



# Coordinated Response Team August Updates



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## Since Jan. 2022, We Have Made Significant Improvements

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- 149 people moved from tents into transitional housing and are now in permanent housing.
- 173 additional people currently in low-threshold transitional housing.
- Mitigated scale, reach, and level of permanence of dangerous structures in the Newmarket neighborhood.
- State funded additional LTS in Worcester, Leominster, and Quincy.
- Launched a Family Reunification Initiative.
- Added 24/7, proactive outreach.
- Overdose deaths in the .5 mile radius of Mass. Ave / Melnea Cass intersection are down by 40% in 2022 vs. 2021.

## 3-6 MONTH FOLLOW-UP<sup>2</sup>

Since moving into LTS or permanent housing, guests surveyed reported maintaining or gaining access to the following services.

**79% reported access to a medical provider (N=58)**



**64% reported access to a mental health provider (N=58)**



**93% reported access to housing counseling (N=56)**



Since moving into LTS or permanent housing, guests surveyed

**reported improvements:**



access to regular meals (n=57)

**82%**



sleep quality (n=58)

**71%**



connection to other people (n=57)

**60%**

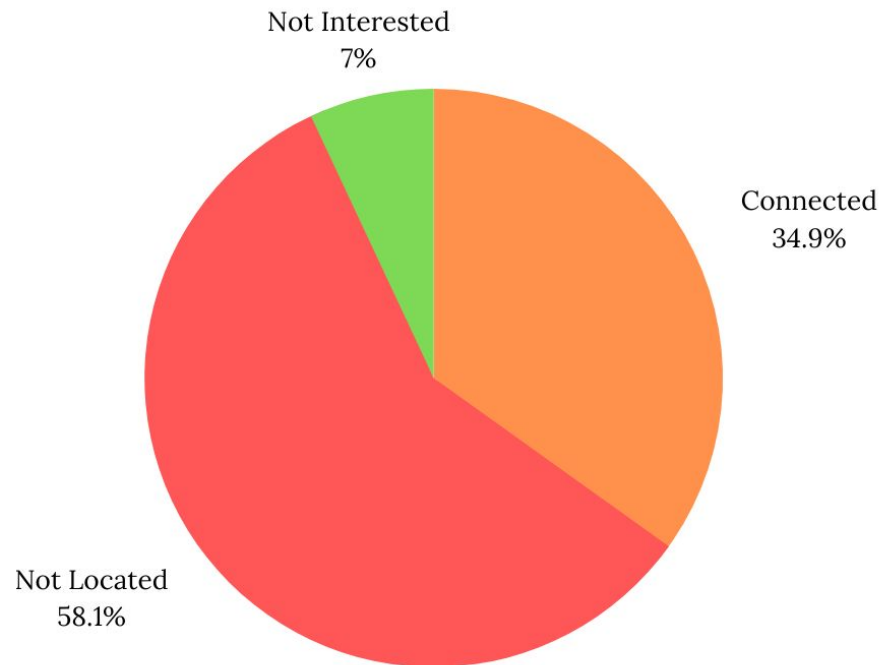
# Friends and Family Unification

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Status	Percentage
Connected	34.9%
Not Located	58.1%
Not Interested	7%

Total: 54 cases as of August 2023  
In Progress: 9 cases as of August 2023

Note: This is a supplemental service  
to BPD Missing Persons Reports



## But Serious Safety Challenges Remain:

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- Crowd sizes have remained constant.
- Triple stabbing incident prompted Eliot Community Human Services and Boston Healthcare for the Homeless to pull out from street outreach temporarily.
- Agencies are united in calling for more focus on safety in the area.

## Recent Developments

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In February 2023, the City of Boston launched two initiatives simultaneously in the “Mass and Cass” area:

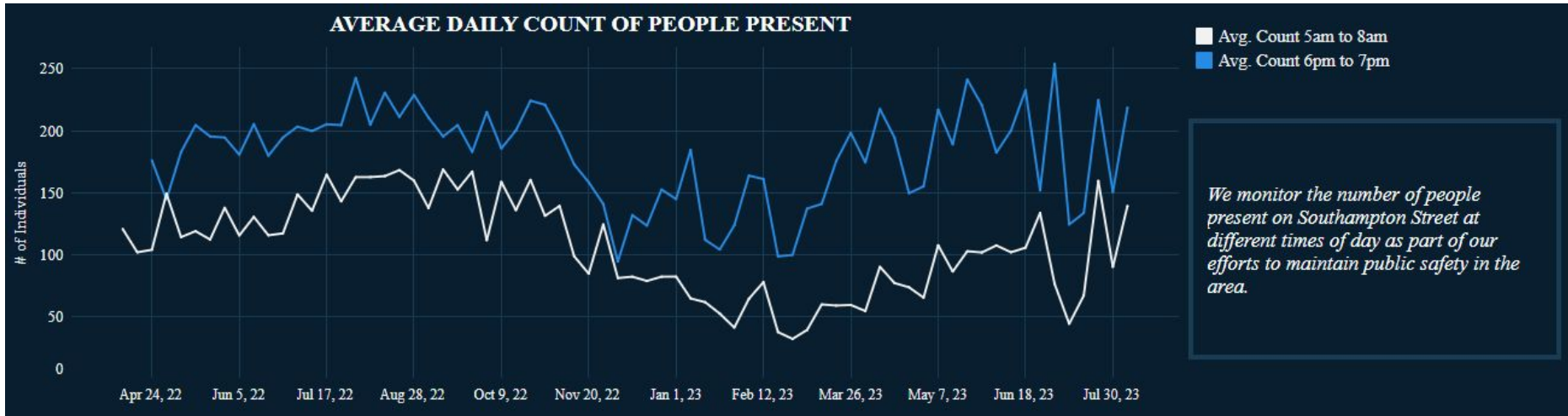
- Overnight Outreach Program (BPHC)
- Case Management Team (Eliot Community Human Services)

## Lessons Learned

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- Through overnight outreach and intensive case management efforts, we have been able to compile a by-name list of individuals known to be unsheltered, residing nightly in the encampment, and actively engaging with case management services
- Our data confirms that the majority of individuals present on Atkinson Street on any given day do not reside in the encampment, and have shelter or housing in place elsewhere
- Reductions in unsheltered homelessness have not resulted in reductions in crowding and congregating

# Ongoing Crowd Size Monitoring



[www.boston.gov/masscass](http://www.boston.gov/masscass)





## Strategic Insights

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In terms of a potential intervention, our data collection and by-name list provide us with a unique opportunity to:

- Distinguish between unsheltered individuals and those visiting Atkinson Street for other reasons
- Allocate targeted resources towards this population
- Mitigate potential displacement of this population

# An Adjustment in the Approach

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- The challenges tents, tarps/megatarps, and other structures place on law enforcement.
  - Codifying new tools for Boston Police.
- Providing Safe Sleeping Areas and additional shelter capacity for people engaging actively with deep case management team.
  - Added shelter capacity throughout the city
  - Safe sleeping area
- Reforming outreach teams for added mobility to address dispersion.

