



# CITY MISSION SOCIETY

## OF BOSTON

Rev. June R. Cooper, Executive Director

### City Mission Society: Uniting Communities ∞ Transforming Individuals

The **City Mission Society** is an urban social justice agency serving thousands of people each year. We are the oldest multi-service agency in New England, addressing the educational, economic and social needs of impoverished area residents since 1816. Our programs help youth and adults reach their full potential while providing opportunities for congregations and communities to engage in social action and change.

**City Mission Society** has three focus areas for its programming: **Homelessness Prevention, Youth Peace Promotion, and Faith and Community Engagement**. While addressing distinct issues, the three focus areas overlap to form a coherent whole.

#### HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

*CMS devotes its resources to identifying and assisting families and individuals who are at risk of homelessness, as it is far more caring and cost-effective to intervene before someone needs to become re-housed.*

- ∞ **The Emergency Needs Network (ENN)** assists individuals and families who are in crisis due to illness, unemployment, low income, or sudden emergencies. Financial assistance is available along with information, referral and advocacy services.
- ∞ **A Lift Up** serves female-headed households, providing flexible funding and up to a year of case management to assure that they remain in stable housing and to support them on the path to economic self-sufficiency.

#### YOUTH PEACE EMPOWERMENT (Y.P.E)

*CMS provides educational and recreational activities that encourage youth to play a positive role in their communities.*

- ∞ **YPE Summer Program and YPE Afterschool** use a youth development model to expose young people to positive role models while learning useful life skills and violence prevention techniques.
- ∞ **The Peace Workshops** reach at-risk youth through public speaking and conflict-resolution skills, based on the CMS-produced video *Jahmol's Vision for Youth Peace*.

#### FAITH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*CMS invites religious congregations and other groups to take part in service projects that challenge their notion of "who is my neighbor" while they work and learn in the neighborhoods of Boston.*

- ∞ **Boston Urban Outreach** brings together groups of youth and adults from all over the country to perform Service projects, worship together, and learn first-hand about social justice issues.
- ∞ **Seminarians in the City** equips local seminarians to respond to the call of the Gospel in the city and beyond through active integration of faith and social justice.
- ∞ **Y.P.E. Youth Arts** works in Boston's city schools as a means to appeal to children's multiple learning styles and to expand their understanding of Math, Science and Social Studies through arts-centered curricula.

#### ANNUAL EVENTS

- ∞ **The Christmas Shop** brings the joy of the holiday season to over a thousand children and adults in the Boston area.
- ∞ **The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service and Learning** invites volunteers to honor King's memory by offering their services at a dozen or more worksites around Boston.