA 02122-3209 617-436-0527 office@firstparish.com www.firstparish.com Rev. Arthur Lavoie Youth: Girl Scouts meets here

FRIENDSHIP APOSTOLIC CHURCH

Founded 1630

275 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02121 617-288-7407 or 617-288-9410 Elder Wilfred Reid, Pastor Youth service: Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Founded 1969

GREENWOOD MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

378A Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02124 617-288-8410 greenwoodumc@verizon.net www.greenwoodmemorialumc.org Rev. Marcelle Dotson, Pastor Shalom Outreach Community afterschool program for ages 5-14

IGLESIA DE DIOS, M.B (SPANISH CHURCH OF GOD)

450 Quincy St., Dorchester, MA 02125 617-265-6910 or 617-265-6911 Rev. David Morales, Pastor Youth work included youth group, mentoring, academic support, retreats, service projects, music, and recreation/sports

Iglesia de Dios Pentecostal Monte de los Olivos AICU

422 Geneva Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122 Rev. Robert Badillo, Pastor

LIFE CHURCH MINISTRIES

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



Men and Women of Crossroads Ministry

197 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 Rev. Angela Smith, Pastor

Quincy Street Missional Church

266 Quincy St., Boston, MA 02125 617-436-1618 quincystreetchurch@gmail.com www.quincystreet.org Rev. Ralph Kee, Pastor Leah Beidler, Youth Pastor The church has a youth ministry

REVIVAL DELIVERANCE TEMPLE CHURCH

329 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02121 617-372-7531 or 617-436-3086 Rev. Lucy Vick, Pastor, Overseer, Founder

SHEKINAH GLORY MULTI-CULTURAL OUTREACH MINISTRIES

118 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02124 857-869-6920 Dorrete G. Todman and Alphaeus Todman, Pastors



Calvary Church International

St. Peter's Catholic Church

309-311 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 617-265-1132 stpeter.dor@verizon.net Right Rev. John J. Ahern, Pastor Rev. Christopher Gomes, OFM, Vicar Services in English and Portuguese Founded 1872

Universal Church of God in Christ Outreach Ministry

242 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 617-436-4766 Rev. George H. Williams, Pastor

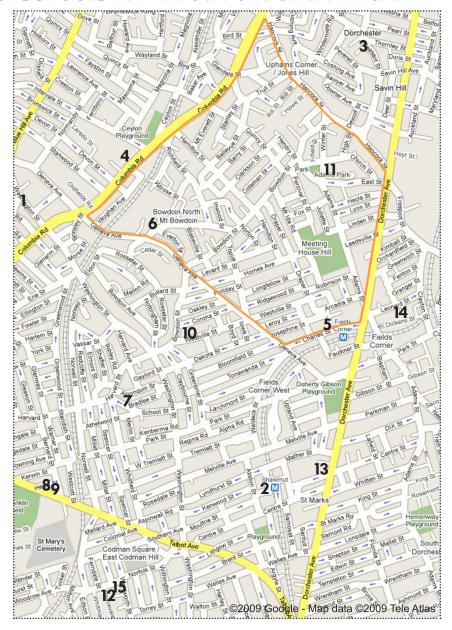
VICTORY CHAPEL CHURCH

301 Columbia Rd., Dorchester, MA 02125 617-822-0621
Bishop Wayne Jordan, Pastor www.victorychapelchurch.net bishopjordan1@verizon.net victorychapel2@verizon.net
WWZN 1510 Radio programs



SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

MAP OF SCHOOLS IN THE BOWDOIN-GENEVA AREA



- 1. Jeremiah E. Burke High School
- 2. Epiphany School
- 3. Edward Everett Elementary School
- 4. Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School
- 5. Harbor School
- 6. Holland Elementary School
- 7. Oliver Wendell Holmes Elementary School
- 8. Lee Academy Pilot School

- 9. Joseph Lee Elementary School
- 10. John Marshall Elementary School
- 11. Mather Elementary
- 12. Noonan Business Academy
- 13. Patrick O'Hearn Elementary School
- 14. Smith Leadership Academy Charter Public School
- 15. TechBoston Academy



JEREMIAH E. BURKE HIGH SCHOOL

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

Burke High School is a grade 9-12 high school with 656 students and a staff-to-student ratio of 1:14. The student body is 73.3% black, 17.7% Hispanic, 2.9% white, 4% Asian, and 2.1% other. 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 state average. 40% of student did not learn English as a first language and 74% receive free or reduced price lunch.

EPIPHANY SCHOOL

154 Center St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-326-0425 + www.epiphanyschool.com

Epiphany School is an Episcopal, tuition-free middle school for low-income students. The school has an extended day that includes traditional class time in the morning and early afternoon; sports in the afternoon; and study time after dinner. Over one-third of students receive tutoring outside of the classroom. The student body is 20% African-American, 25% Cape Verdean, 5% Caucasian, 5% Haitian, 20% Latino, 15% West Indian, 5% Vietnamese, and 5% other. 15% of students are homeless at some point during their time at Epiphany; 20% are in foster homes; 50% did not learn English as their first language; and almost all have recently witnessed violence.

EDWARD EVERETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

71 Pleasant St., Dorchester, MA 02125-1899 + 617-635-8778 + www.boston.k12.ma.us/everett

Everett Elementary is a K0-5 school serving 280 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:13. Everett has strong literacy, math, and science programs, including an environmental science school and an award-winning schoolyard/outdoor classroom. The school received an award for environmental education from the Secretary for Environmental Affairs in 2004. The student body is 50.4% black, 18.9% Hispanic, 10.4% white, 18.9% Asian, and 1.4% other. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a status of "corrective action" for English language arts and "needs improvement" for mathematics. Students are failing MCAS at a rate of about twice the state average. 35% of students did not speak English as a first language; 14% remain limited in their English proficiency; and 72% receive free or reduced price lunch.

LILLA G. FREDERICK PILOT MIDDLE SCHOOL

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

Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School is a pilot school for students in grades 6-8. 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 language and 22% remain limited English proficient. 86% receive free or reduced price lunch.



Harbor School

11 Charles St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-635-6365

Harbor School serves 255 students in grades 6-8 with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:13. The school operates on an Expeditionary Learning Outward Bound model, engaging students in "meaningful projects connected to the real world." An extended school day provides time for extracurricular activities including clubs, sports, arts, and academic enrichment. Students at Harbor must earn a C or above in order to pass. The student body is 70.6% black, 13.7% Hispanic, 10.2% white, 4.7% Asian, and 0.8% other. The school has a No Child Left Behind status of "needs improvement" for English language arts and "corrective action" for mathematics. MCAS scores are below state averages. 20% of students did not speak English as a first language and 3.8% remain limited in their English proficiency. 84% of students receive free or reduced price lunch.

HOLLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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

Holland Elementary is a K1-5 school serving 690 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:11. Programs include Structured English Immersion (SEI) for both Spanish and Vietnamese speakers; school-based therapy with a full-time social worker; a BELL Foundation afterschool program; and a partnership with Boston Ballet. The student body is 49.3% black, 30.3% Hispanic, 1.6% white, 17.4% Asian, and 1.4% other. Under No Child Left Behind the school has a status of "restructuring." MCAS scores are below state averages. 42% of students did not speak English as a first language; 34% remain limited in their English proficiency; and 87.2% receive free or reduced price lunch.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

40 School St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-635-8681 + holmes@bostonpublicschools.org

Holmes Elementary School serves 200 students in grades K1-5 with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:10. Their science program is supported by resources from Museum of Science, New England Aquarium, Franklin Park Zoo and Children's Museum. In addition, they have computers in every classroom. The student body is 75% black, 16.5% Hispanic, 5% white, 1.5% Asian, and 2% other with 33.5% of students classified as needing special education. The school has no status under No Child Left Behind, meaning that they are performing adequately. MCAS scores are generally at state average, although fifth grade English language arts and mathematics passing rates are low. 14% of students did not learn English as their first language, 8.2% are limited in their English proficiency, and 83% receive free or reduced price lunch.

LEE ACADEMY PILOT SCHOOL

155 Talbot Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-635-6619

Lee Academy Pilot School is a K0-4 school serving 240 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:13. The school has a seamlessly integrated preschool and elementary program, earning them a rating as one of Boston's top preschools by Boston Magazine in 2007. Programs also include before and afterschool activities, a home-visiting program, and a community garden. The student body is 59.6% black, 22.1% Hispanic, 8.3% white, 7.1% Asian, and 2.9% other. The school has not yet been rated under No Child Left Behind but two-thirds of students did not pass MCAS in 2008.

JOSEPH LEE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

155 Talbot Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124-2904 + 617-635-8687

Lee Elementary serves 326 students in grades K0-5. The school has Saturday school tutoring sessions and a staff-to-student ratio of 1:9. The student body is 70.2% black, 19.6% Hispanic, 4.6% white, 2.5% Asian, and 3.1% other. 37% of students are classified as needing special education. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has an English language arts status of "restructuring." MCAS scores are below state average. 12% of students did not learn English as a first language; 5% have limited English proficiency; and 82% are receive free or reduced price lunch.

JOHN MARSHALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

35 Westville St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-635-8810

Marshall Elementary won the Laura Bush Library Award in 2008. Focusing on literacy and math, the school views instruction through the lens of Multiple Intelligence Theory. This K0-5 school serves 656 students with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:12. The student body is 57.8% black, 35.4% Hispanic, 2.3% white, 1.4% Asian, and 3.2% other. The school has a status of "restructuring" under No Child Left Behind. Passing rates for MCAS are low; in the latest reported results, about two-thirds of fifth graders passed English language arts, one-half passed mathematics, and one-half passed science. Over 30% of students did not speak English as a first language, 22.5% remain limited English proficient, and 90% receive free or reduced price lunch.

MATHER ELEMENTARY

1 Parish St. Dorchester, MA 02122-3020

617-635-8757

Mather Elementary, the oldest public elementary school in America, serves 537 students in grades K1-5 and has a staff-to-student ratio of 1:13. Mather students are offered both before and after-school programs, and all students take art and/or music. The student body is 45.4% black, 15.5% Hispanic, 3.4% white, 33.1% Asian, and 2.6% other. Under No Child Left Behind the school has a status of "restructuring" for English language arts and "corrective action" for mathematics. Although student MCAS scores are below state averages, fifth grade English language arts scores improved significantly from 2007 to 2008. 48% of students did not speak English as a first language, 35% remain limited in their English proficiency, and 85% receive free or reduced price lunch.

Noonan Business Academy

9 Peacevale Rd. Dorchester, MA 02124-4417

617-635-9730

Noonan Business Academy will merge with The Academy of Public Service in September of 2009 to become the Edward G. Noonan Academy of Business, Public Service and Law. The current school serves 243 students in grades 9-12. This business academy provides one-day job shadowships to all sophomores and one-week business internships to all juniors. The student body is 68.7% black, 28.4% Hispanic, 0.8% white, 1.2% Asian, and 0.8% other. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a status of "needs improvement" for English language arts and "corrective action" for mathematics. In 2006, the school was rated the top most improved high school in state for MCAS scores. In 2008, 86% of 10th graders pass English language arts, 77% passed mathematics, and 95% passed



science. The four-year graduation rate for cohort 2007 was 44.9%.

PATRICK O'HEARN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1669 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122

617-635-8725

O'Hearn Elementary serves 230 students in grades K0-5 with a staff-to-student ratio of 1:10.33% of students are classified as needing special education. The school is inclusive of all students, teaching special education, learning disabled, and gifted and talented students together with mainstream students. Their extensive arts program focuses on visual arts, music, drama, and movement. They also have an afterschool program for tutoring, arts, and recreation. The student body is 41.3% black, 9.1% Hispanic, 33.5% white, 10.9% Asian, and 5.2% other. The school does not have a No Child Left Behind Status, meaning that they are making adequate progress. MCAS scores are lower than state averages. 16% of students did not speak English as a first language, 7% are limited English proficient, and 53% receive free or reduced price lunch.

SMITH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CHARTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

23 Leonard St., Dorchester, MA 02122-2718 + 617-474-7950 + www.smithleadership.org

Smith Leadership Academy Charter Public School is a sixth through eighth grade college preparatory school that values personal excellence, intellectual curiosity, integrity, compassion, respect, and community citizenship. The school has an extended day with enrichment and tutoring in the afternoons. Math and science are taught in single-sex classrooms. All students participate in service learning seminars that include Saturday community service. Students are also required to participate in summer institutes in math and English. Under No Child Left Behind, the school has a status of "needs improvement."

TECHBOSTON ACADEMY

9 Peacevale Rd., Dorchester, MA 02124-4417 + 617-635-1615 + <u>www.techboston.org</u>

TechBoston Academy is a pilot high school of 375 students that will expand in 2009 to include grades 6-12. The school was founded in 2002 with the support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It features an interdisciplinary, project-based curriculum, an extended day program, and a laptop for every student. In 2007 US News and World Report gave the school the Bronze Medal for America's Best High Schools. The student body is 58.3% black, 27.3% Hispanic, 7.6% white, 6.2% Asian, and 0.6% other. The school has made adequate yearly progress for No Child Left Behind. In 2008, 100% of 10th graders passed English Language Arts, 95% passed Math, and 75% passed science.

EDUCATION OF ADULT POPULATION

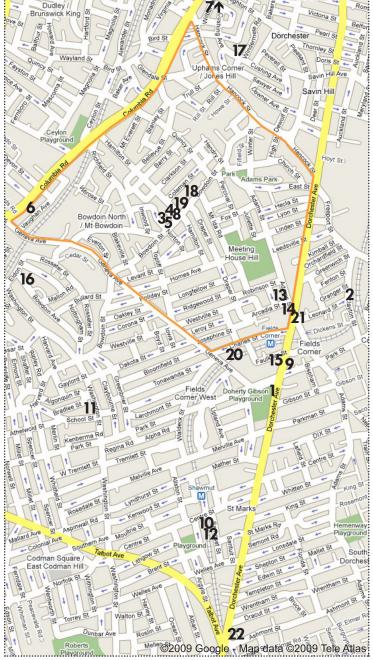
The adult population of the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood is less likely to hold formal educational degrees than the adult populations in the City of Boston overall, in Massachusetts and across the nation. While 85% of the adult population in Massachusetts has a high school degree, only 58% of adults in Bowdoin-Geneva have graduated from high school. And while 15% of the adults in the City of Boston hold a Master's degree or higher, only 4% of the adults in Bowdoin-Geneva do so. Out of the three Bowdoin-Geneva census tracts, adults living in census tract 918 seem to have the most formal education (64% have high school degrees and 12% have Bachelor's degrees).

	Less Than High School	High School Graduate	Bachelor's Degree	Master's Degree or Higher
United States	20%	80%	24%	9%
Massachusetts	15%	85%	33%	14%
Boston	21%	79%	36%	15%
Census Tract 916	41%	59%	11%	4%
Census Tract 917	49%	51%	10%	4%
Census Tract 918	36%	64%	12%	4%
Bowdoin-Geneva	42%	58%	11%	4%

Data Set: Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data. P37. SEX BY EDUCATIONAL AT-TAINMENT FOR THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER [35] - Universe: Population 25 years and over.

ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS

ORGANIZATIONS & PROGRAMS IN THE BOWDOIN-GENEVA AREA



- 1. All Dorchester Sports League
- 2. BELL
- 3. Bowdoin-Geneva Coalition of the Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (Bowdoin-Geneva VIP)
- 4. Bowdoin-Geneva Main Streets Program
- 5. Bowdoin Street Health Center
- Catholic Charities Yawkey Center/Haitian Multi-Service Center
- 7. Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation
- 8. Dorchester CARES
 Coalition for Families and
 Children
- 9. Dorchester Youth Collaborative
- 10. Dot Art
- 11. Ella J. Baker House
- 12. Federated Dorchester Neighborhood Houses/ Log School
- 13. Fields Corner Community Development Corporation
- 14. Healthy Futures
- 15. Kit Clark Senior Center
- 16. Mt. Bowdoin Betterment Association
- 17. St. Mary's Women and Children's Center
- 18. St. Peter's Teen Center
- 19. Teen Empowerment
- 20. Viet-AID (Vietnamese American Initiative for Development) and Vietnamese American Community Center
- 21. Vietnamese-American Civic Association
- 22. Boston Learning Center

ALL DORCHESTER SPORTS LEAGUE

1565 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-287-1601 + www.alldorchestersportsleague.org

This sports league has baseball (T-ball through high school), basketball for boys and girls under 14, and girls' volleyball. In addition, they have an education resource center providing SAT tutoring, MCAS tutoring, college counseling, and financial aid planning and assistance. High school athletes hoping to continue to play in college can get specialized athletic training.

BELL

60 Clayton St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-282-1567 + www.bellnational.org/education/about_us.php

BELL is a non-profit educational organization that works to increase the educational opportunities and life achievements of children living in low-income urban communities. BELL was founded in 1992 by a group of Black students at Harvard Law School. Programs include an afterschool program designed to improve students' skills in reading, writing, and math and Bell Summer, where students work on their core academic skills as well as participating in music, art, and other enrichment activities. A national organization, BELL has its national offices in Dorchester and engages students from the Bowdoin-Geneva area as part of its work.

Boston Learning Center

208 Ashmont St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-265-7170 + www.bostonlearningcenter.org

The Boston Learning Center provides tutoring, test preparation, and study skills for students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Private Tutoring is available, for a fee, by experienced professional tutors in over 14 subjects. Programs are also offered in school and after school at various schools and community centers in Boston. BIFF (Building Inspiration to Fight Failure) is an afterschool program where students are presented with 12 lessons over 9 weeks that show students the choices before them: failure and mediocrity or excellence and prosperity. After finishing this program, alumni attend monthly follow-up meetings and can gain incentives for academic achievement. One hundred percent of eighth and 10th grade alumni passed the MCAS in English and Math and 30 percent have gone from failing to the Honor Roll.

Bowdoin-Geneva Coalition of the Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (Bowdoin-Geneva VIP)

230 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-754-0100/617-754-0027 + bowdoingenevavip@gmail.com

General Citywide VIP address: Boston Public Health Commission, 1010 Massachusetts Ave., Boston,

MA 02118 + 617-534-2304 + violenceprevention@bphc.org

The Violence Intervention & Prevention (VIP) Initiative aims to prevent violence and promote positive youth development through a commitment to active and genuine collaboration between youth, residents, community organizations, and city agencies. VIP seeks to implement conflict resolution and peer mediation skills training in schools and community centers, develop a youth-driven social marketing campaign, support community mobilization efforts in the neighborhood, and ensure access to out-of-school-time opportunities for youth. It is a coalition of residents, community organizations, and businesses dedicated to addressing violence in the neighborhood. The lead agency is the Bowdoin Street Health Center working with St. Peter's Teen Center and also supported by the Dorchester Safe Neighborhood Initiative. The objective of the coalition is to design and implement a violence prevention program for the neighborhood. The plan is focusing on six strategies including hosting community dialogues after violent incidents and providing information on how to recognize and deal with trauma experienced by youth in the community.



Bowdoin-Geneva Main Streets Program

200 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-436-9980 bgms1@verizon.net + www.Bowdoin-Geneva.org
Sandra Kennedy, Executive Director

This is one of the 19 Boston Main Streets programs. It is a non-profit organization that brings together local businesses, residents, neighborhood organizations, and corporate sponsors to revitalize the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood and business district. The Main Streets area includes more than 100 businesses serving 30,000 residents, workers, and commuters. The program provides technical and financial assistance for existing business and storefront improvements, as well as new business development. It has also sponsored business networking breakfasts, business promotions, and community events.

Bowdoin Street Health Center

230 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-754-0100 + www.bowdoinstreethealth.org

Licensed and operated by Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Bowdoin Street Health Center offers multilingual, multi-ethnic services, including preventive and primary care, mental health counseling, nutrition services and community health programs. It also sponsors a Youth Sports Program for 8-14 year olds using some of the facilities at the Holland Community Center. Bowdoin Street Health Center is also the lead agency in the Bowdoin-Geneva Violence Intervention and Prevention initiative. The health center's community health initiatives focus on issues such as community organizing and development, environmental justice, violence prevention, open space and economic development. The health center's staff includes community outreach workers who work with community residents and community-based agencies to identify common issues and develop programs to address those needs.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES YAWKEY CENTER/HAITIAN MULTI-SERVICE CENTER

185 Columbia Road, 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.



Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation

594 Columbia Rd., Suite 302, Dorchester, MA 02125 + 617-825-4200 + www.dbedc.com

Its mission is to build a strong, thriving, and diverse community in Boston and Dorchester neighborhoods. Working closely with neighborhood residents and partners, they access resources to: (1) create and sustain commercial and economic development opportunities, (2) develop and preserve

affordable homeownership and rental housing, and (3) build community power through organizing and leadership development. Dorchester Bay EDC has built or renovated 704 units of rental housing, 63 cooperative ownership units, and 149 home ownership units. They have broadened their programs to include resident technology training, job linkage programs, and multiple activities for youth and local schools. Youth Programs include summer camp, sports leagues, and Youth Force, an innovative year-round organizing and leadership development program. Youth Force develops youth leadership through service, civic leadership, and social entrepreneurship to build youth power.

DORCHESTER CARES COALITION FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN

200 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-474-1256 + www.dcares.org

Dorchester Cares works to coordinate community-based programs that support families and prevent child abuse and neglect in target neighborhoods. Through public and private partnerships Dorchester Cares creates links between families and services such as training, childcare, counseling, and health care. They have classes for parents and children on communication and nurturing, a food pantry, home visits to welcome newborns and provide support to parents of young children, and a Parent Leadership Development program.

Dorchester Youth Collaborative

1514A Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-288-1748 www.eisenhowerfoundation.org/DYC/main_frame.html

This multi-racial, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, community-based youth agency provides comprehensive services to high-risk youth. The mission at DYC is to engage these teens in relationships and projects that promote the health and safety of the community and the psychosocial development of the youth. In general this includes crime, drug, gang, and pregnancy prevention services. One of the programs is an alternative middle school program for truant and court referred youth. A second program, called the Center for Urban Expression (CUE), is a drop-in center providing evening meals, counseling, recreational activities, jobs, media arts, creative fun, and challenging opportunities to promote youth development, self-worth, and a sense of belonging. The organization offers crisis intervention services, and conflict resolution support. DYC staff members have an extensive network of resources and referrals for youth within the community. DYC offers young women and men the opportunity to take part in educational workshops on health issues and discussion groups that promote healthy behavior and a resistance to negative peer pressure. The Center has a mentor program, and offers homework assistance and field trips. The media arts program, DAP (Directing, Acting and Producing), includes a range of activities from creative writing to producing a full movie or screenplay. DYC is a lead agency with Safe Teens/Safe Cities.

Dot Art

18 Samoset St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-265-3503 + <u>www.dotart.org</u>

The Dorchester Community Center for the Visual Arts is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to make exemplary visual arts education available to everyone in Dorchester. They offer programs in libraries, churches, and schools across Dorchester, as well as in their Clay Station at 1782 Dorchester Ave. These include as many as 40 low-cost or free open enrollment classes every year in drawing, painting, and sculpture. Classes range from the intergenerational to age specific and include single afternoon classes, one to two day workshops, special programs during school vacation weeks, and

²³ Dorchester Youth Collaborative. www.eisenhowerfoundation.org/DYC/main_frame.html (accessed 28 June 2009).



ongoing long-term classes. Shakespeare is Alive and Well is an afterschool program currently running at five schools using Shakespeare to explore visual arts and acting. The Dorchester Portraits Project employs 15-20 teens for the summer in creating and public exhibiting large figurative work. Girls 11 to 14 years old can participate in life-skill building and art activities through Sisters for Change.

Ella J. Baker House

411 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-282-6704

Baker House provides street intervention, education, and mentoring with at-risk youth.

FEDERATED DORCHESTER NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES/LOG SCHOOL

18 Samoset St., Dorchester, MA 02124 + 617-282-5034 + <u>www.fdnh.org</u> Log School: 222 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-288-6683

FDNC hopes to use education as a means to transform the neighborhoods of Dorchester. To that end, they strive to "equip all students we serve with the attitude, skills and experience to graduate from college and positively impact their community." Through centers scattered around Dorchester they provide four preschools, 30 home-based early care providers and out of school time programs for children aged six to 13. In the Bowdoin-Geneva neighborhood they have an adult education center, the Log School, providing computer classes, academic counseling, drop-in childcare, GED classes, employment counseling, and an ESOL program. Teens can take advantage of *Launch*, which provides educational enrichment, sports and recreation, and leadership opportunities; *Art a la Carte*, where teens are connected to Boston cultural community through classes, internships, work experiences, and field trips; and *VILLAGE Summer Program*, staffed by outreach workers who engage youth in fun activities and community service.

FIELDS CORNER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

One Arcadia St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-282-4290 + www.fieldscornercdc.org

Fields Corner CDC is "dedicated to facilitating the availability of housing and promoting economic development in order to enhance the environment for a healthy residential life in the Dorchester area." Their Arcadian Property Management Division is a community-controlled company, staffed by local residents, which has responsibility for the 168 units of rental housing owned by FCCDC.

HEALTHY FUTURES

1444 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122 • 617-929-1037 • www.healthy-futures.org

Healthy Futures educates teens in the areas of sexuality, healthy relationships, and self-respect through medically-accurate information and interactive skits and demonstrations. They empowers teens to avoid the social, psychological, and health consequences of early sexual activity and provides the skills necessary to attain abstinence before marriage. Information is presented in classrooms to middle and high school students, in five 50-minute presentations. In addition, the parent program empowers parents to talk to their teens about sex; the peer education program mobilizes and equips youth to teach other youth about the benefits of abstinence; and their educational websites for teens and parents present information specialized for age groups.

KIT CLARK SENIOR CENTER

1500 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-825-5000 + www.kitclark.org

The Kit Clark Senior Center offers a wide variety of activities and services for seniors age 60 and over. This includes recreation such as exercise, bingo, quilting, computer classes, and volunteer opportunities. Seniors who need nursing treatment or monitoring can attend a Day Health Center; those with memory loss can attend the Memory Loss Day Center; there is also a senior health center, mental health services, addictions counseling, food services, and services for homeless elders including a shelter and transitional housing.

Mt. Bowdoin Betterment Association

7 Bowdoin Ave., Dorchester, MA 02121 + 617-288-0683

The mission of MBBA is to represent the residents of the Mt. Bowdoin neighborhood by being involved in community activism and assisting to maintain a positive quality of life in our area for residents and commercial businesses.

St. Mary's Women and Children's Center

90 Cushing Ave., Dorchester, MA 02125 + 617-436-8600 www.smwcc.org + www.grlzradio.org/about.php

St. Mary's provides homeless and low-income women and children with the resources and life skills necessary to build stable, healthy lives in the community. Their work includes three residential shelters: one for pregnant and parenting teens, one for homeless families, and a third for children who are victims of abuse and neglect. The *Women's Learning Center* provides adult education, *Women @ Work* provides job training, and *GRLZ Radio* does afterschool and summer youth development. GRLZ Radio is both an internet radio station and a violence prevention and girls' leadership development initiative. All aspects of production, programming, and on-air activities are orchestrated by the girls (aged 12-19) in the program, giving them a voice in their community.

St. Peter's Teen Center

278 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-506-6600 + paulo debarros@ccab.org

The Teen Center, which was renovated in 2009, now has a computer center, gym, library, classrooms, kitchen, and dance studio. Its programs provide homework assistance, English language tutoring and instruction, sports, dance and music classes, and help with MCAS and college preparation. The Center serves 250 or more teens 12-19 years old, with as many as 150 youth using the facilities on any given day.²⁴ The sports include basketball, soccer and Cape Verdean martial arts. Teen members can also take weekend trips hiking, camping, canoeing, or skiing. Other trips serve educational purposes. The Center has cultural activities, focus groups dealing



St. Peter's Teen Center and former school

with problems and issues adolescents are facing, and neighborhood safety meetings. The Center

²⁴ Michael Paulson, "Teen Center Marks the Church's Embrace of City, Asserts Cardinal: Expanded Facility in Former School Geared to Families," *Boston Globe*, 25 February 2009, B.4.



partners with the Bowdoin Street After-School Program, which also provides job opportunities for some teens. M.L. Carr's organization, WARM2Kids, provides computer based youth development programming. The Center has expanded summer programs with an academic emphasis.

TEEN EMPOWERMENT

252 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-288-2784 + www.teenempowerment.org/boston.html

The Center for Teen Empowerment, Inc. (TE) inspires young people, and the adults who work with them, to think deeply about the most difficult social problems in their communities, and gives them the tools they need to work with others in creating significant positive change. At TE's youth organizing sites, youth and adult staff bring authentic youths voice into the dialogue about improving their communities, mobilize the energy of urban youth to create meaningful change, and facilitate mutually respectful relationships between youth and adults. At each of the sites, two to three program coordinators work with a diverse group of 10-12 youth who are hired as youth organizers. Staff and youth organizers work together to: (1) identify those issues they consider most critical in their school or community, (2) design an action strategy that will involve others in having a positive impact on these issues, and (3) implement the strategy. The youth organizing work focuses on building community among diverse populations. Within the youth organizer groups, youth from rival neighborhoods or factions are brought together to work towards common goals. Youth organizers then craft strategies to bring themselves and their peers into dialogue across lines of conflict. Another significant aspect of this work has been dialogues between police and youth to help resolve some of the misunderstanding and tension. An event called U-N-I-T-E: Bringing the Community Together for Peace was highlighted by a compact—the Community-Cop Connection Agreement—between youth and the Boston Police Department, which was represented by Commissioner Edward Davis and several other officers. More than 200 youth and adults attended the event. Teen Empowerment also sponsors a citywide Peace Conference each year to address violence.

VIET-AID (VIETNAMESE AMERICAN INITIATIVE FOR DEVELOPMENT) AND VIETNAMESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

42 Charles St., Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-822-3717 + vietaid@vietaid.org + www.vietaid.org

Viet-AID, founded in 1994, completed construction of the 18,000 square foot Vietnamese American Community Center in 2002, and has worked on many other community and economic development projects. Viet-AID's mission is to build a strong Vietnamese community and a vibrant Fields Corner through the following measures: promoting civic engagement and community building; developing affordable housing and commercial space; providing small business technical assistance and micro-enterprise development; and offering high quality childcare services. Although some of the organizations efforts center on Fields Corner, many have served the Bowdoin-Geneva area as well. The \$5 million community center, recognized as the first Vietnamese facility of its kind in the United States, provides office space for Viet-AID, Au Co Preschool, Kit Clark Senior Services, and several non-profits. Weekend cultural celebrations, the Vietnamese Boys and Girls Scouts, and Vietnamese language development courses, among other events at the VACC contributes to the cultural identity of Fields Corner. Viet-AID is planning Bloomfield Gardens, a 27 unit affordable housing development on Geneva Avenue, and was a partner in developing the 20 home ownership units in the Bowdoin-Geneva III housing development.

VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

1452 Dorchester Ave. 3rd Fl.,, Dorchester, MA 02122 + 617-288-7344 + www.vacaboston.org

This multi-service Mutual Assistance Association (MAA) was founded in 1984 by Vietnamese



refugees interested in assisting other refugees with the resettlement process here in Boston. Their mission is to promote family self-sufficiency and well being, and to facilitate community empowerment among the Vietnamese population of Boston and Greater Boston. Services offered include ESOL, citizenship classes and counseling, computer literacy, employment counseling, health outreach and education, and health and social service counseling. Their afterschool program includes students in elementary through high school and offers tutoring, SAT prep, and college counseling. Summer Work Smart is an eight-week program providing work experience, English classes, career building and job readiness workshops, and internships at local non-profits. Those in the Peer Leadership Program receive tutoring and peer-education outreach both during after school. Today's Girls...Tomorrow's Leaders provides intergenerational workshops on gender disparities, specialized counseling, academic assistance, and internship and volunteer opportunities.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

- ▶ 5 Streets Neighborhood Association
- ▶ Friends of Ronan Park
- ▶ Greater Bowdoin-Geneva Neighborhood Association
- ▶ Hancock Street Civic Association
- ▶ Meeting House Hill Civic Association
- ▶ Mount Bowdoin Betterment Association
- ▶ Residents of Trinity Square



MEDIA

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