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The Dimock Center Breaks Ground for First-of-its-Kind Addiction Treatment Program in Boston

Renovation and expansion will create Boston's first and only men's clinical stabilization services program

Roxbury – October 25, 2023 – The Dimock Center is pleased to announce that it has begun construction on a new clinical stabilization services (CSS) unit for men, filling a critical treatment gap in the Boston area. This program, combined with Dimock's existing women's CSS, will serve more than 1,000 people annually who have completed an inpatient acute treatment services (ATS or detox) program for substance use disorder.

The Dimock Center is renovating the historic Dr. Marie E. Zakrzewska Building, a focal point of The Dimock Center's Roxbury campus, to house Boston's first state-of-the-art CSS program for men.

CSS is the vital step after acute treatment where people receive intensive clinical services, including mental health services, to help them stay in recovery and prevent them from cycling in and out of emergency rooms and inpatient programs.

"There is a crisis right now unfolding in Boston and across Massachusetts. Deaths from opioid-related overdoses are at a record high," said Dr. Charles Anderson, President and CEO of The Dimock Center. "The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated racial and socioeconomic inequities in access to treatment and recovery programs, disproportionately impacting people of color in low-income communities."

"The current lack of CSS beds in Boston for men is a significant barrier to successful recovery," continued Dr. Anderson "And research shows that if people can remain in treatment for at least 90 days, their odds of a successful recovery improve dramatically. Dimock is unique among community health centers in offering a model of holistic health and human services on a single nine-acre site to care for the whole person, right where they live. This coordinated one-campus delivery model increases the likelihood of a person staying in recovery."



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The Dimock Center has received generous support for the new men’s CSS program through its Restoring Hope campaign which aims to raise \$18 million. The majority of those funds have already been raised through a combination of public funding and private philanthropy.

“The Restoring Hope campaign has had one goal: save more lives,” said Bob Rivers, Dimock Board Chair and Eastern Bank CEO and Chair of the Board. “Thanks to the generous support of the Yawkey Foundation, the lead campaign contributor; state and local officials who advocated for and secured public funds for this program; and numerous private donors, we are well on our way to meeting our campaign goal and making a significant difference for underserved Bostonians struggling with addiction.”

The Dimock Center received a \$2.5 million grant from the Yawkey Foundation as the lead private gift in this campaign. Additionally, the Restoring Hope campaign has raised \$7 million in public funding which includes a \$5 million state appropriation from the American Rescue Plan Act, \$1 million from Federal Community Project Funding thanks to the advocacy of Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, and a \$1 million grant from City of Boston Community Preservation Fund.

“City, state, nonprofit and private partnership is critical to addressing the opioid crisis in Boston from all angles,” said José Massó, Chief of Human Services for the City of Boston. “Offering a clinical stabilization services unit for men in Boston at The Dimock Center, where it can be integrated with the community health center’s existing high-quality health care and human services offerings, is an important step in our efforts to make substance use treatment and recovery programs more equitable and accessible in the city.”

“The Yawkey Foundation has been proud to partner with The Dimock Center for over 25 years to support their work providing integrated, holistic health care, behavioral health and human services with compassion, dignity and respect to serve some of Boston’s most vulnerable residents,” said Maureen Bleday, CEO of the Yawkey Foundation, lead campaign contributor. “The groundbreaking on the new CSS unit, which will allow many more Bostonians a chance at recovery, reflects Tom and Jean Yawkey’s deep commitment to supporting equitable healthcare access and services for the those who need it most.”

Additional support was provided by Beth Israel Lahey Health, Amelia Peabody Charitable Foundation, The Klarman Family Foundation, Richard and Susan Smith Family Foundation, TJX Companies, Inc., The Boston Foundation, Eastern Bank Foundation, Cummings Foundation, Sanofi, The William Randolph Hearst Foundations, Anne Giovanoni, Thrivent Charitable Disaster, Response & Resiliency Impact Fund, The Kuehn Charitable Foundation, State Street

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Foundation, Karen and Ippolit Matjucha, Benjamin Witham, an anonymous donor, and The Dimock Center Board Members.

Photos and Captions

Please find full resolution photos [here](#).



From left to right: Bob Rivers, Eastern Bank CEO and Board Chair and Dimock Community Foundation Board Chair; Dr. Charles Anderson, Dimock President & CEO; Maureen Bleday, Yawkey Foundation CEO; José Massó, City of Boston Chief of Human Services; and Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, Massachusetts Undersecretary for Health; pose in front of the historic 'Z' building. As part of Dimock's Restoring Hope campaign, they will renovate this building to create Boston's first clinical stabilization services (CSS) program for men.

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From left to right: Bob Rivers, Eastern Bank CEO and Board Chair and Dimock Community Foundation Board Chair; Dr. Charles Anderson, Dimock President & CEO; Maureen Bleday, Yawkey Foundation CEO; José Massó, City of Boston Chief of Human Services; and Dr. Kiame Mahaniah, Massachusetts Undersecretary for Health; hold tape measures to celebrate the beginning of the renovation of the historic Z building to create a state-of-the-art CSS unit for men.

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Dr. Charles Anderson, President & CEO of The Dimock Center, kicked off the speaking program with a warm welcome to community members in attendance. He was joined by Eastern Bank CEO and Board Chair and Dimock Community Foundation Board Chair Bob Rivers, Yawkey Foundation CEO Maureen Bleday, and Chief of Human Services José Massó who spoke on behalf of the City of Boston.

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Maureen Bleday, CEO of the Yawkey Foundation, shared why Yawkey chose to support the expansion of addiction treatment at The Dimock Center and make the leading private gift to the Restoring Hope campaign.



Dr. Charles Anderson (left), President and CEO of The Dimock Center in Roxbury pictured with Eastern Bank CEO and Board Chair and Dimock Community Foundation Board Chair Bob Rivers (right).



Dr. Charles Anderson, President and CEO of The Dimock Center in Roxbury, updates community members on Dimock's plans to expand addiction treatment and support.

About The Dimock Center's substance use disorder treatment services

Deaths from opioid-related overdoses hit a record high in Massachusetts in 2022, claiming the lives of more than 2,300 people, according to recently released data from the [Department of Public Health](#). Since 2019, opioid-related deaths have [increased by 36%](#) in Boston.

No group has been hit harder than Black men, who have experienced a [2.5x](#) increase in opioid-related overdose deaths in Massachusetts since 2018.

The Dimock Center is on the front lines of the substance use epidemic, helping thousands of people each year on their journey to recovery. The Dimock Center currently offers counseling and addiction services, an inpatient acute treatment services program, a women's clinical stabilization services unit, and multiple residential programs for men and women.

In 2018, The Dimock Center opened the Dr. Lucy Sewall Center for Acute Treatment Services, a medically-monitored ATS (detox) unit for substance use disorders.

The Dimock Center currently offers one-third of Boston's total non-hospital ATS beds. Across Dimock's robust continuum of substance use disorder treatment programs, they provide care for roughly 3,000 people struggling with addiction each year.



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About The Dimock Center

The Dimock Center aims to create a healthier Boston by breaking down barriers to care and correcting racial health inequities. Each year, Dimock provides high-quality health care, mental health support, and early education to over 19,000 people in our community, regardless of their ability to pay. Dimock is committed to serving Boston's most vulnerable and caring for the whole person, right where they live.

Founded in 1862, as the New England Hospital for Women and Children, The Dimock Center was the first hospital in New England opened and operated by women for women. Noted for its role in the history of women in medicine, Dimock strives to continue in the spirit of trailblazers like Dr. Marie Zakrzewska, who founded the hospital, and Mary Eliza Mahoney, the country's first Black nurse who studied there in 1879. Please visit www.dimock.org to learn more about The Dimock Center.