

JP VIPC Program Summary

The Jamaica Plain Violence Intervention and Prevention Collaborative was created in 2008 in response to numerous incidents of violence in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood. Fifteen community organizations which included health centers, housing developments, social service organizations and schools came together to create a collaborative to address the trauma caused by the violence. The approach that the collaborative adopted initially focused on intervening in the incidents of violence, which required securing the training needed to mount an appropriate community response. The JP VIPC recognized that while they preferred to focus on preventing violence, developing an effective trauma response team was a necessary and important first step in the overall effort. Coordinating and formalizing the response to violent incidents and improving communication between agencies that could provide support to families could minimize subsequent trauma. Once an effective trauma response mechanism was in place, the participating agencies began to focus their collective energies on efforts to prevent future violence. This effort has been effective to date in meeting the needs of families by developing a strong community wide collaboration.

The mission of the JP VIP Collaborative is to help youth and families of Jamaica Plain and neighboring communities to live safe and healthy lives by collaboratively providing access to and education about mental health services, identifying available resources and responding to families affected by violence.

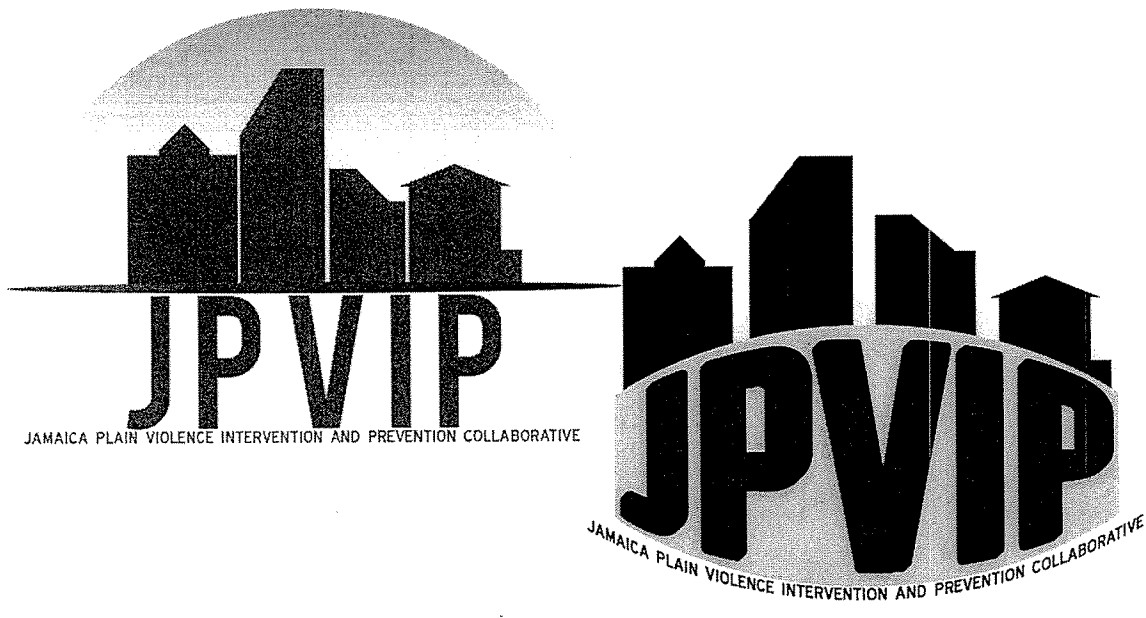
The vision is to create a peaceful environment for youth and families living in Jamaica Plain and neighboring communities to live, work and play.

The focus of the JP-VIPC work for the coming year will be the following goals:

1. To provide education, information and resources related to mental health to youth and families in Jamaica Plain.
2. Develop a relationship around trauma prevention and intervention with Boston Public Schools in the JP community.
3. Develop a youth strategy that will engage youth in the JP-VIPC's work and empower them to reach out to other youth.

Each of the identified goals has objectives, activities and measureable outcomes that will demonstrate the progress that the Collaborative has made at the end of the year.

Overall, the Collaborative wants to have a focused scope of work that will yield benefits to the youth and families and help to prevent further traumatic events from occurring in their community.



Mission and Vision Statement

Our Mission is to create a peaceful environment for the youth and families living in Jamaica Plain and Roxbury to live, work and play.

Our Vision is to help the youth and families of Jamaica Plain and Roxbury live safe and healthy lives by collaboratively providing access to mental health services, identifying available resources and responding to families affected by violence.

Long-term Vision for the Collaborative

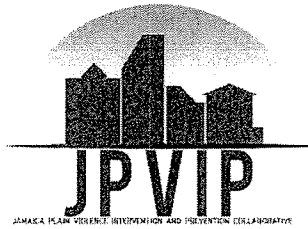
Being a victim of violence is widely recognized as a cause for mental health problems, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, and panic attacks. Being abused also plays a strong role in developing or worsening substance abuse problems. For many victims affected, their first abuse occurred when they were children or adolescents. Violence can shatter your life in many ways. The best way to combat trauma, substance abuse, and mental health problems is through an integrated, holistic approach, taking into account how each individual's problem affects others.

The long-term vision for the JP Violence Intervention and Prevention (VIP) Collaborative is to build the capacity of practitioners, community members and agencies to achieve the necessary social change and sustainability necessary to improve our response to violence. It is so necessary that victims of violence feel supported and helped toward recovery, where the sharing of experiences and concerns with a community member or service provider, who can assist in forming an action plan to address all of a person's struggles is not perceived as a barrier to receiving services.

The ongoing mission of the JP VIP Collaborative is to address the mental health needs of underserved children and families in Jamaica Plain and surrounding communities. The aim is to improve mental health of children, adolescents, families through three strategies: collaboration, training and advocacy. Our future goals and objectives will be to:

1. **Strengthen linkages between health centers, schools, and families** to maximize strengths that each has to contribute to the well-being of children in Boston
2. **Increase knowledge and understanding of mental health issues** in order to build capacity to respond to needs
3. **Reduce barriers to access** caused by difficulty of navigating the system, shortage of linguistically and culturally appropriate care, transportation limitations, fear of contact with public officials, and stigma around seeking care

JP VIP Collaborative activities for the future will include community-based network meetings, training for school staff, behavioral health and pediatric providers, educational workshops for families, psycho-education groups for students, and case management/resource provision. The JP VIP Collaborative is committed to changing the impact of violence on our communities.



Roles and Responsibilities

Trauma Response Coordinator

Receives and confirms initial information.

- Notifies all members of the Collaborative (email, text, calls).
- Sets up an Emergency Meeting within 5-10 hours of receiving information or by noon the next day.
 - Identifies key people – relationships.
 - Assigns tasks and confirms roles and sets up a timeline for check-ins
- Deploys the response team
- Responsible for organizing a debriefing session
- Responsible for making sure that Response Team Members have self-care options available.

Contingency Plans/Back Up for Coordinator

- The Trauma Response Coordinator's Supervisor will arrange for back-up by using the other members of the program staff (Youth Outreach Worker and/or Social Worker).
- Create a backup generic email for the "Coordinator" so that communications regarding an incident can be sent to the right people

Family Systems Connector Team (in the home)

- Family liaison – has a direct relationship to the family
- Support person to the liaison – less tied in and there to support the family liaison

Communications, Logistics and Resource Coordinator

- Provides updates on vigils, services, etc.
- Has regular communications with the Trauma Response Coordinator
- Provides information about funerals
- Connects with schools that family is connected to and coordinates information

Safety Security Liaison

- Connects with the Boston Police Department
- Makes security assignments
- Handles rumor control
- Has access to police reports

City Connector

- Works with the Trauma Response Coordinator to share information with the Boston Public Health Commission to make sure there are no duplication of efforts and to coordinate street worker efforts
- Connecting and communicating with the Boston Police Department

Recovery Support

Liaison (1)

- Attend initial emergency meeting to get informed
- Works as or with resource person
 - Periodically checking in
 - Will become the point of care for the family over the next 12 months (school, employment, health etc.)
 - Part of the debriefing team to understand family needs
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Recovery Support Team (should consist of):

- Primary Care Provider or health center, Mental health/behavior counselor
- Youth Worker (Nontraditional contact)
- School, Community, etc. contact

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Goal	Programs	Objectives	Activities/Task	Performance Measures	
				Process	Outcome
To provide education, information, and resources related to mental health to youth and families in JP and Roxbury.	JP VIPC Mental Health Sub-Committee	Objective 1 By the spring of 2011 provide one educational forum on mental health for a minimum of 50 youth and 75 families.	Develop, plan and implement a forum on mental health using the theme Body, Mind and Soul for at least 100 participants.	Number of participants (youth and adults) at the forum. Number of Collaborative members who participate in the implementation of the event and who attend the event.	Was the forum useful and effective (survey tool).
		Objective 2 Engaging a minimum of 10 peer leaders working with youth in the community to educate 10 youth about mental health issues and resources.	Conduct a training for peer leaders from MEHC and other community youth groups about talking with peers about mental health issues and helping to connect them with community resources.	Number of peer leaders trained, and the number of youth connected to resources. Number of Collaborative members who have youth participating in this work.	Increase in knowledge.
		Objective 3 Educating 20-25 parents about the benefits and risks of medicating children and youth and the potential use of alternative treatments that may be as effective as drug therapy.	Holding at least two educational workshops on the benefits and challenges of psychotropic drugs for 20- 25 JP parents.	Number of parents trained.	Number or percent of parents who feel informed.

School Sub-committee Goals and Objectives

Goal	Programs	Objectives	Activities	Performance Measures	
				Process	Outcome
Develop a relationship around Trauma Response prevention, and intervention with BPS in the JP community	JP VIPC Youth and School Sub-Committee	<p>Objective 1</p> <p>To provide identified contacts at the 6 JP schools (Kennedy, Hernandez, Hennigan, Agassiz, Curley, and English) with an overview of the Collaborative's work and the resources that can be offered when a traumatic event occurs.</p>	<p>Set up a system of communication between the Collaborative and the 6 schools that includes an ongoing check-in to establish a relationship of trust and respect</p>	<p>Number of school contacts identified and reached</p> <p>Number of meetings between the Collaborative and contacts from each of the identified schools</p> <p>Number of Collaborative members who are involved in this process</p>	<p>To have a protocol in place</p>
		<p>Objective 2</p> <p>To develop an ongoing relationship with the BPS Director of Psychological Services</p>	<p>Set up quarterly contacts (meetings, communications) with the BPS contact for Psych Services to share any challenges, barriers and successes</p>	<p>Number of meetings scheduled and held</p> <p>Number of Collaborative members participating in the meetings</p>	

Youth Sub-committee Goals and Objectives

Goal	Program	Objectives	Activities	Performance Measures	
				Process	Outcome
Develop a youth strategy that will engage youth in the Collaborative's work and empower them to reach out to other youth.	JP VIPC Youth and School Sub Committee	Objective 1 Collaborative partners (Beantown Society) will run violence prevention and intervention programming with middle school age students.	A day long violence prevention and intervention retreats with the entire 7 th and 8 th grades	How many student participated in the retreats	(Find out if any surveys are conducted of what the students learned)
		Objective 2 Provide focused in depth leadership development work with 20-30 youth identified as needing additional support as indicated by overage for grade level, incidents of violence, and discipline, poor attendance peer evaluations	Provide a minimum of one series of leadership development groups for 20 -30 youth Holding as least one overnight retreat for 20-30 youth in need of additional support	Number of group meetings Number of youth who complete the leadership series Number of retreat participants	Decline in negative activities (incidents of violence, discipline issues, grade retentions) or increase in positive behaviors such as: better attendance, positive peer evaluations
		Objective 3 Provide a minimum of two teacher and staff trainings with focus on building trusting relationships with students	Implementing at least one training for teachers and staff focused on building trusting relationships with students	How many teachers and staff participated in the training	Increased knowledge