

Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston, Inc.

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The Black Ministerial Alliance of Greater Boston, Inc. (BMA) is an intermediary organization that provides funding and technical assistance to faith-based and community-based non-profit organizations engaged in work that supports and strengthens low-income youth and families of color in Boston. As a 40 year-old association of clergy and laypersons who are members of historically Black or predominately Black churches in Greater Boston, the BMA advocates for and provides services affecting the temporal needs and quality of life of its members. The BMA's primary areas of program focus include education, youth and family services, and community economic development that affect the living conditions of youth and families in Boston.

Today, the BMA is one of the largest, most diverse, and active faith-based organizations in the city, with active participation from churches representing over 30,000 parishioners. The BMA has a demonstrated record of achievement in promoting positive change and community development throughout the city. Current investments in the BMA have served over 146 faith-based and community-based organizations, which in turn have affected over 26,000 youth and families, or 18.9% of youth in the city. The BMA seeks to build the capacity of organizations that provide a wide-range of services that impact the educational achievement, family stability, and general well being of youth and families in Boston's poorest neighborhoods.

In the past two years, the BMA has:

- Convened and coordinated over 80 faith-based and community-based organizations to form a High-Risk Youth Network. The goal of this network is to improve the services to youths most at risk of violence and other dangers by helping service providers develop and implement a more coordinated, comprehensive strategy to assist them.
- Hosted two Youth At-High Risk Conferences that attracted over 800 individuals to learn ways of serving high-risk youth.
- Hosted a community information forum to provide information on available community services. Such services are critical to helping youths and families address and/or avoid violence. Dozens of providers/vendors and hundreds of community residents attended this event.
- With three-year funding from the federal government's Compassion Capital Fund, more than \$300,000 has been spent to create 296 new summer jobs for high-risk youth.
- Served over 450 youths through 10 faith-based, after school sites.

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