

Report: State Sorely Lacks English as Second Language Classes for Immigrants

By Esther Wang

The Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center is among several nonprofits in Massachusetts offering free English classes aimed at preparing immigrant students for college and jobs. But as the influx of immigrants to Massachusetts – including undocumented migrants – has increased, so has the demand for English lessons. And now many nonprofit groups like BCNC say Massachusetts is in a state of crisis when it comes to providing English classes to the people who need them

most. Case in point: BCNC is currently only able to address about 10% of the community need, said Stephen Hunter, director of adult education at BCNC.

How big is the problem? Over the last 20 years, the population of people needing English education jumped by 50%, while at the same time state funding for English lessons per adult learner fell by 25% and federal funding to Massachusetts fell by 40%, according to a recent MassINC report. This lack of funding has led to a lack of adequate English education services in commu-

nities across Massachusetts, according to the report. In fact, over 20,000 immigrants across Massachusetts are currently waiting to be accepted into state-funded English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes, according to the Massachusetts Coalition for Adult Education. For many, this wait has stretched to months, even years, and prevented the immigrants from finding jobs, securing housing, and receiving an education.

BCNC, for example, worked with Sylvie, an immigrant from Haiti who

arrived in Boston with two children. At the beginning, because of her work schedule, her parenting responsibilities, and her English classes, Sylvie was only able to sleep two to three hours a night on the days she worked. She was offered a job at a Mass General Brigham hospital as an administrative secretary. Now, she can provide for her family more easily, care for her children, and maintain her health. But her story is becoming increasingly rare.

“This is not academic enrichment
Continues on Page 9

‘Where I Belong’ Opens Book on Identity, Trauma

Soo Jin Lee, and Linda Yoon discuss healing

By Christopher John Stephens

If a sense of belonging requires a secure sense of place and identity, the very act of engaging in a diaspora means the goal will always be out of reach. In their new book *Where I Belong: Healing Trauma and Embracing Asian American Identity*, co-authors Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon look toward building a bridge between the home that was and the home that might never become fully realized.

As co-directors of Yellow Chair Collective, Lee and Yoon effectively make their case that inter-generational trauma can take time to absorb and understand. The collective is a national therapeutic service focusing on inclusivity and post-traumatic stress disorder and trauma recovery, and Lee is a marriage and family therapist and Yoon, a licensed social worker.

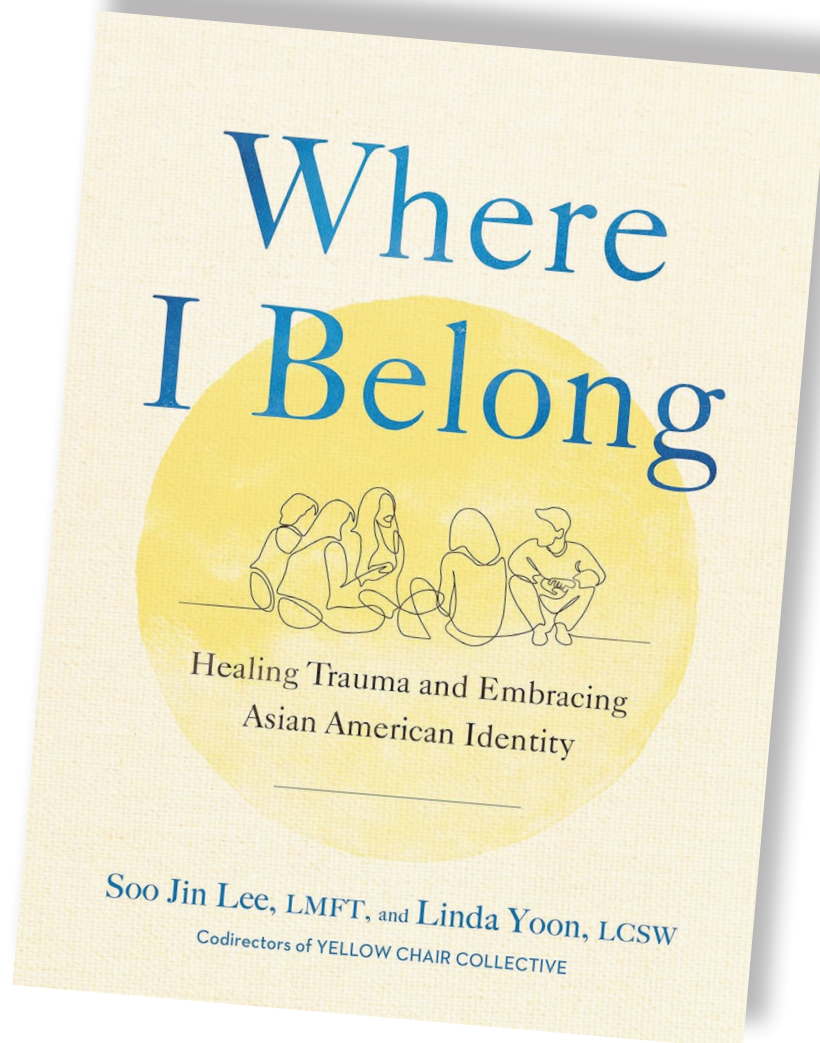
Sampan spoke recently with Lee and Yoon about their book and how they hope it will help Asian Americans embrace new and hopeful possibilities.

Sampan: Was it daunting to start this project knowing that some people might want you to define “Asian American Identity”? Those three

words seem to be too subjective to nail down.

Yoon and Lee: Defining Asian American identity is challenging, with cultural and societal implications as well as historical context influencing who Asian Americans may be. Self-identity also plays a crucial role. Although

we understand it may be subjective, we wanted to begin our journey in our book with a comprehensive picture of who we were referring to and how we were going to represent this group. It was certainly daunting, and we went back and forth rewording, adding, and editing to achieve the conciseness the chapter re-



quired while staying true to our general cultural experiences. We wanted to emphasize that defining ourselves is up to us and that the complexity of one’s identity cannot be fully represented under one umbrella term.

Asian Americans encompass a vast array of experiences, histories, and cultures that are too diverse to neatly encapsulate. They come from various countries, each with its own distinct tra-

Continues on Page 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editorial: Undocumented Immigrants Make Big Contributions to U.S.
PAGE 2

Advocates Angered at Limits to Shelters for Migrants
PAGE 3

Boston Vs. Rats
PAGE 5

Job Corner
PAGE 9

Events Calendar
PAGE 8

EDITORIAL

Don't Discount How Undocumented Immigrants Give Back to the U.S.

Immigrants, especially immigrants without all their proper paperwork, get blamed for many ills of our nation.

But such scapegoating is not only dangerous to our shared humanity, it is often just plain untrue.

In fact, immigrants -- especially and including undocumented ones -- contribute in many ways to our society and in many ways keep it running smoothly.

It's easy to scapegoat, but it's difficult to look inward and ask questions like, where would our nation be without immigrants, even undocumented ones? (Tens of millions of immigrants are here "legally", by the way.) What would our population -- and our economy -- look like without them? Would both be shrinking? What would industries like farming, meat packing, elderly care and so many others look like without immigrants in the U.S.? What would innovation be like? And how have we as a nation contributed to problems of the world over the decades that have in one way or another burdened people of other nations -- such as by exacerbating climate change, selling weapons of war, benefiting from

mining in poor countries, and meddling in the affairs of independent states all over Latin America, Asia and the Middle East during the Cold

The 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. in 2022 paid \$96.7 billion in total taxes in the U.S., and much of that went to programs they will likely never benefit from.

War and beyond?

The fact is, as we can see from recent studies, even immigrants in the U.S. who lack the proper paper work to be here "legally" contribute massively to even just our tax system.

The 11 million undocumented immigrants in U.S. paid \$96.7 billion in total taxes to all levels of government in 2022, concluded researchers at the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy found in the report,

"Tax Payments by Undocumented Immigrants."

A good chunk of the taxes undocumented immigrants paid went to programs that these people will likely never be able to access, too, such as Social Security, Medicare and unemployment insurance. But these so-called "illegals" paid nearly \$26 billion into Social Security alone in 2022, found the researchers at the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.

That money doesn't even begin to tell the story of the economic contribution of these immigrants in the form of hard work in often dangerous, hot and tough jobs around the country that let everyone else live in comfort. Few if any of these people are "taking away" jobs that anyone else in the U.S. wants to do. Yet, many of these immigrants, including undocumented ones, are members of mixed-status families, communities, and the friends and loved ones of people who were born here.

Let's recognize and celebrate what immigrants, including those here without proper paperwork, are really contributing to our society and our nation.

SAMPAN

A Publication of the AACA

www.sampan.org

87 TYLER STREET
BOSTON, MA 02111
TEL: (617) 426-9492 x 206
FAX: (617) 482-2316
ads@sampan.org
editor@sampan.org

Chinese Editor
DongDong Yang

English Editors
Adam Smith (consulting editor)
Christopher John Stephens

Editorial Committee
Ed Crotty

Correspondents

Ryan C. Lundgren
DongDong Yang
Esther Wang
Aurora Hao
Tracy Huang
Kristen Si

Translators
Ben Lee

Advertising & Production
Ben Lee, Adam Smith, DongDong Yang

SAMPAN is New England's only biweekly bilingual English-Chinese newspaper. Sampan fosters cultural understanding and celebrates global diversity. Founded in 1972, Sampan is published by the Asian American Civic Association. Sampan is distributed free in Chinatown and the Greater Boston area. All donations to the publication are tax deductible. Subscription: \$65/year (1st class mail). The reproduction, in whole or in part, of any information contained herein and prior is forbidden without the express written permission of the publisher.

Visit
WATERVILLE VALLEY
NEW HAMPSHIRE

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY TO THE WHITE MOUNTAINS AND DISCOVER A NEW PLACE TO CALL HOME!

GET EXCLUSIVE PERKS WHEN YOU BOOK YOUR STAY IN WATERVILLE VALLEY!

Learn More at VisitWatervilleValley.com

JMC & Co. Welcomes You to Visit Your New Apartment Home

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON

Allston McNamara House (617)783-5490 210 Everett Street	Dorchester 1943 DOT Ave (781)789-8427 1943 Dorchester Ave	Roslindale Parkside on Adams (781)789-8427 4236 Washington St	Jamaica Plain MetroMark (617)541-1818 3611 Washington St	South Boston 50 West Broadway (617)269-9300 50 W Broadway
---	---	---	--	---

NORTH SHORE

Andover Andover Commons (978)470-2611 30 Railroad Street	Saugus Saugus Commons (781)233-8477 63 Newhall Avenue	Billerica The Val (978) 584-8000 164 Lexington Road	Somerville Union 346 (617)812-2047 346 Somerville Ave	West Broadway Homes (617)269-1545 73 Crowley Rogers Way
--	---	---	---	--

LYNNFIELD

Lynnfield Commons (781)592-6800 375 Broadway	Woburn Kimball Court (781)933-9900 7 Kimball Court	Lowell Massachusetts Mills (978)970-2200 150 Mass Mills Drive	Amesbury The Heights (978)388-0671 36 Haverhill Road	Chelsea Parkside Commons (617)884-2400 100 Stockton Street
---	--	---	--	--

SOUTH SHORE

Weymouth The Ledges (781)335-2626 1 Avalon Drive	Taunton Mill Pond Apts (508)824-1407 30 Washington St	Hanover Hanover Legion (781)871-3049 Legion Drive	Plymouth Redbrook Apartments (508)224-4444 220 Wareham Rd	North Andover Stevens Corner (978)794-1800 75 Park Street
--	---	---	---	---

STOUGHTON

The Commons at SouthField (781)340-0200 200 Trotter Road	School Street Apts (508)823-1299 31 School Street	Fall River The Academy (508)674-1111 102 South Main St	Hingham Lincoln School Apts (781)749-8677 86 Central St #416	Brockton Brockton Commons (508)584-2373 55 City Hall Plaza
---	--	--	--	--

STOUGHTON

The Stö (781)344-4110 1779 Central Street	Canton Millside at Heritage Park (339)502-9770 104 Revere Street	Mansfield Station Square/One Mansfield (774)719-2211 300 N Main Street	Scituate Kent Village (781)545-2233 65 North River Road	Attleboro Renaissance Station (508)455-1875 75 South Main Street
--	--	--	---	--

METRO WEST

Framingham Pelham Apartments (508)872-6393 75 Second Street	Holliston Cutler Heights (508)429-0099 79 Hollis Street	Ashland Ashland Woods (508)861-3052 30A Ashland Woods Ln.	Worcester Canterbury Towers (508)757-1133 6 Wachusett Street	Webster Sitkowski School (508)943-3406 29 Negust Street
---	---	---	--	---

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Nashua Amherst Park (603)882-0331 525 Amherst Street	Rhode Island W. Warwick Westcott Terrace (401)828-1490 319 Providence Street
--	---

For more information or reasonable accommodation, please call the property that interests you. We provide free language assistance by phone, just state your language and hold for an interpreter.

JOHN M CORCORAN & CO

www.jmcandco.com

To place a call using Mass Relay, dial 711

State's Sudden Shelter Limits Anger Immigrant Advocates

By Ryan C. Lundgren

The consequences of the housing emergency in Massachusetts and the lack of Congressional action on immigration reform have collided to create a nightmare scenario that has Massachusetts' emergency shelter system apparently unable to cope. The state on Aug. 1 began to transition their "safety-net sites" to "temporary respite centers" and limit their usage to 5 days (with the possibility of an extension to 30 days) unless they are in a group prioritized for placement in an emergency assistance shelter, which is likely to exclude all of the migrants who are coming to Massachusetts for safety and opportunity. This comes as a result of what state and local officials are describing as federal inaction on immigration reform.

Gov. Maura Healy last year declared a state of emergency because of the increasing numbers of arriving migrants in Massachusetts in need of shelter and she further declared that the state's shelter system was at capacity in October. A total of 7,500 families are currently being sheltered by the emergency assistance shelter system.

"We have been saying for months now that the rapid growth of our Emergency Assistance shelter system is not sustainable. Massachusetts is out of shelter space, and we simply cannot

afford the current size of this system. Our administration has taken significant action over the past year to make the system more sustainable and help families leave shelter for stable housing. But with Congress continuing to fail to act on immigration reform, we need to make more changes," said Gov. Maura Healy in a statement late last month.

She went on to indicate the state's plan to offer "reticketing" — or paid travel to another jurisdiction where the state would no longer be responsible for them — as an option.

"This is in line with the policies of other cities facing similar challenges as Massachusetts and will help give families some relief for a few days while they access the diversion services we can provide, such as reticketing."

The backlash from local politicians and community leaders was strong and immediate. Several Boston city councilors penned a letter to Gov. Healy denouncing the changes, criticizing the rushed nature of the new policy and the burden it places on cities. "We join together in opposition to this policy change that will fall heavily on immigrant families and the municipalities that will be left to deal with the consequences," read the letter.

The councilors drew the governor's attention to our city and country's founda-

tions as a place of refuge for those in the pursuit of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. "Massachusetts has long served as a beacon for immigrants by providing them with shelter and has reaped enormous benefits from the recent migration of large groups who have come here from places like Vietnam, the Dominican Republic, and Haiti, and who have thrived in our state."

"The City will continue to support the State's efforts, recognizing that a comprehensive, federal approach is essential to address this global challenge. Cities and states need urgent action from Congress for a sustainable system that offers clarity and humanitarian relief to families. Locally, we will continue collaborating with our community partners to find solutions and provide resources to individuals in shelter," said a spokesperson of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu.

Activists quickly denounced the limits and organized to urge the state to reverse course. A flier forwarded to Sampan from the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless and the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute shows the two organizations plans for protest action in front of the state house in August. A protest was also held outside the Springfield State Office last week.

That threat of homelessness is all too real for a family headed by one 29 year

old migrant from Haiti, who spoke to Sampan on the condition of anonymity. She left Haiti when she was 19 due to harassment and danger to her life, fleeing to Chile where she gave birth to her two children. In 2020, she was given the opportunity to come to the United States for a period of two years through a Biden administration program, which served as an escape route from her life as a refugee in Haiti which was plagued by racism and sexual harassment that she faced from her boss while working in a factory there.

She had to travel through nine countries with her two small children by foot and by car. When she arrived in Boston in April of last year, the friend which she had sent money to in order for them to secure a room for her and her children upon arrival had stolen that money, leaving her and her children homeless. She spent a year living in a Holiday Inn which has been partially converted to serve as a shelter, while looking for work and studying to become a home health aide.

After traveling here and fleeing from danger in two separate countries, she is left with no option but to remain in the United States, yet these new restrictions on shelter use and the exhaustion of funds to support migrants jeopardize the ability for her to succeed here and for her family to remain sheltered.

Affordable Housing Lottery

185 Willow Street
Waltham, MA

Monthly Rent

One 2BR Apartment | \$2,775

*Rent subject to change in future years. Tenants will pay for gas (which is used for heating, hot water, cooking) and electricity. Water and sewer charges are included in the unit. Free parking is available for residents. Cats are permitted (no additional fee; limit one cat per household).

Maximum Household Income Limits

\$91,200 (1 person), \$104,200 (2 people), \$117,250 (3 people) \$130,250 (4 people)

185 Willow Street is a brand-new, nine (9) unit rental apartment community located in Waltham. Residents will enjoy a convenient location that is close to various shops, restaurants, and the Charles River. There will be one (1) affordable apartment made available through a lottery process to households with incomes at or below 80% of the area median income.

Public Info Session: August 29, 2024 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 818 9317 7595, Passcode: 088159

Application Deadline: September 30, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Completed applications must be delivered, or postmarked, by this date. Postmarked applications must be received within 5 business days of the deadline.

Lottery: October 15, 2024 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 857 2736 5609, Passcode: 276410

Attendance is not required at Info or Lottery sessions. To view the recorded sessions at a later date, please search for 185 Willow Street on the SEB Housing YouTube channel.

Applications are also available at the Waltham Public Library located at 735 Main Street, Waltham, MA.

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900 (x1) and leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, LLC 257 Hillside Ave, Needham MA 02494. For TTY Services dial 711. Free translation available. Traducción gratuita disponible.



HAMEL-LYDON CHAPEL
&
CREMATION SERVICE OF MASSACHUSETTS
安泰殯儀館和火葬服務



2 Locations in Quincy

Our Chapel and main office is located at 650 Hancock Street in the Wollaston part of Quincy, Massachusetts. Most services are provided at this location. However, we also have a larger venue in Quincy Center where we can accommodate funerals with up to 300 guests.

Asian Funeral Staff

Chinese-speaking staff are trained to assist families and guests throughout the funeral process. We are committed to providing excellent service and speak Cantonese, Mandarin, Toisanese and Fuzhounese.

Asian Funeral Customs and Traditions

Our team of experienced funeral counselors will discuss and guide families on the traditional Chinese rites and customs throughout the funeral process.

Religious Ceremonies

We can accommodate Buddhist and Christian services. We work with various local Asian temples and churches in the community to provide religious services at the funeral.

Affordable, All-Inclusive Asian Burial and Cremation Plans

We offer various funeral package plans that include services and merchandise catered to traditional needs of Asian families.

Various Cremation Options

Over the years, we have helped thousands of families through the cremation process and it is an honor to be of assistance to those who place their trust and confidence in us during this difficult time. Our counselors can explain the process of cremation and specialized services we offer to our families in need. Our cremation services extend across Massachusetts, covering the entire state.

Pre-Planning Funeral Consultations

Our licensed Funeral Directors can meet with you to discuss your wishes and provide you with guidance and assistance to set up pre-need funeral plans.

English: (617)472-5888 • 中文: (617)657-9016

Funeral Directors: Christopher P. Goulet, Sr. & Michelle Lydon

Director of Asian Services: Lola Tom 亞裔服務主任: 譚秀婷

650 Hancock Street, Quincy, MA 02170 • HamelLydon.com

Undocumented Immigrants Pay Billions in U.S. Taxes Annually

By Adam Smith

The nearly 11 million immigrants in the U.S. who lack the paperwork needed to stay here legally are often the target of politicians who decry the ills of “illegal” immigration. Yet, this group actually makes a massive contribution to the federal, state and local governments – paying billions to social programs they will never benefit from – according to a recent study.

In fact, undocumented immigrants paid \$96.7 billion in total taxes to all levels of government in 2022, through employment taxes, consumption taxes, property taxes and other types of taxes. Most of the taxes the group paid that year – \$59.4 billion – went to the federal government. The rest went to state and local governments, researchers at the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy found in the report, “Tax Payments by Undocumented Immigrants.”

On average, undocumented immigrants paid federal, state, and local taxes of \$8,889 per person in 2022, found the report.

“In other words, for every 1 million undocumented immigrants who reside in the country, public services receive \$8.9 billion in additional tax revenue,” wrote researchers Carl Davis, Marco Guzman and Emma Sifre.

One in three dollars paid went to payroll taxes that the immigrants

themselves cannot access because they lack proper authorization to be in the U.S., such as Social Security, Medicare and unemployment insurance. The immigrants are also typically blocked from getting substantive tax credits. Yet, as a whole they paid nearly \$26 billion into Social Security alone in 2022, found the report.

Other types of taxes paid went to local sales and excise taxes and property taxes, including through rental housing.

States that took in the most tax revenue from undocumented immigrants were California at \$8.5 billion, Texas at \$4.9 billion, New York at \$3.1 billion, Florida at \$1.8 billion, Illinois at \$1.5 billion, and New Jersey at \$1.3 billion.

In Massachusetts, the total tax contribution from the undocumented immigrants came out to nearly \$650 million.

The reports’ authors argue that if the immigrants were given access to legal work authorization the amount paid in taxes would substantially increase.

“Under a scenario where work authorization is provided to all current undocumented immigrants, their tax contributions would rise by \$40.2 billion per year to \$136.9 billion. Most of the new revenue raised in this scenario (\$33.1 billion) would flow to the federal government while the

remainder (\$7.1 billion) would flow to states and localities,” the authors write.

Massachusetts alone could have boosted its total tax revenue from the undocumented immigrants to \$847 million in 2022 under such a program,

According to a new report, the nation’s 11 million undocumented immigrants in the U.S. in 2022 paid \$96.7 billion in total taxes in the U.S.

say the authors of the report.

“Undocumented immigrants work without authorization and, as a result, their tax contributions are lower than what would be paid by a worker with legal status in an otherwise comparable position. Granting work authorization to undocumented immigrants would increase their tax contributions for two reasons,” wrote the researchers. “First, income tax revenues would increase because legal status would lessen barriers to complying with existing income tax laws. Second, the data demonstrate that immigrants with employment authorization earn higher wages than undocu-

mented immigrants. Greater access to job opportunities and higher-level education would provide immigrants with the opportunity to earn substantially higher wages which would have the effect of raising taxable earnings, consumption, and property ownership.”

Undocumented immigrants make up a minority of the nation’s total immigration population. The number of total foreign-born residents in the U.S. rose to 46.1 million in 2022, according to an unrelated report for the Pew Research Center. Immigrant make up just shy of 14% of the U.S. population, and account for much of the recent population growth.

Of those here without proper paperwork, most entered the country “without legal permission or arrived on a nonpermanent visa and stayed after it expired,” according to the Pew Research Center, which points out that some unauthorized immigrants actually have permission to live and work in the U.S. and other protections because they are fall under protective categories such as the Temporary Protected Status program, because returning to their home country could be too dangerous; the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, program, which allows people who were brought to the U.S. as kids before 2007 to stay in the country; and as asylum applicants.



Turning Hope into Help

The first shelter for women in the nation, Rosie’s Place has made more than history.

Providing day and overnight shelter, meals and groceries, education and expert employment, housing, legal and mental health support—every day at Rosie’s Place, we make a difference.

In 2024, with gratitude and pride, we mark 50 years of turning hope into help for poor and homeless women.

With your help, today and tomorrow, Rosie’s Place will continue giving women in need the sanctuary, support and opportunity they deserve.



**ROSIE'S
PLACE** 50
YEARS
Turning hope into help

Visit / Volunteer / Give



Hub Aims to Clean City of Rats With ‘BRAP’s

By Aurora Hao

Boston City officials have recently turned their attention toward the furry, unwanted guests occupying Boston neighborhoods -- and it's finally come up with a plan. Rats have been taking over streets, foraging through trash, and finding themselves taking comfort in residents' homes. Mayor Michelle Wu has worked closely with the Boston Inspectional Services Division and Dr. Bobby Corrigan, a consulting Urban Rodentologist based in New York, to create the Boston Rodent Action Plan (BRAP), which was published on June 17.

BRAP addresses the public health woes posed by the increasing number of rodents and proposes a plan to help send them packing, without relying on dangerous poisons.

Boston is one of the most rat-infested areas in the country. In particular, the Norway rat is the most common rat species found in Massachusetts, often burrowing to make a home underground and near piles of trash.

The growing rodent population poses critical health risks, increasing the vulnerability of natural wildlife and people as rats can carry and transmit infectious diseases.

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit, many restaurants across Boston closed down and people spent most of their time at home, prompting more rats to turn toward residential areas to scavenge for food. This shift in rodent movement made the increasingly alarming

rat infestation visible to residents, many of whom also reported increased sightings of rats as part of the post-Covid rat resurgence effect of 2022 noted in the BRAP report.

Climate change has also intensified the rate of rodent growth, increasing chances of rat infestation in urban settings like Boston. Warmer winters lead to a higher chance of survival, contributing to the prevalence of rats across the city as the rats adapt to the changing climate.

Through BRAP, Boston city officials aim to improve the quality of life for neighborhood residents, targeting the rat population to build safer and cleaner communities. As a multi-agency initiative, BRAP outlines preventative courses of action, including best practices for controlling rodents in housing complexes, green spaces, sewers, and construction sites.

Residents have voiced their concern online through various community forums and by filing complaints to Boston 311, where non-emergency problems are reported.

Boston officials gather information directly from Boston 311 as a reference to gain insight into the affected populations, taking the complaints on Boston 311 into account in their rat management strategies put forward in BRAP. However, they statistically normalize the data to ensure an accurate reflection of demographics of rat infestations.

Potential rat management strate-

gies included in the BRAP final report revolved around implementing environmentally friendly pest control measures like improving sanitation practices and engaging in strong enforcement of rat management measures.

"If you walk around Boston, you're going to see some properties very clean and some not so clean. The ones not so clean will feed an entire block of rats," Dr. Bobby Corrigan, urban rodentologist at RMC Pest Management Consulting, told Sampan.

Highly populated areas often have an increase in rental housing, where the landlords and residents can play a crucial role in determining the amount of rats visiting the area. The use of steel garbage cans can be a long-term investment toward a cleaner neighborhood, with the benefits outweighing the initial price to purchase one. Proper trash disposal practices are influential factors to limiting the growing rodent population as well.

"Look at the way you do trash," Corrigan emphasized, "We work by rewards... Boston is a city that needs to have a strict code for not tolerating sloppy garbage practices."

Despite being the commonly used method to control rats in past years, the use of poison baits, such as rodenticides, pose threat to natural wildlife. Instead, the final report notes how BRAP seeks to find "alternative approaches to the use of poison baits... which include sanitation, anti-rat garden maintenance practices, and when necessary, the use of gaseous burrow treatments comprising the largest portion of a current effective IPM (Integrated Pest Management) park program for Boston's parks."

The report also emphasized BRAP's intentions to mobilize communities through education efforts, hoping to "inform and educate local property owners nearby" with "an educational fact sheet which outlines the importance of basic sanitation..., rodent proofing of their properties, and other helpful information [that] helps to dispel the various rat 'myths' associated with construction projects and rats."

In addition to these solutions outlined in BRAP, city councilors discussed the potential use of birth control to limit the rising number of rats.

But Corrigan told Sampan about drawbacks with the birth control plan to mitigate the rodent issue.

As someone who participated in the original test on the use of birth control for rats in New York City subways, Cor-

rigan notes the humane benefits of the plan, which does not require directly killing the rats.

"The problem, however, is on a scale, how would we get all the rats in a city on the pill."

With numerous colonies of different rats exhibiting different behaviors, the birth control plan might cause a decline in population at a certain area, but will eventually get replenished by other rats who were not given birth control.

"Another problem is that (although the birth control) doesn't kill the rats, at the same time, if someone was at school or at their property, they want them gone," Corrigan added.

City Councilor Ed Flynn from District 2 worked closely with Corrigan and various city departments to go over best practices for targeting specific areas to decrease the ability for rats to thrive.

Although the Boston Public Health Commission has not indicated the increased prevalence of rats as a high public health threat to the residents of Boston so far, Councilor Flynn believes that the current situation is dire, calling for immediate action.

Both Dr. Corrigan and Councilor Flynn emphasized the importance of having a designated person to coordinate efforts limiting rodents, suggesting the creation of a new position to lead the city's rodent management teams.

"The Boston Rodent Action Plan falls short as it does not formally create a 'rat czar' to be the dedicated point person solely focused on coordinating all city departments to address our pest control crisis," Councilor Flynn noted.

Corrigan highlighted organizational benefits with this potential position, where "in a city, calls are coming in every day from all entities, from airports to schools to restaurants to parks. It takes careful coordination for someone who is dedicated to putting those dots together. [The city] needs a person with confidence, a person in charge that [the community] can call or vent to." He drew on the successful example in New York City, where a good facilitator has the ability to bring agencies together and achieve greater steps towards limiting rodents.

Efforts to combat rising numbers of rats start with residents. Given the potential health risks of rats, hygiene practices can deter rodents and thus reduce exposure to harmful bacteria. Proper food disposal is crucial to prevent the recurrence of rodents entering residential areas.

Affordable Housing Lottery

Johnson Woods

156 Johnson Woods, Reading, MA

2 Bedroom Townhouses for \$281,400 (\$334/month condo fees)

Johnson Woods is a community of custom carriage homes providing thoughtful and architecturally significant living spaces. Residents will enjoy being just 20 minutes to Boston, and within just a few minutes of Routes 93 and 95. Our thoughtfully designed units in a quiet wooded setting feature 2 bedrooms, with 1 full bathroom, and 1/2 bath on the first floor, fire sprinkler system, 2 car outdoor surface parking, and full unfinished basement. Through this process, 6 units will be sold to eligible households making up to eighty percent (80%) of Area Median Income. The first two townhomes are expected to be ready for occupancy in the Fall of 2024, with the remainder of the units expected to be available between the Spring and Summer of 2025.

Maximum Household Income Limits

\$91,200 (1 person), \$104,200 (2 people), \$117,250 (3 people), \$130,250 (4 people)

The Maximum Household Asset Limit is \$75,000.

Public Info Session

September 10, 2024 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 818 9317 7595, Passcode: 088159

Application Deadline

October 4, 2024 at 2:00 pm

Completed Applications and Mortgage Pre-Approvals must be delivered or postmarked by this date. Applications postmarked by the deadline must be received no later than 5 business days from the deadline.

Lottery

October 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm via Zoom

Go to zoom.com/join or call (646) 558-8656 and enter Meeting ID: 857 2736 5609, Passcode: 276410

Attendance is not required at Info or Lottery sessions. To view the recorded sessions at a later date, please search for Johnson Woods on the SEB Housing YouTube channel.

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to www.sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900 x2 and leave a message or postal mail SEB Housing, 257 Hillside Ave, Needham MA 02494. For TTY Services dial 711.

Free translation available. Traducción gratuita disponible. Tradução livre disponível.



WINTER VALLEY RESIDENCES FOR THE ELDERLY, INC.

600 Canton Ave., Milton, MA

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

A 160 apartment Senior Housing Community financed by HUD for those 62 and older or physically disabled. Includes 16 Affordable Private Assisted Living Apartments with services for an additional fee. Qualifications apply.



Call 617-698-3005 for more information.

www.mreinc.org



READ SAMPAN

STAY INFORMED

SAMPAN.ORG

'Where I Belong' Explores Trauma,

Continued from Page 1

ing primarily with Asian Americans. We noticed that, although other experiences define one's mental and emotional healing journey, there was often a misalignment regarding Asian American identity. When delving deeper into internal dialogues around identity, we found that many people struggled with not having a fully integrated understanding of their family's history, the racism they experienced, and how our culture impacts our interactions with the world.

While we may share many similar traumatic experiences with other minority groups or immigrant cultures, a distinct element affecting Asian American identities is the racism and microaggressions associated with the model minority myth. This myth perpetuates the idea that Asians and Asian Americans are perpetual outsiders. We discuss in detail how the model minority myth, though seemingly positive, stereotypes Asians as shy, law-abiding, and intelligent, thus boxing us into roles that deny leadership, creativity, and confidence. Regardless of how many generations an Asian American family has been in the U.S., we are often viewed as foreigners, not representative of the all-American image.

Sampan: Where I Belong effectively balances the narratives of various patients with terms such as "race," "colonialism," and "systematic oppression." (Talk about how) Asian communities have dealt with these issues in their own efforts to help people working through such trauma?

Lee and Yoon: Healing from systematic and historical traumas is an ongoing journey. There is no singularly perfect approach to addressing the spectrum of identities tied to trauma. Instead, we focus on understanding our identity, inner narratives, and building context around these narratives — trying to make sense of where they come from and how they continue to impact our lives. By creating more opportunities to build this understanding together as a community, we can grow and heal collectively.

Asian communities have made significant strides in addressing these complex issues by integrating traditional cultural practices with modern therapeutic approaches, such as mindfulness, meditation, and community rituals, which honor cultural heritage while addressing mental health needs. The collective efforts of Asian communities to address these issues is our commitment to fostering a more inclusive and supportive environment where we are continuing to fight against the systematic spaces which



Soo Jin Lee and Linda Yoon

perpetuates racism and hate.

Sampan: How strong is the "Model Minority" concept since its introduction in the 1960s? Has it been so deeply ingrained, welcomed, and tolerated into the mainstream that its true power is underestimated? How much damage is it doing in the struggle to help Asian Americans deal with trauma?

Lee and Yoon: The concept of the model minority is deeply ingrained in our culture. Even today, many Asian and Asian American individuals experience microaggressions related to this concept, with comments like "You must be good at math" or "You are different than I thought you would be." It also creates workplace challenges such as the "bamboo ceiling," which implies that Asians or Asian Americans cannot be in leadership or positions of power and authority. The damage is significant, manifesting as financial barriers for those unable to advance in their careers and the mental gymnastics of upholding one's cultural identity while trying to prove worthiness in society.

In the media, the model minority stereotype has long been accepted, with stories of the "good Asian kid" or the exoticism of Asian females portrayed in movies and television. It's only recently that Asian characters can be the "hero" rather than the "sidekick." There still isn't enough representation across the spectrum of different characteristics and personalities of Asian individuals.

Sampan: The stories of refugee and war trauma, especially in the Cam-

bodian and Vietnamese narratives, are still harrowing these days, a half century after the conflicts. Wars might end, but the battles remain. Are you seeing similar refugee and war trauma in any other populations you see in your practices?

Lee and Yoon: Asia, like other parts of the world, has been and continues to be a place of political conflict and civil unrest. Many Asian Americans, whether refugees or immigrants, share a deep sense of grief and loss through war and displacement. For example, Chinese families often found themselves in different parts of Asia and other continents after the war. Koreans were left without a home in their own country during the Japanese occupation and the Korean War. The horror of genocide still affects Burmese families today.

In our book, we briefly introduce the concept of West Asia, commonly known in America as the Middle East, which shares in the current conflict of war, leaving an entire culture of people displaced. Many of these individuals are trying to make new homes as refugees in America. The result of these displacements are a shared sense of feelings of grief and loss as well as a sense of alienation and isolation that we suffer in our new homes.

Sampan: Immigrants are encouraged to immediately assimilate, to assume the essence of the people and their new land: food, language, everything. In your chapter about contextualizing Asian American experiences, you note the "feeling of being perpetual foreigners," that many children of refugees were never taught to articulate and ful-

ly comprehend their trauma. How important is it to tackle the historical context of collective struggles in order to understand and deal with personal problems?

Lee and Yoon: As mental health therapists, we were initially taught through Western psychology that individual problems exist solely within our minds, often separating mental and emotional health from history, culture, and our physical bodies. This framework tends to focus on personal pathology and internal processes without fully considering the broader context in which an individual's experiences occur. However, through our own work and understanding of our family cultures, we realized that this approach was incomplete, especially for those dealing with inter-generational trauma.

For many immigrants and children of refugees, there is an overwhelming pressure to assimilate into the new culture quickly—adopting the food, language, and customs of their new land. This often comes at the expense of their original cultural identity and can create a profound sense of loss and disconnection. In our chapter on contextualizing Asian American experiences, we note the pervasive "feeling of being perpetual foreigners." This feeling arises because many children of refugees were never taught to articulate and fully comprehend their trauma. They are caught between two worlds, neither fully belonging to the culture of their heritage nor the culture of their new home.

When we delve into our lineage, understanding the food we eat, the clothes we wear, and the land we

Identity of Asian Americans

come from, we start to piece together the fragmented parts of our identity. This understanding helps us to see how our upbringing and values are shaped by generations of experiences. Recognizing the cultural and historical factors that influence our behaviors and emotions allows us to see our personal problems in a new light. For instance, understanding the historical trauma of war, colonization, and displacement that our ancestors experienced can help explain certain family dynamics, behaviors, and emotional responses. It sheds light on why certain values are emphasized and why some fears or anxieties are prevalent.

The missing pieces of our lives create many layers of grief. This grief is not just about personal loss but also about the collective loss of culture, history, and identity. How can we begin to restore ourselves if we don't understand what was lost in the first place? By exploring our roots and understanding our collective history, we can start to fill in the gaps in our personal narratives.

Sampan: Your conclusion is that trauma "...consists of the past event and the physical reactions to triggers that continue on into the present." The four F's (fight, flight, freeze, and fawn) are very clear means by which trauma victims physically react. Are there others?

Lee and Yoon: The 4 F's we discuss in the book are a simple way to understand and categorize our body's reaction to trauma—how it continues to live inside our body even when we don't realize it. Each person's response to trauma is unique, and these reactions can manifest in various combinations depending on the individual and the specific circumstances of the traumatic event.

Different events in our lives may cause different or combined reactions. While not all unique reactions to trauma can fit perfectly into an organized box, it's a starting place to understand how our own reactions to trauma may look.

Sampan: Have you seen instances where trauma victims are able to cultivate self-compassion and fail to reconcile with emotionally distant parents? In other words, can self-compassion break the chains of inter-generational trauma?

Lee and Yoon: Breaking inter-generational trauma can look very different for each individual. It is often associated with achieving a perfectly healed family dynamic where parents respect boundaries, and everyone can express their emotions appropriately and acknowledge each other's pain. While that sounds great and is possible in

some households, it's not realistic or achievable for many. Breaking inter-generational trauma means creating space for our emotionally distant parents to be who they are and acknowledging that they may never understand the impact of their upbringing. We have the privilege of gaining further knowledge and understanding about ourselves and our history more than previous generations could have imagined.

Self-compassion is different from self-love. We are not striving for ultimate positivity and perfection in our relationships. Instead, we aim for an internal, non-judgmental space where all emotions can exist, no matter how negative they may feel.

Sampan: How did you two work together to create this text? It reads in a very unified, systematic manner. Soo Jin, how do you incorporate creativity into your practice? Linda, what is your primary drive to keep working with trauma survivors and the neurodivergent community?

Lee: We both come from our own unique narratives and experiences, which deeply influenced our perspectives and approaches to this project. Creating this text together was challenging on multiple levels. As you can imagine, and perhaps have experienced, partnering with someone in any endeavor can be difficult. Collaboration requires navigating differences in communication styles, work habits, and emotional responses. Linda and I had to learn about each other's trauma reactions, values, experiences, and strengths. This process was much like the early stages of a marriage where partners are discovering each other's nuances. We spent considerable time getting to know one another, understanding what triggers stress or inspiration, identifying what drives our passions, and recognizing how we each prefer to approach work. This period of mutual discovery was crucial for establishing a strong foundation for our partnership.

The operational elements of our collaboration—setting deadlines, dividing tasks, and coordinating efforts—were essential, but what truly built our working relationship was our shared vision and values. As an artist and a therapist, it has always been important for me to integrate and discuss creative ways of approaching health and mental wellness. This includes being able to integrate drawing, music, movies, and writing into the therapeutic process. This is how we also knew that we needed to have elements of engagements such as the journaling prompts and grounding exercises were going to be an integral part of our book.

We both wanted to contribute something valuable to our community—something that would provide support, foster understanding, and promote healing. By recognizing and valuing our individual strengths and experiences, we created a book that speaks to the complexities and nuances of the Asian American experience. Our partnership, built on mutual respect and a shared goal, allowed us to produce a resource that we hope will make a significant difference in the lives of our readers.

Sampan: What role do you see this book playing in the Asian American community, especially in light of the Asian hate crimes that surfaced in the immediate light of Spring 2020 and shows no sign of dissipating?

During the pandemic, the Asian and Asian American community sought mental and emotional care more than ever. We knew that healing for our community needed to look different, especially during such an unprecedented time full of isolation.

This led us to develop online community groups as a solution to the epidemic of isolation and fear. These virtual spaces became crucial platforms where individuals could come together, share their experiences, and process the events unfolding around them. We facilitated discussions that allowed participants to voice their concerns, anxieties, and traumas in a safe and supportive environment. In these online groups, we also focused on educating participants about the historical and cultural context of their trauma. Understanding the roots of their pain helped individuals make sense of their experiences and begin the healing process. We provided resources and guidance on coping mechanisms, resilience-building, and self-care practices tailored to the unique needs of the Asian and Asian American community.

Participants reported feeling more connected, understood, and empowered to navigate their mental health challenges. They appreciated having a dedicated space to explore their identities, confront their traumas, and support one another. This inspired us to document and expand on these themes in our book. We want people to feel seen, heard, and to understand the context of their struggles. Our book aims to continue the conversation started in these online groups, offering insights, stories, and strategies to help individuals and the broader community heal from trauma. By sharing real stories of people and their journeys of trauma healing and identity discovery, we hope to convey the message that no one is alone in their struggles.

The Boston Foundation Asian Fund Gives \$90K to 7 Local Asian Amer. Nonprofits

By Sampan Staff

The Boston Foundation's Asian Community Fund has awarded \$90,000 in funding this summer to seven Chinese-serving nonprofits.

The groups are:

- * Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center: \$25,000
- * Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center: \$25,000
- * Chinese Association of Western Massachusetts: \$15,000
- * Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of New England: \$10,000
- * Andover Chinese Cultural Exchange, Inc.: \$5,000
- * Boston Chinese Photography Association, Inc.: \$5,000
- * Fan Chinatown, Inc.: \$5,000

The grants are a part of The Asian Community Fund's 2024 grant-making cycle, which brings \$450,000 in total funding to 52 Asian American-serving nonprofits this year.

The fund has hit \$1 million in total investments in community groups since it began two years ago.

Over the last 30 years, just 0.2% of philanthropic funding has gone to the Asian American and Pacific Islander-related organizations and causes, according to the Boston Foundation. Yet, more than one in 10 Greater Boston residents is Asian American. At total of 105 applications came into the group requesting grants, nearly double the number of organizations that applied in the 2023 cycle, according to the Boston Foundation.

"As we celebrate this historic infusion of funding, we are also reminded of how far we still have to go to meet the needs of the Commonwealth's AAPI community, which is amongst the fastest growing and most diverse in the state," said Danielle Kim, executive director of the Asian Community Fund at the Boston Foundation. "We are grateful to our donors, friends, and partners who make it possible for ACF to mobilize resources to address longstanding needs and address systemic disparities."

"The work ACF is doing, whether through convening, grantmaking, advocacy, or research is critical to changing perceptions and empowering our community to be recognized for our full and immense value," said Paul Lee, chair and co-founder of the Asian Community Fund.

Events Calendar

- **Chinatown August Moon Festival**

The August Moon Festival is one of the greatest Chinese Festivals, second only to the Chinese New Year. There are several meanings behind the festival. Since the arrival of autumn is thought to be a propitious season and the weather is usually conducive to good health and enjoyment, the August Moon Festival is a festival of joy and health.

Date: Aug 11, Sunday, 10:00am-5:00pm

Location: Boston's Chinatown, Harrison and Beach St, Boston, MA

More: <https://ccbaboston.org/en/moon-festival>

- **37th Annual August Moon Festival**

QARI is proud to partner with the City of Quincy to host our annual August Moon Festival, a community tradition since 1987. Designated the city's signature event for August and voted 'Best Street Festival' by Boston Magazine in 2018, the festival features traditional and modern performances, food trucks, carnival amusements, games, cultural booths, and a street market.

Date: Aug 18 Sunday, 11am -3pm (Rain Date: Aug 25)

Location: Coddington Street, Quincy Center

More: <https://www.qarius.org/august-moon-festival>

- **August Adventures - The Highland Street Foundation**

31 days, 31 events, 100% FREE! August Adventures 2024 provides access and opportunities to new and old partners highlighting the geographical and cultural diversity of the Massachusetts arts and culture community. Please note some organizations are requiring advanced registration. Full calendar: <https://www.highlandstreet.org/programs/community-events/august-adventures>

- **Youth Fest!**

City's first youth festival by, with, and for Boston youth. In partnership with the City of Boston's Office of Youth Employment & Opportunity and Boston Music Project, this summer festival will provide both a stage for Boston's most talented up-and-coming artists and a signature event for the City's SuccessLink Youth Workforce initiative.

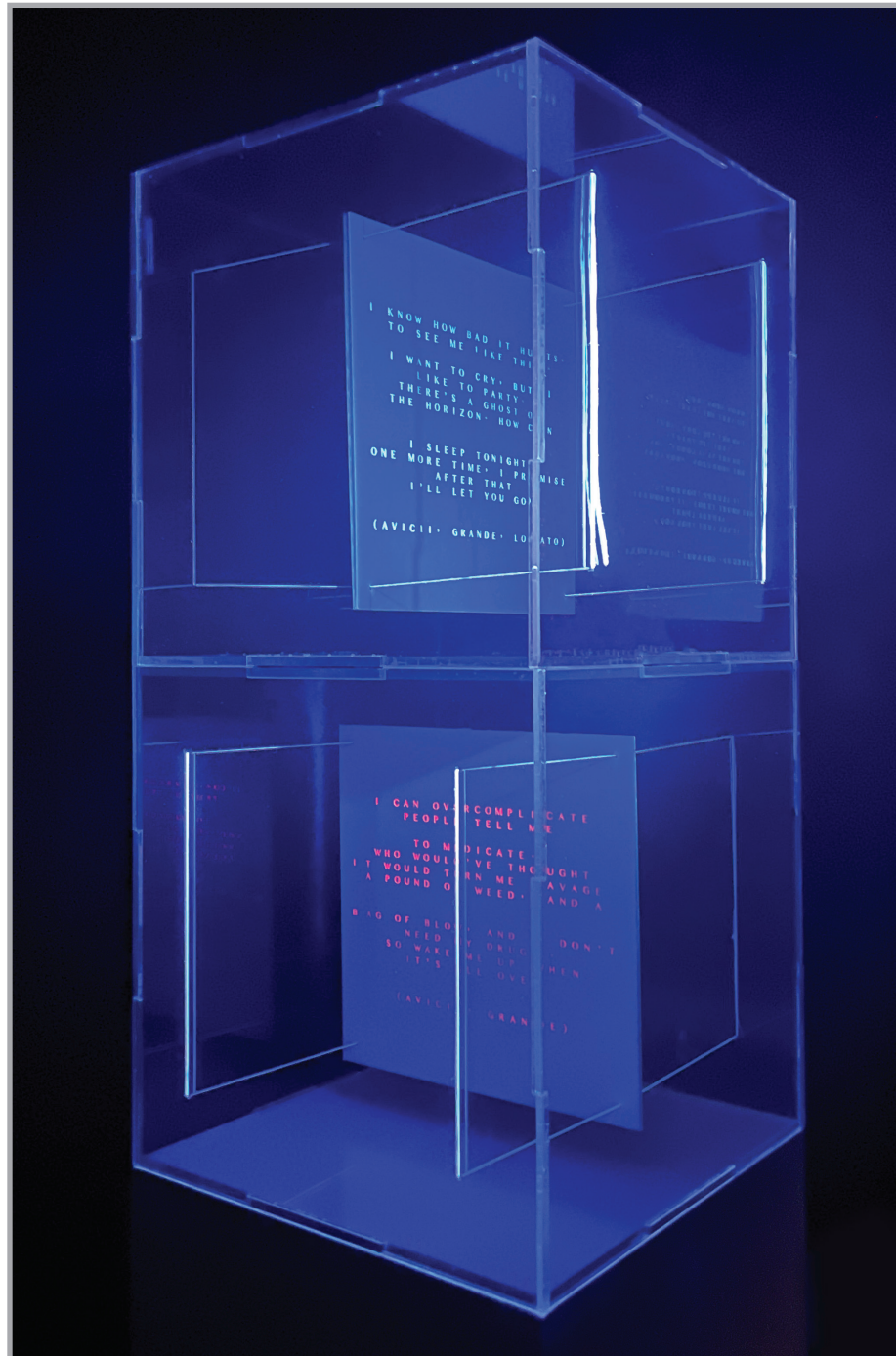
Date: Aug 14, 2024 Wednesday

Location: Boston Downtown Crossing

More: <https://events.humanitix.com/youthfest>

- **Make with MAAM: Earth Aware**

Drop in to the Barkan Family Big Ideas Studio every weekend for hands-on fun. During Make with MAAM: Earth Aware, find connections between your own creativity



Boston Sculptors Gallery presents "Kenson Truong: Usurper," Aug. 29 to Sept. 29. The show includes a series of poetic texts displayed using ultraviolet clearcoat on the walls, pedestals, and paper encased in acrylic vitrines.

"The texts explore the cyclical nature of anxiety, depression and elation, and their magnification within the ecstatic, hypersexual culture of gay male nightlife. As the clearcoat text is invisible to the naked eye and can only be seen with the aid of ultraviolet light, viewers are offered ultraviolet flashlights to investigate and uncover Truong's narrative," according to the gallery.

A gay Asian-American male, Truong explores gay culture, racial identity, self-worth and how identity can become a fetish.

and art and ideas in our current exhibition, Displacement.

Date: Every weekend 12-4pm, till December 8

Location: Barkan Family Big Ideas Studio, 621 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115

More:

- **GLD FSTVL**

STL GLD and the City of Boston invite you to the second annual GLD FSTVL, a one-day, family-friendly celebration of Hip-Hop culture in the heart of Boston!

Date: Aug 10 Saturday, 12:00p -10:00p

Location: City Hall Plaza, 1 City Hall, Boston, MA 02215

More: <https://www.stlglld.com/gld-fstvl>

- **Summerfest**

Soak up the sun and celebrate summer at The LOT's Summerfest!

Gather your friends and family for an unforgettable afternoon filled with outdoor activities and good music.

Date: Aug 10 Saturday, 1:00p -7:00p

Location: The LOT, 383 Dorchester Ave, South Boston, MA 02127

More: <https://lotonthedot.com/>

- **All Ages Board Games**

Come on down to the Parker Hill Branch and play a variety of board games with your friends! We have plenty of options available including Boggle, Checkers, Battleship, and more.

Date: Aug 10 Saturday 3-4pm

Location: Parker Hill Branch Library, 1497 Tremont Street, Roxbury, MA 02120

More: <https://www.bpl.org/locations/parker-hill/>

- **Madonna Della Cava Feast**

104th Anniversary of the Feast of the Madonna Della Cava in Boston's Historic North End!

Date: August 9, 10, 11 Fri, Sat & Sun

Location: North End, Hanover St Boston, MA

More: <https://www.madonnadellacava.com>

- **Celebrate a Musical Journey through the Decades**

The City of Quincy invites the community to save the dates for the upcoming 2024 monthly concert series to celebrate a musical journey through the decades.

Music of the 80's & 90's - Date: Aug 17 Sat, 3-8pm

Location: Hancock Adams Common, 1305 Hancock St, Quincy, MA 02169

More: <https://www.quincyma.gov/specialevents/80sand90s.php>

- **FREE Boston Landmarks Orchestra Concerts at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade**

Sat, 8/10: An Evening of Summer Music

Wed, 8/14: Mozart & More

Wed, 8/21: Sheherazade & Borodin - Arabian Nights

Location: DCR Hatch Memorial Shell, 47 David G Mugar Way, Boston, MA 02108

More: <https://www.landmarksorchestra.org/events/current-season/>

- **Science on Screen at the Greenway**

Free outdoor 35mm screenings in partnership with the Rose Kennedy Greenway and introduced by local scientists! No ticket reservation necessary.

Date: "Apollo 13" - Aug 21 Wed / "Join or Die" - Sep 24 Tue

Location: Wharf District Park, between Milk St. and Atlantic Ave.

More: <https://coolidge.org/programs/science-screen>

- **The Greenway ARTbeat Series**

Seasons-long initiative supported by the Greenway Business Improvement District to enhance and expand public art and public programming throughout the entirety of The Greenway.

Going to Ground Brick Making Parties - August 15 and August 17

Going to Ground Conspiring Together Performance - August 22

Going to Ground Community Picnic and Opening Celebration - August 24

Location: The Rose Kennedy Greenway: 185 Kneeland Street, Boston, MA 02111

More: <https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/artbeat>

Job Corner

Boston Medical Center, MA

- **Position: General Cleaner, Per Diem**

Work requires the ability to read, follow oral and written instructions in English at a level acquired through the completion of elementary school

Ability to learn and perform basic housekeeping practices and understand the policies and procedures of the hospital.

HS Diploma or completion of GED preferred

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

- **Position: Cook - Food & Nutritional Services - 40Hrs Days**

Education at the high school level or above is preferred.

Minimum of 1 year experience with large quantity of food preparation. Experience utilizing standardized recipes in large institutional settings is preferred.

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

- **Position: Food and Nutrition Representative - Food and Nutritional Services - 40Hrs, Day/Evening and Rotating Weekends**

High school diploma or

GED is preferred.

minimum of two years' experience in food service /customer service environment.

Patient feeding experience with all age groups and diet experience preferred

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer,

617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

- **Position: General Cleaner (Part-Time, 25 Hours, 4PM-9PM)**

Diploma or completion of GED preferred

Work requires the ability to read, follow oral and written instructions in English at a

level acquired through the completion of elementary school

Ability to learn and perform basic housekeeping practices and understand the policies

and procedures of the hospital.

Apply at www.jobs.bmc.org

Contact: Caroline Cafer, 617-414-7066, caroline.cafer@bmc.org

City of Boston

- **Position: Senior Administration & Finance Manager, FT**

Minimum of four (4) years of finance and accounting experience, including gathering, preparing, and reporting financial information to senior management. A Bachelor's degree in Finance, Accounting, Business Management, HR Management, etc. is preferred and may substitute for two (2) years of required experience.

Salary: \$78897.69-

\$105986.92

Website: <https://city-boston.>

icims.com/jobs, Contact Email ruisantos@boston.gov

- **Position: Economic Integration Specialist, FT**

Applicants must have at least four (4) years of full-time or equivalent experience in project management, policy-making, or business, economic, and

workforce development.

Master's degree can be substituted for two (2) years of the required experience.

Strong project management, relationship-building skills, and prior experience working with immigrant communities in the U.S. are required.

Salary: \$60,470.46-

\$83,867.28

Website: <https://city-boston.>

icims.com/jobs, Contact Email ruisantos@boston.gov

Massachusetts Port Authority, Boston MA

- **Position: Capital Budget and Grant Analyst, FT**

Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, business administration, or equivalent experience.

1-3 years of experience in grant reporting or capital assets; relevant finance or accounting experience considered.

Proficiency with large data sets, word processing, spreadsheets, and database applications.

Strong communication skills and ability to collaborate with internal units and external banking institutions

Apply at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/massport/jobs>

- **Position: HVAC Mechanic, East Boston FT**

Ability to read; demonstrate basic oral, written, mathematical and manual skills; and operate machinery.

3 - 5 years' experience in commercial air conditioning, refrigeration, and HVAC Systems maintenance and service.

Massachusetts Refrigeration Technicians License and Massachusetts Class D (III) driver's license

Salary: \$2,221.00 Weekly

Apply at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/massport/jobs>

Commonwealth of Mass.

- **Position: Nursing Assistant I, FT, Multiple shift, Chelsea MA**

Must possess a current, active certification as a Nurse Aide in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

CPR certification through the American Heart Association

Ability to follow oral and written instructions

Salary: 44,604.30 -

56,405.18 Yearly

Apply at: <https://massanftaleo.net/careersection/>

Boston Public School

- **Position: Senior Computer Repair Technician, FT**

High school diploma or equivalency

Minimum of two years experience that includes configuration, installation and troubleshooting of workstations, servers, network devices and network infrastructure. This experience must have been in a WAN/LAN environment using the hardware and software installed and used by Boston Public Schools

Valid Massachusetts drivers license

City of Boston Residency Required

Website: <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/>

Contact Info: Recruitment@BostonPublicSchools.org

Report: English Classes Lacking in Massachusetts

Continued from Page 1

so much as it's survival English," said Mario T., a Boston area ESOL teacher, who declined to give his last name. "These students need to get jobs and adapt to life in this country."

In response, Gov. Maura Healey's administration has introduced the English Works program, bringing basic English instruction to the immigrants staying in the state's emergency shelters. The classes combine online and in-person learning with an emphasis on readying students for employment. According to the governor's office, around 1,250 have enrolled in these lessons

since November 2023.

But the reality is that Massachusetts is woefully underprepared, a result of showing little foresight in keeping up with changing demographics. For example, the report found that Springfield and Lynn have 10 instructional seats per 1,000 immigrant adults who need language education; Revere has one; and other communities like Salem and Everett have no public providers at all. The federal government gives Massachusetts around \$10 million annually for ESOL classes, \$35 million short of what the state actually spends. Even the \$45 million that Massachusetts spends

annually, as we can see, is far from enough.

In the meantime, others have stepped in to help. One such organization is the nonprofit English for New Bostonians, who operates 11 shelters across the state and recently implemented a 12-week pilot program of English instruction. The group is working to accommodate some of the 20,000 people who are waiting to get into state-funded ESOL classes, but the funding for these smaller organizations is a fraction of what they need to expand.

The MassINC report goes on to outline a list of recommendations for

improvement, including an increase in investment, collaboration, and research for ESOL. Most importantly, a state-wide expansion of ESOL services is needed, and a lead agency designated to oversee its implementation, according to the report.

"It's difficult to predict if a change in federal leadership will directly lead to state leaders prioritizing ESOL classes for newly arrived students," said Hunter. "What is clear is that leaders must understand the complexities of the issue. ESOL education is crucial for economic stability and for thriving in the United States."



ALYSSA WANG
Courtesy photos

Boston Festival Orchestra's Wang Looks Back on Year That Hit All the Right Notes

By Christopher John Stephens

Boston Festival Orchestra co-founder and conductor Alyssa Wang is having a memorable summer. In her fourth season at the helm, Wang and the BFO continue to bring exactly what its promised: imagination, story-telling, and community-building. Born in the early days of the pandemic, the BFO has grown to continue its free out-of-the-box concerts, collaborations, and educational programs with groups like the New England Conservatory. Just in July, its Summer 2024 Stage orchestral concerts have featured Rossini's Overture to "Semiramide," and Igor Stravinsky's "The Firebird Suite." The BFO's July 20th collaboration with the New England Conservatory's Summer Orchestra Institute, featuring Gustav Holst's The Planets, proved that the stirring power of the BFO's music and mission recognized no atmospheric barriers.

Sampan spoke with Alyssa Wang just this past May as she was preparing for the BFO's July 28 Grand Finale performance "A Celebration of Chinese Arts and Culture." Ms. Wang took time this week to reflect on the sold-out performance and plans for the coming season.

Sampan: Congratulations on the Summer Stage season. How do you see your role with the BFO right now? What did it mean to you personally to helm "A Celebration of Chinese Arts and Culture"?

Wang: Thank you! This concert was truly a culmination of many years of hard work and big dreams. Four years ago, when Nicholas Brown (BFO's executive director and co-founder) and I put together our first season in front of a limited-capacity pandemic audience, we believed in this vision of a musical community without barriers. It's been an extraordinary journey to get to this point, and finally seeing a sold-out Jordan Hall filled with an incredibly diverse audience is something I will never forget. While we both have performance roles within the orchestra, myself as conductor and Nick as principal clarinet, we also carry enormous organizational responsibilities. The main goal is, of course, to be the best musicians

we can be; however, we also have to make sure we're raising enough money throughout the year, spreading the word so people know about us, and handling all of the administrative tasks involved with running a nonprofit, to just name a few things. It's been a huge learning curve for us, but I think our passion and dedication towards our mission is part of what makes BFO special.

Sampan: The last time you spoke with Sampan you mentioned the importance of the solo piano piece "Er Huang," written by living Chinese composer Qigang Chen and performed by Chinese virtuoso pianist Ruoting Li. Qigang Chen was a teenager in Beijing during the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s. Is that experience reflected in this piece? If so, how does that resonate with you and your generation of Chinese Americans?

Wang: Qigang Chen was only 13 years old and studying at the Central Conservatory of Beijing when the Cultural Revolution turned his life upside down. Western music education was dismantled during this time, so he was forced to leave his music studies for many years while his family was separated. It was only when the Cultural Revolution ended and the Conservatory opened back up that he was able to properly study composition. It's significant that Chen's music often used Beijing opera melodies, because traditional Beijing opera was banned during the Cultural Revolution. While Chen wanted to write in a Western style, for the modern orchestra, he also wanted to pay homage to his own Chinese culture. And so we have compositions like "Er Huang" that combine traditional Chinese melodies with a Western style that can be performed with a modern orchestra. It's a beautiful blend of the past and the present. I think you can hear his love for his culture in the concerto, and because it's presented in a Western style, audiences in Boston for example can more easily connect with it. In a way, it's like a musical portrait of my own family's story. I am a descendant of immigrants pushed out of China due to the Cultural Revolution, too. Hearing music like "Er Huang" is honestly real-

ly comforting for me because it's like a piece of my family heritage presented in a way that I can truly relate to.

Sampan: We know Chinese folk music that incorporates elements of pentatonic scales and the guqin. Chen's style has been described as presenting "...a total assimilation of Chinese thinking with European musical concepts." What does that mean? Does this piece, for you, represent a bridge between East and West musical sensibilities?

Wang: It definitely acts as a bridge of sorts between Eastern and Western musical styles. And he does so in such a respectful and honorable way. Sometimes when we hear Eastern music presented in classical music, it's through the lens of someone who isn't from that culture, and it can sometimes come across as mockery—or corny, at best. (Not to say that there isn't value in composers being inspired by other cultures!) But with Chen's music, he has such a genuine way of wrapping the two sounds worlds together. He presents the melodies in the orchestra with expert craftsmanship. It's clear he has a deep knowledge of the capabilities of the instruments in the orchestra. So he's composing music with a genuine understanding of both the Western orchestra and Chinese traditions, that's what makes it so authentic.

Sampan: As you also noted in your previous interview with Sampan, the July 28th performance was going to be the "...trifecta of a Chinese conductor, a Chinese composer, and a Chinese performer." How was the dream of that trifecta matched by the reality?

Wang: It was an incredible experience on stage being a part of such a powerful representation of Chinese artists. I don't often get the chance to celebrate the Chinese part of my culture through classical music, so this concert was really a special occasion to use my classical training to lift up such an integral part of myself and of Boston. And it was also really fun to introduce "Er Huang" to the orchestra, since this was their first encounter with the piece. I felt really proud to be Chinese-American,

and I loved sharing the stage with all of my friends celebrating this part of our community. Looking out into the audience, I also saw so many Chinese people. It really felt like a true celebration of each other, and I felt like I already knew everyone in the audience!

Sampan: You've noted your unabashed pride in your deep roots in Boston, and Chinatown in particular. Do you see yourself as a role model speaking to many future Chinese Americans who want to represent their culture before a broader stage? Are you always in communication with the past while aiming towards the future?

Wang: I tell myself that the best way I can be a role model is to be the representation I want to see. That goes for my work as an artist and also simply as a human being. Using my platform to highlight Chinese voices is always going to be part of my personal mission as a musician, and I hope that by elevating those voices, I can play a small part in lifting up the future generation of Chinese Americans.

Sampan: Congratulations again on a successful season, especially your "pay what you can" ticket model. These are tenuous times for many people and exposure to great culture like what you presented on July 28, which included a thrilling performance of Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade, is as essential as food and shelter. What are your plans for the 2025 season?

Wang: Ah, no spoilers yet about next season...but I can say that we're celebrating our big year 5! That's a huge milestone for us. Many orchestras in Boston are celebrating their 50th season or their 150th season, but at one point, they were just five years old, too. So we're very grateful to be at this stage and to have seen the growth that we have in such a short amount of time. I think it shows that people are hungry for accessible, approachable, and imaginative classical music experiences. The only hint I'll give is that the number 5 is a very significant number in classical music... Stay tuned for more....

理由 5:

交通长龙

加入的理由有很多!



现在是夏天，乘坐渡轮很方便。MBTA 渡轮系统每周七天提供多种绝佳选择，让通勤者、一日游者和度假者在整个夏天都能到达他们需要去的地方。

季节性

东波士顿

工作日早高峰和晚高峰*期间，每 30 分钟一班，往返于东波士顿和长码头之间。**

票价 (单程) 全价 2.40 美元。
折扣票价 1.10 美元

萨姆纳隧道于 7 月 5 日至 8 月 5 日关闭期间，东波士顿渡轮将免费。

温思罗普/昆西

每周一至周五上午 6:30 至晚上 7:10 在温思罗普码头、昆西 (滨海湾)、洛根机场、扇型码头和中央码头之间运行 6 趟往返航班。

票价 (单程) 全价 6.50 美元。
折扣票价 3.25 美元。

萨姆纳隧道于 7 月 5 日至 8 月 5 日关闭期间，温思罗普/昆西/ 林恩，渡轮票价仅为 2.40 美元。

林恩

每周一至周五早上 6 点至晚上 7 点 15 分在 Blossom Street 码头和长码头之间运行 6 趟往返班次。

新的周末时刻表从早上 8 点到晚上 7 点 45 分，每天有 6 个往返。

票价 (单程) 全价 7.00 美元。
折扣票价 3.50 美元。

全年

查尔斯顿

工作日早高峰和晚高峰*期间，查尔斯顿海军造船厂和长码头之间每 15 分钟一班。

周末从上午 10 点到下午 6 点 15 分，每天有 17 个往返。

票价 (单程) 全价 3.70 美元。
折扣票价 1.85 美元。

欣厄姆/赫尔

每周一至周五，上午 5:40 至晚上 9:55 在欣厄姆、赫尔、乔治岛、洛根机场和长码头之间运行 19 趟往返航班。

票价 (单程) 全价 9.75 美元。
折扣票价 4.85 美元。

欣厄姆/罗尔斯

工作日上午 6 点至晚上 8 点 30 分，欣厄姆和罗尔斯码头之间有 36 趟班次。

票价 (单程) 全价 9.75 美元。
折扣票价 4.85 美元。

11 岁及以下儿童可免费乘坐所有渡轮。

*中午班次频率不尽相同。 **周末服务每 30 分钟一班，中午至下午 3:15 之间有短暂间隔。

如需了解更多信息，请访问网站：mbta.com/ferry

cricket
Authorized Retailer

Boston 您好

4 LINES \$100/mo. OF UNLIMITED DATA FOR



Cricket may temporarily slow data speeds if the network is busy. Add'l fees, usage & restr's apply. See below for details.

Visit your local retailers:

68 Harrison Ave., Ste A, Boston, MA 02111
306B Centre St, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

15 Bennington St, East Boston, MA 02128
268 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151



Nationwide
5G
on all plans*



No hidden fees



No surprises on your bill. Plan taxes included.



No annual contracts

*Cricket 5G requires a compatible device and is not available everywhere. For 5G coverage, see cricketwireless.com/map.

4 lines for \$100/mo.: \$55/mo. Cricket Core required on four lines. \$30 discount on second line, \$45 discount each on third & fourth lines, all on same account. Not elig. for Auto Pay credit or Group Save discount. For existing customers who change plans, discount may start until next billing cycle. **Cricket Core Data Restrictions:** For all data usage, Cricket may temporarily slow data speeds if the network is busy. **Video Streaming:** Video typically streams at standard-definition. Content bundled with video may be slow to load. Details at cricketwireless.com/videomanagement. Details on network management policies at cricketwireless.com/mobilebroadband. Mobile hotspot not included. Data usage and tethering that violates contract terms may be slowed or terminated. **General:** Activ./upgrade (up to \$25/line) & add'l one time (\$5 rep.-assisted and automated phone system payments) fees & restr's may apply; see cricketwireless.com/fees. **Devices:** Sold separately. **Limits:** 9 devices. **Pricing, availability, terms, data usage, speed & other restr's subj. to change w/o notice.** By activating/using svc., you agree to Cricket Terms of Service (cricketwireless.com/terms). Svc good for 30 days. Coverage not avail. everywhere. © 2023 Cricket Wireless LLC. All rights reserved.



South Cove Community Health Center

華人醫務中心

Boston 波士頓	Washington St. Clinic 華盛頓街診所 885 Washington St. 617-482-7555	成人科、小兒科、足科及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, Pediatrics, Podiatry, and Social Services WALK-INS AVAILABLE, APPOINTMENTS RECOMMENDED 接受無預約面診，但建議預約	MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM–5:00PM SAT 星期六 8:30AM - 1:00PM (Adult Med. and Pediatrics ONLY 僅成人科及小兒科)
	South St. Clinic 南街診所 145 South St. 617-521-6730	婦科、牙科、眼科、X光乳房攝影篩檢、家庭計劃、 心理科、營養科/奶券 OB/GYN, Dentistry, Optometry, Mammography, Family Planning, Behavioral Health and WIC	MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM–5:00PM
Quincy 昆西	Hancock St. Clinic 漢考克街診所 435 Hancock St. 617-318-3300	成人科、藥房及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, Pharmacy, and Social Services	MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM - 5:00PM Sat 星期六 8:30am - 1:00pm (Adult Med. and Pharmacy ONLY 僅成人科及藥房)
	Holmes St. Clinic 霍姆斯街診所 88 Holmes St. 617-318-3200	婦科、小兒科、牙科、眼科、心理科、家庭計劃 及社會服務部 OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Dentistry, Optometry, Behavioral Health, Family Planning, and Social Services	MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM - 5:00PM SAT 星期六 8:30AM - 12:30PM (Pediatrics ONLY 僅小兒科)
Malden 摩頓	Commercial St. Clinic 商業街診所 277 Commercial St. 781-912-2500	成人科、婦科、小兒科、眼科及社會服務部 Adult Medicine, OB/GYN, Pediatrics, Optometry, and Social Services	MON-FRI 星期一至五 8:30AM–5:00PM

Job Announcements

- Internist (FT) – Boston
- Dental Assistant (FT) – Boston
- Dental Assistant (FT) – Quincy
- Certified Medical Assistant (FT) – Boston
- Certified Medical Assistant (FT) – Malden
- Social Service Assistant (FT) – Boston
- Social Service Assistant (FT) – Malden
- BIDMC Interpreter (FT) – Boston
- Dental Hygienist (FT) – Boston
- Dental Hygienist (FT) – Quincy
- Patient Care Agent (FT) – Boston
- Referral Coordinator (FT) – Boston
- Medical Records Clerk (FT) – Boston

Apply at email: Careers@scchc.org

Please search Indeed.com for more job information.

<http://www.scchc.org>

