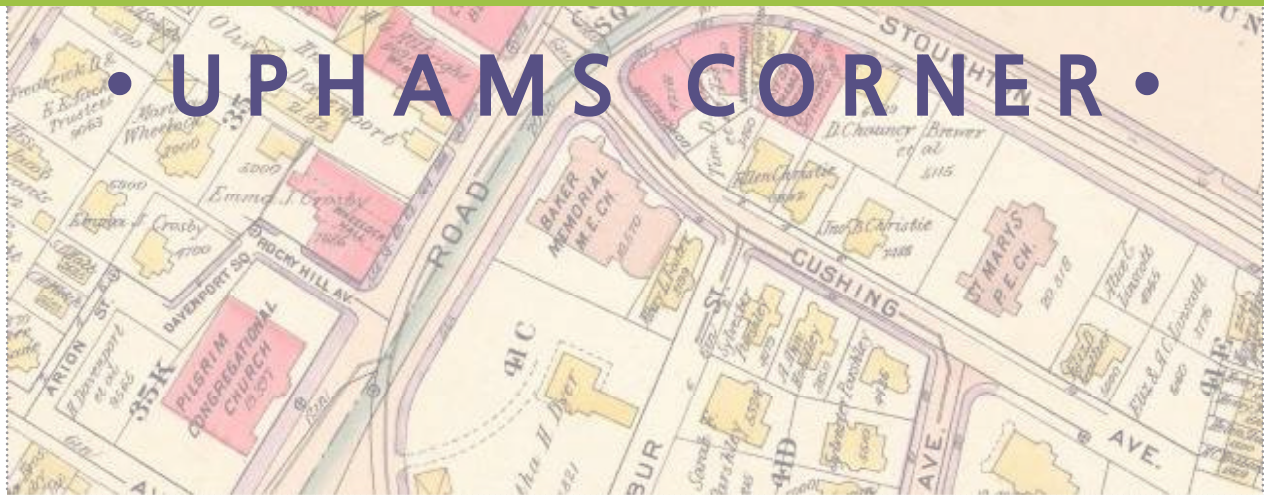


# YOUTH VIOLENCE SYSTEMS PROJECT



## NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING DOCUMENT

### • UPHAMS CORNER •



YOUTH VIOLENCE  
SYSTEMS PROJECT  
Getting to the Roots

A PARTNERSHIP OF :  
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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**The Uphams Corner Neighborhood Briefing Document was prepared by Tamecia Jones and Rudy Mitchell**

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# YOUTH VIOLENCE SYSTEMS PROJECT

*G e t t i n g   t o   t h e   R o o t s*

## NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING DOCUMENT

### • UPHAMS CORNER •

The Youth Violence Systems Project seeks to create a dynamic, working computer model which reflects reality, has predictive and analytical value, and incorporates input from the community to model the violent behavior of youth in Boston.

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# INTRODUCTION

The Uphams Corner neighborhood of Boston and Dorchester is home to a diverse mix of people, including Cape Verdeans, Hispanics, African Americans, West Indians, Caucasians of European descent, and Asians. The neighborhood includes the site of the historic first settlement of Dorchester in 1630 and other notable historic buildings of later eras. Its focal point and commercial center at the junction of Dudley Street, Stoughton Street, Columbia Road, Cushing Avenue, and Hancock Street continues to play an important commercial and social role in community life as it has since the beginning of the nineteenth century. While the community faces many challenges of poverty, youth violence, housing, and family life, it has many assets in its nearby schools, churches, neighborhood associations, social and community organizations, and talented residents to work for a positive future.

## QUICK FACTS

- ▶ Total land area in square miles is 0.33 miles<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ Current population of the Uphams Corner neighborhood is 12,000-13,000
- ▶ Over 54,000 residents live within one mile; over 17,000 within one-half mile
- ▶ Almost 60 percent of residents own cars
- ▶ Urban melting pot of both families and singles; rich mix of cultures including Cape Verdean, Haitian, African American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian, and more
- ▶ The new \$100 million Kroc Community Center is scheduled to open in 2011<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ More than 50 percent of the family households with children under 18 are single parent households
- ▶ About 13 percent of residents have a Bachelor's Degree or higher<sup>3</sup>
- ▶ There are 1,800 to 2,000 teenagers aged 12 to 19 years in the neighborhood

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1 Uphams Corner Study Area Data Profile, Department of Neighborhood Development Research and Policy Development Division, 2002. ([http://www.cityofboston.gov/dnd/pdfs/Profiles/Uphams\\_Corner\\_Profile.pdf](http://www.cityofboston.gov/dnd/pdfs/Profiles/Uphams_Corner_Profile.pdf))

2 Uphams Corner Main Streets History of Uphams Corner

3 U.S. Census, Table QT-P20, "Educational Attainment by Sex: 2000," Summary File 3.





# HISTORY OF UPHAMS CORNER

The first settlers of Dorchester in 1630 initially lived in the Uphams Corner neighborhood in the vicinity of Edward Everett Square. Here, these pioneer immigrants from Dorsett County, England built the first church in 1631 at the corner of Pleasant and Cottage Streets. One of the first public schools in America, the Mather School, was established on May 20, 1639, and



*Postcard of Old Blake House in Edward Everett Square*

met in a one room school-house near the church. This is the general area where the 1648 Blake House is now located (it was moved here from its original location). The oldest surviving, man-made site in this area is Dorchester's North Burying Ground at the corner of Columbia Road and Stoughton Street. This burial ground was created in 1634, the same year that the Boston Common was set out. The Old North was Dorchester's sole cem-

etery until as late as 1819 and attests to the primacy of northern Dorchester over its central and southern sections for two centuries.

Known in the eighteenth century as Cemetery Corner, Uphams Corner is the area surrounding the junction of Dudley Street, Stoughton Street, Columbia Road, Cushing Avenue, and Hancock Street. Uphams Corner, sometimes labeled "Columbia Square" on late 19th century atlases, was named after Amos Upham (1788-1879), a merchant who kept a dry goods store in the square for many years. Upham opened a store in 1804 which stood on the site of the present Columbia Square Building (578-588 Columbia Road). Upham's store was run by three generations of his family until as late as the mid-1890s. It was Amos and Abigail Humphrey Upham's son, James Humphrey Upham, who cast the deciding vote in 1869 to annex Dorchester to the City of Boston. The old Federal-style Upham's store was replaced during the mid 1890s by the present brick and



*Postcard of Uphams Corner*



granite structure that was variously known as “Masonic Hall,” the “Columbia Square Building,” and “Upham’s Building.” It is said that Upham installed in his Columbia Building the very first electric light in Dorchester.

Until as late as the 1910s, Uphams Corner had a more mixed-use, residential/commercial appearance. The Clapp-Dyer Mansion was once located on the site of the Strand Theatre, 543-545 Columbia Road. Originally built by Isaac Clapp in 1810 as a Federal house and inherited by his adopted daughter, Eliza Clapp Thayer, the house was sold at the time of the Civil War to Micah Dyer, a Boston attorney. The Clapp-Dyer House was one of the major landmarks at Uphams Corner, particularly after Micah Dyer “updated” the house with an encircling verandah, bracketed cornice, and mansard roof. Furthermore the house was situated on an elevation, shaded by one-hundred-year-old trees and was surrounded by spacious lawns.

In a sense, the Strand Theatre serves a similar purpose as the old Clapp-Dyer House. Built in 1918, its distinctive Classical Revival facade presides over a highly visible bend in the streetscape that makes the transition from Columbia Road commercial blocks to Hancock Street residential properties. The Strand Theatre was designed by Funk and Wilcox and is described by architectural historian Douglas Shand Tucci as “probably the city’s first movie palace built from the ground up as opposed to a remodeling.



*Strand Theater (photo from The Mass Media—*independent student newspaper of the University of Massachusetts Boston*)*

Another residential landmark for many years at Uphams Corner was the Samuel Bowen Pierce House, now the site of the Pierce Building at 592-598 Columbia Road. Pierce, born in Vermont in 1804, had entered the crockery business and sold assorted goods throughout New England. The Pierce House faced the old North Burying Ground and was bounded by a low stone wall. After the death of Samuel Pierce, his son demolished the Pierce homestead and constructed the present building that bears his name. The Pierce Building was extant by 1910, and by 1933 its tenants included Fanny Farmer Candy Shops, The Modeste Dress Shop, Louis’ Beauty Salon, Uphams Corner Conservatory of Music, Family Welfare Society, Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company, and the Gegan’s school of dance and piano.

By 1885, a city guide book noted of Upham’s Comer that “nowhere else can be seen the blending of old and new than here.” This guide pointed out that a number of “beautiful mansions” were being built in the area and that 15 of the 18 stores listed in the Dorchester section of the guide were in Uphams Corner. By that time the area was also a crossroads of several rail and trolley lines. It is interesting that while the immediate Uphams Corner crossroads acquired a decidedly citified sensibility, its adjacent neighborhoods like Virginia/Monadnock Street and Jones Hill were able to retain a suburban appearance. During the last quarter of the 19th century there were several buildings erected at Upham’s Corner that reflected the area’s growing importance as a commercial center surrounded by rapidly developing residential areas. By 1874, the City of Boston had built Engine House No. 21, a brick structure with a wooden ell that was a predecessor building to the current Mission-style fire station built between 1900 and 1910 at 643 Columbia Road. Charitable/Social organizations, always a mainstay of Victorian era commercial centers, were well-represented at Uphams Corner. As early as circa 1890, Wheelock Hall, later Odd Fellows Hall at 556-562 Columbia Road pro-



vided meeting space for local groups. Wheelock Hall was named in honor of A.P. Wheelock, who operated a large livery stable across the street at the corner of Hancock and Columbia Road (531 Columbia Road). The construction of churches is always a measure of an area's growth and certainly the construction of the Pilgrim Congregational Church at 544 Columbia Road in 1893 by Stephen Earl signifies local population growth (prior to this church's construction, its land had been part of a vacant, multi-lot tract owned by Oliver Davenport). Anchoring the northwest corner of the Upham's Corner area is the Municipal Building at 510 Columbia Road, which was built during the early 1900s and by 1933 was being used as a branch library of the Boston Public Library.

In the 1850s the New York and New England Railroad began to provide service between downtown Boston and central Dorchester. Later in the 1870s horse drawn streetcars provided transportation on some of the major streets. By the 1880s good linear streetcar service, along with sanitation and utility services opened up this area to large-scale housing developments for the middle class. In 1889-1890 the streetcars were electrified. In 1895 cross-town streetcar lines developed and stimulated the migration of the lower middle class into some parts of the neighborhood.<sup>4</sup> One of the reasons Uphams Corner became a very important commercial center for Dorchester was that five or six streetcar lines converged at its central intersection.

In 1897, a development of momentous importance to the character of Uphams Corner occurred with the widening of Columbia Road, which meant that this thoroughfare was joined to the Dorchester Parkway and the Strandway linking Franklin Park with Marine Park in South Boston. At that time Columbia Road acquired a park-like character which constituted an important link in the Emerald Necklace Park system created by Frederick Law Olmstead, which ultimately linked the Boston Common with Castle Island via an arc-like configuration of green spaces. This transformed Columbia Road passed through Uphams Corner and undoubtedly spurred onward the quality commercial block construction already well underway.

Dudley Street between Columbia Road and the railroad tracks is included in this area because it represents a continuation of the masonry "wall" of late 19th/early 20th century buildings bordering Columbia Road. Noteworthy buildings on this segment of Dudley include the Kerner Building at 761-765 Dudley Street, built c. 1880 and quite early for this area as a masonry commercial block. The Kerner Block was built on land owned by James H. and Charles A. Upham in the 1870s and was extant by 1884. By 1898 it contained four stores, one of which was the Dorchester Savings Bank. By 1933, Kerner Building tenants included James J. Coughlin, musician, James F. Campbell, "tool and die forger," Michael Goodman, baker, Thomas J. Robertson, iron worker and several other tenants with no stated occupations.

Several large, architecturally distinguished apartment buildings line the west side of Dudley Street, including the 1890 Denmark Apartments at 713 Dudley Street. This apartment was built for James W. Cook who was the proprietor of James W. Cook and Son, piano movers at 20 Avery Street. Cook also owned a boarding stable at Davenport Street and lived at 17 Greenwich Park in Boston's South End. Prior to Cook's purchase of this 8,179 square foot lot, this land had been owned by the Henry Humphrey's family, long associated with this

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4 Sam Bass Warner, Jr., *Streetcar Suburbs: The Process of Growth in Boston, 1870-1900*, 2nd edition (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1978), 85. See pages 69-86 for a full discussion of the development of this part of Dorchester following the growth of the railroad and streetcar lines.





area and ensconced for many years in a large U-shaped house at the corner of Humphrey and Dudley Street. It should be noted that in 1874, Dudley Street was considered part of Stoughton Street. The Monadnock Apartments at 715-723 Dudley Street, one of the great architectural treasures of the Uphams Corner area, marks the entrance to Monadnock Street. Its Classical/Renaissance Revival facades are of a very high-quality design. Its lot was purchased by John L. Withrow from the heirs of Ebenezer Sumner c. 1895 and the building was standing by 1898.

Uphams Corner's commercial construction activity seems to have crested around and a bit past 1920. The Dorchester Trust Company at 555 Columbia Road (now the First National Bank) was built on part of the Clapp-Dyer House's lawn by 1918. The New England Telegraph and Telephone Company, now cleverly converted into St. Kevin's Church and School, was extant by 1933. Perhaps no single early 20th century building did the most to change the lingering small town scale of Upham's Corner than the construction of the United Markets Inc. building during the 1920s. Once part of the Samuel B. Pierce house lot containing his stable, by 1895 this lot contained three double houses and Hall's stables, which were quite extensive, consisting of three large brick and wood stables. Hall's seems to have lingered into the early 1900's. By 1910, this site contained a single family house, three double houses, a stable and a garage. This garage was the Columbia Road Automobile Station, managed by a Fred Edwards, and was the place in Dorchester to have work done on the first automobiles of Dorchester.

During the 1920s this garage was reworked into the present two-story structure at 600-618 Columbia Road. This building was constructed by two brothers, Paul and John Cifrino and it has the distinction of being the world's first "supermarket." According to Anthony Mitchell Sammarco, Dorchester historian, "Unlike other markets, it stocked a complete line of groceries. Another thing that made it different was that it was a self-service store, with clerks only at the checkout counters--the prototype of the modern supermarket. The Cifrino Brothers, who lived near St. Paul's Church on Hartford Street in Dorchester, ran a well-stocked store that included everything from fish to freshly-made peanut butter, fresh butter, and quality teas and coffees."

The Cifrino Brothers sold their store in the 1940s and opened the first Purity Supreme supermarket in the Boston area on Gallivan Boulevard (most recently a Flanagan's supermarket). After World War II, the former Cifrino's became the Elm Farm Market. By that time Uphams Corner was losing many of its long time residents to the suburbs. During the 1950s the park-like character of Columbia Road lost its park median strip in favor of more traffic lanes. The Elm Farm Market shut its doors



*Postcard of the Cifrino Brothers' Market (building on the far right)*



in the early 1970s. During the 1980s heartening developments at Uphams Corner included the rehabilitation of the Pierce Building by a local non-profit for artist space and successful community work towards revitalizing the Strand Theatre. Additionally, the Dorchester Historical Society and the City of Boston took steps to halt the deterioration of the historic Dorchester North Burying Ground and to beautify its sacred ground.

*Unless otherwise noted, all photos from [www.dorchesteratheneum.org](http://www.dorchesteratheneum.org).*



# UPHAMS CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARIES

According to the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA), the boundaries of the Uphams Corner neighborhood follow Pleasant Street on the east to about Hancock Street and then go down Hancock to Dorchester Avenue. Others say they go up Hancock to Bowdoin and thus to Quincy or even up Hancock to Trull Street. The BRA boundary follows East Street from Dorchester Avenue to Adams and then to Quincy Street down Columbia Road to the railroad tracks. Others follow Bowdoin Street or Trull Street to Quincy Street. On the west, the boundary is considered the railroad tracks (BRA) or Magnolia Street (others) up past Dudley Street. The other boundary is primarily East Cottage Street over to Pleasant Street again.

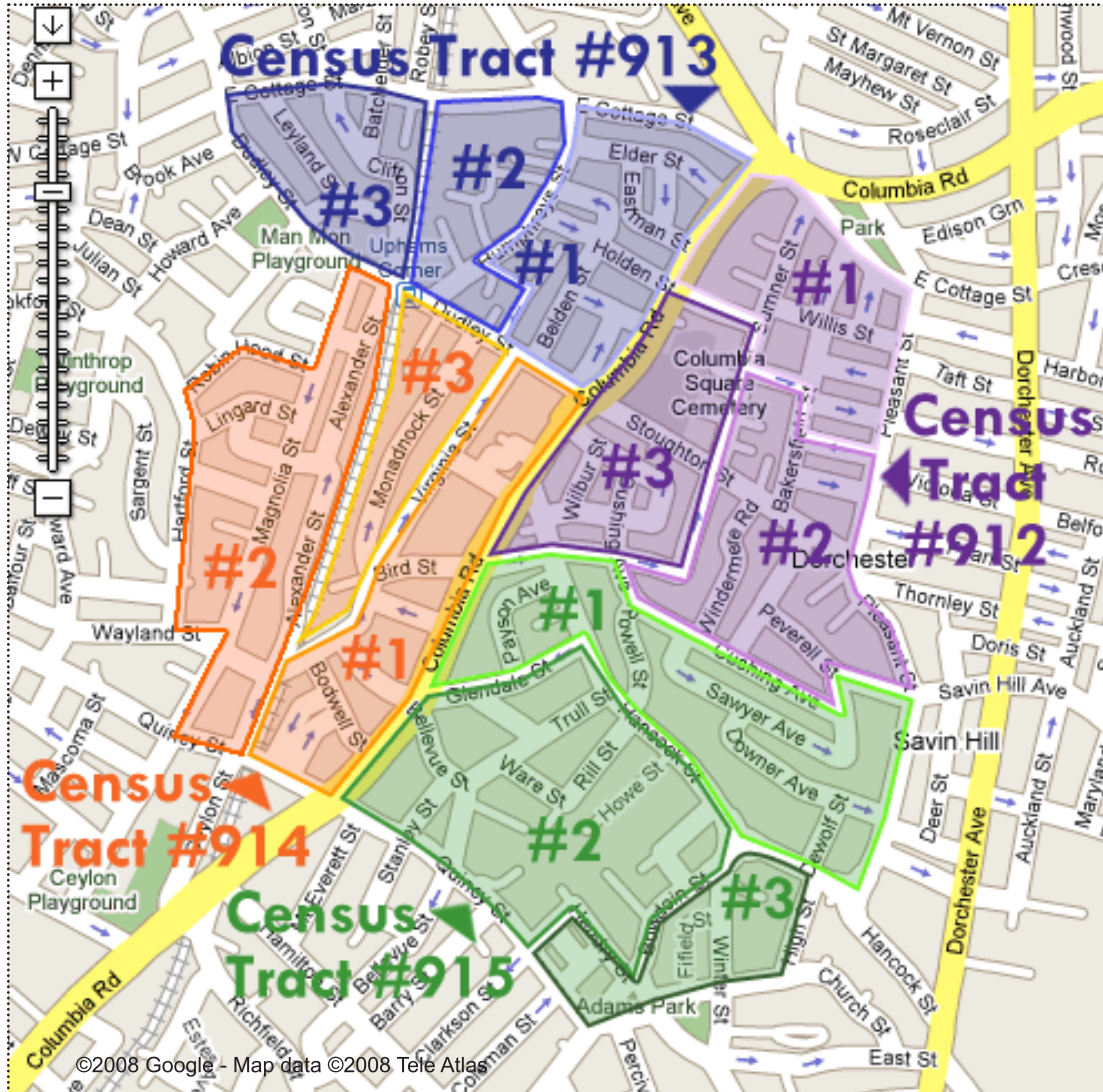








# UPHAMS CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD WITH CENSUS TRACT BLOCK GROUPS



Purplish block groups: #912      Blues: #913      Oranges: #914      Greens: #915  
Each of these census tracts is composed of three smaller sections, called block groups



The Boston Redevelopment Authority's Neighborhood Statistical Area #10, called Uphams Corner/Jones Hill, includes the following census tracts and partial census tracts.

Census Tracts: 912—(All Block Groups)  
 913—Block Groups 001, 002  
 914—Block Groups 001, 003  
 915—(All Block Groups)  
 916—Blocks 2001, 2002 in Block Group 2  
 910—Block 4006 in Block Group 004  
 903—Blocks 1000, 1002 in Block Group 001

*Some individual blocks in the last three census tracts are not significant because they are not populated.*

Sometimes demographic information is presented by postal ZIP code. The ZIP code most relevant to this area is 02125; however, the Uphams Corner area is a smaller area within the 02125 ZIP code area (02125 is larger than the Uphams Corner neighborhood). Demographic data is available for the 02125 and other ZIP codes from Zipskinny ([www.zipskinny.com](http://www.zipskinny.com)).

Below are some examples of data for ZIP code 02125 from Zipskinny. These data will vary from the totals and percentages of the more limited areas of our defined Uphams Corner area.

AGE					
	Male		Female		Both
	% of Males	% of All	% of Females	% of All	% of All
0-9 years:	14.9%	7.3%	14.3%	7.2%	14.6%
10-19 years:	16.4%	8.1%	16.1%	8.2%	16.3%
20-29 years:	19.2%	9.5%	18%	9.1%	18.6%
30-39 years:	17.7%	8.7%	16.7%	8.5%	17.2%
40-49 years:	14%	6.9%	13.5%	6.9%	13.8%
50-59 years:	8.9%	4.4%	8.3%	4.2%	8.6%
60-69 years:	4.7%	2.3%	6.2%	3.1%	5.5%
70-79 years:	2.9%	1.4%	4.5%	2.3%	3.7%
80+ years:	1.3%	0.7%	2.5%	1.3%	1.9%
<b>All Ages:</b>	100%	<b>49.2%</b>	100%	<b>50.8%</b>	
<b>Median Ages:</b>		<b>29.7 yrs.</b>		<b>30.8 yrs.</b>	<b>30.3 yrs.</b>



RACE	
Hispanic/Latino:	16.3%
White*:	30.7%
Black*:	28.8%
Native American*:	0%
Asian*:	11.1%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander*:	0.1%
Other*:	6.6%
Multiracial*:	6%

*\*Does not include individuals in this racial group who identify as Hispanic/Latino.*

## SOCIAL INDICATORS

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT (Among people 25 years or older)	
Less than 9th grade	13.7%
9th-12th grade (nongrad)	16.8%
High school graduate	29.8%
Some college	16.3%
Associate degree	4.2%
Bachelor's degree	11.6%
Graduate/Professional	7.5%
High school or higher*	69.4%
Bachelor's or higher*	19.1%

MARITAL STATUS (Among people 15 years or older)	
Never married	48.2%
Married*	35%
Separated	3.6%
Widowed	6.4%
Divorced	6.8%

STABILITY/NEWCOMER APPEAL	
Same home 5+ years	55.3%

*\*Below U.S. Average*

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS

HOUSEHOLD INCOME	
<\$10,000	17.4%
\$10,000-\$14,999	6.3%
\$15,000-\$24,999	13.8%
\$25,000-\$34,999	11.8%
\$35,000-\$49,999	17.7%
\$50,000-\$74,999	16.9%
\$75,000-\$99,999	8.7%
\$100,000-\$149,999	5.4%
\$150,000-\$199,999	1.1%
\$200,000+	1%
Median Household Income: \$35,513 (Below U.S. Average)	

OCCUPATION (Among employed persons over 16)	
Mgt./Professional	28.8%
Service	23.8%
Sales/Office	25.1%
Farm/Fishing/Forestry	0.1%
Construction/Extraction/Maint.	6.9%
Production/Transportation	15.3%

UNEMPLOYMENT/POVERTY	
Unemployed**	7.5%
Below Poverty Line**	23.5%

*\*\*Above U.S. Average*

*Social and economic indicators based on 2000 Census sample data*



# OVERALL POPULATION TRENDS

Early boundaries of Dorchester as a whole were much larger than the current city-defined boundaries, but the following population trends give some idea of the population growth over time.<sup>5</sup> The long-term population trends of Dorchester as a whole are as follows:<sup>6</sup>

Year	Population	% Change	Year	Population	% Change
1765	1,360	----	1885	20,717	15.8%
1776	1,513	11.3%	1890	29,638	43.1%
1781	1,840	21.6%	1900	73,026	146.4%
1784	2,060	12.0%	1905	90,011	23.3%
1790	1,722	-16.4%	1910	115,780	28.6%
1800	2,347	36.3%	1915	138,119	19.3%
1810	2,930	24.8%	1920	156,006	13.0%
1820	3,684	25.7%	1925	167,015	7.1%
1830	4,074	10.6%	1930	187,103	12.0%
1840	4,875	19.7%	1935	197,257	5.4%
1850	7,969	63.5%	1940	201,673	2.2%
1855	8,340	4.7%	1945	191,142	-5.2%
1860	9,769	17.1%	1950	199,772	4.5%
1865	10,717	9.7%	1955	177,688	-11.1%
1870	21,261	98.4%	1960	186,639	5.0%
1875	15,788	-25.7%	1970	176,891	-5.2%
1880	17,890	13.3%	1980	82,912	-53.1%

Dorchester's population doubled between 1865 and 1870 and more than tripled between 1890 and 1905. The total population peaked in 1940 and remained near this level from 1930 to 1950 or 1960. In the 1970s the population declined sharply. (Note some of this apparent decline may be due to different boundaries used to calculate the totals).

Although many people consider Dorchester as a unified whole, the Boston Redevelopment Authority divides it up into north and south sections for convenience. In addition to the Uphams Corner/Jones Hill neighborhood, this north section also includes areas east of Pleasant Street and north of Columbia Road, as well as Savin Hill and Columbia Point.

<sup>5</sup> Boston Public Library, Government Documents Dept. Report. See also, Earl Taylor, "Dorchester, MA, Town History-1630-1870," <http://www.dorchesteratheneum.org> (27 May 2008).

<sup>6</sup> BRA, *Boston's Population-2000*, Report 541 (Boston: BRA, 2001), 9.





According to the BRA reports, the population trends of North Dorchester as a whole are:<sup>7</sup>

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1985	1990	2000
Population	34,468	34,856	32,665	23,789	26,005	25,068	29,215
% Change		+1%	-6.3%	-27%	+9%	-4%	+17%

The total 1970 population of Uphams Corner/Jones Hill was 14,875. The population had declined by only 12 percent between 1940 and 1970,<sup>8</sup> while other neighborhoods had larger population declines. By 1980 the neighborhood population had declined 25 percent more to 11,109. However, by 2000 there was an increase to 11,785. The combined population of the four census tracts 912, 913, 914, and 915 is 13,102.

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7 Boston Redevelopment Authority, *North Dorchester Neighborhood Profile*, 1988 (Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority, 1988), 2,3 (for 1950-1985 data); BRA, *Boston's Population—2000*, Report 541 (Boston: BRA, 2001), 9 (for 1990 data). BRA, *North Dorchester: 2000 Census of Population and Housing*, Report 581 (Boston: BRA, 2003), 1 (for 2000 data).

8 Boston Redevelopment Authority, *Dorchester/Uphams Corner: District Profile and Proposed 1978-1980 Neighborhood Improvement Program* (Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority, 1977), 5, 13.



# RACIAL AND ETHNIC TRENDS

This area was originally settled by Puritans from the west of England in the 1600s. Many of those who lived here during the next couple of centuries were also English who established farms and summer homes. With the growth of immigration to Boston after 1850, the downtown neighborhoods became crowded. When the streetcar and train lines made commuting possible, many working class Irish and other groups started moving to the rapidly developing outlying neighborhoods. Some of the wealthier Yankee residents then moved further out. Eventually the Uphams Corner neighborhood attracted large numbers of Irish, Eastern Europeans, Italians and Canadians. Most Jewish immigrants settled south of Quincy Street and west of Columbia Road and the railroad tracks. In 1970 the neighborhood was still predominantly white except in parts of census tract 914. North Dorchester was two-thirds white in 1980. By 2000, North Dorchester and census tract 912 were two-thirds non-white, while census tracts 913, 914, and 915 were over 80 percent non-white. Uphams Corner became more diverse in the last 40 years as Cape Verdeans, Hispanics, Asians (esp. Vietnamese), West Indians (Haitians, Jamaicans), and African Americans have moved into this area.

NORTH DORCHESTER <sup>9</sup>						
	1980		1990		2000	
White	15,935	67%	13,186	53%	10,241	36%
Black	3,825	16%	4,964	20%	7,003	24%
Hispanic	2,980	13%	3,600	14%	4,075	14%
Asian	146	1%	1,604	6%	3,788	13%
Native American	85	0%	114	0%	114	0%
Other Single Race	818	3%	1,600	6%	1,817	6%
Multi-racial	-	-	-	-	1,737	6%
Total	23,789	100%	25,068	100%	28,775	100%
White	15,935	67%	13,186	53%	10,241	36%
Non-white	7,854	33%	11,882	47%	18,534	64%

<sup>9</sup> Boston Redevelopment Authority, *Boston's Population—2000, No. 1, Report #541* (Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority, 2001), 9. Based on PL 94-171 initial release.



POPULATION BY CENSUS TRACTS, 1970, 2000 <sup>10</sup>								
	Tract # 912		Tract #913		Tract # 914		Tract # 915	
	1970	2000	1970	2000	1970	2000	1970	2000
Total Population	3,571	3,458	2,780	2,409	3,335	2,440	5,660	4,795
White	3,480	1,134	2,284	312	1,897	349	5,219	771
Black	53	1,051	388	794	1,409	1,364	374	2,166
Asian	8*	247	8*	46	32*	35	123*	187
Other races	38	1,026	108	1257	29	692	67	1,671
% White	97.5%	32.8%	82.2%	13.0%	56.9%	14.3%	92.2%	16.1%
% Nonwhite	2.5%	67.2%	17.8%	87.0%	43.1%	85.7%	7.8%	83.9%

\*"Asian" is from a separate table in the 1970 report.

Neighborhood Statistical Area #10 Total population in 2000: 11,785

Non-Hispanic White: 1,820

Non-Hispanic Black: 4,271

Non-Hispanic Asian: 570

Hispanic: 2,296

Other Race: 1,597

Two or more races: 1,174

10 United Community Services Research Dept., "1970 Census of Population and Housing: Summary Data," Boston: United Community Services, 1970.  
U.S. Census, "DP-1, Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000," Summary File 1 (SF 1).

# AGE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION

## NEIGHBORHOOD STATISTICAL AREA 10-UPHAMS CORNER AGE DEMOGRAPHICS U. S. CENSUS, 2000

**Youth Aged** 12-19: **1,783** (Ages 13-19: 1567; Ages 12-18: 1585; Ages 10-19: 2,218)

**Males** 12-19: **880**

**Females** 12-19: **903**

The 12-19 year old group makes up 15.13% of the total population of this area.

The 13-19 year old group makes up 13.30% of the total population of this area.

The 12-18 year old group makes up 13.45% of the total population of this area.

The 10-19 year old group makes up 18.82% of the total population of this area.

### MEDIAN AGE

Census Tract	Median age
912	30.2
913	26.5
914	31.6
915	28.0
Average	29.1

For comparison purposes the median age for the United States is 35.3 years, for Massachusetts it is 36.5 years, and for the city of Boston it is 31.1 years. Thus the median age for these four census tracts is significantly lower than for the U.S. and Massachusetts. Census tract 913 has a particularly young population as evidenced by its median age of 26.5 years. Compared to Boston, this area has a somewhat lower median population. In Boston more than 33 percent of the population was between 20 and 34 years old, but less than 20 percent were under 18 years old. In contrast, areas like census tract 913 had 35.5 percent under 18 years, but a much lower percentage of 20 to 34 year olds (23.6 percent). Thus this area has a relatively low median age because it has a larger percentage of young people under the age of 18.





POPULATION - 24 YEARS AND UNDER <sup>11</sup>								
Age	Tract 912		Tract 913		Tract 914		Tract 915	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Total all ages	3,458	100.0%	2,409	100.0%	2,440	100.0%	4,795	100.0%
Under 5 years	233	6.7%	201	8.3%	164	6.7%	398	8.3%
Under 1 yr.	55	1.6%	41	1.7%	45	1.8%	76	1.6%
1 year	47	1.4%	46	1.9%	33	1.4%	80	1.7%
2 years	50	1.4%	33	1.4%	28	1.1%	73	1.5%
3 years	40	1.2%	35	1.5%	32	1.3%	93	1.9%
4 years	41	1.2%	46	1.9%	26	1.1%	76	1.6%
5 years	59	1.7%	44	1.8%	44	1.8%	87	1.8%
6 years	48	1.4%	47	2.0%	42	1.7%	107	2.2%
7 years	58	1.7%	48	2.0%	59	2.4%	87	1.8%
8 years	54	1.6%	48	2.0%	46	1.9%	103	2.1%
9 years	51	1.5%	49	2.0%	40	1.6%	87	1.8%
10 years	60	1.7%	59	2.4%	41	1.7%	114	2.4%
11 years	50	1.4%	44	1.8%	40	1.6%	85	1.8%
12 years	54	1.6%	60	2.5%	51	2.1%	93	1.9%
13 years	57	1.6%	45	1.9%	38	1.6%	85	1.8%
14 years	78	2.3%	48	2.0%	48	2.0%	103	2.1%
15 years	70	2.0%	58	2.4%	45	1.8%	88	1.8%
16 years	69	2.0%	45	1.9%	39	1.6%	92	1.9%
17 years	76	2.2%	60	2.5%	39	1.6%	86	1.8%
18 years	61	1.8%	42	1.7%	30	1.2%	97	2.0%
19 years	61	1.8%	39	1.6%	36	1.5%	77	1.6%
20 years	55	1.6%	59	2.4%	34	1.4%	72	1.5%
21 years	38	1.1%	45	1.9%	35	1.4%	75	1.6%
22 years	58	1.7%	34	1.4%	31	1.3%	70	1.5%
23 years	59	1.7%	44	1.8%	38	1.6%	68	1.4%
24 years	51	1.5%	42	1.7%	45	1.8%	89	1.9%
12 to 18 years	465	13.4%	358	14.9%	290	11.9%	644	13.4%
15 to 24 years	598	17.3%	468	19.4%	372	15.2%	814	17.0%
20 to 24 years	261	7.5%	224	9.3%	183	7.5%	374	7.8%
5 to 18 years	845	24.4%	697	28.9%	602	24.7%	1,314	27.4%

<sup>11</sup> U.S. Census, 2000. Table QT-P2. *Single Years of Age Under 30 Years*. Summary File 1 (SF 1). Selected data with additional calculations.

## FAMILY STRUCTURE

In all four census tracts of this neighborhood, more than 50 percent of the family households with children under 18 are single parent households. Out of 2,019 total family households, 1,180 or 58.4 percent are headed by single parents. More than 1,000 of these are led by single mothers. The percentage of female-headed households with children is 50 percent compared to 21.8 percent in the state, 21.9 percent nationwide, and 42 percent in the city of Boston.

	<b>Total Family Households</b> <i>With children under 18</i>	<b>Female-Headed Households</b> <i>With children under 18</i>	<b>Single Parent Households</b> <i>With children under 18</i>	<b>% Single Parent Households</b> <i>With children under 18</i>
<b>912</b>	478	214	252	52.7%
<b>913</b>	397	176	219	55.2%
<b>914</b>	375	205	227	60.5%
<b>915</b>	769	414	482	62.7%
<b>Total</b>	2,019	1,009	1,180	58.4%

## ECONOMICS AND INCOME

The following table shows that the rate of poverty among families in these census tract areas is double or triple the rate nationally and in Massachusetts. The percent of families below the poverty level in census tract 912 is somewhat lower than in the other three tracts. In census tracts 913 and 914 the rate of poverty among families is almost double Boston's rate.<sup>12</sup>

	<b>NUMBER OF FAMILIES</b>		
	<b>All Income Levels</b>	<b># Below Poverty</b>	<b>Percent Below Poverty Level</b>
<b>United States</b>	72,261,780	6,620,945	9.2%
<b>Massachusetts</b>	1,587,537	105,619	6.7%
<b>City of Boston</b>	116,657	17,892	15.3%
<b>Census Tract 912</b>	713	121	17.0%
<b>Census Tract 913</b>	557	157	28.2%
<b>Census Tract 914</b>	559	161	28.8%
<b>Census Tract 915</b>	1,070	240	22.4%
<b>Average for 912, 913, 914, and 915</b>	725	170	23.4%

12 U. S. Census, 2000. Table QT-P35, *Poverty Status in 1999 of Families and Nonfamily Householders*. Summary File 3 (SF 3).



# HOUSING

Although in the early stages of development many single family and duplex homes were built for the Dorchester middle class, later many three family homes called “triple deckers” were added to the housing mix. New building codes and affordable financing enabled many families to purchase triple deckers. They “cost \$4,800 to build as opposed to \$18,000-\$30,000 for a Victorian Home.”<sup>13</sup> A Boston Redevelopment Authority report indicated that 44.6 percent of the residential structures in Uphams Corner were single and two family homes.<sup>14</sup> According to the 2000 U.S. Census, 27.8 percent of housing units in Uphams Corner (Neighborhood Statistical Area 10) were owner occupied, while 67.2 percent were renter occupied. This is only slightly lower than the rate of home ownership for the city of Boston, but the state and national rates of homeownership are over 60 percent. The Dorchester Bay EDC has contributed to affordable housing and services to homeowners in the neighborhood. They have added 786 units of affordable housing or co-op housing units and 149 new or renovated home ownership units to Dorchester’s housing stock. They offer low cost Home Improvement Loans with guidance and help with removing hazardous lead paint.

The mortgage foreclosure crisis has hit Dorchester and parts of Uphams Corner particularly hard. Dorchester has been called the epicenter of the Boston crisis. The number of January to June Dorchester foreclosures went from 51 in 2006 to 130 in 2007 to 383 in 2008. These 383 foreclosures compare with only 24 in South Boston, 60 in Roxbury, and 63 in Mattapan during the same period.<sup>15</sup> *The Boston Globe* showed a map of the many foreclosures in the Uphams Corner section around Hendry Street, which has the highest concentration of foreclosures in the city. However, several efforts by private new buyers and city programs are restoring some of the properties.<sup>16</sup>

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13 Boston Redevelopment Authority, *Dorchester/Uphams Corner: District Profile and Proposed 1978-1980 Neighborhood Improvement Program* (Boston: Boston Redevelopment Authority, 1977), 2.

14 Ibid., 5.

15 Ric Kahn, “Opportunity Knocks,” *The Boston Sunday Globe*, City Weekly, 10 August 2008, 1.

16 Jennifer B. McKim, “The Upside of the Home Foreclosure Crisis: Buyer Gets a Bargain, Hope Replaces Blight,” *The Boston Globe*, 19 August 2008, A1.



# UPHAMS CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCHES



View an interactive version of this map online on our website: [www.gettingtotheroots.org](http://www.gettingtotheroots.org)



YOUTH VIOLENCE SYSTEMS PROJECT

NEIGHBORHOOD BRIEFING DOCUMENT: Uphams Corner ▸ Page 20



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

Several of the listed churches are slightly outside the boundaries of the Uphams Corner neighborhood as defined, but have been included because their ministry may include service and outreach in the larger neighborhood. Information is from the Boston Church Directory database of Emmanuel Gospel Center, plus some current personal street surveys, and Internet research.

## **BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH**

34 Adams St.  
Boston, MA 02122  
Pastor: Rev. Gary Corbin  
Phone: 617-288-0664  
Founded 1980

## **BLESSED MOTHER OF TERESA OF CALCUTTA** (FORMERLY ST. MARGARET'S & ST. WILLIAM'S)

800 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Paul Soper  
Phone: 617-436-2190  
Founded 1893—St. Margaret's;  
1909—St. William's  
*Located slightly outside the area boundaries*

## **BORN AGAIN EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH MINISTRY**

543 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Meeting Sundays at the Strand Theater (543 Columbia Rd.) & other days at 631 Cummins Highway, Roslindale  
Pastor: Rev. Bishop Hessie L. Harris and  
Co-Pastor, Rev. Ora J. Harris  
Phone: 617-298-0305  
Email: Baeom@aol.com  
Founded 1979

## **BORN AGAIN HOUSE OF PRAYER MINISTRY**

301 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02121  
Mail: 184 Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02124  
Pastor: Rev. Bridget Ogboe Aikionbane, Sr.  
Pastor; Rev. John Aikionbaane (Co-Pastor)  
Phone: 617-265-2525 or 617-733-7739  
*This is an African congregation*

## **CALVARY CHURCH INTERNATIONAL**

21 Parish St.  
Dorchester, MA 02122  
Pastor: Bishop Edward W. Hoffman  
Phone: 617-822-1343  
Founded 1982  
*An African church with many Liberians*

## **CHRIST THE ROCK CHURCH**

48 Pleasant St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Louis Zinnanti  
Phone: 617-825-9425  
Email: crmcinfo@msn.com  
Website: www.christtherockboston.org  
Founded 1989  
*Youth ministry: Rock House Youth Group on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Youth Growth Group on Sundays at 6 p.m.; Youth ministers: Jered and Danielle Dahlstrom*

## **FIRST CHURCH OF DORCHESTER**

10 Parish Street  
Dorchester, MA 02122-3029  
Pastor: Rev. Arthur Lavoie  
Phone: 617-436-0527  
Email: office@firstparish.com  
Website: www.firstparish.com  
Founded 1630  
*Youth: Girl Scouts meet here*

## **HOLY FAMILY PARISH (MERGER OF ST. PAUL'S AND ST. KEVIN'S)**

24 Hartford St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-445-2417  
Founded 1907—St. Paul's; 1945—St. Kevin's  
*Reorganized into a merged parish in 1995, using the former St. Paul's church. Historically, St. Paul's geographic parish included much of the Uphams Corner neighborhood. In 1945, St. Kevin's new parish was formed including the geographic heart of Uphams Corner. Homeless shelter: 617-521-7658.*





**IGLESIA ADVENTISTA DEL SEPTIMO DIA, BOSTON**  
(BOSTON SPANISH SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH)

50 Stoughton St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Marco G. Rivas  
Phone: 617-436-6802  
Founded 1971

**IGLESIA DE CRISTO MISIONERA LA HERMOSA**

48 Pleasant St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastors: Belinda and Jose Figueroa  
Phone: 617-364-3451

**IGLESIA EL BUEN PASTOR, A.G. (GOOD SHEPHERD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH)**

720 Dudley St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Florentino Sanchez  
Phone: 617-287-1660

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

450 Quincy St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. David Morales  
Founded 1965 (formerly located at 17 Worcester Street in the South End)

**IGLESIA EL MESIA**

540 Columbia Road (Meeting at Pilgrim Congregational Church)  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Carlos Diaz  
Phone: 617-825-1977  
Founded 1991

**IGLESIA PENTECOSTAL "JESUS ES EL SEÑOR"**  
(JESÚS IS THE LORD PENTECOSTAL CHURCH)

78 Stoughton St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Bolivar Mancebo

**LIFE CHANGING EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH MINISTRIES, INC.**

584 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA  
Pastor: Rev. Cornelio Lopez  
Phone: 617-436-8051  
Founded 1998

**LIFE CHURCH MINISTRIES**

270 Columbia Road (meets at Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School)  
Dorchester, MA 02121  
Pastor: Rev. Rocklyn Clarke, Sr.  
Phone: 617-541-5433  
Website: [www.lifechurchboston.org](http://www.lifechurchboston.org)  
Founded 2003  
*Youth ministry and "Life Groups" ministry*

**MERCY AND GRACE MINISTRIES**

301 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02121  
Pastor: Evangelist Johnnie Milligan  
Phone: 617-436-0352  
Email: [mrcygrce2@aol.com](mailto:mrcygrce2@aol.com)

**NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH OF GOD (STOUGHTON ST.)**

29 Stoughton St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Bishop Stanley Edwards  
Phone: 617-265-6034 or 781-648-0284  
Email: [ntcog@yahoo.com](mailto:ntcog@yahoo.com)

**PILGRIM TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

540 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. John R. Odams  
Phone: 617-282-0456  
Website: [www.pilgrimchurch1862.org](http://www.pilgrimchurch1862.org)

**QUINCY STREET MISSIONAL CHURCH**

266 Quincy Street  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Pastor: Rev. Ralph Kee  
Phone: 617-436-1618  
Email: [quincystreetchurch@gmail.com](mailto:quincystreetchurch@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.quincystreet.org](http://www.quincystreet.org)  
*Teenage youth group; Pre-teen kids club*

**ST. MARTIN DE PORRES CHURCH**

14 Cushing Ave. (at St. Mary's Episcopal)  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Bishop Filipe Teixeira  
Phone: 617-816-7795  
Email: [StMartinPorresChurch@verizon.net](mailto:StMartinPorresChurch@verizon.net)  
*St. Martin's Young Cape Verdeans Club*  
*Cape Verdean congregation*





St. Mary's Church  
(photo from [www.dorchesteratheneum.org](http://www.dorchesteratheneum.org))

#### ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

14 Cushing Avenue  
Dorchester, MA 02121  
Pastor: Rev. Cathy George  
Phone: 617-282-3181  
Email: [stmarydorchester@gmail.com](mailto:stmarydorchester@gmail.com)  
Founded 1847

#### ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

400 Dudley St.  
Roxbury, MA 02119  
Mail: 10 Magazine St., Roxbury, MA 02119  
Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Waldron  
Parochial Vicars: Rev. Jose Borja, Cape Verdean;  
Rev. Christopher Gomes, OFM (part time)  
Youth Leader: John Barros  
Phone: 617-445-7645  
Email: [StPatrickRox@comcast.net](mailto:StPatrickRox@comcast.net)  
Founded 1836

*Although not located within the neighborhood boundaries, St. Patrick's provides services for the community in Cape Verdean and Spanish.*

#### ST. PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

311 Bowdoin St.  
Dorchester, MA 02122  
Mail: 309 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122  
Parish Administrator: Rev. Daniel J. Finn  
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Christopher Gomes  
Phone: 617-265-1132  
Email: [stpeter.dor@verizon.net](mailto:stpeter.dor@verizon.net)  
Founded 1872  
*Until St. Kevin's Parish was formed in 1945, more of the Uphams Corner neighborhood was within St. Peter's parish boundaries*

#### VICTORY CHAPEL CHURCH, H.O.G.S.I.C.

301 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02121  
Pastor: Rev. Bishop Wayne J. Jordan  
Phone: 617-436-3995 or 617-265-5747  
Email: [cody4uuuu@aol.com](mailto:cody4uuuu@aol.com)  
Founded 1996  
*Bishop Jordan oversees other congregations in this building*

#### VIETNAMESE ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH OF BOSTON

48 Pleasant St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-786-1895 or 617-376-0864  
Email: [peterkhoi@hotmail.com](mailto:peterkhoi@hotmail.com)

### OTHER CHURCHES

- ▶ Iglesia Centro de Alabanza (was meeting at Good Shepherd Church)
- ▶ Iglesia Pentecostal Cristo el Rey (the late Luis Aponte's church) 21 Parish Street
- ▶ Deliverance Church on Columbia Road (somewhat outside the area)

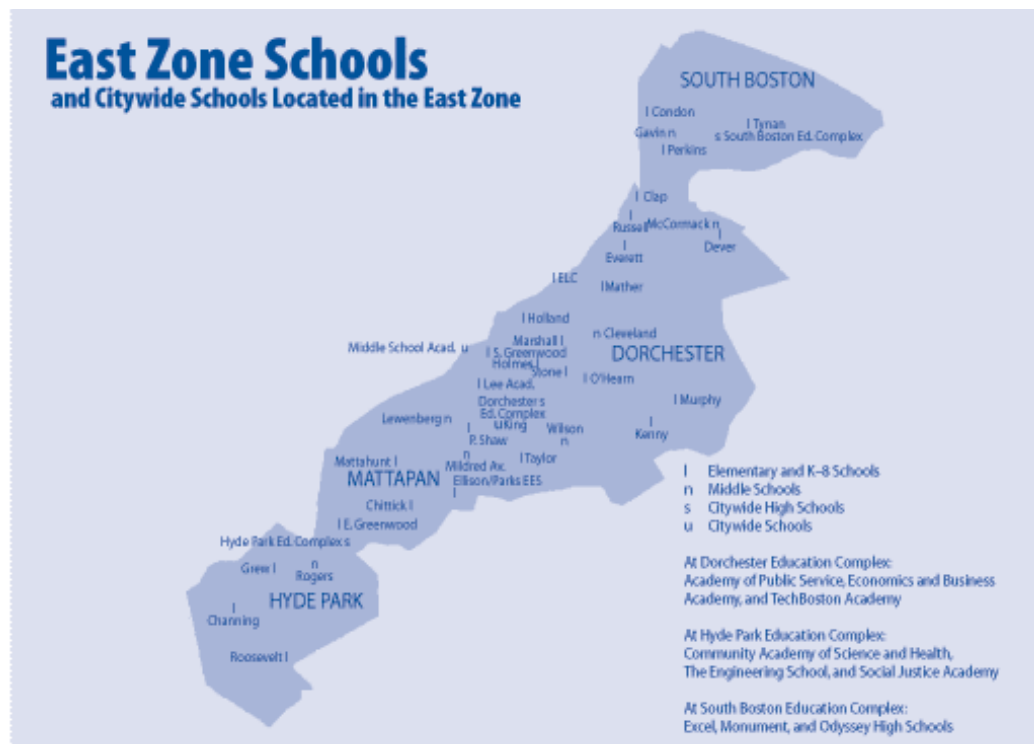
**Historic Churches** which have played a role in the community history but are now closed:

1. Stoughton Street Baptist Church—founded 1845; building is now a Seventh Day Adventist church
2. Baker Memorial Methodist Church—corner of Cushing and Columbia Road
3. St. Kevin's Catholic Church—founded 1945
4. Uphams Corner Universalist Church—founded 1892; located at 8 Virginia Street



# SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Although quite a number of schools surround the Uphams Corner area, only a few actually fall within the boundaries of the neighborhood. Even those schools are on the edge of the area. The **Everett School** and the **Mather School** are on the southeastern edge of Uphams Corner, while the **Quincy Dickerman School** and the **Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School** are just beyond the southwestern boundaries of the area and are in the West Zone of the Boston Public School system. The **Holland School** is also south of the neighborhood, but is in the East Zone. Four schools are located north of the Edward Everett Square/Columbia Road area: the **Roger Clap School**, the **William E. Russell School**, the **Boston Collegiate Charter School**, and the **Columbia Campus of Pope John Paul II Academy**, which will be located in the renovated **St. Margaret's School**. This Academy, which opens in September 2008, will serve students from **St. Kevin's School**, **St. William's School** and **St. Peter's School**, which will all be closing. The **East Zone Early Learning Center**, located on Columbia Road, serves 130 pre-kindergarten to first grade students. The **Uphams Corner Charter School** draws the majority of its students from the general Uphams Corner area, although the school itself is located at the central YMCA on Huntington Avenue. The **Harbor Middle School** recently moved from Bowdoin Street to the **Cleveland Middle School** site on Charles Street in Fields Corner. The **Cleveland School** has been phased out. The **O'Hearn Elementary School** will be collaborating closely with the **Harbor School**. Two other schools which are several blocks north of the neighborhood are the **Emerson School** on Shirley Street and the **Mason Pilot School** on Norfolk Avenue. These schools, along with the **Winthrop School**, are in the North Zone. Most residents of the Uphams Corner neighborhood live in the school system's East Zone. However, families may apply for any elementary, K-8, or middle school in their "walk zone" (one mile or 1.5 miles, respectively)



regardless of school zone lines. Therefore, some residents should be able to choose the North Zone and West Zone schools mentioned. Residents living in the East Zone can apply for any East Zone elementary and middle schools (and for citywide schools). High School students can select from a wide variety of schools all across the city, but the **Burke High School** is the closest.

The **Edward Everett School** is one of only 26 schools recognized as “Effective Practice Schools” in working toward the six essential qualities outlined for Boston Public Schools (see <http://boston.k12.ma.us/everett/>). The diverse student body consists of 44% Black, 25% White, 20% Asian, 11% Hispanic, and 1% Native American students. About 36 percent of the students do not have English as their first language and another 15 percent have limited English proficiency. Seventy six percent of the students are low income. In 2007-8 there were 279 students and a good attendance rate of 96 percent. On the 2007 MCAS tests for 3rd to 5th grades, significantly lower percentages of students achieved advanced or proficient scores than students statewide. Also, the percentage of students scoring in the “needs improvement” range was much higher than statewide, and the percentage of warning/failing scores were somewhat higher. In the 2007 “Adequate Yearly Progress” report, the Everett School was not making adequate improvement in English Language Arts (aggregate of all students) but was making adequate yearly progress in Math. The school is in the general No Child Left Behind category of “needs improvement.”

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

- ▶ Edward Everett School (East Zone)
- ▶ Mather School (East Zone)
- ▶ Holland School (East Zone)
- ▶ Roger Clap School (East Zone)
- ▶ William E. Russell School (East Zone)
- ▶ East Zone Early Learning Center
- ▶ Quincy Dickerman School (West Zone)
- ▶ Emerson School (North Zone)
- ▶ Mason Pilot School (North Zone)
- ▶ Winthrop School (North Zone)
- ▶ Pope John Paul II Academy—Columbia Road Campus; K-8 (Catholic)

## MIDDLE SCHOOLS

- ▶ Lilla G. Frederick Pilot Middle School (West Zone)
- ▶ Uphams Corner Charter School
- ▶ Harbor School (East Zone)



## HIGH SCHOOLS

- ▶ Boston Collegiate Charter School (Grades 5-12)
- ▶ Burke High School (East Zone)
- ▶ Boston College High School (Catholic)—east of the area
- ▶ All public high schools are available to Uphams Corner students

### UPHAMS CORNER CHARTER SCHOOL

320 Huntington Ave.  
Boston, MA 02115  
Phone: 617-266-2007  
*Remotely serving neighborhood students*

### HARBOR SCHOOL—MIDDLE

11 Charles St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-635-8710  
Website: <http://boston.k12.ma.us/harbor>

### EAST ZONE EARLY LEARNING CENTER

370 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-635-8604

### ROGER CLAP SCHOOL—ELEMENTARY

35 Harvest St.  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-635-8672

### WILLIAM E. RUSSELL SCHOOL—ELEMENTARY

750 Columbia Road  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-635-8803

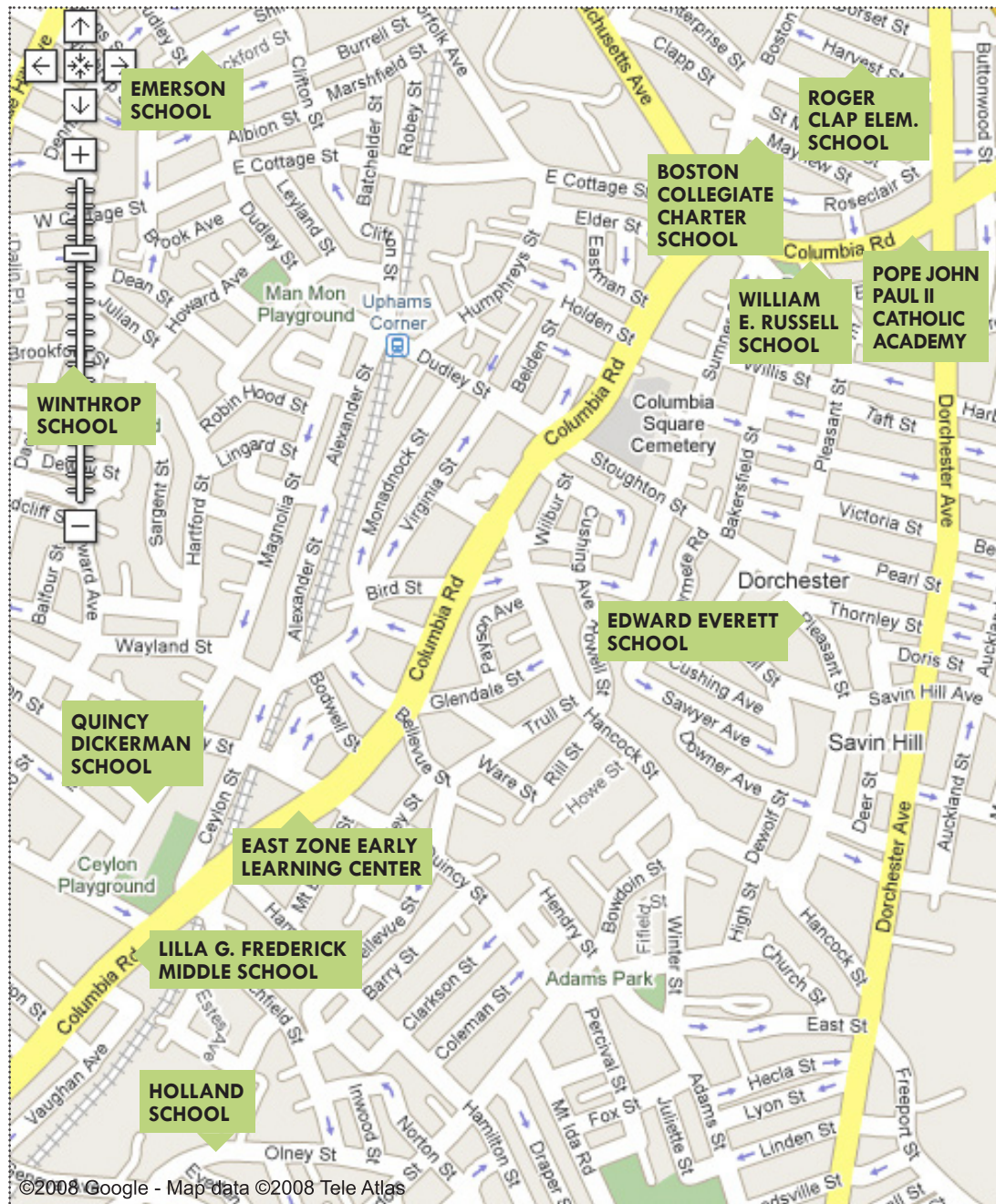
### EDWARD EVERETT SCHOOL—MIDDLE

71 Pleasant Street  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-635-8778  
Website: <http://boston.k12.ma.us/everett>





## UPHAMS CORNER NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS



Map of schools in and around the Uphams Corner neighborhood  
 View an interactive version of this map online on our website: [www.gettingtotheroots.org](http://www.gettingtotheroots.org)



## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

The Uphams Corner neighborhood has a much higher proportion of adult residents without a High School diploma than the average for the city, state, and nation. Only 15 percent of Massachusetts residents lack their high school diploma while over 34 percent of the neighborhood residents haven't graduated from high school. Census tract 913 stands out with an unusually high 14.1 percent lacking even a fifth grade education and 43.6 percent lacking a high school diploma. In contrast only 21 percent of Boston's residents haven't graduated from high school. About 13 percent of neighborhood residents have a bachelor's degree or higher compared with 36 percent of Bostonians and 33 percent of Massachusetts adults 25 years and over. Census tract 913 has only seven percent college graduates, and census tracts 914 and 915 have only 12.3 and 12.5 percent.

Among young adults between 25 and 34 years old, this area is close to the national average in proportion with a high school diploma or higher (81 percent vs. 84 percent nationally). However, the percentage of young adults with a college degree or higher is much lower than the state and national average except in census tract 912. In census tracts 914 and 915, there are higher percentages of college graduates in the 35 to 64 year old group than among young adults, which is unusual. In census tract 913, the large percentage of residents with lower educational attainment is partly a result of very low rates of high school and college graduation among residents over 45 years old.

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF THE POPULATION 25 YEARS AND OVER <sup>17</sup>								
	912		913		914		915	
Less than 5th grade	115	5.6%	168	14.1%	99	6.6%	173	6.5%
5th to 8th grade	143	6.9%	102	8.5%	93	6.2%	236	8.9%
9th to 12th grade	271	13.1%	251	21.0%	276	18.4%	548	20.6%
High school graduate (& GED)	693	33.4%	384	32.2%	536	35.7%	685	25.7%
Some college credit (<1 yr.)	129	6.2%	68	5.7%	68	4.5%	196	7.4%
1 or more yrs. of college, no degree	205	9.9%	92	7.7%	187	12.4%	379	14.2%
Associate degree	74	3.6%	43	3.6%	59	3.9%	117	4.4%
Bachelor's degree	289	13.9%	40	3.4%	115	7.7%	196	7.4%
Master's degree	105	5.1%	40	3.4%	47	3.1%	98	3.7%
Professional degree	42	2.0%	0	0.0%	23	1.5%	33	1.2%
Doctorate degree	6	0.3%	5	0.4%	0	0.0%	5	0.2%

17 U.S. Census, Table QT-P20, "Educational Attainment by Sex: 2000," Summary File 3.



# COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

### **BIRD STREET COMMUNITY CENTER**

500 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-282-6110 • [www.birdstreet.org](http://www.birdstreet.org)

A private, nonprofit organization providing high quality, affordable child care and recreational, educational, and developmental activities for youth and their families in North Dorchester and surrounding neighborhoods of Boston. It serves more than 650 youth between the ages of 5 and 19 year-round with a variety of programs that encourage and promote their intellectual, physical, and social development. Bird Street interweaves youth violence prevention into a number of its other programs. The Center has numerous educational support programs and several youth development programs, including life skills classes and workforce development training.

### **THE CITY SCHOOL**

614 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-822-3075 • [www.thecityschool.org](http://www.thecityschool.org)

“Provides leadership development programs for high school students during the summer and after school. Each year nearly 800 young people come from the city and outlying communities for leadership development and social justice education in City School’s summer, weekend, and after-school programs. Teens build relationships across race, class, gender and geography; create caring, learning communities committed to making a meaningful difference; and use what they learn to carry out action for social change in their neighborhoods and communities.” Programs include the Social Justice Education Institute, the Summer Leadership Program, Prison Empowerment Project, Youth Outreach Programs, Rose From Concrete (working with court-involved youth and DYS sites) and a Grads Program.

### **DORCHESTER BAY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

594 Columbia Road, Suite 302, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-825-4200 • [www.dbedc.com](http://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.

### **DIMOCK HEAD START**

90 Cushing Ave., Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-822-4020 • [www.dimock.org](http://www.dimock.org)

Early Head Start and Head Start provide comprehensive support for families and their children in the areas of education, health, nutrition, and mental health. Early Head Start is for families with pregnant mothers and for parents with children ages 0-3. Head Start is designed for families with





children ages 3-5. Both programs encourage parents to envision their role as their child's primary teacher. Parents are supported in such areas as health and nutrition, pre-natal education, GED/literacy, and employment/training.

#### **DUDLEY STREET NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE**

504 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-442-9670 • [www.dsni.org](http://www.dsni.org)

"The Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative (DSNI) is a nonprofit community-based planning and organizing entity rooted in the Roxbury/North Dorchester neighborhoods of Boston. DSNI's approach to neighborhood revitalization is comprehensive, including economic, human, physical, and environmental growth. DSNI focuses on three strategic areas: community economic development, leadership development and collaboration, and youth opportunities and development. Talented young adults return to the community in large numbers to play their role in sustaining change. To date more than half of the 1,300 abandoned parcels have been permanently transformed into over 400 new high-quality affordable houses, community centers, new schools, Dudley Town Common, community greenhouse, parks, playgrounds, gardens, an orchard and other public spaces." DSNI sponsors a Resident Development Institute (RDI) which has trained staff, board, and activists in the design and facilitation of adult and youth learning. They have developed a set of core leadership competency training modules. RDI trainings, based on experiential learning methods, are dynamic, interactive, and immediately relevant. RDI and DSNI offer a leadership training series on various topics both locally and nationally.

#### **FAMILY NURTURING CENTER OF MASSACHUSETTS**

200 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 • 617-474-1143 • [www.familynurturing.org](http://www.familynurturing.org)

In addition to more general programs, the Family Nurturing Center (FNC) offers the Cape Verdean Nurturing Program, a 12-week nurturing program to improve communication, develop family support systems, and learn nurturing and disciplining skills as families adjust to a new culture. FNC addresses the whole spectrum of raising children, from pregnancy right through the teen years, and works with others to: (1) Strengthen families through "Nurturing Programs" that enhance parenting skills, improve relationships, connect families with each other for mutual support, and link parents to culturally appropriate community resources, (2) Reduce violence and child maltreatment by organizing neighborhood-based "Circles of Caring" that support families and promote nurturing relationships through advocacy efforts and neighborhood activities, and (3) Educate community residents and service providers by offering "Training and Education Programs."

#### **FEDERATED DORCHESTER NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSES/LITTLE HOUSE**

Executive Office: 18 Samoset St., Dorchester, MA 02124 • 617-282-5034 • [www.fdnh.org](http://www.fdnh.org)

Little House: 275 East Cottage St., Dorchester, MA 02125

Ruth Darling Child Care: 37 Stoughton St., Dorchester, MA 02125

Adolescent Development programs include: (1) Art a la Carte, a nationally recognized teen art program, links area youth ages 11 to 18 with Boston's local cultural community through classes, internships, work experiences, and field trips, (2) Jobs ROCK (Readiness and Opportunity for Career Knowledge) provides youth ages 13 to 19 with the technical, interpersonal, and leadership skills to succeed in the workplace, (3) Girls Groups work with young women between 10 and 19 to develop the conflict resolution skills needed for successful relationships. The groups feature guest speakers, and discussions on issues, including teen pregnancy and personal safety, and (4) Summer Programs. Little House also offers after school/vacation programs for 6-12 year olds. Early Education programs are offered at Little House and at The Ruth Darling Child Care Center at 37 Stoughton St. Not all Federated programs are in the Uphams Corner area but they serve the area.



### **GOTCHA: YOUTH EMPLOYMENT COLLABORATIVE**

c/o: Dudley St. Neighborhood Initiative, 504 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-442-9670

GOTCHA, “Get Off The Corner Hanging Around,” started up in 2003 as a collaborative effort to organize and advocate for summer teen job opportunities as well as link youth and families in the Dudley Street, Uphams Corner, and Bowdoin Street areas of Roxbury and Dorchester to summer programs and activities. During the summer of 2007, GOTCHA placed over 200 teens at 27 different worksites. GOTCHA is now developing a year-round employment program with education, training, and team building components. Youth continue to play a central organizing role in GOTCHA as planning partners. GOTCHA Planning Partners include: Bird Street Community Center, Bowdoin St. Health Center, Cape Verdean Community UNIDO, Dorchester Bay EDC, Dorchester CARES, Dudley St. Neighborhood Initiative, and The City School.

### **GROOM-HUMPHREYS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (GHNA) AND CRIME WATCH**

65 E. Cottage St., Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-816-1232

A grassroots effort in Boston, made up of area residents of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds who wanted to improve their neighborhood. It is an award-winning association which has improved the neighborhood. It was founded by Fernando Bossa. See article in the *Dorchester Reporter*—[www.dotnews.com/ghna.html](http://www.dotnews.com/ghna.html).

### **HORIZONS INITIATIVE**

90 Cushing Ave., Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-287-1900

The Horizons Initiative is an independent, nonprofit organization providing services for homeless children and their families in the Boston area. Their Playspace Volunteer Network recruits, trains, and places volunteers in family shelters and in domestic violence shelters to facilitate activities with the children living there. The organization also sets up the playspaces with appropriate resources, and runs child care centers, serving 130 children from shelters.

### **KROC COMMUNITY CENTER (FUTURE)**

[www.use.salvationarmy.org/use/www\\_use\\_bostonkroc.nsf](http://www.use.salvationarmy.org/use/www_use_bostonkroc.nsf)

The center will offer recreational, spiritual, educational, and cultural arts programs of superb quality. These versatile facilities will be open to people of all ages and offer a wide variety of programs and services focused on building character, confidence, capacity, and hope in the Uphams-Dudley neighborhood. This 90,000 square foot center will serve the whole family, from toddlers to elders. The facility is expected to include classrooms, computer lab, library/media center, teen center, gymnasium, swimming pool, outdoor athletic fields, and other facilities.

### **PILGRIM DAY CARE CENTER**

540 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-825-3480

Director Kim Sanders. Up to 32 children from ages 2.9 years old through kindergarten attend daily.

### **TEEN EMPOWERMENT (UPHAMS CORNER SITE)**

252 Bowdoin St., Dorchester, MA 02122 • 617-288-2784 • [www.teenempowerment.org](http://www.teenempowerment.org)

Admin. Office: 48 Rutland St., Boston, MA 02118 • 617-536-4266

“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, 2-3 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. U-N-I-T-E: Bringing the Community Together for Peace: This event was highlighted by a compact—the Community-Cop Connection Agreement (one page download)—between youth and the Boston Police Department, 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.

#### **UNIDO: CAPE VERDEAN COMMUNITY (UNITING NEIGHBORS IN DEVELOPING OURSELVES)**

492 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA 02119 • 617-442-6644 • [www.cvc-unido.org](http://www.cvc-unido.org)

CVC UNIDO’s mission is to outreach to, inform, and organize the Cape Verdean community around issues of self-empowerment and social and economic development while advocating for and accessing resources that meet the self-identified needs of the community. UNIDO’s youth programs and collaborations include: Youth Empowerment Project-Youth Leadership Development, “Boston... Connecting Cultures” Mural Project, Dudley Youth Council, College Bound, The World Is My City (educating inner city youth of the endless possibilities that exist in our world by exploring new places, people, and customs), and various sports programs. UNIDO is also a partner in GOTCHA. Another program offered to support families is VALOR (Values Affecting Learning Our Roots). The goal of VALOR is to recreate a sense of community where violence ceases to exist. Through a series of Healing Circles, youth and adults will build a common sense of values that promotes shared responsibility and strengthens both the Cape Verdean community and the broader Roxbury and Dorchester communities.

#### **UPHAMS CORNER “B SMART” GROUP**

Director: Adalberto Teixeira • 617-635-3404

Operation “B SMART” is a comprehensive community-based crime prevention and neighborhood services initiative aimed at providing security to neighborhoods that have been most impacted by violence. SMART stands for Strategic Multi-Agency Response Teams. The initiative represents a partnership between the Boston Police Department, the Office of Human Services, and the Office of Neighborhood Services. B-SMART aims to reduce crime and build community capacity by targeting hot spot crime areas with a collaborative government and community partnership strategy led by the Office of Human Services.

#### **UPHAMS CORNER BOARD OF TRADE**

415 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-436-2923

#### **UPHAMS CORNER HEALTH CENTER**

500 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-287-8000 • [www.uphamscornerhealthctr.com](http://www.uphamscornerhealthctr.com)

“The Uphams Corner Health Center is committed to provide high-quality, low-cost, culturally sensitive, community-based health and social services to the residents of Dorchester.” Their goal



is to provide comprehensive health and social services of the highest quality that are affordable, physically and culturally accessible, delivered in a dignified manner, and have a positive effect upon the client's well being." In addition to medical and dental services, the Center offers nutrition services for teens and adolescent counseling services.

#### **UPHAMS CORNER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

500 Columbia Road, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-265-0139 • [www.bpl.org/branches/uphams.htm](http://www.bpl.org/branches/uphams.htm)

The Uphams Corner Branch has a collection which reflects the needs and interest of the surrounding community. In addition to a core group of popular fiction and representative nonfiction, there are materials in French, Portuguese, and Spanish languages, well-rounded African American authors and reference sections, and a large DVD collection. Preschool, reading readiness and toddler programs are offered weekly. Teenagers are available four afternoons a week to help children with their homework through the HAP program. The branch hosts monthly programs for adults and families, alternating between informational and entertaining offerings. During the summer Uphams Corner participates in the Read Your Way to Fenway and Statewide Summer Reading programs.

#### **UPHAMS CORNER MAIN STREET, INC.**

594 Columbia Road, Suite 302, Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-265-0363 • [www.uphamscorner.org](http://www.uphamscorner.org)

"Uphams Corner Main Street, Inc. (UCMS) is a business district planning agency that works to build a vibrant commercial district in Uphams Corner. As one of the 19 programs in the Boston Main Streets network, UCMS is an enterprising program that has a track record of innovative project planning and implementation that has raised the profile of the Uphams Corner Commercial District. Through a partnership of merchants, residents and civic leaders, this Main Street organization seeks to make Uphams Corner a thriving, multi-cultural, business and entertainment center that attracts people from all over Boston."

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS**

- ▶ Alexander / Magnolia Co-op Association
- ▶ Clara Mohammed Co-op Association
- ▶ Hancock Street Neighborhood Association
- ▶ Jones Hill Association

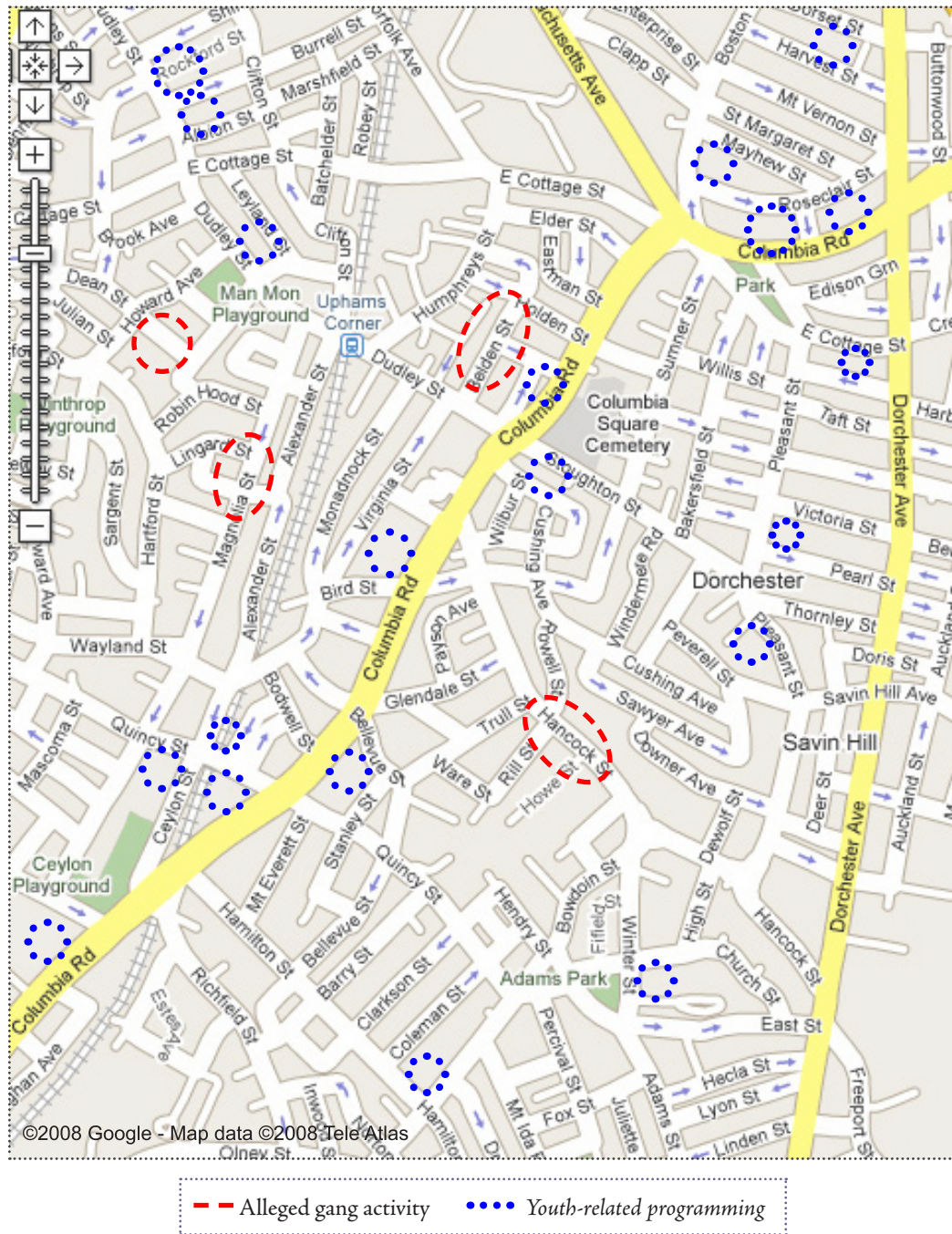
*President: Frank Grall • 617-650-2093 • [www.joneshill.com](http://www.joneshill.com)*

*Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month at St. Mary's Women and Infant's Center, 90 Cushing Ave.*

- ▶ Meetinghouse Hill Civic Association  
*10 Parish St., Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-436-0527*
- ▶ Project Hope Co-op Association
- ▶ Upham's Eastside Neighborhood Association  
*12 Gene St., Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-436-7209*
- ▶ Upham's Westside Neighborhood Association  
*29 Monadnock St., Dorchester, MA 02125 • 617-436-0494*



# PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIME



## POLICE DISTRICT

The Uphams Corner neighborhood includes parts of Police districts C-11 and B-3.



# COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS AND MEDIA

## **DORCHESTER REPORTER**

150 Mount Vernon St. , Dorchester, MA 02125  
Phone: 617-436-1222  
Website: [www.dotnews.com](http://www.dotnews.com)  
*Published weekly on Thursdays*

## **THE CAPE VERDEAN NEWS**

P.O. Box 3063, New Bedford, MA 02741  
Phone: 508-997-2300  
Website: [www.cvntv.com](http://www.cvntv.com)  
*Weekly Cape Verdean TV Program, Portuguese and English*  
*Though not based in the neighborhood, this program serves the Cape Verdean community*  
*(available on Comcast)*

## **MY DORCHESTER WEBSITE**

[www.mydorchester.org](http://www.mydorchester.org)





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**YOUTH VIOLENCE  
SYSTEMS PROJECT**  
*Getting to the Roots*

[WWW.GETTINGTOTHEROOTS.ORG](http://WWW.GETTINGTOTHEROOTS.ORG)