## Victory on the move

covering new ground with our Mobile Prevention Team





#### Our mission

Victory Programs opens doors to recovery, hope and community for individuals and families facing homelessness, addiction and chronic illnesses like HIV/AIDS.

#### Our dedication

Victory Programs proudly dedicates our 2016 annual report to:

**Michael Whitmore**, founder and principal architect at the firm Roundel 47, has for 25 years offered Victory Programs his distinguished multi-talented vision to design, construct and improve nearly all of our community-based health programs and housing sites.

His original artful building designs, masterful rehabs, state-of-the-art modification plans and meticulously studied zoning opinions have never ceased to amaze us. He makes each seemingly impossible project miraculously come true. In his work and in his life, Michael's designs are nothing short of inspired and elegant.

Michael makes every square inch of life count.

And ....

The **Massachusetts Convention Center Authority** (MCCA), which operates both the Hynes Convention Center and the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. For nearly 25 years, the MCCA has generously donated the space at the Hynes and hosted our annual Celebration of Life Thanksgiving Dinner in support of Boston's HIV/AIDS community. The Celebration of Life is a popular community event for people living with HIV/AIDS with an important history dating back to the height of the AIDS crisis. This magnanimous in-kind donation year after year is truly a celebration of life and serves to give hope to everyone in the Boston HIV/AIDS community, and their family and friends.

## dear friends of victory programs

"Greatness is never a given. It must be earned."
- President Barack Obama, January 20, 2009

For 41 years Victory Programs has earned its reputation as a great agency. Respect was never a given. We earn and re-earn the esteem of our clients and our community every day by ensuring our founders' original promise: "All people deserve treatment and care. We take everyone." This remains the fundamental foundation of every program and service we offer.

We earned our reputation as trailblazers in the 1970s: as the first to accept individuals diagnosed with both mental illness and addiction; the first to open our doors to Vietnam veterans combating the ravages of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder; the first to offer services to LGBTQ individuals long before concerns about LGBTQ equal rights hit the national stage.

We earned our reputation of serving the hardest to place individuals and families in the 1980s: as the first Massachusetts agency to open a women's Section 35 residential home as an alternative to incarceration; the first agency to actively open all our services to individuals with HIV and symptomatic AIDS; the first to offer permanent housing for those in addiction recovery also living with HIV; the first to launch a statewide Mobile AIDS Resource Team.

We earned our reputation as leaders in the 1990s: as the first to open all our residential programs to those on medication-assisted treatment, thus ensuring medically-managed methadone maintenance was no longer a barrier to accessing residential services.

In the new century, the 2000s, we earned our reputation for expanding to meet emerging community needs when we opened our low-threshold Housing

First site in Roxbury; when we built ReVision Urban Farm to bring healthy nutritious food to our community; when we rewrote our philosophy of care to promote evidence-based, substance-use treatment services centered on a harm reduction model of care and treatment.

We earned our reputation as an agency willing to fight for vital resources again in the 2010s when we merged with the Boston Living Center; when we overcame the catastrophic loss of our major women's treatment program on Boston Harbor's Long Island after the bridge that served as the only access point was closed. We rose to the challenge, forging ahead until we acquired two alternative sites in Dorchester and Roxbury to rebuild new state-of-the-art women's treatment programs.

Today, we still push new boundaries and we still earn our reputation. In 2015 we established our new Mobile Prevention Team. Everyday we work in the community to address sexual health risk factors, living with HIV, drug user health education and advocacy around access to treatment for Hepatitis C.

Throughout our history, we face down adversity, unpredictable losses, capricious political environments and fluctuating economic uncertainties to rise above challenges. Many have remarked:

#### "If anyone can make it, Victory Programs can."

We earn our reputation one day at a time because we are always working to keep our original promise. We say "Victory is on the move" because, no matter what the emerging issue is, all people deserve treatment and care.



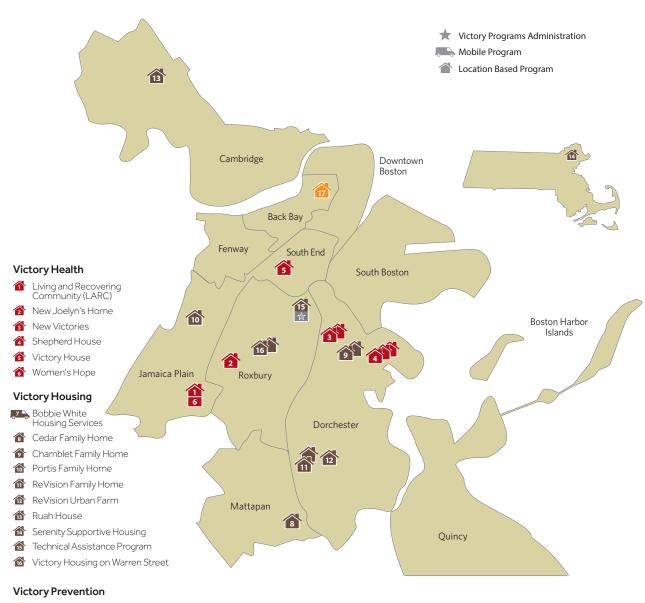
Jonathan D. Scott, President & CEO



1050

Pamela C. Feingold, Chair of the Board

## victory programs community map



Boston Living Center



"Meeting people where they are at" is the unofficial motto of our Mobile Prevention Team. In 2015, Victory Programs recognized the need to offer support to individuals and families through low-barrier, low-threshold services, beyond our core residential services. The team focuses on education, navigation and risk-assessment services for both internal and external high-risk clients including active drug users and individuals with chronic health issues like HIV/AIDS or Viral Hepatitis. The Mobile Prevention Team is comprised of four projects: Drug User Health, Positive Prevention, Primary Prevention and Viral Hepatitis. These projects each offer both group level interventions and individual interventions. Our Mobile Prevention Team staff can connect with clients for both one-time interventions and long-term support, often accompanying clients to appointments, connecting with their case managers and working with them on goal-setting and risk-assessment. Victory Programs is literally on the move, covering new ground. Meg von Lossnitzer, Deputy Director of Victory Prevention, leads the team.

#### **Drug User Health Project**

The Drug User Health Project is one of the pilot locations for the State of Massachusetts' Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution work. "The main thing we concentrate on is overdose education," explains Christopher Richard, the Drug User Health Coordinator, "particularly in regards to opioids and naloxone distribution. What we are doing is getting naloxone into the hands of active users."

The Drug User Health Project conducts trainings with partner organizations including Pine Street Shattuck Shelter, Rosie's Place, St. Francis House, Women's Lunch Place, Health Care Resource Centers and local community groups as well as internal trainings for Victory Programs' clients. Individuals who have been through the trainings can obtain naloxone directly from the Drug User Health Project Outreach

continued on page 4 »

#### meet the mobile prevention team (continued)

Educators or through any Massachusetts pharmacy and are protected by Massachusetts Good Samaritan laws.

To date, the Drug User Health Project has enrolled 600 individuals in the Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution pilot program.

#### **Positive Prevention Project**

Our Positive Prevention team works with individuals with a positive HIV diagnosis and offers peer support groups, one-on-one assessments and navigation services including referrals to care, emotional support, education and medication compliance assistance by connecting with individuals through peer support. "We learn about our clients' risks through the initial risk-assessment and then ask them 'What are your goals?' We then help them work on those goals through follow-up visits," says Revathi Penumatsa, the Positive Prevention Coordinator.

The Positive Prevention team facilitates workshops at our Boston Living Center including the peer support group "Bridges for Life" and the "Thriving Not Just Surviving" group for women. The team also organizes educational workshops at the Center. These workshops focus on education, goal-setting and policy issues of interest to the HIV positive community. The team also offers peer support groups at our Living and Recovering Community, Ruah House and Serenity Supportive Housing for people living with HIV/AIDS.

### Primary Prevention/Sexual Health Risk Reduction Project

Sexual health sits at the intersection of so many of the challenges our health and housing clients face in their daily lives. "The Primary Prevention Project grew out of work I was already doing," explains Linda Mazak, project coordinator. Linda has worked for Victory Programs for nearly 20 years. "I believe in the work we do, in our philosophy of care and in meeting people where they are at," she shares. The goal of the Primary Prevention/ Sexual Health Risk Reduction Project is to decrease the rates of HIV & STI transmission. The project runs two evidence-based group interventions: VOICES and Safer Sex Skill Building in addition to working with clients one-on-one on goal-setting and risk-assessment.

#### **Viral Hepatitis Project**

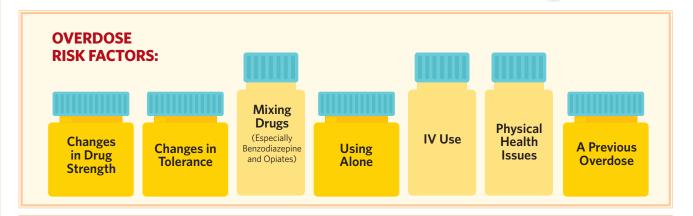
Viral Hepatitis, which includes Hepatitis A, B and C, is a stealthy public health risk – often asymptomatic, individuals can live for years without knowing they've been infected. Unlike A and B, if left untreated Hepatitis C will develop into a chronic infection in 80% of cases and is likely to cause chronic liver disease.

As an organization, we recognized the urgent need for better education about Viral Hepatitis for our clients and our staff. The Viral Hepatitis Project is dedicated to expanding education around this often misunderstood disease, including how to reduce the risk of transmission and how to access highly-effective treatment specifically for Hepatitis C which was previously difficult to access due to insurance restrictions.

About 80% of Victory Programs' clients across our health and housing programs are co-infected or mono-infected with Hepatitis C.

"The key to reducing the impact of Viral Hepatitis is frequent testing and early intervention," Richard Baker, coordinator for the Viral Hepatitis Project, explains. "An infected individual can be cured in as little as 12 weeks using highly-effective medications with few side effects." Last August, Massachusetts became the first state to mandate insurance coverage for the medication.

## Identifying and Responding to an Opioid Overdose





#### THREE SIGNS OF AN OVERDOSE:

- Blue lips and/or fingertips (for darker skinned people lips may appear pale or grey)
- 2. Infrequent, slow breathing or gasping, gurgling or a "death rattle"
- Unresponsive to shouting, shaking or a sternal rub (rubbing the knuckles of a closed fist against the sternum)

#### **HOW TO RESPOND:**







- Assess the signs
- **Start rescue breathing** if the individual experiencing an overdose is not breathing it is important to get oxygen into the body FIRST
- If you have naloxone administer it after the first round of rescue breathing

To use:

- Remove nasal spray from box
- Follow the instructions on the package
- **CALL 911!** (Massachusetts Good Samaritan Law protects you)
- Resume rescue breathing and wait for the paramedics

## victory programs a year in review



#### **Dinnerfest RED Party + Auction**

Last spring, hundreds of guests donned festive red attire to join Victory Programs at Red Lantern for the most successful Dinnerfest RED Party + Auction in the event's 26 year history! Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey and Joanne Chang of Flour Bakery and Myers + Chang served as Honorary Co-Chairs with a star-studded Host Committee comprised of restauranteurs, local celebrities, elected officials and special friends. Professional auctioneer Kathy Kingston entertained guests with lively antics and Victory Programs client, Jen, riveted the audience with her personal story of addiction and recovery. Red Lantern treated us all to mouth-watering hors d'oeuvres while guests bid on dining packages from the area's hottest restaurant destinations, adventurous vacation packages, state-of-the-art kitchen appliances, theater tickets and more! Thanks to the care and generosity of our guests, corporate sponsors, restaurant community and in-kind donors, Dinnerfest 2016 set a record and raised over \$123,000!



#### **Summer Sports Tea Dance**

Once again, Victory Programs teamed up with Dorchester hot spot, dbar, and our exceptional friends from Boston's FLAG Flag Football League for our sixth annual Summer Sports Tea Dance. This packed afternoon of dancing, games, flirting and fun included an extensive sports-themed raffle and a hilarious #WigFun4Victory photo contest. Our enthusiastic partners and more than 500 guests, largely from the LGBT sports community, helped us raise over \$10,000 for our health, housing and prevention programs.

#### **Celebration of Life Thanksgiving Dinner**

There are scores of meaningful community events throughout Greater Boston, but none more heartfelt than our annual Celebration of Life Thanksgiving Dinner, a hope-filled evening free to anyone living with HIV/AIDS, and their loved ones. The event is the largest annual fundraiser for Victory Programs' Boston Living Center (BLC). Each year our volunteers transform the Hynes Convention Center ballroom into an autumnal celebration with tables adorned by fanciful centerpieces in anticipation of the more than 600 guests who enjoyed a full-course Thanksgiving meal, live performances by Woza Moya and St. Paul AME & Grant AME Gospel Choir and a Resource Fair with over 30 participating organizations!

This year's theme was Positive, Proud & Living Out Loud, a perfect sentiment for the presentation of the Peter Daniel Clark Award to Alfredo Hernandez Chavez, a long-time champion of the BLC and tireless advocate for all people living with HIV/AIDS.

We were also proud to honor Jo Ann Coull with the first-ever Brenda Bellizeare "Better It Gets" (BIG) Award for embodying the BLC's core values of wellness, education and support for all its members. As always, we are grateful to the generous support of our corporate supporters, special friends and outstanding volunteers who helped us raise nearly \$129,000 for the BLC and our members!





#### Gratitude Dinner

For over 40 years, Victory Programs has welcomed staff, clients, alumni, board members and special guests for dinner and reflection. We bestow the Manny Jefferson Gratitude Award to an individual, organization or company who exhibits excellence in volunteerism and a commitment to helping our clients or improving our programs and services. We presented the 2016 Manny Jefferson Gratitude Awards to Boston College's PULSE Program and to Victory Programs' Board member and Shepherd House alum Elizabeth Dugan. This extraordinarily moving evening concluded with clients from across our 17 programs sharing their personal journeys.



#### **Drive for Victory Golf Tournament**

Our fourth annual golf tournament was held at Oakley Country Club, a verdant, private course steeped in history and nestled in Watertown, Massachusetts. We welcomed over 100 supporters who relished the gorgeous greens of this golfer's paradise. This beautiful day included a buffet luncheon, 18 holes of golf, a silent auction, raffle, awards dinner and a take-away swag bag full of golfer treasures. Our corporate sponsors, in-kind donors and golfers once again gave generously, making Drive for Victory 2016 another one for the record books with nearly \$53,000 raised for hope, health and housing!

## demographics & populations served

For more than 40 years, Victory Programs has been committed to providing individuals and families of all races, cultures and sexual orientations with an equal opportunity for shelter, substance use disorder treatment, recovery and wellness. We strive to ensure that appropriate, quality care is available to all underserved populations.

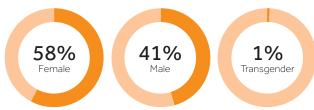
Adult clients served in FY2016 (unduplicated): 1,785 Mobile Prevention Clients (included in total adults): 565 Minors/children served in FY2016 (unduplicated): 100

#### Gender

Age at Admission

5%

5%



13%

22%

24%

#### Inc.





69% History of Substance Use Disorder



56% HIV+

**Target Populations** 



**24%** Hepatitis C



98%
MassHealth/
Medicaid,
Medicare
\*Clients with
verfied insurance



60% Current or Past IV Drug User



69% Mental Health History



51% Homeless

#### Race

0-17

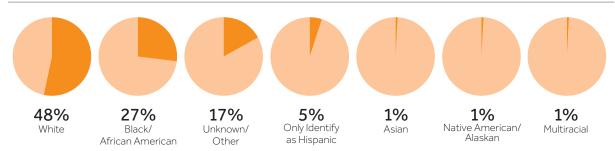
18-24

25-34

35-44

45-54

55+



30%

## finances

#### Statement of Financial Position

#### **Current Assets 2016**

| Cash and cash equivale  | ents                 | 781,193     |
|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Accounts receivable     |                      | 1,571,661   |
| Promises to give, curre | nt                   | 94,967      |
| Inventory               |                      | 57,722      |
| Prepaid expenses        |                      | 87,672      |
| Investments             |                      | 430,584     |
| Other current assets    |                      | 26,668      |
|                         | Total current assets | \$3,050,467 |

#### **Fixed Assets**

| Property, plant and equipment  | 10,823,914  |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Less: accumulated depreciation | (4,978,719) |
| Total fixed assets             | \$5,845,195 |

#### **Other Assets**

| Restricted deposits                      | 90,888    |
|--|-----------|
| Promises to give, net of current portion | 80,000    |
| Total other assets                       | \$170,888 |

#### **Total Assets** \$ 9,066,550

#### **Current Liabilities**

| Accounts payable          | 200,068       |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Accrued expenses          | 571,550       |
| Long-term debt, current   | 682,308       |
| Other current liabilities | 31,180        |
| Total current liabilitie  | s \$1,485,106 |

#### **Long-Term Liabilities**

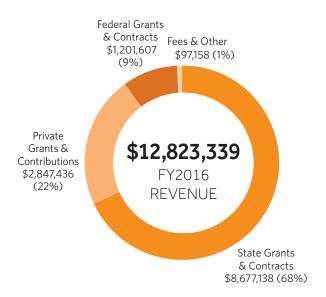
| Long-term debt              | 3,999,284   |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Other long-term liabilities | 35,252      |
| Total long-term liabilities | \$4,034,536 |

#### **Total Liabilities** \$ 5,519,642

#### **Net Assets**

| 11017100010            |                  |             |
|------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Unrestricted           |                  | 2,723,574   |
| Temporarily restricted |                  | 823,334     |
|                        | Total net assets | \$3,546,908 |

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets** \$ 9,066,550





Victory Programs provided approximately \$47,736 of free client care for the year ending June 30, 2016.

Space limitations preclude a full audit presentation. Full audit statements are available upon request.

## sources of support

Victory Programs gratefully acknowledges our supporters for our fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

### CASH CONTRIBUTIONS

#### \$100,000 to the sky!

The Bank of New York Mellon

Cummings Foundation

- †Janet and Jeffrey Larson
- Larson Family Foundation
  Philadelphia Indemnity
  Insurance Company
  Robert Lloyd Corkin
  Charitable Foundation
  (Multiyear Pledge)
- The Samuels Family Fund

#### \$50,000-\$99,999

Bank of America Charitable Foundation

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The Janey Fund Charitable Trust

Liberty Mutual Foundation (Multiyear Pledge)

Mabel Louise Riley Foundation

MassHousing -Center for Community Recovery Innovations

Sandy and Becky Sheble-Hall

†United Way of Massachusetts Bay & Merrimack Valley

#### \$25,000-\$49,999

Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund

\*Combined Jewish Philanthropies Doe Family Foundation

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#### \$10,000-\$24,999

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Schwab Charitable Fund Jessica C. Straus and David M. Berson Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program

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- ▲ Bruce D. Walker, M.D. and Alice Cort, M.D.

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**Emily Cooper** 

#### **Remembering Absent Friends**



Lovely. Gracious. Elegant. Kind.

Jane Talamini brought
a beautiful light into our world,
and into Victory Programs.
A gifted freelance travel-writer;
an English teacher; a devotee

of preserving open space; a member of the historical society of Connecticut and most of all a proud Capricorn: the astrological sign known for being caring, loyal, patient, reliable, trustworthy, dedicated and passionate.

Jane shared a birthday with her friend Joelyn. Every year, without fail, on January 8, a note would arrive to Victory Programs from Jane and her husband Tom with a gift to Joelyn's Family Home. It was always inscribed with these words: "Every day I think of my pal, Jo. I miss her so. Happy birthday to us. Love Jane and Tom."

Two Capricorns. Two dear friends. Two shining stars. Basically, two moonbeams.



#### **Catherine duBois Gaynes**

described herself as a proud black woman, a mother, a grandmother, a recovering drug addict/alcoholic, a public speaker, smart, stylish, humorous, interested and

interesting, current, open-minded, generous and giving. She is remembered by BLC members as a fighter, survivor and advocate for the community. Larry Day, Program Director at the Boston Living Center and a long-time member himself, adds "She was one of my early mentors, she taught me a lot and I will truly miss her." She is missed dearly. She is loved deeply. She gave her whole spirit to our community entirely and freely.

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- †David and Mary Dearborn Caro Dellenbaugh
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#### New Joelyn's Home

Nearly two-and-a-half years after the unexpected closing of the only access bridge to our state-of-the-art, 47-bed women's recovery home on Boston Harbor's Long Island, we are about to re-open a women's residential facility right here in the heart of Boston! New Joelyn's Home represents the latest step in the process of rebuilding. First, we began by opening the doors to New Victories for Women, a 14-bed residential treatment program in Dorchester. In addition to opening New Victories for Women and New Joelyn's Home we've expanded capacity for seven new and expectant mothers at Shepherd House, our other women's residential treatment program in Dorchester. When all is said and done, two-and-a-half years after the closure of Long Island, Victory Programs has replaced 45 of the 47 women's recovery beds previously located at Joelyn's Family Home.

Laurie G. Schoen Rachel Segall and James Hurley

Pavid M. Young

#### \$250-\$499

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Victory Programs would like to give special thanks to the volunteers that have dedicated their time and energy to our many programs. Their time and commitment to Victory Programs have a value of over \$241,000 in total hours donated!

#### SOURCES OF CONTRACT AND THIRD-PARTY SUPPORT

Beacon Health Strategies Boston Housing Authority Boston Medical Center HealthNet Plan

Boston Public Health Commission:

Ryan White CARE Act Title I

Cambridge Housing Authority

Chelmsford Housing Authority

Child Care Choices of Boston (ABCD)

City of Boston Bounty Bucks Program

City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development:

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City of Lowell:

Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA)

Massachusetts Behavioral Health Partnership

Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development

Massachusetts Department of Public Health:

Office of HIV/AIDS Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission Statewide Head Injury Program (SHIP)

Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership

US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

These lists represent contributions received by Victory Programs from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you contact our development department with any corrections: (617) 541-0222 or development@vpi.org.

- denotes Keystone Partner Keystone Partners have made a contribution to Victory Programs in ten or more years.
- ▲ denotes Cornerstone Partner Cornerstone Partners commit to making recurring donations to Victory Programs.
- \* denotes deceased



## Family Shelter + a Little Extra

Victory Programs' ReVision, Chamblet and Portis Family Homes provide a wide array of services to 44 families at a time, and as many as 100 families annually, to help them gain the skills and experience they need to transition to affordable housing. Home Soon services, Family Financial Literacy and the Building Emotional Understanding parenting curriculum are just three of the many services provided.

## board of directors

"Thanks to Victory Programs' umbrella of care, I am stronger physically and emotionally."
- Wayne, Living and Recovering Community and Boston Living Center

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2016 INSTALLED A NEW WALK-IN COOLER AFTER A YEAR OF FUNDRAISING



2015 STARTED SELLING PRODUCE AT THE MILTON FARMERS MARKET



2012 MAJOR FABYAN STREET RENOVATION COMPLETED INCLUDING A NEW GREENHOUSE 2016 RECRUITED TO THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE AGRICULTURE BOARD

2016 RECEIVED MDAR GRANT FOR MAJOR EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENTS





2016 LAUNCHED ONLINE SEEDLING AND CSA ORDERS FOR THE FIRST TIME 2016 OPENED
REVISION FARM
STAND AND
TUCKER STREET SITE
TRANSFERRED TO VPI
OWNERSHIP

# 6 years of greatest hits at revision urban farm

The farm has grown significantly in the past six years – here are some of the greatest hits!



2015 HIGHEST CSA/ SEEDLING/FARMERS MARKET REVENUE IN YEARS





2012 SECOND SITE AT TUCKER STREET ACQUIRED

2016 JOINED THE CITY OF BOSTON'S FOOD SECURITY TASK FORCE

#### **About Victory Programs**

Since opening our doors in 1975, Victory Programs has expanded to 17 health, housing and prevention programs in Boston, Cambridge and Topsfield. Every year we help more than 2,300 individuals and families break down barriers to a brighter future. Our programs serve people who are facing homelessness, drug and alcohol addiction, mental illness or chronic illnesses like HIV/AIDS and provide them with the tools needed to support healthy, self-sufficient lives.

#### Victory Programs' Leadership

#### **Executive Team**

Jonathan D. Scott, President & Chief Executive Officer

Sarah Porter, Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

Marc Davino, Vice President of Development & Communications

Cecile Durham, Chief Human Resources Officer

Christopher Lawrence, Chief Financial Officer

#### **Leadership Team**

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