

#STREETWORKERNATION

**NEW
ENGLAND
STREET
WORKER
CONFERENCE**

2026
September 18, 2026
Foxborough, MA

**COMMUNITY
IS THE STRATEGY**

Presented by



Gratitude for Partners & Sponsors

FUND FOR A
SAFER FUTURE



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and
Human Services

GIFFORDS
COURAGE TO FIGHT GUN VIOLENCE



GUN VIOLENCE
PREVENTION
PROGRAM



Mass General Brigham
Health Plan

PATRIOTS



THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION



HEALTH
RESOURCES
IN ACTION

Roca 

Lifting up neighbors and communities

We're proud to support UTEC.

Your work builds a stronger
community and inspires us
in our mission to help all
neighbors live healthier lives.

MGBHP.org



Mass General Brigham
Health Plan



All In for UTEC

Twelve years ago I toured UTEC's building in Lowell. It was quickly apparent that the building was not the story.

I met a streetworker and young adults and knew almost immediately I was looking at something rare — people, many of them formerly gang-involved, finding pride in real work, often for the first time. I've supported UTEC ever since.

UTEC works from the premise that potential is not fixed. So do I, in my leadership and executive coaching.

Curious how that might apply to your business? Let's talk. (Scan to connect.)



Mark Bissell

EXECUTIVE COACH · FOUNDER

bissell-consulting.com



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and
Human Services



All children and young people deserve to grow up with access to opportunities that help them thrive.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation's resources and data are available to help enrich discussions on how to build a brighter future for all kids. Visit aecf.org to learn more.

 THE ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION



WHEN YOU'RE **SURROUNDED BY GUN VIOLENCE**
GOING ALONE IS NOT AN OPTION

Together, we can stop the gun violence epidemic.

FUND FOR A
SAFER FUTURE

THANK YOU COMMITTEE MEMBERS!



**NATALIE
JOHNSON**



**LEONARD
JAHAD**



**MANNY
SEQUEIRA**



**SHAWNIC
COLEMAN**



**SAKO
LONG**



**LIZ
GIANNETTA**



**LESLIE
RIVERA**



**JUAN
CARTER**



**LIZ
BROWN**



**ANGELICA
FONTES**



**CHRISTIAN
MCCLOSKEY**



**LISA PINA-
WARREN**



**NICHELLE
SADLER**

SCHEDULE



AT-A-GLANCE

9:00 AM	REGISTRATION + BREAKFAST
10:00	WELCOME: LESLIE RIVERA & MANNY SEQUEIRA
10:15	WHO'S IN DA HOUSE: JUAN CARTER & LESLIE RIVERA
10:25	GUEST SPEAKER: JABEE
10:45	MINGLE MINGLE: GREGG CROTEAU
11:00	A Moment of Appreciation: Glenn Daly
11:15	MORNING BREAKOUT SESSION
12:30PM	LUNCH - SOUTHERN COMFORT
1:15	KEYNOTE SPEAKER - TIMMEKA PERKINS
1:45	BREAK
2:00	AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSION
3:15	LEGACY AWARD: FIRST CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
3:30	SURVEY
3:40	SPECIAL GUEST, GROUP PHOTO, SWAG GIVEAWAY, & CLOSING

*The conference schedule is subject to change.
Please refer to event signage for most accurate schedule.*



GUEST SPEAKER

Jabee



Keynote Speaker

Timmeka Perkins

Senior Associate

Annie E. Casey Foundation



CONFE

2026 LEGACY AWARD

The Legacy Award is given annually to an outreach worker who has dedicated their career to creating peaceful and healthy communities, and whose impact spans from the individuals they served directly to the broader community. This person is both a peacemaker and a social innovator, creating new programs where needed and collaborating across public and private sectors to advance systemic change. They are tireless advocates of the next generation, with the ultimate goal to break the cycle of violence and poverty and provide our youth with more equitable pathways to success.

First Conference Committee



**Conan
Harris**



**Antonio
Gutierrez**



**Lew
Finfer**



**Mo
Barbosa**



**Jonathan
Lunde**



**Christian
McCloskey**



**Tha
Thai**



**Heather
Shruhan**



**Chris
Byner**



**Teny
Gross**



**Michael
Black**

WORKSHOPS & *FACILITATORS*



FROM BURNOUT TO BREAKTHROUGH

Facilitated by Iya Thomas
Credible Social Worker, SnapScene NY, New York City, New York

Short on time and staff? Learn practical ways to use AI to save time, create more content, increase visibility, and expand your impact without advanced tech skills.

THE ANATOMY OF CONTRACTS: DECODING STATE CONTRACTS, RFPS & PROCUREMENT FOR NONPROFITS

Facilitated by
Patrice Alves, *Educational Instructor and Certified Contracting Officer's Representative (COR)*
Mike Curry, *Financial Advisor, Life After Prison, Boston, MA*

Take the mystery out of state contracts. Learn how to navigate COMMBUYS, read an RFP, spot key requirements, and quickly decide whether an opportunity is the right fit for your organization.



FROM STREET CREDIBILITY TO STREET SOLUTIONS

Facilitated by Shyheim Franklin
Founder, Rugged Road to Recovery, New York

Shyheim shares his personal journey from child celebrity to street worker. This interactive breakout session brings streetworkers together for a peer-to-peer conversation about lived experience, trauma, street credibility, relationships, and the work of helping people find a road forward. Offering an honest look at how lived experience can shape both our challenges and our ability to help others.



THE COMMUNITY'S SCALE FOR HEALING POSSIBILITIES

Facilitated by Richard Smith
Healing Strategist, Knowledge Translator, & Systems Change Architect, Alignmeant Global, National

What if we measured the presence of healing—not just the absence of trauma? Explore a community-designed, validated tool for understanding healing after community violence.



DATA ON THE BLOCK: REAL TIME, REAL RESULTS

Facilitated by Mica Smith, *Director of Learning and Evaluation, COMPASS Youth Collaborative, Hartford, CT*

See data in action through a hands-on COMPASS case-management simulation. Enter information, read dashboards, create tasks, and turn real-time insight into a coordinated case plan.



DECODING WELLNESS: EMPOWERING REENTRY FAMILIES THROUGH LABEL LITERACY

Facilitated by
Corey Christie, *Organizer/Activist/Artist, REKS, Lawrence, MA*
Yunilda Garcia, *Health Coordinator, Universal Lotus*



Turn confusing food and wellness labels into practical information families can actually use. This session connects label literacy, everyday health choices, and empowerment for families navigating reentry.

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH THE PRACTICE OF CARE: AN ABOLITIONIST APPROACH TO VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Facilitated by Dr. Stacy Seward
University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA

What changes when care itself becomes a violence-prevention strategy? Explore community-centered approaches to safety, healing, accountability, and sustaining the people doing frontline work.



WE BELIEVE IN A PEACEFUL FUTURE

Facilitated by Francisco De Pina
President, Uncornered, Boston, MA

Map the relationships behind violence—and the relationships that can move a community toward peace. This interactive Uncornered session turns network insight into practical prevention strategies.



10,000 FEARLESS PEACEMAKERS CONFLICT MEDIATION TRAINING

Facilitated by Randy Muhammad, *Executive Director, Torchlight Recovery, Boston, MA*

This dynamic training is designed to provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of what it takes to establish, train, and operate an effective community-based conflict mediation team.



FROM CYCLE CARRIER TO CYCLE BREAKER: BLOOMING BEYOND THE WORK

Facilitated by Eva Maria Lewis, *Free Root Operation, Chicago, IL*

Healing the women who hold the work. This workshop positions each woman's healing as essential to sustainable violence intervention. When women become cycle breakers in their own lives, they are better equipped to help others do the same.

ROOTED PETALS

Facilitated by Keena Lunde

Kustom Events & Rentals, Lowell, MA

Join Kustom Events for a tranquil experience curating beautiful bouquets while building connections in community.



SAME STORY, DIFFERENT AUTHOR: FINDING THE POWER IN WHAT YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH

Facilitated by Kurt Faustin

Founder & CEO, The Dropout, Boston, MA

Your past is part of your story, not the end of it. Reframe adversity, build resilience, and find practical ways to author what comes next.



ACCOUNTABILITY, RECONCILIATION & COMMUNITY HEALING FOR MEN IN CVI

Facilitated by Supreme Hassan
Founder & Executive Director, *The ARCH Institute, Boston, MA*

A talking circle for men on the front lines of CVI to connect, share stories, and build understanding. Participants will explore healthy masculinity, vulnerability, accountability, and self-care while developing strategies to prevent burnout, sustain their well-being, and continue showing up for their communities.



WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER: THE WARREN DANIEL HAIRSTON PROJECT

Facilitated by Ruth Rollins
Executive Director, *We are Better Together, Boston, MA*

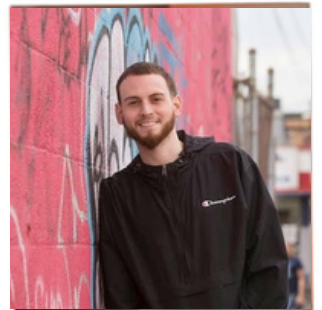
This workshop features a 15-minute film highlighting the experiences of women who have lost children to violence and incarceration. The screening will be followed by an interactive panel discussion that invites participants into reflection, healing, and dialogue around community-driven solutions.



MUSIC, DIGNITY, AND COMMUNITY CARE: REPLICATING THE MOVEMENT FAMILY STREETWORK MODEL

Facilitated by Aaron Tornberg, *Singer-Songwriter, Music Director, Lawrence, MA*
Michael Gorman, *Founder & Director, The Movement Family*

See how music, culture, community meals, peer leadership, and dignity can turn streetwork from a transaction into a relationship—and leave with ideas you can adapt at home.



ENGAGING MEN IN VIOLENCE PREVENTION: MASCULINITY, ACCOUNTABILITY & HEALING

Facilitated by Alexander Pereira, *Education Specialist, Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence, Boston, MA*

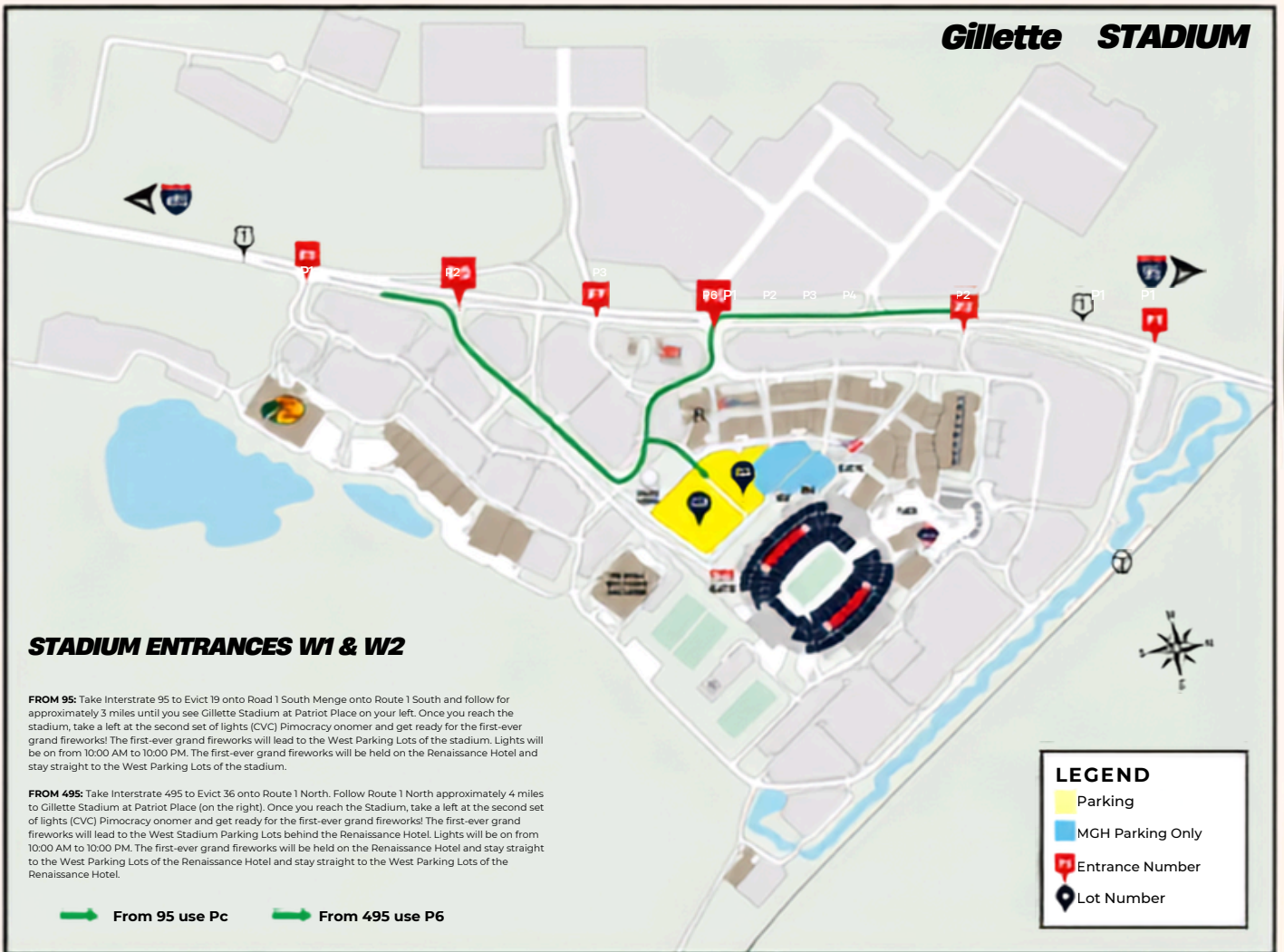
Bring men into the solution. Explore how masculinity, gun violence, accountability, and healing intersect—and how communities can engage men before violence occurs.



GILLETTE STADIUM

MAP & PARKING

Gillette STADIUM





THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS
YEAR'S CONFERENCE!

SEE YOU IN 2027!