

**Pilot Project**

The purpose of the “pilot project” is to create significant positive opportunities, resources and support for children living in one targeted neighborhood of New Bedford by helping parents, residents, educators and other stakeholders create a safe haven. The development and implementation of this pilot project will ultimately lead to project replication on a larger scale across the city of New Bedford.

*The following is a synopsis of some of the components of the pilot project:*

- ❖ Promote economic empowerment.
- ❖ Empower and support parents, by helping parents to increase their connection to and awareness of their children’s daily lives: i.e. school, social arenas.
- ❖ Promote academic success, as indicated by development of academic, leadership and social skills.
- ❖ Provide adult mentoring services to youth.
- ❖ Provide innovative recreation that meets the needs presented by our local youth.
- ❖ Ensure collaboration among local social and health providers, along with law enforcement, local businesses and the private sector.
- ❖ Teach violence prevention skills including but not limited to therapeutic interventions such as anger management and conflict resolution.

**Goal #1:** *Youth in New Bedford will increase academic capacity, as evidenced by improved motivation, leadership skills, improved grades, and overall improved engagement in school.*

<b>Outcome-based activities</b>	<b>Measured by:</b>
Increase academic motivation by increasing incentives and rewards for learning.	Documentation of: Strategies developed to identify and distribute appropriate incentives/rewards.
Provide comprehensive tutoring to students.	Documentation of: # Tutoring strategies developed & implemented.
Increase educational and other enrichment opportunities through local higher institutions of learning.	Documentation of: Level of engagement, opportunities created. Collaboration with BCC & UMASS Dart.
Engage local business community and other stakeholders.	Documentation of: Types of outreach conducted, partnerships secured, level of activity defined and tracked.
Continue and increase collaboration with all relevant entities.	Documentation of: Collaboration with University of Massachusetts, New Bedford Public Schools, Bristol Community College, New Directions (GED Program), United Interfaith Action and others identified.

**Goal #2:** *Youth in New Bedford will increase access to innovative recreational opportunities and community resources.*

<b>Outcome-based activities</b>	<b>Measured by:</b>
Survey local youth and families to evaluate programmatic interests.	Documentation of: Survey completed, results.
Engage local youth to join focus groups to help develop innovative approaches to recreation that promotes social skill development and is safe.	Documentation of: # Number of youth committed to participation.

*Catholic Social Services Violence Prevention Committee*

Provide a wide array of programming(including therapeutic interventions) to meet the needs and interests of our local youth in the pilot community.	Documentation of: # of innovative activities provided and accessed by youth and their families in the pilot community.
Continue and increase collaboration with all relevant entities.	Documentation of: Collaboration with Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, YWCA, South Coast Learning Network, New Bedford Recreational Department, Catholic Social Services, Child and Family Services, MSPCC and others identified.

**Goal # 3:** Parents of youth in New Bedford will increase their connection to and awareness of their children’s daily lives, including school, social and recreational arenas.

<b>Outcome-based activities</b>	<b>Measured by:</b>
Provide instructional classes to parents using the Hazelton “Parenting for Prevention” format.	Documentation of: # of attendees, level of participation, curriculum presented.
Increase collaboration among local entities including law enforcement, courts, community agencies and others to help support families.	Documentation of: Planning among various entities, including, but not limited to Documentation of: New Bedford School Department, Community Connections, Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children, and other related social service agencies.

**Goal #4:** Increase overall economic development within the identified neighborhood

<b>Outcome-based activities</b>	<b>Measured by:</b>
Highlight innovative employment opportunities that will interest and engage local youth preparing to enter the workforce.	Documentation of: Information developed and distributed within pilot community to youth entering the workforce.
Provide job and related skills training for youth.	Documentation of: Provision of training, level of participation.
Developing businesses within the identified neighborhood.	Documentation of: Strategies developed to implement a business development plan.
Engage local business community and other stakeholders.	Documentation of: Types of outreach conducted, partnerships secured, level of activity defined and tracked.
Continue and increase collaboration with all relevant entities.	Documentation of: Collaboration with New Directions, Chamber of Commerce, UMASS Labor Center, New Bedford Employment Center and others identified.