

November 2025

Roxbury Collective for Housing Affordability **Final Report**

Grant period: January 2024 - October 2025

BIDMC Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative Cohort 3



About the Roxbury Collective

The Roxbury Collective for Housing Affordability (the Collective) includes **organizations from across Roxbury:**

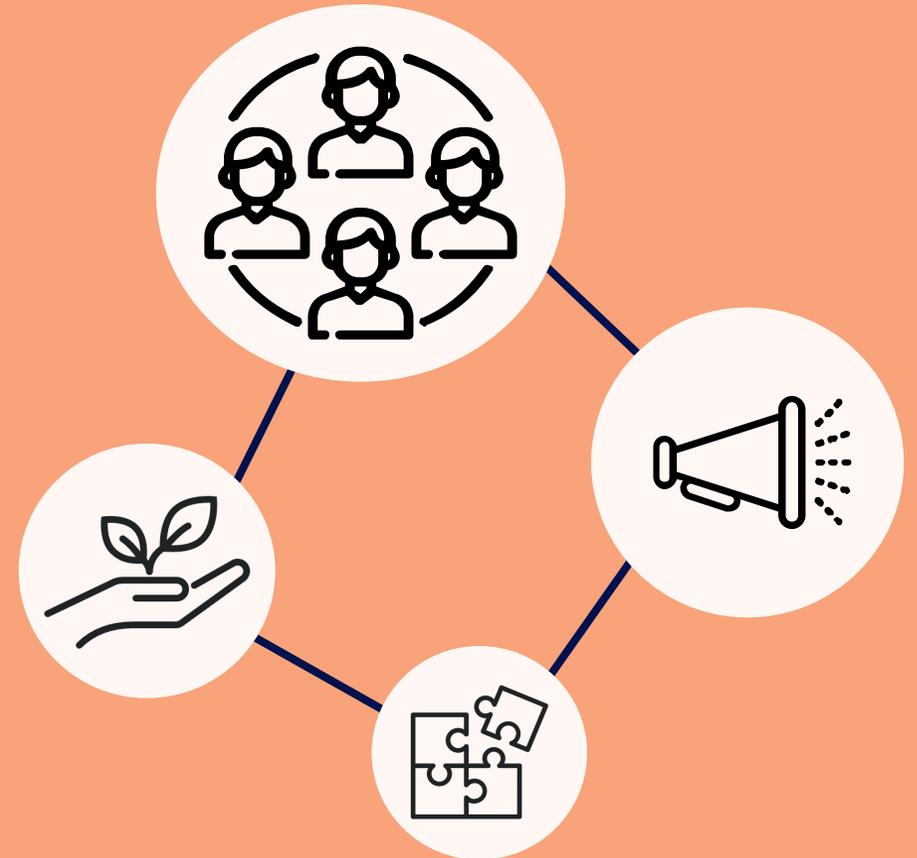
- **The Dimock Center**
- **Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative**
- **Madison Park Development Corporation**
- **Nuestra Comunidad Development Corporation**
- **Reclaim Roxbury**
- **Union Capital Boston (UCB)**
- **Urban Edge**
- **Wardman/Walnut/Washington/Walker Park Community Walking Group (WCWG)**
- **Westminster Court Apartments Tenant Association**

With additional collaboration and support from:

- **Consensus Building Institute**
- **Data+Soul Research**
- **Homes for All Massachusetts**

During implementation, the Roxbury Collective has operated through regular meetings of the **full Collective** and **planning team**. The full Collective meets every month, while planning team meetings take place before and after events and prior to meetings with the full Collective. Meetings have taken place both online and in-person, to support accessibility.

Urban Edge serves as fiscal agent for the Roxbury Collective. Trevor LaFauci of Urban Edge holds the role of coordination for the Collective, and Meira Downie and Patrick Field of Consensus Building Institute provide support with facilitation.



About the funded project

The funded project addresses community needs identified during the Planning Phase. The Collective's mission is to work with the community to **organize, educate, and empower current and displaced residents of Roxbury to ensure affordable, stable, and quality housing in Roxbury.**

Specific objectives the Implementation phase are displayed to the right and arose from the original SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Time-bound) goals articulated in the grant proposal. See [appendix](#) for more details about the original SMART goals.

Ground Collective's work in broader ecosystem of rent control advocacy

Goals & Objectives

*By the end of Q1 2024, **establish a grounding for the Collective's work in the context of existing efforts.***

The Collective keeps their work grounded in the broader ecosystem of local advocacy through **active collaboration between Collective member organizations and partners.** The Collective is working in **collaboration with *Homes for All Massachusetts***, a statewide coalition working to advance legislation on rent control.

Status: Complete

Increase awareness of rent control and housing advocacy among residents

Goals & Objectives

*By the end of 2024, **hold four events to engage members of the community in the conversation on rent control and support residents with tools to engage in advocacy.***

After completing this goal in 2024 with a total of **five events**, the Collective held nine more events in 2025 for a **total of 14 events** to date. Recent events include:

Juneteenth: Urban Edge and Reclaim Roxbury engaged the Roxbury community at Franklin Park during the annual Juneteenth celebration.

Wardman Block Party: The Wardman Apartments (owned by Urban Edge) hosted its annual Block Party for residents and nearby community members.

Reclaim the Beach: Urban Edge and Reclaim Roxbury set up a table to at Dorchester Shores for an event hosted by Reclaim Roxbury.

Status: Complete

Channeling power: Residents feel prepared to advocate for rent control

Goals & Objectives

*By the end of the project, **60 percent of community members engaged through the collective feel prepared to engage in rent control advocacy.***

After attending educational events, of community members who are supportive of rent control, **71 percent** said that they **have the information they need to engage in rent control advocacy or agreed to call their senator.**

In addition to providing education on housing advocacy, events also provided space for residents to come together around shared experiences. Community members who responded to post-event surveys said they felt **more connected to other residents** (64 percent) and **community organizations in Roxbury** (70 percent).

Status: Complete

Summary of Evaluation Findings

Project Outcomes



Between January 2024 - October 2025, the Roxbury Collective for Housing Affordability successfully collaborated on **14 public outreach and educational events** since the start of project implementation. Collectively, these activities supported **742 community members** to engage in the **conversation on rent control**, provided **tools to participate in advocacy**, and supported **social connection** among residents.

The Collective's approach has a **deep grounding in local advocacy efforts**. In the work to combat the housing crisis, the Collective **continues to partner with *Homes for All Massachusetts***: a statewide coalition currently working to advance legislation on rent stabilization. The Collective worked alongside *Homes for All* to **earn the endorsement of over 100 statewide organizations and over 50 House and Senate co-sponsors**, who support proposed legislation.

Community Voice



During events, community members shared their experiences with housing, how rental costs have impacted them, and why rent control is important to them. Together, **community members shared their visions about what rent control policy can and should look like**.

Collective members shared positive feedback on the project and its impacts. The majority of members who shared feedback felt that they could **share their opinions** within the Collective and **influence decisions** made by the Collective.

Collective Practices



Through this project, the Collective has developed collaborative processes that Collective members responded positively to.

Collective members **see alignment on project vision and the relationships the project has enabled** as key strengths of the Collective.

Collective members feel they or the Collective **have strengthened capacities in several areas**, including project planning, collaborating on community projects, using data for decision-making, and engaging participants.