



Boston Alliance for Community Health: Comunidad, Equidad y Salud

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Leaders in Health

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Project Background

- ▶ Boston Alliance for Community Health (BACH)
 - ▶ BACH's mission
 - ▶ Strategic Issue
- ▶ Health Ambassador

Aims & target population

- ▶ East Boston community members/residents that are not already active in traditional engagement spaces whose health is directly impacted by local policies.
- ▶ Housing Policies:
 - **Jim Brooks Act (Local)**
 - Housing Bond Bill (State)

Key activities & outcomes

▶ Activities:

- Survey residents on their understanding of civic engagement and current political processes
- Hosting collaborative educative events on local politics and processes.
- Hosting Register to Vote open hours in East Boston Library

▶ Outcomes:

- Receive data on the clarity of current political processes
- Increase number of residents who understand Boston politics
- Increase number of residents that are registered to vote

Inputs

- Boston Alliance for Community Health (BACH)
- East Boston Neighborhood Health Center
- East Boston Social Center
 - Space
- Neighborhood Associations
- East Boston Library
 - Space
- Boston City Hall
- Schools
- Churches
- EB Library
- Union Capital

Activities

- Assessments
- Surveys
- Collaborative community meetings
- Hosting collaborative educative sessions
- Connecting with City Hall about information dissemination
- Conduct self-efficacy and local policy trainings

Outputs

- # of residents who attended educative sessions
- # of conversations had with city councilors
- # of residents who filled out survey

Outcomes

Short-term

- Increase # of residents registered to vote,
- Increase communication between City Hall and residents
- Increase # of residents aware of local policy and processes

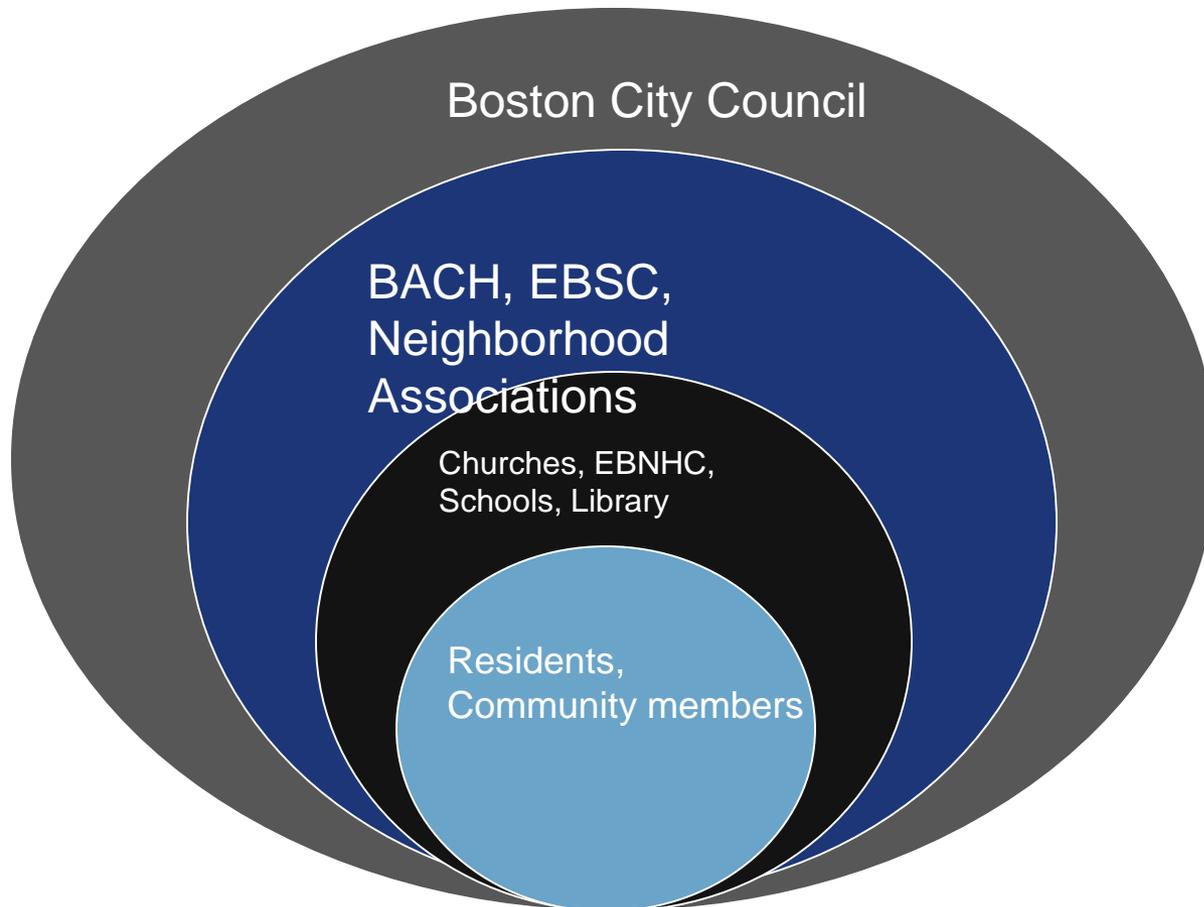
Intermediate

- A sense of inclusion among residents of different races, ethnicities, socioeconomic backgrounds, and immigration status.
- Transformation of methods of engagement

Long-term

- Increase # of residents that seek out resources that impact their well-being
- Community-led development and policy implementation

Social Ecological Model



Initiative 1

- ▶ Social Ecological Model
- ▶ Analysis and Assessment
- ▶ Short term: Canvassing the *individuals* and attending meetings held by *organizational* figures
- ▶ Long term: Create systems that keep organizations accountable for being inclusive to all members of the community

Initiative 2

- ▶ Formative Evaluation
- ▶ Redefining what we *think* we know
- ▶ Short term: Collecting survey data to best understand *engagement* through the eyes of various community members
- ▶ Long term: Creating a sustainable feedback loop between community and Boston City Hall on matters of communication, accessibility and inclusivity

Initiative 3

- ▶ Community Based Participatory Research
- ▶ Interdisciplinary approach that combines public health and policy research
- ▶ Short term: Connect with researchers interested in topic
- ▶ Long term: (re) Build trust between academia and community

Conclusion

Harnessing the strengths of community to create an inclusive and accessible political process that *engages* and *mobilizes* all members in a way that is culturally competent and appropriate.