

# Greater Boston Community Services: Mapping the local network for trainees

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## Introduction

- The Greater Boston area is serviced by several governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and medical centers with common goal of improving the mental health of its residents
- The ways these services intersect is complicated; it is especially difficult to appreciate the variety and number of services that exist, who provides and funds these services, and where they are located
- Psychiatry trainees work in varied settings and interface with these Boston-area services when assessing disposition needs- expected to provide holistic and community-informed clinical care but have varied understanding of the scope of existing services
- Notably, during the COVID-19 pandemic, existing services have undergone significant changes in order to protect patients and providers. However, there is no centralized information source that illustrates these changes

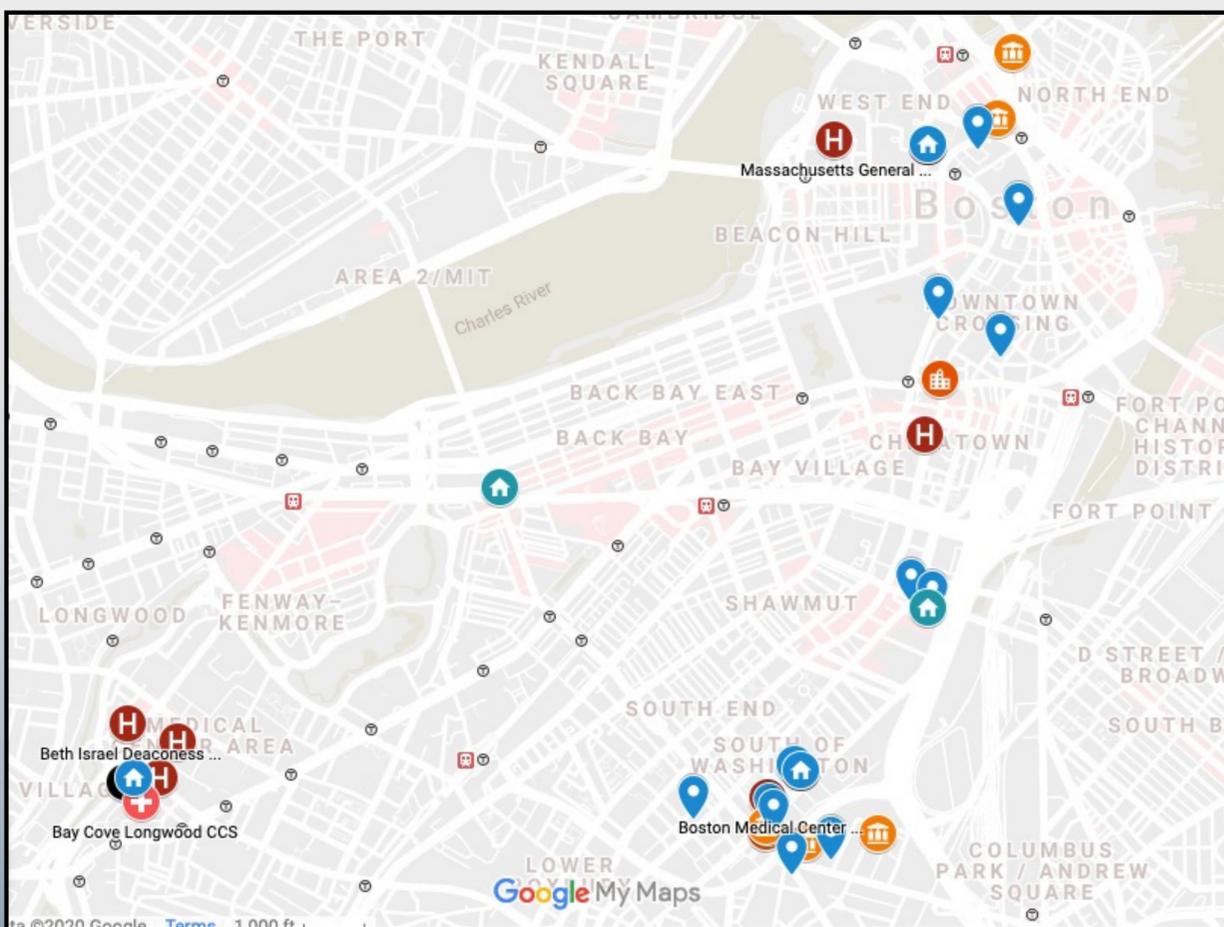
## Interactive Solution

- We have created a consolidated information source outlining the geographic location of services in Boston
- Information for this map was consolidated through online searches and interviews with key providers and administrators within Massachusetts Department of Mental Health (DMH), Boston Health Care for the Homeless (BHCHP), and Massachusetts General Hospital
- We chose to focus on Boston-area psychiatric/behavioral health sites, services linked with DMH, and disposition options (e.g. overnight shelters) in order to be most helpful to psychiatry trainees who seek to understand the scope of Boston-area services and disposition

## Steps Forward

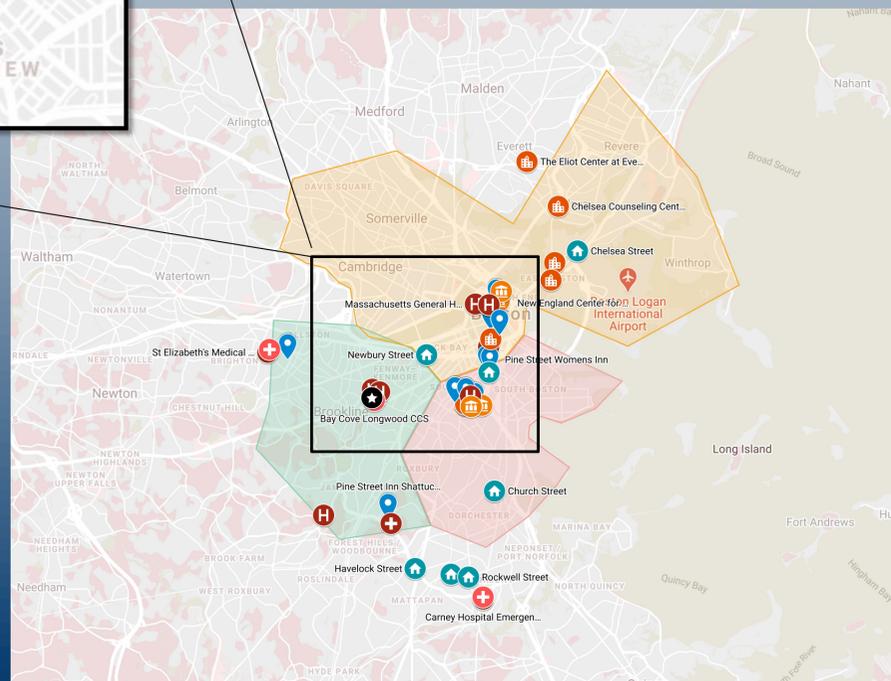
This map will be made available to current and future psychiatric residents. Residents will have access to the existing content and will maintain editing privileges to ensure that this resource remains up to date and can accommodate capacity changes.

Input from community providers is welcome and should inform the continued development of this resource. We hope it will facilitate communication and collaboration amongst providers throughout the outpatient matrix and serve as a centralized means of communicating with early physicians.



## Understanding the map

- This interactive map was created using Google Maps
- Each category is color-coded:
  - **black** represents DMH
  - **red/pink** represents emergency departments and higher levels of care (CSU, CCB)
  - **orange** represents outpatient clinics (behavioral health, methadone)
  - **blue/teal** represents shelter options
- Clicking on some items will reveal additional information, such as the number of beds available currently and pre-COVID



## Glossary

- **Department of Mental Health (DMH):** state-funded agency that provides mental health services to those with a psychiatric disorder that impairs ability to function, would benefit from a service offered by DMH (needs), and has no other financial abilities, entitlement programs, or agency that is able to provide service (means)
- **Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU):** a respite care for patients with acute behavioral health and/or substance use disorder who require containment/structure but not necessarily inpatient level of care
- **Safe Haven:** temporary housing options for those who have been street homeless for at least 2 years, may not be a DMH client and/or cannot engage in conversation about psychiatric treatment