



# A Year at a Glance

July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012



COMPASS is proud of its 38 year commitment of providing quality services that help change the lives of youth and families in crisis. Our 2012 fiscal year saw a significant increase in requests for services from public schools and protective service offices on behalf of youth and families in need.

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COMPASS is a not-for profit organization dedicated to providing services to a proven-risk population. Our mission: "to equip those we serve with the skills to become self-sufficient, productive members of their communities and society."

## PROGRAMS



### COMPASS School

A grade 1-12 special education day school for youth with emotional, behavioral and learning disabilities.



### Comprehensive Support & Stabilization (CSS)

For clients and families in crisis referred by the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families.



### Intensive Support Program (ISP) at English High School

An intensive support program to help high-risk adolescents remain and succeed in high school and beyond as successful learners and employees.



### COMPASS After School Action Program (ASAP)

Remediation and academic enrichment program for students at public schools in South Boston and Roxbury.

## Clients Served

521 Youth and Adolescents  
 493 Adults  
 1014 Total Clients Served

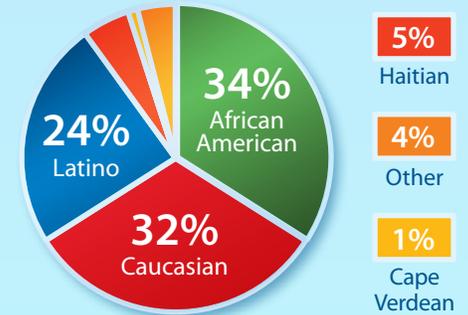
75% of youths served by COMPASS live with a single parent, a relative, in foster care, or in a residential / group home program

Over 90% of students at COMPASS school programs meet federal low income guidelines

## Client Service Needs

- Special Education & Emotional Needs, Developmental Delay
- Physical Abuse and/or Neglect
- Substance Abuse
- Aggressive Behavior
- Truancy, Drop Out Prevention
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder
- ADHD / ADD
- Emotional & Behavioral Disorders
- Trauma

## Client Race / Ethnicity



Once a year, a "Day In The Life" survey is conducted that includes all youth and families receiving services. This information provides a snapshot composite of the population with whom COMPASS works.

## M.'s COMPASS Success Story

Born in Kenya, M.'s first experience in a U.S. public high school was challenging. Within two weeks, he had a number of conduct violations and poor attendance; a pending felony charge became a conviction. M. was subsequently expelled from his public high school; the Special Education Department made referrals to alternative schools.

At COMPASS, M. stated that he wanted to be in school and to graduate, but continued to struggle with attendance and challenging behavior. Gradually, as his attendance improved, he began to build relationships with staff, while working with his clinician and caseworker to learn skills to help him improve his behaviors and engage in his classes.

M. chose to participate in the school's Building Maintenance and Repair (BMR) program, taking great pride in the work that he did. M. joined COMPASS' basketball team and was a role model for other students with his positive, team-oriented attitude. He began to work at an auto body shop, accompanied by COMPASS staff. In 2012, M. received several awards at COMPASS' annual Violence Prevention Ceremony, recognizing his work on the basketball team, in the BMR program, and for community service. Both he and staff were proud of his accomplishments.

M.'s family moved to a new city; a school review indicated how far he had come. He decided that he would like his last year of high school to be at a public one. He remained at COMPASS through the summer of 2012 and started at his district's public high school in the fall. COMPASS staff remain in touch with M. He has had a successful start to the school year.

At the end of each conversation, he always thanks the staff member for helping him to succeed. M. promises to stay in touch and to come back and visit.



COMPASS School Students

## Quotes from youth in our CSS program

"A compass is a tool that helps you find your direction. Well, COMPASS School is the same way. The people at COMPASS... help you find your right direction in life. The reason I'm here is because I used to get into so many fights that I was kicked out of school. If I didn't get into COMPASS I would have been hanging out on the corners all hours of the night. When I got settled in... they got me a job at a college that I've had over a year... Without COMPASS I would not have made it this far."

"I think u really changed my life, thank u for everything, i'm not gonna go back to the old me."

