#### Ideas in Action - Cycle One Boston's Participatory Budgeting Draft Proposals Public Feedback (11/7 - 11/22)

Free space/incubator with a kitchen for low-income entrepreneurs. Creates opportunities to access a high-quality space. Fosters economic growth. Creates new employment opportunities.

- 1. I'm in favor of this one. Would require health department resources though.
- 2. Sounds like a great idea! I would be concerned about the clean-up and maintenance of the area. Would the space facilitate selling of the end product? Would there be a percentage of profit paid back to the city to minimize cost of maintenance?
- 3. Good idea
- 4. Love this idea !
- 5. Not a high priority -- also would need to deal with kitchen inspection to make sure the food is safe
- 6. This is a great idea, especially if people could sit in and eat at the kitchen. Oh, and separate idea Christmas Markets, please? Open up some of our squares and parks with some soft lighting and vendors to come by with food, drinks, and things for sale. The winter is dismal at night and this would really brighten up the December-January months.
- 7. Eliminate
- 8. Optional. Maybe too specific a focus?
- 9. Boston and Cambridge has (or had) many of these kind of spaces. Nothing new here. And like traditional office space, they probably are now very underutilized as so many have learned to work from home, including the kind of work that goes on these spaces. So it's not serving a need, just as building a new office building does not these days. Free? Funding is limited to a year, so it would be honest to put on the ballot "free for one year". That's all that PB can provide.
- 10. Okay but not every business is food-related—what about other equipment?
- 11. I imagine this would also require staffing to provide business development assistance
- 12. no feedback, good idea like Commonwealth Kitchen and Public Kitchen
- 13. Something like the public kitchen that DS4SI piloted this year would be great! Not just for businesses but also for people that may not have regular access to kitchens
- 14. Hmm, this could be cool. I just met with prepshift co-founder Dylan Gully and heard about the work they do with Boston to support independent restaurants. I don't really know much about this proposal or how it would work. I work at the cafe at Exodus Bagels in Roslindale. Maybe it could make it more accessible for low-income entrepreneurs to get their businesses running with low start up costs.
- 15. We need more community spaces where people can meal prep, learn to cook, and where people in need can get healthy prepared meals. If that could be part of this vision, that would be positive.
- 16. Yes
- 17. Yes

- 18. This is a great idea. It would be great to give local chefs the opportunity to volunteer at this kitchen and work with youth who are interested in the food/service industry. The space could also include a garden if outdoor space allows.
- 19. I see this project helping in Brighton to fill some of the small spaces I see that are not currently occupied, see this as a means of having something like a "Ghost" kitchen for people who would want to get into food business without having a store front, helps to bring multiple entrepreneurs together to build their businesses. I think it would be good to add a worker who can help assist these groups to access more funding/programming that the city already offers. I think of the Harvard Ed group which does a lot of work with entrepreneurs.

#### 20. BBA Comments

Location? (within what existing space?)

- 1. Kendra/DOE: CommonWealth Kitchen is one option
- 2. Eny/NUBE: I agree with Kendra, and NUBE members are asking if it is possible to use the former police station space in East Boston, near Maverick Station, to create the kitchen, among other activities?

HOW? (e.g.a grant to existing kitchens to offer programming or free space rental? etc.)

- 3. Kathy/CED: The kitchen space would also offer programs or classes to support the entrepreneurs to get their ServSafe Certification and connect/support them with the proper City's Department to get street vendor licenses or other permits needed.
- 4. Eny/NUBE: It will bring a lot of hope to many people in the community who have gifts of cooking and could teach others, but also create community connections.

What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget(examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?

- 5. Eny/NUBE: The money should be used for the proposed project, in this case it should be used to buy materials, stoves and everything necessary to create a Community Kitchen, such as utensils, maintenance, stipends, trainings, etc.
- 6. NUBE members: City buys min 10 food trucks that are free to use by community organizations. The city will have a calendar/scheduling system so that organizations and entrepreneurs are able to reserve the food trucks. This will ensure that folks have access to high quality space without building new kitchens

What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to create this?

- 7. Eliza/CED: Commonwealth Kitchen in Dorchester and GreenRoots teaching kitchen in Chelsea would be good to talk with them about costs and what is possible. The Roxbury Nubian Sq library has a kitchen for free cooking classes; can people reserve it to cook their own food? Something to look into
- 8. +1 Kat/CED: Public Kitchen DS4SI

### Housing and accessible rent for youth between 16-28 that can cover security deposits and additional expenses in safe spaces.

- 1. I'd like to see this expanded to include workforce development.
- 2. would the guidelines require them to have full time jobs and/or be enrolled in school? How long would they be able to stay in the program? Are there incentives to motivate them to be employed or providing community service??
- 3. Hard to realistically make this happen and ensure fairness of access to such a program. I would say its aspirational.
- 4. Useful -- but would need to address any legal challenges if any are minors, if the parents object to these arrangements
- 5. It would be great to have a backup fund/guarantee program since so much housing here requires 4 months of rent up front to sign a lease.
- 6. Eliminate
- 7. Yes, if selection of participants and payments can be carefully monitored. Sounds vague.
- 8. Yes, if selection of participants and payments can be carefully monitored. Sounds vague.
- 9. Unrealistic
- 10. Love this idea keeps young adults in the city and out of slumlord housing
- 11. Getting together a security deposit on top of rent can be a huge hurdle, especially since we often need housing in order to take a nearby job, and the pay may not have started yet. I like this idea because I see it helping young people get started.
- 12. love this idea but need more detail on how this will work especially with such a small budget
- 13. Absolutely I think that housing should be prioritized above most of these initiatives. There should be more funding dedicated to housing folks than creating a more hostile environment for them to navigate. I have still never met a homeless person who wanted to be homeless over having a safe, stable, and affordable housing option. -- also providing them with a path to ownership would be huge.
- 14. What does this actually mean? Individual payments. Setting up housing spaces?
- 15. I like this
- 16. sounds good to me
- 17. Maybe a no interest loan program to cover the upfront costs of moving. The Post Office should make microloans for stuff like that, but that of course is federal.
- 18. Yes
- 19. Great idea. Could also serve as temporary housing for college students in need.
- 20. A great idea, but dislike giving corporations more profits with my tax money. I would require companies that participate in this program will NOT be allowed to raise rent, to offer the rent NOT at market price but rent adjusted. I think that accessible rent should just be a general legislation that gets passed to help relieve our housing crisis.
- 21. BBA Comments
  - 1. <u>Here</u> are some current City of Boston resources for youth experiencing homelessness.
  - 2. Should this project add resources to something existing or create a new financial resource?

- 2.1. Eny/NUBE: I'm not sure how accessible all these resources are to low-income, immigrant youth? I guess we need create a new financial project or make sure that all youth are included
- 2.2. Kathy/CED: Ensure that this creates a fund with guidelines that include/allow undocumented young people to tap into this resource. Also this project should include a packet with education on tenant rights and resource list.
- 3. How much rental assistance could each young person receive and how many youth would this serve? What would the total cost of this project be? What are examples of additional expenses?
  - 3.1. George/YJPU: 12 months of monthly rent subsidies could be modeled after the City voucher program, part of which goes to mobile vouchers to cover any rent and utilities above 25% or 30% of the young person's income. On top of that security deposit, first/last, and moving expenses. An alternative is to have just security deposit, first/last, and moving expenses. Final details in an RFP could be determined with young people and groups that support unhoused youth.
- 4. What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to create this?
  - 4.1. City voucher program (the mobile voucher component).

## Programs for prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of people and families struggling with substance abuse.

- 1. These exist, I think? Capacity may be the issue?
- 2. It is Certainly needed in Boston. Would it include staffing to reach out to drug addicted individuals living in the street, counseling for families and follow up services after getting clean?
- 3. They already have this, in various forms.
- 4. Yes, important to bolster these services
- 5. In general, yeah, let's invest in this.
- 6. Work with churches to do this
- 7. Yes. High priority.
- 8. "Serves a desperate need. Lots of services like this in Boston but it's never enough. The Boston Health Commission should be able to advise. Perhaps there is some narrow niche that they don't have the mandate to reach that this mini-PB new one year program could address.
- 9. All ballot questions involving services should state that funding is for just one year. Otherwise voters will be mislead."
- 10. Too vague but important
- 11. Are the existing programs not sufficient?
- 12. sure
- 13. housing that doesn't demand sobriety helps people gain independence without their safety depending on their sobriety. There should be more funding dedicated to housing folks than creating a more hostile environment for them to navigate. I have still never met a homeless

person who wanted to be homeless over having a safe, stable, and affordable housing option. -- also providing them with a path to ownership would be huge.

- 14. Extremely vague
- 15. I'm all for substance abuse prevention programs. I do worry that treatment and rehab might be quickly overwhelmed with the current budget and local need. There's also a legitimate concern that people would come from outside the city to get treatment. While there should absolutely be programs that support them, there also won't be the funds for it here.
- 16. Most of these programs rely on medication-assisted treatments (MATS). While beneficial for some, it is clear that because of their own expense, addictive potential, and risk of overdose that we need a more structural solution. More spaces where people can socializez make friends, and unpack their traumas. A lot of people on Mass and Cass are drawn back into substance use because at least those encampments have some semblance of community. A lot of sober people have few third spaces to socialize.
- 17. yes
- 18. Very much needed, especially around the South End where there is a large concentration of people struggling with substance abuse near BMC.
- 19. A lot of homeless individuals are not victims of addiction, but of broken communities.Whatever program that is enacted should look to build these communities through strengthening the family/friend unit that already exists, or through the people themselves.

### Make food more affordable by gift cards distributed by community organizations to low income people, public housing residents, single mothers, sick and disabled, etc.

- 1. Again, this is already happening. Another capacity issue?
- 2. Good idea, has to be clear that the cards are available at certain organizations and people would have to request them to make sure they are not going to just people they know.
- 3. I love this idea. Ensure that the organizations selected spread the word about the program to all families in need, not just a select few.
- 4. No: the focus should be on making the supermarkets and other food vendors more affordable in terms of the prices they charge don't make it a consumer problem
- 5. Is this not already being done? What's different with this?
- 6. Eliminate
- 7. Yes, I support this if it can be monitored to go to the needy.
- 8. "Need some description on the ballot of how community orgs will be selected, and how within those orgs selected, how they will determine eligibility.
- 9. How will the amount be determined? It could easily be the smallest or the largest ballot \$\$s proposal. Will it be by formula (e.g., the average \$\$s for the other ballot proposals)? Or like #2 and #3 consult with City Dept or Food Bank programs to discover if existing food programs are serving much of the need (then smaller funding) or are falling far short (then larger funding)? "
- 10. Don't know if this will work as it would be an ongoing expense, but could put some city resources into an existing group like Food For Free.
- 11. Too open to abuse-how to ensure cards get in the right hands?

- 12. This could address a critical need for those unserved by current public assistance programs, but without the funds to afford groceries.
- 13. Could we increase and expand SNAP and WIC benefits? Or no, because those programs aren't at the city level? I like the principle of this idea. One thing that comes to mind is that it might be more limiting than SNAP in terms of choosing a specific store rather than letting the person choose what's convenient for them. Maybe there's a way to do this in partnership with local businesses instead of big stores, since low income families often can't afford the higher prices that small businesses have to have, and then end up being cut out of participating in that part of their local economy since you can't "vote with your dollars" if you don't have the dollars etc. Then again, maybe that would just make things more restrictive for recipients, in which case disregard.
- 14. yes especially with SNAP being reduced with Trump administration
- 15. buying and distributing wholesale bulk products would be great, also partnering with community farms to provide in-season produce and educating folks about how to preserve and use all parts of foods.
- 16. Why not A UBI instead of a give away to specific businesses?
- 17. It is unclear what this would do that is different from programs like WIC and SNAP. Solving the healthy food access problem by encouraging the development of grocers in food deserts seems both more impactful and more cost-effective. Zoning changes and mild subsidies could go a long way here.
- 18. Ensuring that these gift cards can be used at ethnic food stores so people can get culturally-specific foods and ingredients
- 19. We should just scale this up into a universal basic income funded by Harvard's \$53 billion endowment
- 20. Yes
- 21. yes
- 22. I like this idea, and it would be even more impactful if the gift cards were for local businesses.
- 23. Use the HIP program! Increase the funding there! We should be making healthy food the priority here, especially if we are focusing on food. If the gift cards are meant for more than just food (like diapers and such), then gift cards is a good idea.

### Create a program that directs dollars and education to low income pre-teens and younger teens (10-15) who may be vulnerable to recruitment by criminal elements to engage in gun violence.

- 1. See comment on #2: (I'd like to see this expanded to include workforce development.)
- 2. It is important to recruit the age group noted and keep them engaged in a program. There should be attendance requirements, parental involvement once in a while and active participation, not just showing up! B
- 3. Isn't this done already?
- 4. Interesting idea, any details or models from other places? Employment or pre-employment?
- 5. This also would need to be connected to a pipeline for jobs -- to build for the future
- 6. I support programs like Teen Empowerment that try to invest in our communities for this.

- 7. Hire truancy officers instead, hold parents accountable for education of their children.
- 8. Yes. Important to address needs of vulnerable young people.
- 9. A great idea. It has real possibility for later expansion. (PB funding for small program pilot year, then if successful, the City can consider ongoing funding with expanded programming.) I think language on the ballot should include this notion of it being an experimental pilot first year program with end of year analysis that is delivered to relevant parties thereafter -- the Mayor, Police Dept, Youth Services, etc. < All this should be written into ballot proposal.</p>
- 10. Too vague
- 11. interesting...
- 12. Would love to see more details on this idea. There's a big difference between regular programs and community spaces that keep young people off the streets vs. generic "gangs are bad" education.
- 13. I like this
- 14. Boston Public Schools need to meet the needs of students better and offer fun programs that teens actually want to be a part of. Just a crazy thought: what if BPS had a competitive shooting, mixed martial arts, and archery programs. You're never going to make guns uncool to many teenage boys. So give them an outlet to live out that fantasy.
- 15. Yes
- 16. yes
- 17. This is a good idea, but I think it lacks direction, and something that is very minimally effective when it comes to preventing gang recruitment. There are many other interventions that work at much more likelier percentages than dollars and education. Gang recruitment is 1. an attempt to create strong, trusting, communities and 2. income to alleviate poverty. If there is a program that addresses both these impacts, there is a chance this could help.
- 18. BBA Comments:
  - What elements should the program feature? What would be the program description? Eny/NUBE: This would open spaces for young people to connect with each other but leave the skills in different work spaces, such as grassroots organizations, for example.. They would have a safe space to come to learn and at the same time they could start having conversations about saving for their future education, for example.
  - 2. Is there a location/locations that should be prioritized for this project? Eny/NUBE: City wide should be implemented.
  - 3. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
  - 4. What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to create this? Eny/NUBE: The city already has a summer youth program, but from 14-18, I think it is successful. We have seen it in East Boston, but the age should be extended from 10 years old.

George/YJPU: The City also has a SuperTeens program for 13 year olds, so this could be extended to lower age ranges. This is a stipend program, so young people under the age of 14 can qualify. Build community gardens in vacant lots, including species that deter rodents, for community residents. This will create a healthier environment, beautify the community, address food insecurity, and build camaraderie among residents.

- 1. I'm in favor of this.
- 2. People should have to volunteer to be able to take advantage of the grown food! Will it be in a secure fenced in area!! I wouldn't want to see people working hard in the gardens and have the grown vegetables etc disappear when the workers aren't around.
- 3. Great idea
- 4. Excellent idea!
- 5. Community gardens are great! Also, more trees please!
- 6. Good idea
- 7. Strong support for this. We need more green spaces and fewer rodents.
- 8. This sounds like a worthwhile one year program. Need to define what vacant lots are available. Depts like Planning, Inspectional Services, and the Collection Division of Treasury have knowledge of this sort. Only ones already city owned? Or part of funding is purchasing small privately owned lots? Or City ramps up eminent domain taking for tax delinquent lots? Need to define in the ballot question what portion, if any, of \$\$s are for obtaining lots, and what portion is for building the gardens. Like #4 this could be largest or smallest cost for ballot questions. So need an approach for sizing the program.
- 9. This one is great. Could also work in partnership with existing community land trusts.
- 10. Also to replace lawns on public property
- 11. This and more is what we should look for in community gardens. But the gardens must be equitably and transparently managed by a dedicated staffer.
- 12. we have a lot of community gardens already, who maintains them?
- 13. yes give funding to places like the united neighbors of lower roxbury they do fantastic work for our community give them LONG TERM LEASES so they have control of the land, too!!
- 14. Great idea
- 15. Public or private empty lots? If public, is this the best use of that land? It seems that most of these lots should either be developed or turned into permanent green space (especially in neighborhoods with worse urban heat island problems). Community gardens could be a good use for many of these lots, but doesn't replace the fact that there should be long term plans for them.
- 16. Making it easier for people to get into community gardens! Many existing gardens have very long wait lists for a plot maybe there could be plots that can be tended to by many people so you don't have to wait for a single plot to open up
- 17. I think that the Boston Food Forest Coalition is doing this work very well
- 18. This is a great idea. But rodents are a natural part of our ecosystem, so this could also be used to pilot and expand the use of birth control which had a 70% effectiveness rate in the gold standard study in a Jamaica Plain neighborhood. Also we should offer programming at these gardens because a lot of people don't know how to garden and may not feel comfortable going to them if they felt like they are not part of it.

- 19. Yes
- 20. yes
- 21. This is so critical and would address many issues. Turning parking lots into gardens would help keep the city cooler, give people an opportunity to grow their own food, and build community.
- 22. 100% this is of CRITICAL importance! There is a book I read that showed creating community starts by creating spaces like this. Pocket Parks might be the first steps. There are a number of organizations in Boston that could partner with the city like Boston Food Forest Collision.
- 23. BBA Comments:
  - Is the proposal to direct resources to specific lots that are currently vacant, provide resources to specific lots where residents are already growing but need more infrastructure to do that well, or to create a fund where residents and nonprofits can apply for resources for their community gardens or something else? Hakim/ACE: would love to see a fund where residents and nonprofits could apply for resources so that there are new and more opportunities for residents to grow their own food
  - 2. What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to create this? Eliza/CED: DSNI, The Food Project, Boston Food Forest Coalition and REEP (ACE) have all done this work. What advice or suggestions do they have? What resources are they looking for from the city to expand their work or overcome barriers?
  - 3. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
  - Questions to ask city staff?
    Eliza/CED: Are there still city-owned vacant lots that are too small to build housing on? If so, where?
    Here's a map of City-owned land that the City's urban gardening/agriculture department shares with folks who want to start a community garden or farm: <a href="https://www.boston.gov/buildinghousing">https://www.boston.gov/buildinghousing</a>
  - 5. Other Feedback:
    - a. City's priority for City-owned land is generally building housing on it
    - b. Privately owned land is in the hands of speculators, extremely expensive right now

Benches at bus stops that do not have them. Prioritize bus stops with the highest ridership on major routes and streets to benefit the disabled, seniors, youth, and all users. This would enhance the safety, comfort for residents and improves access to transit. Work with the MBTA and City departments to determine bus stop inventory and prioritize stops for installation.

- 1. This seems like a fairly low cost, doable idea.
- 2. Good idea, who will maintain them? Will the MBTA oversee them?
- 3. Sure

- 4. Love this idea
- 5. Great idea!
- 6. Also trash cans at bus stops. The ones that don't have them just collect litter.
- 7. Good idea
- 8. Yes. Every stop should have benches.
- 9. A good idea. More fully written up than others including a little bit of methodology for selection. Property Management Dept had a contract for the street advertising that might have included bus stop shelters. They may have some institutional knowledge on this.
- 10. I love this idea! Would increase the dignity associated with riding the bus.
- 11. Get businesses to fund these
- 12. Additional priority on those roads / routes that recently got road diets due to bike lane installations.
- 13. One thought is that in addition to or just instead of needing to sit, sometimes when you're taking public transit what you really need is a chance to put something down. Maybe having some surfaces at standing height so people could stand waiting for the bus out put down their groceries or school project or luggage might be nice?
- 14. more benches in general
- 15. yes adding shade infrastructure could be really helpful too. also emphasizing that these benches should not be anti-homeless.
- 16. Great idea
- 17. This is fantastic. I would love to see a multi-year plan to install bus shelters at all KBR bus stops that don't have them. I would also support some stop consolidation if it makes it easier for the quality of stops to be improved.
- 18. I like this
- This is a priority for me having a covered bench at the bus stop near my house (at Washington St and Beech St in Roslindale) is very nice, especially for long waits or bad weather.
- 20. We need a lot more places to sit down overall. For example, a lot of places where people stoop could use benches. This is so obvious that it should not have to be debated or weighed against these other ideas. This should just be an obvious way to move forward. The City of Boston is hemorrhaging money we could be getting through ads through an antiquated contract. We could easily pay for this if we reformed our ad contracts.
- 21. This proposal is very important as there are many bus stops in my neighborhood and adjacent neighborhoods that lack shelters. If there is not sufficient width along an existing sidewalk, I would recommend building bulb-outs where feasible, which would also have the virtue of slowing down speeding traffic (especially in my Fort Hill neighborhood).
- 22. Yes! And on steep inclines and near the top of public stairs
- 23. yes
- 24. Making the bus more comfortable in any way would help encourage more people to take public transit, which helps with road congestion and emissions. Benches are a great start. Every bus stop should have some form of bench or shelter.

- 25. I would add cover for rain/sun as well so enough space to cover a bench but also accommodate folks in rain/snow/sun. In terms of climate resilience, this would be critical for the summer as well because of how hot we are now getting. Covers also could be a chance for local artists to put their own artwork spin that represents the community. Add some planters for real mental impact. I would actually look at ridership and see if there is a way to target bus stops that are used by lots of elderly people AND have the longest wait times between buses. I know of a bus stop that on the weekends runs SO infrequently that having a bench would make sense.
- 26. BBA Comments:
  - 1. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
    - **a**. Diana (East Boston): Put the bus schedule up at the bus stop, this helps a lot especially in winter so we don't wait as long
    - Diana (East Boston): it would also be a good idea to add an emergency button to press in case of emergency, especially in winter times in case folks fall or need help.
    - c. Reina (East Boston): the "casita"/refugio para protegernos con aire en el verano y caliente en el invierno.
      - i. BBA TRANSLATION: These should be bus shelters to protect people from elements and include air in summer and heat in winter
    - d. Diana (East Boston): have a card charger at the bus stop so you can add value to your card before getting on the bus so it doesn't add time to loading the bus and because drivers seem mad when you try to add value on the bus
  - 2. Other Feedback:
    - **a**. Kathy/CED: Ensure that benches are NOT following any anti-homeless hostile design. Benches should be comfortable.
    - b. Hessann (BCAN): Include bus shelters to protect riders against the elements.
      "Green" roofs on shelters are already being piloted on route 28 bus shelters. These improve air quality by absorbing airborne pollutants. They also mitigate flooding by absorbing stormwater. Bus shelters along the Silver Line routes already have heating and lights. These can also be deployed in other shelters, especially if powered by solar.
    - c. Grace/East Boston: important to provide benches along the high ridership lines 114, 117, 111 (these lines go all the way to Revere/Chelsea) but the benches should be along the stops in Boston

# Invest in rat prevention efforts, such as more exterminators and rat birth control to get rid of the rat population in Boston. This would benefit the public, residents, and business owners from potential health hazards and address sanitary and health issues.

1. I think we've tried this? How about figuring out how to get "the public, residents, and business owners" from providing conditions that support the rats?

- 2. Rats are everywhere! It is a serious concern no matter where you live. Who would take leadership, follow up or check on traps and how would locations for the program be selected?
- 3. Big YES
- 4. Seems important, is there a more public-involved component? Something with trash systems?
- 5. Agree this is important -- but also need to make sure that whatever means are used to poison the rats don't poison other animals in the ecosystem (e.g., hawks and other predator birds that eat the rats, and ditto cats)
- 6. I mean in general I support attempts to solve our rat problem.
- 7. GREAT idea
- 8. Yes, definitely. It's a health issue and quality of life for the city overall.
- 9. For "in [all of] Boston" would be too broad a scope for PB funding. I was at a Community Partner meeting in which there was a desperate plea for this for certain City neighborhoods, like Allston and Brighton. Also stopping the program after one year is a problem. Can the generalized all-of-Boston be reasonably transformed into doing an analysis for a strategy for all of Boston, later funding to be considered by the City? By "reasonably" I mean would this link up sufficiently with the original idea proposed?
- 10. I support this
- 11. YES PLEASE IT'S TERRIBLE IN ALLSTON
- 12. Omg yes please
- 13. rat birth control would be good but need more studies on this
- 14. I'm a huge fan of reducing our rat population, but this isn't getting at the root causes. The city needs to make it harder for rats to get into waste. Adding more trash receptacles on key streets and squares would go a long way, especially if they are secure enough to prevent rats from getting in. Think something like the "Big Belly" containers (I don't know the generic name for these).
- 15. I like this
- 16. Rodent birth control works, and it is cost effective. Poison kills our local dogs and the birds who eat rodents. Snap traps and other lethal means only work temporarily for a few months before they return.
- 17. Yes
- 18. yes
- 19. Not a priority our own rat report stated point blank that the only way that we will make a meaningful impact on the rat population in Boston is if we are far more aggressive about our disposal of trash and remove their food source. Focusing on our trash program and being more aggressive about ensuring sealed public trash cans and requiring more frequent trash pickup overall.
- 20. BBA Comments:
  - 1. Which neighborhoods or areas should be prioritized?

- **a**. Kathy: Densely populated areas and main streets. Some examples are Chinatown, Central Sq and Bennington St East Boston, Nubian Sq, maverick square.
- 2. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
  - a. Fernando (East Boston: \$ for Exterminadores
  - b. Wendy (East Boston): Big trampas en lugares donde hay varios restaurantes y donde ellos sacan su basura. La ciudad puede incentivar a los duenos de restaurantes a que recojan las trampas y ratas que caigan todos los días.
    - i. GOOGLE TRANSLATION: Big traps in places where there are several restaurants and where they take out their garbage. The city can encourage restaurant owners to pick up traps and rats that fall every day.
  - c. Anonymous: Free traps and pick ups to community gardens and parks
- 3. Other Feedback:
  - **a**. NUBE 3 members (wendy, fernando, Yani): restaurant get incentives \$1k to incentivise them to keep a rant control plan in their area
  - b. Poisons are known to harm many animals including cats, dogs, squirrels, birds and even children. Birth control can be more effective at long-term population reduction, instead of just short-term reduction or population displacement. JP pilot by Wisdom Good Works showed that birth control strategy is a humane and effective alternative.
  - c. Food source mitigation is key to preventing rats can funding help with rat-proofing dumpsters, managing residential trash on waste pickup days, etc.?

#### Plant apple, pear, grapevines, fig trees and bushes for community organizations and residents. This will create healthier air, protect our green space, help with food insecurity and be a cheaper source of organic produce.

- 1. Haha. My suggestion was to plant more trees. I did not connect it to food insecurity, though. I doubt this particular proposal is workable, but I'd still like to see more trees.
- 2. Great idea, who will ensure they are being cared for?
- 3. Absolutely! Would love to see more of this.
- 4. Good idea, could be part of a larger tree canopy growth plan?
- 5. Great idea!
- 6. Where would these go?
- 7. Sounds good, unless it attracts rats.
- 8. Yes. Definitely. The more the better.
- 9. I'm neutral on this one.

- 10. Love the idea, a bit concerned because I think cities often have trouble establishing any new trees. But I think it could be a very cool image if our parks were lined with apple trees. Would require a lot of education and outreach to the neighbors of the trees.
- 11. Need a lot of care —unrealistic
- 12. Combine this with community garden idea and I'm sold. Otherwise I fear that untended plantings will fail to thrive leaving weeds or other vermin attractants.
- 13. yesss more trees!
- 14. 100% and it would be great to employ community gardeners who have knowledge of what grows best where to help out with a planting plan for the city.
- 15. More food accessible in more places. Edible plantings should be accompanied with information about proper harvesting.
- 16. How does the city plan on preventing local wildlife (rats, squirrels, and birds) from getting to this fruit? The approaches needed for this tend to be pretty unglamorous. Also, will a there be reoccurring funds to support plant care and fruit harvest? Local produce can be great, but it does take a fair amount of work.
- 17. It's really important to have a diverse tree canopy throughout the city so that we are not risk to pests or blights devastating the trees. Also important to plan male and female trees so we don't get overloaded with pollen
- 18. I think that the Boston Food Forest Coalition is doing this work very well
- 19. Yes. This is brilliant. The City of Boston should do all of these things. This idea should also have signs that educate people on the trees and respective fruits.
- 20. Yes, please
- 21. yes
- 22. Great idea, especially if community members are involved in planting and maintaining the trees. Planting trees helps keeps the city cooler.
- 23. I would also add that allergies might not be as intense if there are more fruit-bearing trees. This brings some food back into the commons. This project is a longer term one since I believe some of these fruiting trees require more time before they start producing fruit, and I know that commercially grown fruits are often trees that are mixed (the core tree is a certain species while the branches are a fruit species). I think a better short-term project is looking for current green spaces that have the space for bushes like blueberries. Those are faster-growning, require less input, and are far easier to pick for folks.
- 24. BBA Comments
  - 1. Where or what areas need to be prioritized?
    - **a**. Francesco/Hyde Park: Areas where the median income is low (folks are more likely to be food insecure
    - b. Francesco/Hyde Park: Areas with high daytime land surface temp, like Roxbury and Dorchester
    - c. Francesco/ Hyde Park: Near or as a part of schools, so that it could be used for educational purposes and also maybe the school community could help maintain
    - d. Grace/East Boston: Places that need more trees

- 2. Who would this impact?
  - a. Grace/East Boston: People who are food insecure
- 3. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
  - a. a community design process, which includes co-creating a vision for the space and building a stewardship team for its ongoing care
  - b. Maybe Community Land Trust creation
  - c. Nature-Based Park Construction
  - d. Capacity building through educational workshops, hands-on technical assistance
- 4. What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to create this?
  - a. Kat/CED Boston Food Forest Coalition +1 +1

Services for elderly who do not live in assisted living homes. Services like helping clean their home, getting groceries for them, having a fun community day for elders and intergenerational events. Provide company to elders. This will help elderly people who are alone and don't have a lot of family, facing mental illness, those who are low income. This will also help people who are unemployed to have job opportunities that provide these services. This is how we help people who need it, who can pay and don't have family to help them. With the help of the City Officials giving money to Age Strong to give to a non-profit to disseminate to the elderly residents and provide these services.

- 1. It would be great to connect this with other proposals to engage youth in meaningful activities, provide them with assistance, and prepare them for the future.
- 2. Good idea. How would people qualify to obtain the services? What neighborhoods will be targeted? Would there be income guidelines or health needs etc?
- 3. This would be a great initiative.
- 4. (This seems to exist?)
- 5. Great idea!
- 6. Work with churches to provide these services.
- 7. Yes, this would fill an important need. However, careful vetting and supervising needs to be a solid part of the process.
- 8. This is a good idea. Age Strong Dept can advise whether this supplements existing programs or would be a new pilot program, with analysis at end sent to the Mayor, the Elderly Commission, Public Health Commission, etc. I suggest making the language more concise for the Ballot (without changing the overall purpose).
- 9. Curious what kinds of costs this would incur but love the idea of supporting more senior care jobs.
- 10. I support this
- 11. Combine this with the jobs for youngs / teens and get a two-for-one, plus community building.
- 12. sure

- 13. The Boston Center for Youth and Families in roslindale is an awesome free resource! I love playing pickleball with elders in my community.
- 14. Great idea. It might be difficult to culturally to get young and old people to engage, so we could start by having the mayor's youth job program pay young people to offer help to seniors and let the friendships naturally carry on from there.
- 15. Yes, please
- 16. yes
- 17. Great idea.
- 18. There are numerous programs in the city that do this, if we are simply distributing more money to them, that's a good plan.
- 19. BBA Comments:
  - 1. What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to could this project create this? Granting this out to a non-profit organization is mentioned so which nonprofits are doing this type of work already?
    - **a**. Eliza/CED: Check with Mass Senior Action because many of them put this idea in during their idea workshops to further narrow
    - b. Enid/JP: There are some organizations that do this type of work- Ethos is one
    - c. Anna/Allston Brighton Health Collaborative: FriendshipWorks, Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly
    - d. Nate/Teen Empowerment: Union Capital Boston has a model that can be build on and already engages people in supporting elders
  - 2. What types of jobs? Are these full time jobs or is this a "fee for service" type of model or is this something that happens through salaried and vetted staff at an organization that provides services to elders?
  - 3. What is the criteria for elders to participate:
    - a. elderly people who are alone and don't have a lot of family, facing mental illness, those who are low income.
    - b. People that self identify as elders
    - c. Could set a general minimum age to receive services
  - 4. What types of services? Is the goal to hold social gatherings and "company" or provide free or low-cost services like groceries, house maintenance, snow removal, rides, etc?
    - a. Shari CED + Nate Teen Empowerment: Older adults who receive funds should be able to decide what kinds of services they would like to use the funds for. There should be some general guidelines on services with suggestions like errands, chores, and hosting connection events. There should be some listening session
  - 5. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
  - 6. Please list your name and organization (if applicable) when you make a comment
    - a. Shari + Nate: These funds should provide direct cash or "tokens" (tokens should be exchanged for cash with project funds) to elders that they can

exchange for services. Additionally, there should be elder listening sessions to better understand how they want to use the program and what services they need. Some of the funds should go to non profits/community organizations that coordinate elder services to assist in supporting elders

- i. cash/tokens to elders
- ii. Elder listening and evaluation sessions
- iii. Funding to organizations participating in the program by helping to coordinate services or match people to services that elders need
- 7. What will the impact of this project be?
  - a. Increase quality of life for Elders in the City of Boston
- 8. Other Feedback:
  - a. NUBE (Yani and Ana): Pagarle a personal civiles a que lleguen a ayudar a las personas mayores con actividades de diversión. Ejemplo in east boston hay personas que saben jugar ajedrez or crochet y que se lleven a poner en contacto con una persona que lo necesite en forma personalizada. Estas conexiones se harán por medio de organizaciones que ya tienen relaciones y contactos con personas mayores. Solo que este fondo ayudaría a que sea más específico para que la atención sea 1:1.
    - i. GOOGLE TRANSLATION: Pay civilian staff to come help seniors with fun activities. For example, in East Boston there are people who know how to play chess or crochet and they can put you in touch with a person who needs it in a personalized way. These connections will be made through organizations that already have relationships and contacts with older people. Only this background would help make it more specific so that the attention is 1:1.

Grants for youth jobs (18-24 an hour) year round (52 weeks) for youth ages 14-24. This would serve Black and Brown youth. There is a gap in the school year when youth are unable to work, affecting their ability to support themselves and provide for family. Creating 125 slots for youth, \$500K budget.

- 1. See response to #11. (It would be great to connect this with other proposals to engage youth in meaningful activities, provide them with assistance, and prepare them for the future.)
- 2. Sounds discriminatory against non black or brown youth. Should be for anyone who needs assistance.
- 3. As a first generation white (European) immigrant, I'm tired of seeing this kind of nonsense divide between white and black/brown. Enough! Help everyone in need. We're all in the same boat. My kid shouldn't be excluded simply because he's not considered "at risk".
- 4. How would this fit with their other responsibilities? Some youth jobs (artist for humanities) do go all year so it is doable
- 5. Great idea!
- 6. I'm on board. Work experience for teenagers is a big milestone.

- 7. Great idea, but don't make it dependant on race. This should go to any kid looking for work. Park maintance and street cleaning are great summer jobs for kids and would benefit the city particularly in the summer with lots of tourists in town.
- 8. Yes. Definitely. This would help give them valuable experience doing meaningful work.
- 9. "If my math is right, this amounts to 3 to 4 hours a week for the 125 youths, about \$80 per week. Those numbers (hours per week) should be included in the ballot description.
- 10. My son teaches at a bilingual school with many low-income Dominican students, some who actually don't have time to do homework because they have evening jobs, since their families need the income. So I recognize the need. I assume it's something the City does not already do -- since its major focus on summer jobs.
- 11. I don't think it's wise to use the term ""Black and Brown"" since low-income is less controversial (given the major court cases going against explicit affirmative action programs) and also income is more fair as a measure to ""level the playing field.""
- 12. 500K will eat up a sizable chunk of the PB grant allotment, but is still within reason. It addresses a definite need. If this is one of the ballot questions selected, and we go over the \$2 million cap slightly (say by 100,000 or 200,000) this could be allowed with a lesser amount so we land at the \$2 million."
- 13. I support this
- 14. I support this ideally all jobs are community-based or build skills in an apprentice-like way as investment in future growth.
- 15. yes, this is what we need
- 16. This should probably be a pilot for one neighborhood or community if there will only be 125 slots. The city should also monitor if time spent working is having a negative impact on students' ability to learn and complete coursework.
- 17. I don't support the idea of a jobs program only benefitting one group of people, and that's illegal too. We should orient these jobs toward environmental services, such as restocking the rodent birth control stations, helping pick up or identify debris for 311, and of course connecting with residents who need assistance with groceries and the like.
- 18. Community match for odd jobs, yard work, painting
- 19. yes
- 20. Great idea.
- 21. The idea that youth should be "supporting their family" is a sign that there are not enough well-paying jobs and/or programs that allow a single parent to support a family. Is youth jobs for black and brown folks a good idea, yes in that it teaches them about the workforce, budgeting, and professionalism, but to assume that they are supporting family on this income is a bit of an eyebrow raiser. What jobs are we providing for these students? What is the goal of those programs? Are we aiming to train them for gainful employment? With the recent free college initiative, would we still need this program?
- 22. BBA Comments:
  - 1. General Feedback:

- a. Young people should be valued for their labor and contributions to community organizing and with their employers. They add a lot to a work place and should be compensated for that.
- b. Shari (CED)+ Nate (Teen Empowerment): Audit youth jobs to determine which require specialized skills and are desired roles for youth in Boston to fill - the roles with the highest score should be higher paying positions
- c. George/YJPU: One way to determine what jobs could have higher pay is to ask organizations to share on their application which of their jobs are designed for returning youth, or youth with more experience
- 2. Are there existing programs that this should connect with?
  - a. Shari (CED)+ Nate (Teen Empowerment): Successlink summer jobs while this program offers many summer employment opportunities there are some positions that only offer busy work and this funding could offer additional jobs shaped with young people that meet the interests of youth seeking employment.
- 3. What types of jobs?
  - a. Shari (CED)+ Nate (Teen Empowerment): Data should be collected in a constructive way on the types of jobs currently offered and the types of jobs that should be offered in the future. This should be factored into the employer recruiting strategy
  - b. Shari (CED)+ Nate (Teen Empowerment): Along with higher wages participants in the program should be able to engage in a growth assessment
  - c. Shari (CED)+ Nate (Teen Empowerment): The participants and employers who participate in these positions or hiring these positons should be able to participate in focus groups to collect data on what was learned, what was needed, how positions could be better
- 23. Youth Justice & Power Union Comment/Email:

After taking Renato's words into consideration, we spoke with Trinh Nguyen, who serves as the Chief of Worker Empowerment. When discussing the idea of a pilot increasing pay rates and providing year-round youth jobs, she noted that this was feasible.

As seen in the chart, the highlight of yellow shows our proposed amount of money youth and young adults should be paid per hour. We also have the amount of jobs youth should have and young adults within our proposed budget. It shows the amount of time youth and young adults should be allowed to work. With all these numbers we can show that our numbers and our work is feasible and possible to enforce.

The Pilot's Plan, for the City to not say, "We don't know what to do or how to set it up" or "It'll take too long" or dragging it out basically:

SuccessLink/YEO passes an email to all the orgs they know about to be able to apply for a grant. They also tell how much money this organization gets for each young person. With this proposal, we just change the money each young person gets within the pilot.

Organizations can apply for a grant through a link. With this proposal, they would add a different section to the link for the pilot. It probably would be asking if you want to sign up for the pilot, why the organization should get the pilot, and how many young people would be in the pilot.

If SuccessLink has enough slots, they will give money to the organization. With this proposal, we just increase the money.

The organization pays the young people. With this proposal, young people get higher wages and have more sustainable income because of the increase in weeks. There are many examples of orgs that pay more than \$15/hr for some jobs like MassCOSH, YJPU, Teen Empowerment, and Sisters Unchained. There are many other groups like this and there should be more accessible organizations like these for youth.

PIC shows how they can provide funding for community organizations to allow youth to be paid more than \$15/hr.

Currently, State funding increases the pay for youth to more than \$15/hr. However, ensuring these jobs are available year-round for all youth would differ from the state's current seasonal approach.

It's fair that we pay some young people higher wages because when it comes to experience, people with more years of work should not be paid the same amount as a new worker. It is also fair because youth minorities with low incomes should get more support with pay because they have to deal with more systemic issues.

Cristian M. Ella-Simone James Miyah French Victoria White

Attachment 1: <u>Pilot Numbers</u> Attachment 2: <u>YouthWorks FY 24 Request for Proposals - Excerpt</u> Nighttime sports opportunities and gym time. Also, provide food for participants. This would help young people to relax at night. The people who work late. To help people distress and maintain good health, so there's better ways for the community to connect together through activities.

- 1. A lot of teens hang out at centers/gyms/recreational facilities in the afternoon and into the evenings! A food program would provide nutritional food for them rather than them eating chips from a vending machine. A cooking program would teach them to make nutritional dishes to eat.
- 2. Yes
- 3. I thought community centers do have some of this, but if not build it back
- 4. Why only sports? Why not also chances to play musical instruments together? Or stage plays? Or make art?
- 5. As a working parent I'd love more opportunities for sports and workouts that happen after 8pm.
- 6. Team sports is a fantastic way to build social cohesion and inclusion.
- 7. Yes, budget permitting.
- 8. "Great idea. We should work with Community Schools to develop it into a workable program. Maybe as a combo of a grant (providing non-city staffing) and Community Schools providing the facilities, preferably in some of Boston's poorest neighborhoods.
- And scale should be lined up with a medium cost proposal like somewhere between 200,000

   400,000.
- 10. I think language on the ballot should include this notion of it being an experimental pilot first year program with end of year analysis that is delivered to relevant parties thereafter -- the Mayor, Community Schools, Youth Services, etc. < This last thought (the analysis of pilot program) should be written into ballot proposal. "
- 11. Highly support this
- 12. Hypothetically community centers offer this, but we don't have much of a community center in Allston so could be forgiven for not knowing.
- 13. yes!
- 14. and investing in a night bus system that would allow folks to get to these places free of charge would be super helpful.
- 15. Yes!!! I love the Boston Center for Youth and Families in Roslindale. I would love it if there were more programs and more buildings similar. I love playing adult pickleball and wish there were more activities that were open to middle age adults (18-65). I think these centers could be much more advertised. Any time I tell people about playing pickleball or doing weight workouts there they don't even know it is a thing!! They are like wow that sounds amazing I will check it out. People have been living in Roslindale 40 years and never knew the building was a community center. That would be really cool to do a door knocking initiative about or some person-person outreach program.
- 16. Absolutely. I tried to take my little brother through Big Brothers Big Sisters to play basketball in the late fall and there's not s lot of court space. Let's open up schools and BCYF for longer hours for people to exercise and play sports for sure.

- 17. yes
- 18. The YMCA in Oak Square is open until 10PM, so there are already members in our community who are offering this. If we tack this onto the nightlife program and ensure that programming includes non-alcoholic events and more body-focused movement type events, that could be nice! Maybe it's taking over these businesses to help promote the fact that they are open later so that people can join those places on a more regular basis.
- 19. BBA Comments:
  - 1. Where + what? (e.g. gyms staying open later, nighttime lighting on courts/fields,
  - 2. programming at gyms, etc)
    - a. Parks like East Boston Memorial park that is open late, has tennis courts
      - i. Exercise equipment
      - ii. Pickleball
      - iii. Late night Tennis for beginners
        - 1. Or any sport for beginners
    - b. Keep an existing facility open later
  - 3. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people support nthe project etc)?
    - a. Additional lighting for late night events
    - b. Exercise equipment
    - c. Free sport equipment tennis racquets, tennis balls, volleyballs
    - d. People to be present who are not police but make people feel safe
    - e. Programming so that people can keep coming, have a consistent team to play with
    - f. Glow in the dark stuff (indoor and outdoor)
  - 4. Who would this impact?
    - a. People who like to have fun sober
      - i. This could be a drug free, alcohol free zone
      - ii. Makes it inclusive of teens, can be different rotating age groups
    - b. Folks who are missing local community

## Creating feasible resource programs to get information out on health resources. This would serve POC, low income individuals. To shine light on healthcare is a right! Everyone should have access to it. Educating people on their rights.

- 1. How would the information be disseminated? Would it involve sending information home with school age kids? How would reaching out be done?
- 2. Yes
- 3. Maybe youth could be paid to work on this? Past models exist
- 4. Yes -- but should be coordinated with the Boston Public Health Commission -- and go beyond solely a focus on health care, and also include the social conditions that determine one's health

- 5. Help people know how to get vaccines or a doctor or a therapist it's hard enough doing that even if you have insurance now.
- 6. Consider having health systems do this. Healthcare is a public good, but not a right.
- 7. Yes. This should already be happening!
- 8. Seems like something Public Health Commission should be dong more of. Maybe that should be in their budget rather than PB.
- 9. This seems very achievable.
- 10. Lots of info out there —more organization needed
- 11. we have this...
- 12. I think this is a priority how do we support accessibility of healthcare resource access and give people the support they need and want.
- 13. Again, I don't think the racialized focus is appropriate. Also "health resources" are a buzz term insofsr as that could mwan anything. Maybe we should reinterpret this to make interactive kiosks around the city to share educational pamphlets, recipe cards, places to poster for events, and announcements. That seems like a feasible way to do this.
- 14. Yes
- 15. yes
- 16. I can't really see a feasible program that doesn't already exist. There are organizations that are already providing this information. Perhaps we should look to help finance multi-lingual programming or look more legislatively to require hospitals (those points of access that people are already part of) to provide information on health resources. Perhaps look into ways to integrate this into K-12 education as a one-off event for just students or that invite parents to participate as well.
- 17. BBA Comments:
  - 1. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
    - a. Based on the health resources outreach program run by ABHC: \$190,000
    - b. Stipends for residents \$30/hr for 5 hrs/week for 10 leaders = \$78,000 (\$7,800/yr per person)
    - c. Administration costs for organizational host staffing = \$50,000
    - d. Health fund that residents can apply to for any health/wellness support = \$50,000
    - e. Materials, food, interpretation, etc = \$10,000
  - 2. What, if any, existing models should we look to/learn from to create this?
    - a. Allston Brighton Health Collaborative
    - b. Eliza/CED: Healthy Community Champions was a program in 2012-2013ish by Health
    - c. Resources in Action connected to Boston Public Health Commission (hired and trained 70 residents to reach out to their community about health-related services, resources and initiatives)

"Future Prep" Program for (formerly?) Incarcerated youth: Home economics, grant writing, college prep, entrepreneurship, trade schools for incarcerated youth. Expose youth to more diverse opportunities. Make youth feel more prepared for their future. Offering a grant through the Office of Returning Citizens to organizations serving the incarcerated youth population to expand their reentry services and programs.

- 1. See answers to #2 and #11.
- 2. Would youth who are court involved be able to participate if the program has space? Will there be a partnership with businesses to employ these youth and communicate or follow up?
- 3. It is good to give youth opportunities; just ensure that they have proper regulations in place and strict rules.
- 4. Excellent -- especially if it focuses on incarcerated youth who are about to be released, so that when they return to their communities they have a lifeline set up in advance of release
- 5. If we're going to put children in jail (we shouldn't) then the best thing we can do is invest everything we can to set them up for success when they can get out of there.
- 6. Yes to home ec and trade schools. This will benefit everyone.
- 7. Yes. Very important to provide opportunities and guidance.
- 8. Seems like we should check in with the State on this, as well as the City's "Returning Citizens" office. The state is fully responsible for incarceration, and there are many programs like this inside the jails. For post-incarceration, PB should check in with the City's Returning Citizens Office. Maybe there's a particular niche that they can't get funding for, and this could be a pilot program with analysis at the end that helps that office secure a major grant?
- 9. I support this
- 10. Why stop with youth? Let's empower all formerly incarcerated folks with appropriate opportunities to re-enter.
- 11. for sure!
- 12. yes helping formerly incarcerated youth would be very beneficial to folks -- I'd add that housing should come above the education and other aspects; giving these people a safe and warm place to sleep will allow them to get on their feet better than if they have unstable housing. Also if they're coming from abusive households helping them with early emancipation too.
- 13. A program for people reentering society is fantastic, but I'm not sure the examples of what to teach make a ton of sense. Please consult formerly incarcerated people who have fully found their bearings on what would have helped them most. Grant writing and entrepreneurship almost certainly should not be a primary focus. Getting GEDs, personal finance, community involvement, and career planning are probably better first steps.
- 14. I really wish we did not have prisons :( I wish we had no incarcerated youth in massachusetts. All children deserve to be safe, strong and free.
- 15. Don't have much thoughts on this but sounds like a good instinct
- 16. Yes
- 17. yes
- 18. Great idea.

- 19. Love this program, as is.
- 20. BBA Comments:
  - 1. What would the money specifically be used for? What should be included in the budget (examples might include materials for the project to be successful, salaries or payment of people supporting the project etc)?
    - a. East Boston resident: Priority is for a physical space for young people to stay for a while until they get a job or school, etc. so they aren't in the street and get re-connected to crime
    - b. Anonymous: The other thing would be to find a family to house them in that has a big heart. Use money to pay families you take in young people a stipend?
  - 2. Job training programs
  - 3. Grace/EAst Boston: Emotional support/mental health services for young people
  - 4. Diana/East Boston: Use the money to get youth jobs in companies. Focus on getting people jobs because that's what you need first
  - 5. Sashi/FJAH: Transformative Justice support to reconnect the youth back to their family and community
  - 6. Other Feedback:
    - a. Place for youth to stay when they are coming out of prison because it can be very hard to find housing with a record and if they're family doesn't accept them and get connections to training including job training, connect them to scholarships for college, etc.