



## 2026 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

<b>YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS</b>	
<p><b>Adolescent Sexuality Education (ASE)</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  <a href="#">Jonathan Omar Torres</a>, <i>Program Director</i>  Dominic Roque, <i>Facilitator</i>  Jhanely Betances, <i>Facilitator</i>  Claudia Sanchez, <i>Facilitator</i></p>	<p>ASE is a 12-week positive youth development and pregnancy prevention program that utilizes the <a href="#">Making Proud Choices</a> curriculum to teach healthy decision making, reproductive health, and healthy relationships to youth in Lawrence. ASE is provided through 15 annual 12-week cohorts (13 school based + 2 community based).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Public Health</li> <li>• <i>Target # of youth:</i> 140</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence Public Schools</li> <li>• <i>Program Partners:</i> Esperanza Academy, Guilmette, Parthum and Arlington middle schools</li> </ul>
<p><b>Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP)</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  <a href="#">Jonathan Omar Torres</a>, <i>Program Director</i>  Dominic Roque, <i>Facilitator</i>  Jhanely Betances, <i>Facilitator</i>  Claudia Sanchez, <i>Facilitator</i></p>	<p><a href="#">PREP</a> is an 12-week program for 12-19 year olds at schools and community based organizations in Lawrence. The program interactively teaches abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and STI's through the <a href="#">Making Proud Choices</a> curriculum, provided via 12 annual cohorts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Public Health</li> <li>• <i>Target # of youth:</i> 140</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence Public Schools</li> <li>• <i>Program partners:</i> Lawrence High School, Sueños Basketball, Lawrence Boys &amp; Girls Club, Lawrence YMCA</li> </ul>
<p><b>Youth Violence Prevention through Healing, Equity, and Leadership (ESTEEM)</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  <a href="#">Jonathan Omar Torres</a>, <i>Program Director</i>  Dominic Roque, <i>Case Manager</i>  Jhanely Betances, <i>Case Manager</i>  Claudia Sanchez, <i>Case Manager</i></p>	<p>ESTEEM provides a comprehensive case management model to youth ages 13-18 who are court involved, acting out at home/school, or have a CRA petition. The goals of the program are reduce the incidence of violent and antisocial behaviors among youth, increase self-esteem, increase school/education engagement, and improve pro-social plans for the future. The program will consist of three components: Case Management, Wellness Activities and Outdoor/Leadership Opportunities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Public Health</li> <li>• <i>Target # of youth:</i> 25</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence</li> <li>• <i>Referrals from:</i> Community, Lawrence Juvenile Court, Lawrence Public Schools, FSMV programs</li> </ul>
<p><b>MA. Youth Diversion Program</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  <a href="#">Michelle Martinez</a>, <i>Diversion Director</i></p>	<p>The Massachusetts Youth Diversion Program uses evidence-based assessments to identify the underlying factors and criminogenic needs of youth referred to the program. Each young person is paired with a Diversion Coordinator who</p>

<p>TBH, <i>Diversion Coordinator</i></p>	<p>provides individualized case management and positive youth development support. The program offers youth who have committed offenses an opportunity to be redirected away from deeper involvement in the juvenile justice system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Youth Services</li> <li>• <i>Target # of youth:</i> 40 (rotating caseload)</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Essex County</li> <li>• <i>Referrals from:</i> Police Dept, Judges, Clerk Magistrate, District Attorney</li> </ul>
<p><b>Essex County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates)</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  <a href="#">Lisa Cioffi</a>, <i>CASA Director</i>  Danielle Emig, <i>Interim Advocate Supervisor</i>  Celine Stokes, <i>Interim Program Assistant</i></p>	<p>CASA recruits, trains and supervises volunteers who advocate on behalf of abused and neglected children in the Essex County Juvenile Courts (Lawrence, Newburyport, Salem &amp; Lynn). Volunteers are appointed as the Guardian ad Litem on complex “care and protection” cases, usually taking only one case at a time to advocate for the children’s best interests in court.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Trial Court, MA MOVA, National CASA Association, Private Foundation grants, fundraising</li> <li>• <i>Ave Annual Caseload:</i> 125 children</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Essex County</li> </ul>
<p><b>AMIGOS Mentoring</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  Josue Chavez Cubias, <i>Program Coordinator</i>  Carl Hober, <i>Staff Mentor</i></p>	<p>Amigos matches youth, ages 8-14, with two staff mentors who create trusting relationships that enhance protective factors associated with youth violence prevention, such as school engagement, social connections, and external support. Mentors will meet with youth once a week for 3 hours and receive a stipend for their time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> EOHHS, Strong Communities Initiative</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 14 Matches a year for 4 years</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence</li> </ul>
<p><b>Big Friends Little Friends (BFLF)</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  Noelia Fernandez, <i>Interim Program Manager</i>  Paula Vargas, <i>Match Support Specialist</i>  Kayla Fitzgerald, <i>Mentoring Marketing and Volunteer Recruiter</i></p>	<p>BFLF (formerly Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Lawrence) matches mentors with young people ages 6-18. Mentors serve as positive role models, provide friendship, guidance and support. BFLF is a community-based program that makes one to one, couples or family matches.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> Private Foundation Grants, Fundraising</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 80 Matches (80 youth + 80 mentors)</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Amesbury, Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Lawrence, Merrimac, Methuen, Newbury, Newburyport, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, and West Newbury</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stand &amp; Deliver</b>  Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i>  Sabrina Garcia, <i>Match Support Specialist</i>  Josue Chavez, <i>Match Support Specialist</i></p>	<p>Stand &amp; Deliver is an academic mentoring program that matches Lawrence Public School and Greater Lawrence Technical School students with volunteers from RTX (formerly Raytheon Missiles &amp; Defense), Pfizer, Schneider Electric and New Balance. Students are transported to our partners once a week to work on homework, MCAS prep, AP coursework and college readiness. High School seniors also work on college transition planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> Private Foundation grants, Fundraising</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 85 Students</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence</li> <li>• <i>Program partners:</i> Corporate partners (above), Lawrence High School, Bruce Middle School, &amp; Greater Lawrence Technical School</li> </ul>
<b>PARENTING PROGRAMS</b>	
<b>Young Empowered Parents (YEP)</b> Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i> <a href="#">Cristina Pagan-Jimenez</a> , <i>Young Parent Programs Director</i> Yarannis (Julie) Batista, <i>Case Manager</i> Karen Nova, <i>Case Manager</i> Adriana Estevez, <i>Clinician</i>	YEP provides intensive case management to pregnant and parenting teens from the City of Lawrence and Methuen, up to age 24. The goal of the program is to prevent a second pregnancy during adolescence, ensure young parents pursue an education, and have the skills to care for their children. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Public Health</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 60 Participants</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence &amp; Methuen</li> </ul>
<b>Young Parent Support (YPS)</b> Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i> <a href="#">Cristina Jimenez-Pagan</a> , <i>Young Parent Programs Director</i> TBH, <i>Case Manager</i> Liz Cabral, <i>Case Manager</i>	YPS provides intensive case management to pregnant and parenting teens from Lawrence & Haverhill, with a focus on home visiting for young parents up to age 23. The goal of the program is to prevent a second pregnancy during adolescence, ensure teen parents pursue an education and have the skills to care for their children. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Children &amp; Families</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 30 Participants</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Lawrence/Haverhill</li> </ul>
<b>Family &amp; Community Resource Center</b> Aida Castro, <i>CPO</i> <a href="#">Betsy Green</a> , <i>FCRC Director</i> Indhira Lara Lugo, <i>Family Support Worker</i> Yolanda Cruz-Brodbeck, <i>Family Support Worker</i> Jenny Perez, <i>School Liaison</i> Malachy Fallon, <i>Clinical Supervisor</i> Maggie De Los Santos, <i>Family Partner</i> Elaine Aquino, <i>Admin Support Specialist</i>	The FCRC provides a host of programs for families in Greater Lawrence, for families with children ages birth to age 18 at 1 Union Street, Suite #104, in Lawrence. The FCRC also have specific services for families with children who may be frequently absent or have serious problems at school, at home, or have run away from home, or are being exploited. Current programs include Active Parenting ages 1 through 5 and Active Parenting Teens, Youth Support Group, Parents Helping Parents, Nurturing Fathers, Grandparents Group, Parenting Journey, Parenting in America, Play Groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Children &amp; Families</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 575 Families</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Essex County</li> </ul>
<b>EMOTIONAL WELLNESS</b>	
<b>Mental Health Clinic</b> <a href="#">Ileana Hernandez-Clegg</a> , <i>Clinical Director</i> Lauren Dushay, <i>Clinician</i> Andrea Rodriguez Cruz, <i>Clinician</i> Kara Bloomingdale, <i>Nurse Practitioner</i> Desire Wilson, <i>Receptionist</i>	Professional mental health treatment, includes medication management as needed for individuals enrolled in treatment at FSMV. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> Third party insurance</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 140</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Greater Lawrence/Haverhill</li> </ul>

<p><b>Andover &amp; Methuen Elder Outreach</b> Lori Howe, COO <a href="#">Maggie Leblanc</a>, LPN</p>	<p>Provides care to elders in Methuen &amp; Andover in collaboration with Senior Centers. Care includes site-based groups as well as home visits with isolated elders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> Andover &amp; Methuen Councils on Aging, Private Foundation grant</li> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 75</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Andover &amp; Methuen</li> </ul>
<p><b>Samaritans of Merrimack Valley</b> Lori Howe, COO <a href="#">Debbie Helms</a>, Samaritans Director Emmalie Langan, Training Coordinator</p>	<p>Provides suicide prevention and awareness trainings for all organizations/schools that are tailored to fit individual needs, outreach and education for communities, and trainings for individuals who come in contact with high-risk populations (elders, youth, middle aged adults, and LGBTQIA+ individuals), 2 monthly support groups for suicide loss survivors, individual outreach/visits to suicide loss survivors, 2 bi-weekly support groups for suicide attempt survivors, support group for LGBTQIA+ individuals over age 18, loss survivor companion program, and postvention services (after a suicide death) <i>Funded by:</i> MA Dept. of Public Health, Private Foundation Grants, Fundraising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Target # of Clients:</i> 900</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Essex County and the northeast area of MA</li> </ul>
<p><b>988 Suicide &amp; Crisis Lifeline</b> Lori Howe, COO <a href="#">Taryn Carpenter</a>, Lifeline Director Maria DiVito, Operations Manager Alicia Mottley, Direct Services Manager 37 Lifeline staff (Supervisors, Coordinator, Call Takers)</p>	<p>Provides 24/7/365 call answering to calls to the National Suicide &amp; Crisis Lifeline 988 originating from Essex, Franklin, Hampden and Berkshire counties as well as calls made to a local legacy crisis line. Provides compassionate befriending, support and warm handoff to other providers as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18,000+ calls annually</li> </ul>
<p><b>Trauma Response</b> Debbie Helms &amp; <a href="#">Lori Howe</a> 9 PFA-Trained Trauma Team members</p>	<p>Provide <i>Psychological First Aid</i> in response to traumatic events at organizations and in communities, in collaboration with Riverside Trauma Center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> Riverside Trauma Center, fee for service</li> <li>• Average 3 – 4 trauma responses annually, reaching 75 people</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Essex County</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT)</b> <a href="#">Lori Howe</a>, Program Director Tatianna Anaya, Program Assistant Debbie Helms, Samaritans Director Emmalie Langan, Training Facilitator</p>	<p>Mental Health Awareness Training (MV-MHAT) Project, which will train adults who regularly interact with youth in the Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) and QPR curricula. These curricula will train 330 adults annually to help them recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness and in young people and safely link them with appropriate resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Funded by:</i> U.S. Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration</li> <li>• <i>Geographic Area:</i> Essex County</li> </ul>
<p><b>FISCAL SPONSORSHIP</b></p>	

<p><b>Lawrence/Methuen Community Coalition</b>, <i>Parker Street</i>  <a href="#">Harold Magoon</a>, <i>Director</i>          Jacquie Chamberlain, <i>Admin Assist</i>          Grace Corporan, <i>Patch Coordinator</i>          Ana Javier, <i>Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative Coordinator</i>          Evelyn Rodriguez, <i>Drug Free Communities Coordinator</i>          Madeline Maldonado, <i>Family Services Advocate</i></p>	<p>Patch Program, Families &amp; Youth Initiative, Community Coalition, Opioid Prevention Coalition, Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, Drug Free Communities.</p>
<p><b>Uncommon Threads</b>, <i>60 Island Street</i>  <a href="#">Susan Kanoff</a>, <i>Exec. Director</i>          Heather Gasper, <i>Assistance Director</i></p>	<p>Using beautiful clothing and personal styling as initial tools, our goal is for women to feel nurtured, beautiful and confident by changing the way they view themselves and the way they are perceived by others.</p>
<p><b>One Wish Project</b>          Hannah Finn</p>	<p>Provides birthday celebrations for young people living in homeless shelters</p>