



WEST
END
HOUSE

HERE
**THROUGH
IT ALL**

THANKS TO YOU, OUR DOORS NEVER CLOSED. IN FACT THEY OPENED WIDER.

For more than 116 years, West End House has been a nimble and responsive organization. This history prepared us to meet extraordinary challenges brought on by the dual pandemics. In March 2020, our team redesigned and expanded the daily operation to respond to the most pressing needs in our community. Read on and learn about our collective impact.

FOOD ACCESS

Pivoting from serving scratch-made meals on site, we innovated and launched a Family Food Program in April 2020. We rented two 40-foot freezers in our parking lot and mobilized a small army of staff and volunteers to deliver groceries to more than 368 families in our community. Fresh fruits and vegetables, lean proteins, dairy, grains and essential items such as masks, diapers and sanitizer were provided weekly and customized to family size. This program continues to provide groceries on a bi-weekly basis to 175 families facing food insecurity.



IN-PERSON LEARNING

To address the impact of school closures we created a 10 month, in-person Learning Hub program to support the academic success and social and emotional needs of Boston Public School students. The Hubs were essential to our community, providing high-speed internet; access to laptops and Chromebooks; nutritious breakfast bar, lunch, and snacks; and a supportive team of youth development professionals. Free for families, we hosted 90 students from 7 am - 7 pm and were one of only three programs in the city to welcome teens.



ROAD TO RACIAL EQUITY

We deepened our commitment to equity, inclusion, and justice, taking new steps to become an anti-racist agency:

- Created and widely distributed a 30-day Anti-Racism Challenge;
- Established a racial equity fund to advance key initiatives;
- Developed an anti-racist plan that centers youth voice;
- West End House Votes: A voter registration campaign led by teens;
- Making Change Crew: A collaborative program with City Mission that elevated racial justice issues and created space for youth to amplify their voices;
- Increased available resources for our Equity and Social Justice Team.

30-DAY ANTI-RACISM CHALLENGE

Self-Learning Resources for White People

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Week 1	Understanding White Privilege	Start reading a book on being Anti-Racist to ground your learning	Things you don't have to think about that BIPOCs think about every day	Reflecting on our Experiences of Power → Privilege
Week 2	Recognizing Racism in Your Community	Educate yourself on the history of Busing in Boston	Being nice is not going to end racism	Did you know that the largest black-owned bank in the US is located right here in Boston?
Week 3	How to engage with other white people in your organization about anti-racism	Select a book by a feminist of color to purchase or request from the library	Understanding White Rage	We Need to Talk About Injustice



SCREEN FREE FUN

In July 2020, just 3 months post shutdown, we safely re-opened our doors enabling our youth to reconnect with their peers and safely engage in our programs. With a commitment to have all out-of-school-time be screen free, we embraced the 4 seasons in adjacent Ringer Park, hiked the Blue Hills, explored the deCordova and experienced many other iconic green spaces.

The arts remained core to our work. We launched a new Artist-in-Residence program led by local BIPOC artists. Our youth work in illustration, photography, mural art, dance, spoken word, and painting culminated with Harambee, a June 2021 community-wide celebration in Ringer Park.



TESTING AND VACCINES

We were an early adopter of weekly, on-site COVID testing for staff and program participants. This soon evolved into hosting vaccine and testing clinics for Boston residents. With our families disproportionately impacted by COVID, these services proved vital for our community. Testing and vaccine clinics continue, enabling us to keep our young people and families safe and connected to this critical community resource.



MILESTONES

Our College and Career Success Team boosted support for West End House alumni who navigated significant pandemic challenges as they pursued their diplomas, degrees, and certifications. We celebrated 70 new high school grads and 43 new college grads. We were all inspired by their perseverance in navigating one of the most challenging academic years. We continue to be present for all our young people's milestones from their first jobs, to scholarships won, to honor roll recognition, to diplomas, to first internships, to becoming the first in their family to earn a college degree.

WEST END HOUSE

OUR REACH

Youth served on-site, in person



311

3,865 hours of on-site programming

4,400 COVID-19 tests administered

We raised



\$125,000

to seed our new Racial Equity Fund

70 of our high school seniors graduated from high school!

256

college-enrolled students coached



72,136

masks given to families in grocery boxes



43

new college graduates

Pounds of groceries distributed



550,000

We served 68,000 individually scratch-made meals

1,616

individuals from 368 families served in Family Food Program