



CITY OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH

AGENDA: Board of Health FEBRUARY 4, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. in the Mayor's Reception Room, 375 Merrimack St., 2nd floor, Lowell, MA 01852.

JANUARY 30, 2026

Michael Geary, City Clerk 375 Merrimack Street Lowell, Massachusetts 01852

Dear Mr. Geary: In accordance with Chapter 303 of the Acts of 1975 you are hereby notified that a meeting of the Lowell Board of Health will be held on **Wednesday, FEBRUARY 4, 2026 @ 6:00 P.M.** in the Mayor's Reception Room, 375 Merrimack St., 2nd floor, Lowell, MA 01852.

AGENDA:

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1. NEW BUSINESS

1.I. For Approval: Minutes Of The January 7, 2026 Meeting Of The Board Of Health

Motion: To approve the minutes of the January 7, 2026 Board of Health meeting.

Documents:

[BOH MINUTES -JANUARY 7, 2026 - DRAFT.PDF](#)

1.II. For Review: Tobacco Control Division Monthly Report Submitted By Tobacco Control Director Cesar Pungirum

Documents:

[TOBACCO CONTROL MONTHLY REPORT.PDF](#)

1.III. For Review: Development Services Monthly Reports Submitted By Matthew Sheehan, Sr. Sanitary Code Inspector

Documents:

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - MONTHLY INSPECTION REPORT.PDF
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - NEW - FAILED-CHANGE OF USE ESTABLISHMENTS
MONTHLY REPORT.PDF

1.IV. For Review: Pridestar EMS Inc. Monthly Reports And Notifications

Documents:

PRIDE STAR 2011-2025 LOWELL ORI REPORT.PDF
PRIDESTAR MONTHLY OVERDOSE REPORT - DEC 2025.PDF

2. OLD BUSINESS

3. Departmental And Divisional Reports And Updates

Documents:

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT.PDF
SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND PREVENTION DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT.PDF
SYRINGE COLLECTION PROGRAM 2025 SUMMARY.PDF
SCHOOL HEALTH DIVISION MONTHLY REPORT.PDF

4. MOTION TO ADJOURN

4.I. Motion: To Adjourn The February 4, 2026 Meeting Of The Lowell Board Of Health

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LOWELL BOARD OF HEALTH WILL BE HELD ON

MARCH 4, 2026 AT 6:00 PM

IN THE MAYOR'S RECEPTION ROOM, CITY HALL, 375 MERRIMACK ST 2ND FLOOR



CITY OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF HEALTH

PRESENT:

Jo-Ann Keegan, Chairperson
Kathleen Cullen-Lutter, Member (remotely)
William Galvin, Member
Erin Gendron, Member
Alison Keegan, Member
Lisa Golden, HHS Director

Chairwoman Jo-Ann Keegan called the meeting to order at 6:00PM

1/7/2026 – Minutes

1. NEW BUSINESS

1.I. For Approval: Minutes of the December 3, 2025 Board of Health Meeting

Motion: To approve the minutes of the December 3, 2025, Board of Health meeting made by Erin Gendron, seconded by Alison Keegan. All in favor.

1.II. For Review: Development Services Monthly Reports Submitted by Matthew Sheehan, Sr. Sanitary Code Inspector

Sr. Sanitary Code Inspector Matt Sheehan reviewed the reports with the Board.

1.III. For Approval: Body Art Practitioner - New

Motion: to approve the Body Art Practitioner - Tattoo License for Emily Sherburne made by William Galvin, seconded by Erin Gendron. All in favor

1.IV. For Approval: 2026 Body Art Establishment and Practitioner Renewals

Motion: to approve the completed 2026 Body Art Establishments renewal requests for Lowell Ink, Lupo Ink and Blaqsheep Ink made by William Galvin, seconded by Alison Keegan. All in Favor

Motion: to approve the completed 2026 Body Art Practitioner renewal requests for Jorge Maldonado, Eric Johnson, Anthony Stanley, Julio A. Pastrana, Sambo Yoeun, Paul Bohl, and Tiago Campos made by Erin Gendron, seconded by William Galvin. All in favor.

Motion: to approve the 2026 Body Art Establishment renewal requests from I Love Beauty and Heaven's Beauty upon receipt of required documentation made by William Galvin, seconded by Alison Keegan. Erin Gendron abstained.

Motion: to approve the 2026 Body Art Practitioner renewal requests upon receipt of required documentation made by William Galvin, seconded by Alison Keegan. Erin Gendron abstained.

1.V. Communication: 11.19.25 Titan Lead Testing LLC re: Washington School

The Board reviewed/discussed the report and placed on file. The Board asked for clarification from DPW Commissioner Paul St. Cyr that if there is a process in place for times lead may be displaced.

1.VI. For Review: PrideStar EMS Inc Reports and Notifications submitted by Jon Kelley

The Board had no questions and placed on file.

1.VII. For Review: Tobacco Control Monthly Reports Submitted by Cesar Pungirum, Tobacco Control Program Director

The Board reviewed the report and placed on file. Chairwoman Keegan noted that there is a possibility of Board involvement with cannabis social consumption sites if they are approved in Lowell.

2. OLD BUSINESS**3. Department/Divisional Reports and Updates**

Director Golden reviewed the reports with the Board. Director Golden noted that Flu and Covid cases are increasing and that flu vaccines are available for everyone and COVID vaccines are available for uninsured people. The number of HepB and TB cases, shelter beds, syringe collection and staffing levels were also discussed.

4. MOTION TO ADJOURN

4.I. Motion: to adjourn the January 5, 2026 meeting of the Board of Health at 6:27 PM was made by William Galvin, seconded by Erin Gendron. All in favor.

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE LOWELL BOARD OF HEALTH WILL BE HELD ON
FEBRUARY 4, 2026 AT 6:00PM IN THE MAYOR'S RECEPTION ROOM
CITY HALL 375 MERRIMACK ST, 2ND FLOOR**

Lowell Tobacco Control Report

January of 2026

Prepared by: Cesar Pungirum, M.M., J.D.
Program Director

Lowell

Inspections

We've conducted 24 inspections this month, so far. The primary focus of this round of inspections is to educate retailers about blunt wraps and cigar packaging and pricing restrictions. Although these restrictions have been in place for years, distributors continue to push these products to local retail stores.

Tobacco Permit Renewal Process

The following establishments finally submitted their tobacco permit applications before the end of December/25:

H & B Grocery Store
165 High Street

Family Dollar
21 Nottingham St

Compliance Checks

Compliance checks have been scheduled for the last week of this month.

News

American Lung Association: New Report on the State of Tobacco Control Gives Massachusetts Mixed Grades, Including an F for Funding for State Tobacco Prevention Programs

Office of the Attorney General: AG's Office Secures Guilty Plea from Chicopee Man for Tobacco Tax Evasion Scheme

New Report: Massachusetts Must Continue Efforts to Reduce Tobacco Use Amid Federal Cuts

American Lung Association's "State of Tobacco Control" report releases Massachusetts grades for tobacco control policies, outlines steps to reduce burden of tobacco

BOSTON, AZ,MA | January 27, 2026

According to the [American Lung Association's 24th annual "State of Tobacco Control" report \(https://www.lung.org/research/sotc\)](https://www.lung.org/research/sotc), released today, Massachusetts's grades show that the state must step up efforts to reduce tobacco use to protect communities. Massachusetts's action on tobacco control and prevention is especially critical due to the dramatic rollback of federal tobacco prevention efforts in 2025.

Tobacco use remains the nation's leading cause of preventable death and disease, claiming the lives of more than 9,300 state residents each year. The report urges Massachusetts lawmakers to focus on increasing funding for tobacco prevention and quit smoking programs to curb tobacco use.

**For more
information,
contact:**

Valerie
Gleason
717-971-1123
Val.Gleason@Lung.org
(mailto:Val.Gleason@Lung.org)

The “State of Tobacco Control” report grades states and the District of Columbia in five areas that have been proven to prevent and reduce tobacco use and save lives. In the 2026 report, Massachusetts received the following grades:

1. Funding for State Tobacco Prevention Programs – Grade F
2. Strength of Smokefree Workplace Laws – Grade A
3. Level of State Tobacco Taxes – Grade B
4. Coverage and Access to Services to Quit Tobacco – Grade C
5. Ending the Sale of All Flavored Tobacco Products – Grade A

In 2025, the tobacco control and prevention landscape fundamentally changed when the administration took a series of actions that weakened enforcement and jeopardized public health efforts across the country. These included the virtual elimination of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Office on Smoking and Health, major staffing cuts to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products and delaying Congressionally appropriated funding for nearly six months. As a result, tobacco control and quitline programs in all 50 states and the District of Columbia were left at risk of shutting down, with some states drastically reducing lifesaving services.

“It is devastating to see the federal government largely abandon its tobacco control efforts. Walking away from the incredible progress the nation has made on reducing tobacco use over the past 50 years is unacceptable,” said Daniel Fitzgerald, Director of Advocacy at the American Lung Association in Massachusetts. “Now more than ever, states need to ramp up their tobacco prevention efforts even more to protect residents from disease and addiction caused by tobacco use.

“While Massachusetts continues to be a national leader in tobacco control efforts, the report finds that 2026 will be critical to keep that momentum going. Policymakers must increase funding for tobacco prevention and cessation programs to CDC recommended level, raise the tobacco tax by at least \$1.00 per pack and tax non-cigarette

tobacco products at comparable rates and prevent rollbacks to smokefree laws and tobacco-prevention funding,” said Fitzgerald.

Despite receiving \$551,300,000 from tobacco settlement payments and tobacco taxes, Massachusetts only funds tobacco control efforts at 19.5% of the CDC’s recommended level. The Lung Association urges Governor Healey and the legislature to significantly increase funding for tobacco prevention and cessation programs to ensure the state maintains its leadership and protects the health of its residents.

Federal Grades Overview

The 2026 “State of Tobacco Control” report grades the federal government in five areas:

- Federal Regulation of Tobacco Products – Grade D
- Federal Coverage of Quit Smoking Treatments – Grade D
- Level of Federal Tobacco Taxes – Grade F
- Federal Mass Media Campaigns to Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use – Grade I*
- Federal Funding for Tobacco Prevention and Control – Grade: B

**The federal government gets an I for Incomplete in this category due to data not being able to be obtained about the duration, reach and frequency of the Real Cost campaign in 2025.*

In the “State of Tobacco Control” report, the American Lung Association calls on the federal government to fully restore critical tobacco control programs, including CDC’s Office on Smoking and Health. Federal leadership is essential. In the current absence of federal leadership, the organization is calling on state legislatures to advance strong, fact-based tobacco control policies that protect communities and reduce tobacco use.

To learn more about this year’s “State of Tobacco Control” grades and take action, visit [Lung.org/sotc](https://www.lung.org/sotc).
(<https://www.lung.org/research/sotc>)

State grades in “State of Tobacco Control” reflect actions taken by elected officials and do not reflect on the hard work of state tobacco control programs or advocates.

Get involved and help the mission of the American Lung Association. The Fight For Air Climb in Boston is coming up on March 28, 2026 at One Boston Place. Learn more at [FightForAirClimb.org/boston](https://action.lung.org/site/TR?fr_id=28369&pg=entry).
(https://action.lung.org/site/TR?fr_id=28369&pg=entry)

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About the American Lung Association

The American Lung Association is the leading organization working to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease through education, advocacy and research. The work of the American Lung Association is focused on four strategic imperatives: to defeat lung cancer; to champion clean air for all; to improve the quality of life for those with lung disease and their families; and to create a tobacco-free future. For more information about the American Lung Association, which has a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator and is a Platinum-Level GuideStar Member, call 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872) or visit: [Lung.org](http://lung.org). (<http://lung.org>) To support the work of the American Lung Association, find a local event at [Lung.org/events](https://www.lung.org/get-involved/events). (<https://www.lung.org/get-involved/events>)



OFFERED BY Office of the Attorney General

PRESS RELEASE

AG's Office Secures Guilty Plea from Chicopee Man for Tobacco Tax Evasion Scheme

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

1/13/2026

Office of the Attorney General

MEDIA CONTACT

Kennedy Sims, Deputy Press Secretary

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SPRINGFIELD — The Massachusetts Attorney General's Office (AGO) today announced that Jaffar Syed, 52, of Chicopee, pled guilty in Hampden Superior Court to Tax Evasion (1 count) and Filing a False Tax Return (2 Counts) related to a scheme to evade excise taxes associated with the importation and sale of tobacco products. Syed was sentenced to 18 months in the House of Correction, suspended for three years, on the Tax Evasion charge, and three years probation on the False Tax Return charges.

The AGO

indicted

/news/agawam-man-charged-in-tobacco-tax-evasion-scheme?_gl=1%2A1xuw9g7%2A_ga%2AMTE5NTQ5NTYzOC4xNjkzMjM2ODc2%2A_ga_MCLPEGW7WM%2Aczl

Syed in April 2024 after a joint investigation with the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) and the Department of Revenue's Criminal Investigations Bureau revealed that Syed had purchased bulk amounts of smokeless tobacco, smoking tobacco, and cigars from a wholesale distributor in Pennsylvania and then sold those products through his company, Shaws Whole Sale LLC, to retailers primarily in and around Hampden County.

In addition to failing to pay the applicable excise taxes on the imported tobacco products, Shaws Whole Sale filed two tax returns in 2018 that falsely reported \$0 tax liability. The investigation revealed that Syed evaded more than \$100,000 in taxes from March 2018 through January 2019.

This matter was prosecuted by Assistant Attorney General Benjamin Woolf of the AGO's White Collar and Public Integrity Division, with assistance from Senior Financial Investigator Eugene Griffin of the AGO's Gaming Enforcement Division, the AGO's Digital Evidence Lab, MSP, and the Department of Revenue's Criminal Investigations Bureau.

The AGO's White Collar and Public Integrity Division investigates and prosecutes serious criminal misconduct involving crimes against public agencies, corrupt public employees and public entities, crimes that have a harmful effect on public confidence in our government and other trust institutions, and financial crimes.

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Office of the Attorney General

The Attorney General is the chief lawyer and law enforcement officer of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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Bani Restaurant	132 Merrimack St	9-Jun-25 mark	17-Dec-25 mark
Oliveira's Deli Maret	279 Chelmsford St.	12-Jun-25 Clement	17-Dec-25 Clement
Active Day	345 Chelmsford St.	16-Jun-25 cleemnt	17-Dec-25 clement
Fusion Church - House of Hope	125 Mt Hope St	30-Jul-25 mark	19-Dec-25 Matt
Suppas Pizza	94 University Ave.	25-Jul-25 mark	22-Dec-25 mark
University Convenience	102 Univeristy Ave	29-Jul-25 mark	22-Dec-25 mark
Eggroll Café	110 University Ave	29-Jul-25 mark	22-Dec-25 mark
Taco Lupita	124 University Ave.	29-Jul-25 mark	22-Dec-25 mark
Heritage Farm Ice Cream	163 Pawtucket Blvd.	29-Jul-25 mark	22-Dec-25 mark
McDonald's	1 Varnum Ave.	22-Jul-25 Mark	23-Dec-25 Mark
Gary's Resturant	26 Andover St.	18-Jun-25 Clement	23-Dec-25 Clement
Hope to Opportunity	35 Varnum Ave.	30-Jul-25 mark	23-Dec-25 mark
Dunkin Donuts	182 Riverside St	29-Jul-25 mark	23-Dec-25 mark
Fairhaven Nursing Home	476 Varnum Ave.	12-Feb-25 mark	23-Dec-25 mark
Maq's	176 University Ave	15-Jul-25 matt new	31-Dec-25 mark
Seven Eleven	494 Bridge St.	8-Jul-25 mark	31-Dec-25 mark
Burger King	1200 Bridge St.	21-Jul-25 Mark	31-Dec-25 mark
Indian Basket	12 Wood St.	28-Jul-25 mark	2-Jan-26 Mark
CVS #1056	25 Wood St	28-Jul-25 mark	2-Jan-26 Mark
Wendy's	1460 Middlesex St.	30-Jun-25 mark	2-Jan-26 mark
Holly Crab Lowell	16 Merrimack St.		1/6/2026 Matt
Dunkin Donut	290 Central St.	29-Jul-25 gary	9-Jan-26 matt
Polish National Home	10 Coburn St.	8-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Rex Liquor's Canaco, Inc.	68 Mammoth Rd.	29-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Jerry's Food Store	207 University Ave	29-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Speedway (Joe's Shell)	300 Merrimack St.	8-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
The Grip Program	319 Wilder St.	29-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Lowell Firefighters Assoc.	362 Fletcher St.	26-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Ocean Garden	504 Merrimack St.	9-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Wendy's	581 Rogers St.	9-Jul-25 matt new	12-Jan-26 Clement
Excel Package Store	611 Merrimack St.	9-Jul-25 mark	12-Jan-26 mark
Dunkin Donut	631 Rogers St.	15-Jul-25 Clement	12-Jan-26 Clement
Amigo's Convience Meat Market	791 Central St.	29-Jul-25 gary	12-Jan-26 matt
Good Thyme Resturant	1278 Gorham St.	3-Jun-25 Clement	12-Jan-26 Clement
Rose Fresh Market	1350 Gorham St	15-Jul-25 Clement	12-Jan-26 Clement
Arthur's Paradise Diner	112 Bridge St.	9-Jul-25 mark	13-Jan-26 mark
CVS	336 Bridge St.	8-Jul-25 mark	13-Jan-26 mark
Eliu's Hole in The Wall	398 Fletcher St	21-Jul-25 mark	13-Jan-26 mark
Manning's Liquor	427 Bridge St.	28-Jul-25 mark	13-Jan-26 mark
Lowell Liquors	638 Rogers St	8-Jul-25 Clement	13-Jan-26 Clement
Lucky Market	4 Pine St.	29-May-25 mark	14-Jan-26 mark
Tremonte Pizzeria	44 Palmer St.	3-Jul-25	14-Jan-26 mark
Market Basket	331 Fletcher St.	2-Jun-25 matt	14-Jan-26 matt

Simon's Convenience Store	590 Rogers St.	16-Jul-25 Clement	14-Jan-26 Clement
Orlelas Liquors	1088 Gorham St	14-Jul-25 Clement	14-Jan-26 Clement
Rosenbloom Groceries	1088 Gorham St	14-Jul-25 Clement	14-Jan-26 Clement
Wings Over Lowell	26 Market St.	29-Jul-25 mark	15-Jan-26 mark
Salem St Variety	97 Salem St	7-Jul-25 mark	15-Jan-26 mark
St Casimir Church	268 Lakeview Ave	15-May-25 mark	15-Jan-26 mark
LePetit Club	660 Middlesex St.	10-Jul-25 mark	15-Jan-26 mark
The Coffee Mill	23 Palmer St.	16-Jul-25 Clement	16-Jan-26 Clement
Country Farms	56 Aiken Ave.	6-Aug-25 mark	20-Jan-26 Mark
Cha Time	104 University Ave	11-Aug-25 mark	20-Jan-26 mark
Discount Valley Inc	121 Church St.	15-Jul-25 Clement	20-Jan-26 Clement
Dollar General	125 Church St.	16-Jul-25 Clement	20-Jan-26 Clement
Highland Variety	146 Pine St.	18-Nov-25 mark	20-Jan-26 Matt New
Element Care	166 Central St.	9-Jul-25 Clement	20-Jan-26 Clement
UMASS Crossroads Café / Sal's	220 Pawtucket St	30-Jul-25 mark	20-Jan-26 Mark
Amazon Berry	259 South St	5-May-25 Clement	20-Jan-26 Clement
Food Shines	277 Pawtucket St	11-Aug-25 mark	20-Jan-26 mark
Aramack Catering	300 MLK Highway	17-Jul-25 mark	20-Jan-26 mark
Hawks Nest - Aramark	327 Aiken Ave		20-Jan-26 mark
Domino's	90 Lakeview Ave	11-Aug-25 mark	21-Jan-26 Matt
Gold Star Oil	626 Rogers St.	8-Jul-25 Clement	21-Jan-26 Clement
New World Gas	710 Lakeview Ave.	11-Aug-25 mark	21-Jan-26 mark
Whams Café	737 Lakeview Ave	25-Aug-25 mark	21-Jan-26 mark

Board of Health meeting, February 2026

New Business/ Change of use

Highland Variety

Passed inspection on 01/20/26

Failed Inspection

Lowell transitional living center

193 Middlesex St

Non-renewal of food permit and Expired hood system. Failed on 01/12/26

Passed previous inspection on July 7, 2025

Will reinspect the week of 02/01/26

*** 2026 Permit renewed 01/16/26***

Jerry's Food Store

207 University Ave

Expired fire extinguishers and fire protection. Failed on 12/16/25

Passed reinspection on 01/12/26

Passed previous inspection 07/29/25

Pool Inspections

YMCA

35 Ymca Dr

Passed inspection on 01/13/26

Fires

Portuguese American Club

59 Charles St

Passed inspection 12/21/25

Tattoo establishment inspections

Lupo Ink

1527 Middlesex St

Passed inspection on 01/14/26

Lowell Ink

161 Wothern St

Passed inspection on 01/15/26

I love Beauty

11 Mill St

Passed inspection on 01/14/26

Heaven's Beauty

1527 Middlesex St

Passed inspection on 01/20/26

Professional body piercing has not renewed for 2026

Closed establishments

Abo Al Ezz

226 Appleton St

Notice posted for non-renewal of food permit.

*Permit was renewed on 01/15/26, Notice was removed.

Highland Variety

146 Pine St

Notice posted for non-renewal of food permit.

Business is in the process of changing ownership.

*Notice was removed on 01/20/26.

Miscellaneous

Northwood Rehab

1010 Varnum Ave

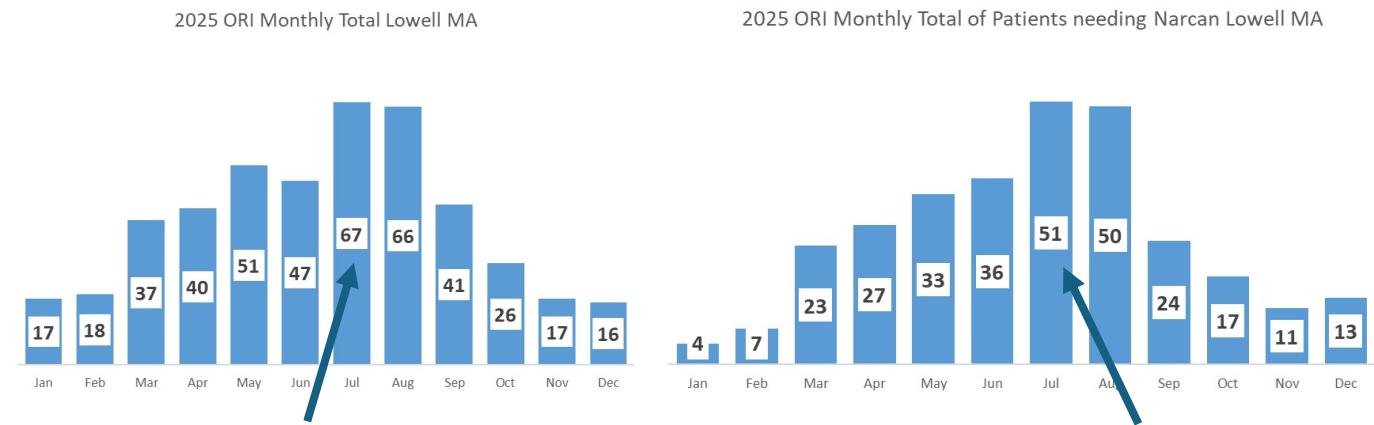
Failed to properly maintain property (Excessive trash). Total fines issued \$6,000.00 dollars.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew Sheehan

PrideStar Trinity EMS report to the city of Lowell, MA- 2025 Opioid Related Incident (ORI)

The information on this page is from 911 calls in Lowell, MA during 2025. There were 443 ORI 911 calls in Lowell during 2025.



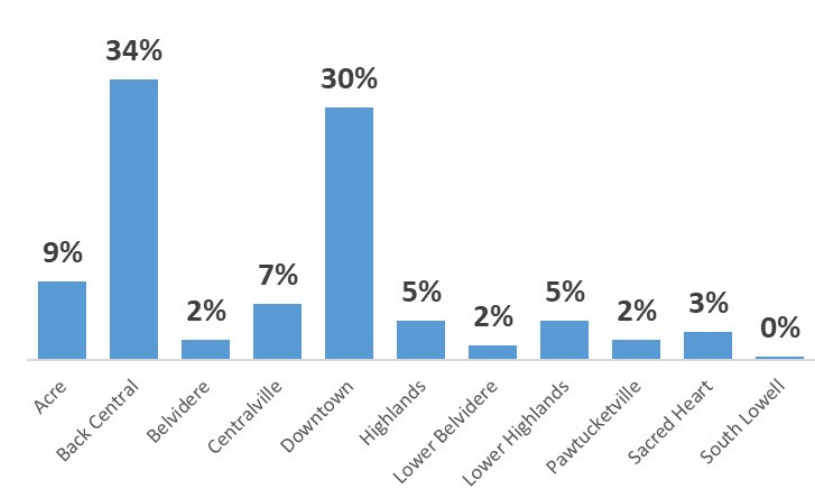
Above: There were 67 opioid-related 911 calls in July 2025 in Lowell. Of those 51 patients needed Narcan



ORI by hour of the day, by day of the week, 2025

Row	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Total
Sun	2		4		2	1	1	1	1	3	2	4	2	2	1	1	1	3	5	4	1		2	1	44
Mon	4	1	3		2	1	4	1	4	4	4	2	1	3	3	3	4	2	5	2	8	2	2	2	67
Tue	3	3	2	1	1		1	1	4	2	2	1	5	8	6	3	2	1	3	3	2	2	7	2	65
Wed	2	4	5	2		2	3	1	7	3	4	3	4	3	10	3	6	3	1	4	1	3	2	3	79
Thu		3	1	4	2		1	1	1	4		2	4	5	2	2	6	4	4	1	2	1	4	3	57
Fri	1	2	2	1			2	3	4		9	1	3	6	7	5	5	2	4	2	8	5	2	2	76
Sat	2	9	2	1		1	1	2	1	2	5	1	4	1	6	5	1	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	55
Total	14	22	19	9	7	5	12	9	23	17	23	18	20	31	30	23	29	16	24	18	23	15	21	15	443

ORI by section of the city, 2025



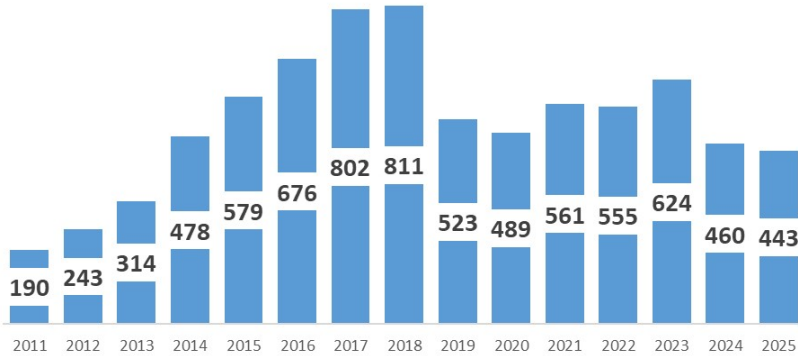
Below: Showing totals of ORI by section on the city. It's the same data point as to the left.

Acre	49
Back Central	151
Belvidere	11
Centralville	28
Downtown	135
Highlands	19
Lower Belvidere	10
Lower Highlands	17
Pawtucketville	8
Sacred Heart	12
South Lowell	2

The following data points are from 911 calls in Lowell between 1/1/2011 and 12/31/2025

Between 2011-2025 the city of Lowell witnessed 7,748 Opioid Related Incident (ORI) 911 calls. The following report will for through that EMS data.

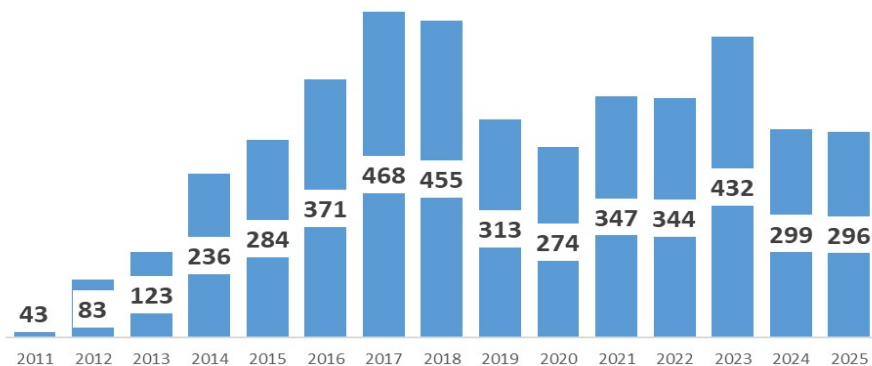
2011 2025 ORI Monthly Total of Patients needing Narcan



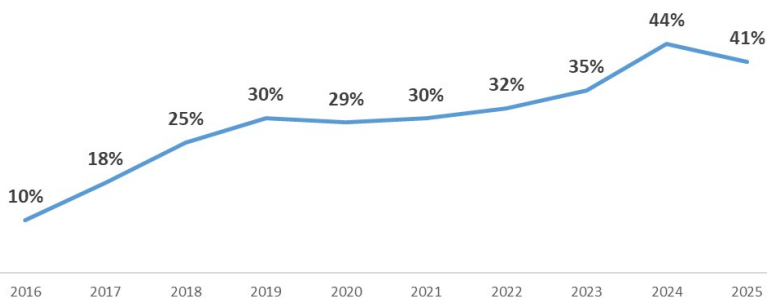
Left: Annual total for ORI through the Lowell 911 system. In 2011 there were 190, in 2025 there were 443.

Right: Annual total of ORI calls AND the patient required Narcan. This is a subset of the data above. In 2011 43 patients needed Narcan, in 2017 that number was 468

2011 2025 ORI Monthly Total of Patients needing Narcan



% of First Dose of Narcan Provided by Bystander



Left: In 2016 10% of 911 calls that the patients needed Narcan, a bystander delivered that Narcan. In 2025 that number was up to 41%

Years before 2016 left off due to low annual totals.

- Quick data points: July and June (11% of the total) had the most ORI, January (6.5%) the fewest.
- We had residents from more than 210 different communities have an ORI in Lowell.
- Each day of the week had been 13% (Monday) and 16% (Friday) of the total. No one had had an overwhelming total.
- 5AM had the fewest ORI with 111 (1%) of the total. 1-9PM had between 6% and 7%, with 5PM having the most with 521 (7%) of the total. Saturday between 5PM and 5:59 PM had 92 ORI, the most of any single hour of any single day.
- South Lowell had 90 (1%) and Downtown had 2,057 or 27% of the total.
- 29% were female with an average age of 37.5. 71% were male with their average age of 40.
- 94% of all ORI patients were transported to the hospital.



Overdose Report: Dec-25

Lowell, MA

Overdoses: 73 or 2.4 per day

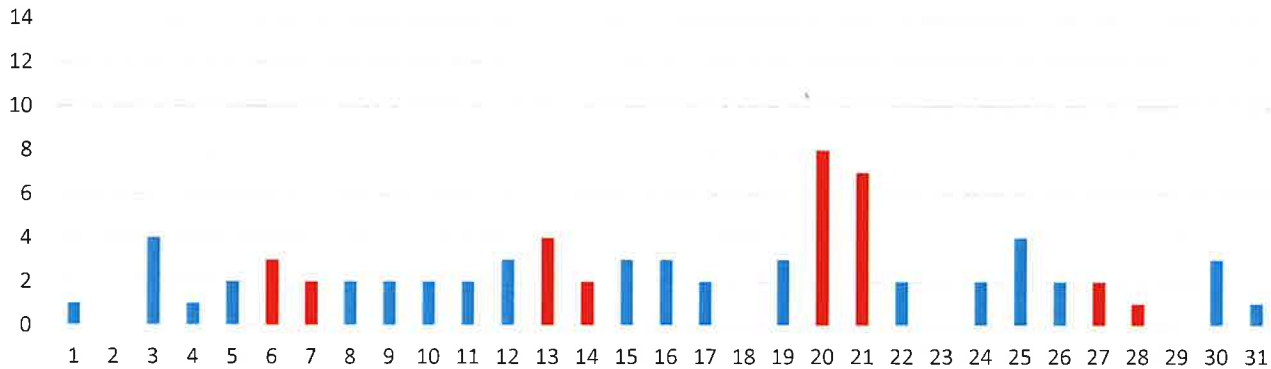
Day of the week:

Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Count	8	8	11	7	10	17	12
Average	1.6	1.6	2.2	1.8	2.5	4.3	3.0

73

Day of the month:

Note: Red columns are Saturdays and Sundays



Hour of the day:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3	1	1	1	2	1	0	1	3	1	2	10	3	3	3	3	7	5	10	4	1	4	3	1

73

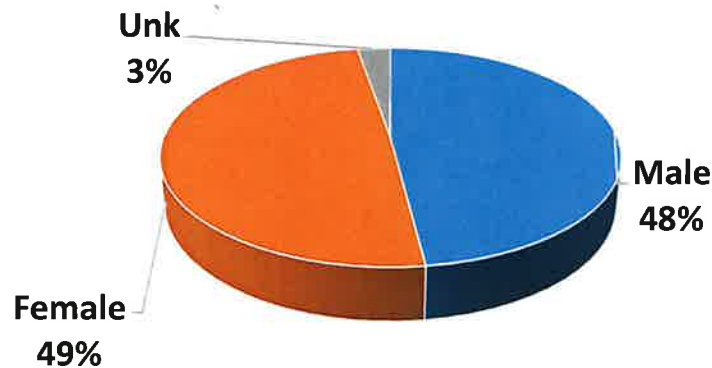
Section of the city:

Profile of patient

Neighborhood	Count
Acre	7
Back Central	13
Belvidere	1
Centralville	6
Downtown	27
Highlands	5
Lower Belvidere	1
Lower Highlands	5
Pawtucketville	6
Sacred Heart	2
South Lowell	0

73

Sex	Count	Avg Age	Range
Female	36	35	18-69
Male	35	40	13-71



24-Dec	25-Jan	25-Feb	25-Mar	25-Apr	25-May	25-Jun	25-Jul	25-Aug	25-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec
77	91	69	98	96	123	125	138	133	126	99	79	73
2.5	2.9	2.5	3.2	3.2	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.2	3.2	2.6	2.4

Age	#
12 and U	0
13-15	1
16-17	0
18-21	5
22	0
23	0
24	0
25	2
26	5
27	1
28	2
29	2
30	2
31	6
32	2
33	3
34	8
35	0
36	0
37	2
38	1
39	3
40	5
41	2
42	1
43	0
44	0
45	3
46	1
47	0
48	1
49	2
50	1
51-55	4
56-60	2
61-65	2
66-70	2
71 and up	0
Unk	2



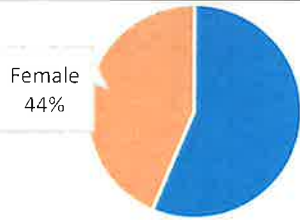
Categorized Opiate Report:

Dec-25

Lowell, MA

Priority of patient

Priority 1	13
Priority 2	3
Priority 3	0



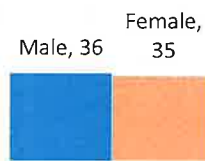
Female
44%

Male
56%

60
50
40
30
20
10
0

Male, 9 Female, 7

Count



Avg Age

Age

12 and U	0
13-15	0
16-17	0
18-21	0

Last 12 months All ORI calls

24-Dec	25-Jan	25-Feb	25-Mar	25-Apr	25-May	25-Jun	25-Jul	25-Aug	25-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec
25	17	18	37	40	51	47	67	66	41	26	17	16
0.8	0.5	0.6	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.6	2.2	2.1	1.4	0.8	0.6	0.5

Last 12 months Priority 1 only

24-Dec	25-Jan	25-Feb	25-Mar	25-Apr	25-May	25-Jun	25-Jul	25-Aug	25-Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec
9	4	7	23	27	33	36	51	50	24	17	11	13
0.3	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.6	1.6	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4

Hour of the day:	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	0

Location of patient

#

Private Residence	6
Public Location- Inside	4
Public Location- Outside	6
Residential Instituion	0

Narcan used by:

Lowell FD	3	Lowell PD	1
PEMS ALS	1	PEMS BLS	4
LGH ALS	0	Other	5
Park Ranger	0		

Narcan doses

2mg - 3	33	0
4mg - 5	34	1
8mg - 4	35	0
12mg - 1	36	0

Neighborhood

Acre - 2

Back Central - 4

Belvidere - 1

Centralville - 1

Downtown - 2

Highlands - 2

Lwr Belvidere - 1

Lwr Highlands - 2

Pawtucketville - 1

Home town of pt

Amherst - 1, Ayer - 1, Dracut - 2, Lowell - 5, Lynn - 1, Manchester - 1, Quincy - 2, Tyngsboro - 1, Unknown - 2

Day of the week:

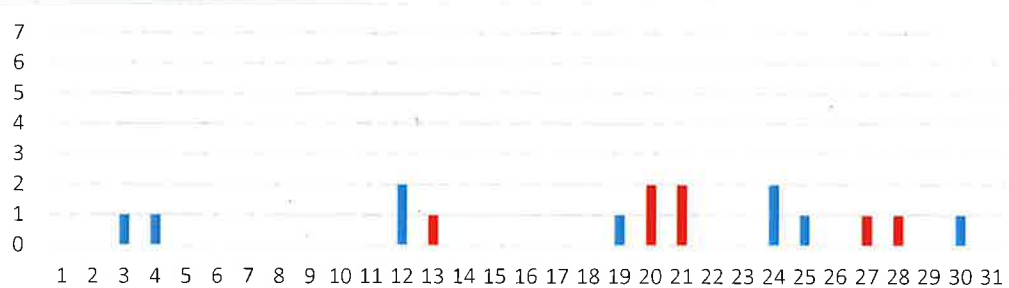
#

Avg

Day of the month:

Red are weekends (below)

Mon	0	0.0
Tue	1	0.2
Wed	3	0.6
Thu	2	0.5
Fri	3	0.8
Sat	4	1.0
Sun	3	0.8



ORI - daily average

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1.6	1.9	2.2	2.2	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.2

Priority 1 only- daily average

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
0.8	1.1	1.3	1.3	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.8

Race of Patient

	This Month:	Q1 25	Q2 25	Q3 25	Q4 25	2025	2024	2023	2022
Black / African American	0	7	10	8	4	29	55	66	45
Hispanic / Latinx	2	18	28	51	13	110	132	174	174
White	13	46	95	107	38	286	250	327	284
Asian	1	1	5	8	4	18	23	36	22



The following data is from PrideStar Trinity EMS electronic Patient Care Reports. This data is from calls in all 9 communities PrideStar Trinity EMS provides service for. Only data from December 2025 opioid related calls are included.

PrideStar Trinity EMS Inc. provides EMS services for the following communities in MA: Boxford, Chelmsford, Dracut, Dunstable, Groveland, Haverhill, Hudson, Lowell, and Marlborough.

Only opiate overdoses that PrideStar Trinity EMS responded to are included. If someone from one of the communities listed above overdosed in another community not listed, it will not be represented in this data set.

System wide, PrideStar Trinity EMS treated 30 patients with an opioid related issue in December 2025.

Row Labels	Count of Date
LOWELL	7
DRACUT	4
MARLBOROUGH	4
(blank)	3
QUINCY	2
HAVERHILL	1
HUDSON	1
KENSINGTON	1
PELHAM	1
TYNGSBORO	1
STOUGHTON	1
AYER	1
MANCHESTER	1
AMHERST	1
LYNN	1
Grand Total	30

**Public Health Nursing, Contact Tracing, and Epidemiology Report
February 4, 2026, Board of Health Meeting**

Report submitted by Gisela Yeboah January 27, 2025.

A. Seasonal respiratory viruses

Seasonal Respiratory Virus Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026*	2025
Influenza	688	379	379	2102
Novel coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc.)	163	174	174	1323

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN). Includes confirmed, probable, and suspected disease cases.

Highlights

- Approximately 30.1% of Lowell residents have been vaccinated against Influenza, while 6.5% have been vaccinated against COVID-19.
- For the week of January 11–17, 2025, Massachusetts statewide influenza-like illness activity is classified as High, while overall influenza severity statewide remains moderate for the same period.
- Statewide laboratory surveillance indicates that the predominant circulating influenza strain is Influenza A (unsubtyped).

Access MDPH'S full respiratory illness reporting dashboard here

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/respiratory-illness-reporting>

B. Arboviral diseases

Arboviral Disease Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026	2025
Arbovirus (other)	0	0	0	1
Babesiosis	0	0	0	4
Borrelia miyamotoi infection	0	0	0	1
Dengue fever	0	0	0	1
Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)	0	0	0	0
Encephalitis	0	0	0	1
Human granulocytic anaplasmosis (HGA)	0	0	0	9
Lyme Disease	1	2	2	45
Malaria	0	1	1	1
Powassan Virus	0	0	0	0
West Nile Virus	0	0	0	0

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN). Includes confirmed, probable, and suspected disease cases.

C. Foodborne / gastrointestinal (GI) illnesses

Foodborne / Gastrointestinal (GI) Illness Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026*	2025
Amebiasis	0	0	0	1

Calicivirus/Norovirus	3	3	3	49
Campylobacteriosis	1	0	0	27
Cryptosporidiosis	0	0	0	4
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0	1
Enterovirus	1	0	0	3
Giardiasis	0	2	2	17
Salmonellosis	1	0	0	20
Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC)	0	0	0	5
Shigellosis	1	1	1	6
Vibrio	0	0	0	3
Yersiniosis	0	0	0	3

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN). Includes confirmed, probable, and suspected disease cases.

D. Other diseases

Other Disease Cases Reported				
	Dec. 2025	Jan. 2026*	2026*	2025
Brucellosis	0	0	0	0
Group A streptococcus	4	1	1	32
Group B streptococcus	1	1	1	7
Haemophilus influenzae	0	1	1	2
Hepatitis A	0	0	0	3
Hepatitis B	46	31	31	530
Hepatitis C	1	6	6	39
Hepatitis D	0	1	1	0
Legionellosis	0	0	0	1
Measles (suspect)	0	0	0	0
Melioidosis	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal disease	0	0	0	0
Mpox	0	0	0	3
Mumps	0	0	0	1
Pertussis/other Bordetella species	1	0	0	4
Streptococcus pneumoniae	1	5	5	6
Varicella	0	0	0	13
Viral Meningitis (aseptic)	0	0	0	2

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN). Includes confirmed, probable, and suspected disease cases.

E. Tuberculosis (TB)

TB Point-in-time snapshot (January 27, 2026)

- 9 cases on treatment for TB disease

- 1 initiated treatment since last report
- 0 transferred to Lowell since last report
- 1 completed treatment since last report
- 5 cases to be revoked pending final culture results

	Jan. 2026	2026*	2025
TB disease cases reported (suspected and confirmed)	2	2	23
TB disease cases reported (revoked)	0	0	13
Contacts reported	3	3	29
TB infection (LTBI) cases reported	53	53	893

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN). Includes confirmed, probable, and suspected disease cases.

F. Immunizations

	Jan. 2026	Current flu season
COVID-19	2	42
Flu	11	329
Hep A	0	n/a
Hep B	2	n/a
MMR	5	n/a
Polio	4	n/a
Tdap	1	n/a
Varicella	1	n/a
Given in-home	1	8

**Up to date as of January 27, 2026*

Data obtained from the Massachusetts Immunization Information System

G. Additional activities and accomplishments

Immunization	● 1/27 PHN'S held a Flu Clinic at the Health Department.
Community education and outreach	● 1/07 Martha conducted BP screenings at Dragonfly Cafe (3 individuals screened.) ● 1/20 Martha conducted BP screenings at Senior Center (10 individuals screened.) ● 1/23 Theresa conducted BP screenings at Roger Hall (15 Individuals screened.)
Miscellaneous	● 1/16 Martha attended MAPHN monthly.

	• 1/7-26 Theresa attended a weekly TB nurse case management course.
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Board of Health Report: JAN. 2026
Substance Abuse and Prevention Division

Lowell Health Department

The Substance Abuse Prevention Division, under the leadership of Maura Fitzpatrick, continues to strengthen community-based prevention and outreach efforts across the City of Lowell. The team has hired a new Youth Outreach Specialist for the CO-OP program, who will begin in February. This position will support expanded youth engagement, prevention education, and early intervention efforts citywide.

Lowell Community Opioid Outreach Program (CO-OP) – Overview

The CO-OP team continued to strengthen its citywide prevention, outreach, and crisis response efforts. Staff remained actively involved in overdose response, client stabilization, case management, and housing coordination, while maintaining strong collaboration with community partners and public safety agencies.

During this reporting period, CO-OP expanded direct client support through seasonal harm-reduction and wellness efforts. Hand and foot warmers were distributed at the Transitional Living Center, Eliot Day Center, and Project Compass, and hygiene care supplies were provided to Project Compass. CO-OP also distributed Narcan kits to school nurses in three cases, supporting overdose preparedness within the school community.

Internal capacity-building continued as the Youth Outreach Specialist position was filled, with the candidate accepting the offer and preparing to begin onboarding. CO-OP also met with the Director of Homelessness Services in Manchester, NH, to explore opportunities for regional collaboration and shared strategies.

Meetings & Collaboration

- Meeting with Manchester, NH Homelessness Director regarding the Lowell CO-OP Program (01/09)
- VINFEN Zoom Meeting (01/12)
- Weekly Non-Profit Update at Project Compass (01/13)
- Weekly CO-OP Staff Meeting (01/14)

Client Support & Service Coordination

- Syringe collection assistance and environmental safety response across multiple locations, including Middlesex Street, Bridge Street, Dutton Street, Pearl Street, Thorndike Street, Favor Street, Hastings Street, Steadman Street, Robinson Street Encampment, and Charter School (01/12–01/15)
- Client transportation and housing support, including rides for services and placement at CTI Hotel (01/12–01/15)
- Inpatient detox referrals and follow-up support for clients (01/12–01/15)

Overdose Response & Follow-Ups

- Response to LPD/Trinity medical incidents, including overdose intervention and follow-up care coordination (01/12–01/15)

Massachusetts Collaborative for Action, Leadership, and Learning 3 (MassCALL3)

Anjali Bhagat, Substance Use Prevention Grant Coordinator

Anjali Bhagat continues to lead community engagement and program coordination under the MassCALL3 grant, advancing prevention strategies, strengthening school partnerships, and supporting coalition sustainability across Lowell. During this reporting period, Anjali also conducted active, near-daily outreach within Lowell Public Schools to introduce prevention programs directly to students and build awareness, relationships, and engagement at the school level.

Butler Middle School has been identified as the pilot site for the Positive Community Norms (PCN) campaign. Anjali has continued implementation planning with school leadership and Lowell Community School Managers and previously facilitated an initial student meeting to gather youth input. Based on student feedback, the PCN campaign at Butler Middle School will focus on cyberbullying. Butler Middle School is now preparing to enter the second phase of the PCN campaign, during which students will begin designing campaign materials. As the YWCA of Lowell does not currently have sufficient student interest to support this initiative, PCN planning and implementation efforts will move forward in close collaboration with Lowell Public Schools.

Project Wayfinder remains active districtwide, providing a social-emotional learning framework for K–12 students that promotes belonging, purpose, and resilience. Anjali previously completed iDECIDE facilitator training; however, implementation support has been paused as Lowell Public Schools has decided to prioritize administration of the program by their own staff.

Anjali is coordinating with Lowell Public Schools to implement Youth Mental Health First Aid training for all teachers and staff, scheduled for March and April. Due to ongoing scheduling challenges, Mill City Prevention Network (MCPN) availability has been limited. To support continued cross-sector collaboration, MCPN will be merged with the monthly Community Health Task Force meetings moving forward.

This reporting period focused on setting systems and timelines in motion ahead of Anjali's planned absence in February. Program continuity has been ensured with support from the Regional Community Health Coordinator, Srey Neang, allowing grant activities and partnerships to continue uninterrupted.

Events & Trainings

YMHFA Planning Committee - 01/7

MC3 Check In BSAS – 01/8, 01/20

School Outreach – 01/13, 01/14, 01/15, 01/21, 01/22, 01/23

Syringe Collection Program

Andres Gonzalez, Syringe Collection Program Coordinator

Thomas Callahan, Assistant Syring Collection Program Coordinator

During this reporting period, the Syringe Collection Program experienced temporary staffing changes. The Assistant Syringe Collection Program Coordinator, Tom Callahan, sustained an injury and will be out for several months, while the Syringe Collection Program Coordinator, Andres Gonzales, was on scheduled vacation. During this time, the CO-OP team assumed syringe collection operations for approximately three weeks. CO-OP staff were trained in needle collection procedures and responded directly to syringe-related calls, ensuring uninterrupted service and continued environmental safety across the city.

Meetings & Planning

Syringe Collection Activity 2026

[illegible]



Lowell Health
Department

Prevent • Promote • Protect

Syringe Collection Program

2025 Calendar Year Summary

Syringes Removed from the Community

Pick-up Requests: **5,934***
Proactive Clean-up: **11,479**

Total INDIVIDUAL
Syringes Removed from
the Community by
the Syringe Collection
Program:

17,413

**Collected 100,000
Syringes from city
streets.*

Program Fast Facts

Resident Pick-up Requests **286***
City Departments Request **188***
Email Requests **50***
Total Incoming Pick-up Requests: **464***
Community Partners Engaged: **44**

Sharps Disposal Kiosk

653 pounds of sharps were disposed through the Lowell Health Department's sharps disposal kiosk.

Total POUNDS of
Syringes Disposed of by
Community Members:

Unwanted Medication & Sharps

847 pounds of unwanted sharps were disposed of at three Disposal Day events held in March, June, September & November.

2,745lbs

**The Equivalency of
301,950 Sharps**

Lowell Senior Center

1,245 pounds of unwanted sharps were disposed of at the Lowell Senior Center.

**New Program Highs*

Have Questions? Call the Syringe Collection Program Coordinator at 978-674-1049.

BOH January 2026 Meeting – School Health Unit

During the month of November, SBIRT screenings for grades 7 & 9 were completed. The school Nurses, in collaboration with LPS Social Workers & Guidance Counselors, interviewed 1532 students using the CRAFFT screening tool.

We were also had a new substitute school nurse start.

The Nurse Coordinator participated in the School Safety Team meetings and the Medical Health Unit Van meetings in collaboration with LPS, LCHC, and UMASS Lowell.

Nurses continue to work on immunization compliance, entering vision and hearing results, and other mandated screenings.

School Nursing Services Provided	25-Aug& Sep	25-Oct	25-Nov	25-Dec	26-Jan	26-Feb	26-Mar	26-Apr	26-May	26-Jun	YTD 25-26
Total Student Encounters											
Totals	12959	14177	10980								38116
911 Emergency Calls											
Student	6	7	9								22
Staff	0	1	1								2
Medication Administration											
Totals	3015	3656	2895								9566
Nursing Assessment											
Student	12959	14177	10980								38116
Staff	59	64	52								175
Glucose Testing	1023	1033	777								2833
Nausea/V omiting	217	211	207								635
Tube Feeding	190	232	135								557
Pulse Oximetry	288	317	285								890
Screenings											
Vision	1653	1510	1211								4374
Hearing	968	1019	833								2820
BMI	593	849	603								2045
Postural	275	41	230								546