



ANNUAL REPORT

2024

PROJECT
HOPE
www.prohope.org

MICHELLE BOTUS

Executive Director



Michelle Botus is proud to lead Project HOPE Boston. Michelle, who grew up in the neighborhood and who was a program participant herself from 2001–2007, took the helm in August 2024. As a community member, parent, past Project HOPE client, and now studying for a Doctorate in Human Services Leadership, Michelle brings a uniquely valuable perspective on the challenges and opportunities that Project HOPE families face.

MESSAGE FROM MICHELLE

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Leading Project HOPE Boston is more than a professional role for me; it's a deep personal mission. As someone who walked through these doors as a program participant over two decades ago, I understand firsthand the transformative power of the support, resources, and community that Project HOPE provides.

From 2001 to 2007, Project HOPE was my lifeline. The program didn't just offer services; it offered hope, dignity, and a pathway forward during one of the most challenging periods of my life. Today, as I serve the families who come through our doors, I see my own story reflected in the determination, the resilience, and the unwavering commitment to building better futures for their children.

This unique perspective, as a former client, a current neighbor, and a parent in this community, shapes how we approach our work. We know that behind every family we serve is not just a set of needs to be met, but dreams to be realized and potential to be unlocked. My doctoral research in Human Services Leadership further reinforces what I learned through lived experience: sustainable change happens when we combine compassionate, culturally responsive services with systemic approaches that address root causes.

Since assuming leadership in August 2024, I've been inspired daily by the strength of our families, the dedication of our staff, and the generosity of supporters like you. Together, we're not just providing temporary assistance, we're investing in the long-term stability and success of our community's families.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to evolving our programs to meet emerging needs while staying true to our core mission. Every family that finds stability, every child who thrives, and every parent who achieves their goals is a testament to what's possible when a community comes together with hope and purpose.

Thank you for believing in our families and in the power of hope to transform lives. I know this to be true because Project HOPE transformed mine.

With gratitude and hope,

Michelle Botus, Executive Director, Project HOPE Boston

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MISSION AND VISION

Mission

Project HOPE Boston works with families in the Dorchester and Roxbury neighborhoods of Boston on their journeys toward financial wellbeing and housing stability. We serve as a catalyst for change in families' lives, developing and providing programs and whole family supports to mediate the challenges of systemic injustice.

Vision

Transforming family homelessness into sustainable independence through holistic support. A revolutionary approach where shelter is just the beginning—where families seamlessly access priority enrollment in our childcare, ESOL education, workforce training, financial literacy, and matched savings programs all under one roof.

Our integrated service model removes barriers, builds skills, and creates economic opportunities, empowering families to write their own success stories while breaking the cycle of housing instability for generations to come.

FAST FACTS

Our neighborhoods:

Roxbury and Dorchester

are hot spots for

poverty

unemployment

housing instability

49% of Roxbury children

live under the poverty threshold

Roxbury's median income- \$37,036

significantly less than the rate for
Boston overall (**\$75,485**)

Families served by Project HOPE have
low-to-extremely-low incomes
with many earning
less than \$20,000 annually.

Annually, Project HOPE serves

1,828 households

2,237 individuals

primarily from these
neighborhoods.

65%

Black/African American

40%

Hispanic/LatinX

93%

Single female heads of household

PROGRAMS

Magnolia Street **Family Shelter** provides a temporary home and critical case management services for up to 45 families of various sizes annually.

The shelter hosted **27 families – 29 parents and 43 children**
93% of families transitioned into stable housing

Housing Services support families experiencing housing instability through family shelter, homelessness prevention, and housing search/placement.

150 people received housing support services

Workforce Readiness and Education includes, four levels of English for Speakers of Other Languages and certification programs.

60 students enrolled in workforce development courses to learn
phlebotomy and medical laboratory science
67% of students completed their courses and received stipends
136 students enrolled in ESOL courses

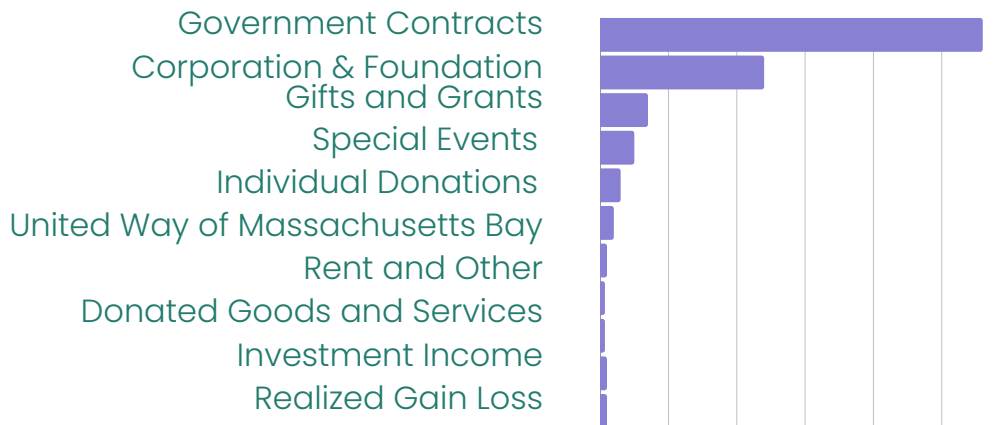
Family Childcare network provides a range of resources and professional development to support women to grow thriving, in-home childcare businesses.

150 children received childcare services from our FCC network

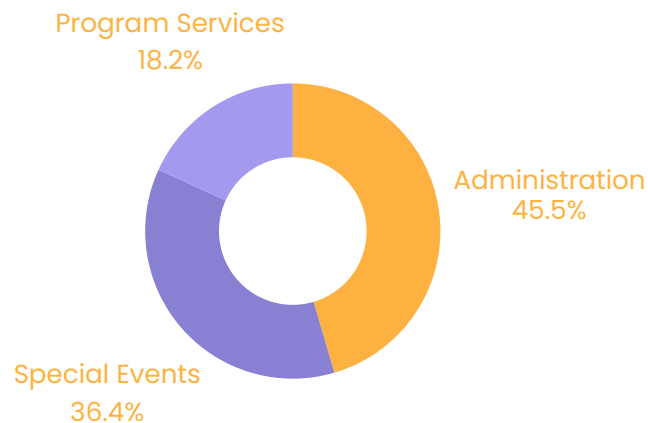
FINANCIALS

OPERATING REVENUE

TOTAL REVENUE: \$5,742,403



OPERATING EXPENSES



**Unaudited financials.*

Audited financials available by request when completed.

OUR MAJOR DONORS

\$50,000+

Anonymous
Cummings Foundation
Dick and Kathy Norman
Paul & Phyllis Fireman Charitable Foundation
The Baupost Group, LLC
The Janey Fund
The Siemer Institute
Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P.
United Way of Massachusetts Bay
Women's Foundation of Boston

\$25,000+

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\$5,000+

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\$2,500+

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William Wolcott

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Ropes & Gray
ATEA Pharmaceuticals
Backpacks for New Beginnings
Mintz
Most Precious Blood Parish
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough
St. Cecilia's Parish
Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P.

CITY AND STATE FUNDING



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BOSTON

