

Emerging Adult Justice Project

Bridging justice between childhood and adulthood

UTEC Continues Offering Justice-Involved Emerging Adults "Madd Love" Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic

As the COVID-19 pandemic creates and exacerbates hardships for people who are justice involved and brings about new challenges for direct service organizations, WBUR reports that [Massachusetts's UTEC](#) continues to provide much needed in-community supports and services to justice involved emerging adults. Though UTEC's hospitality businesses have been impacted by social distancing requirements, it continues to provide financial supports for the emerging adults on staff, and 'streetworkers' still visit young people's homes to provide 'madd love' while maintaining social distance. After the community was stricken by acts of violence that led to the deaths of two 19-year-olds, [UTEC organized a vigil-by-caravan](#) that helped uplift and bring peace to the community.

The Urban Institute Released *A Guide to Community Strategies for Improving Emerging Adults' Safety and Well-Being*

The Urban Institute released a [report](#) outlining the key components of a community-based continuum of care and support for emerging adults. The report explains that helping young people reach key developmental milestones and eliminating their justice system contact can improve both public safety and individual outcomes. The report outlines three main domains in which to create opportunities and invest in the lives of emerging adults: (1) relationships and support networks, (2) health and well-being, and (3) financial stability and security.

See the Fact Sheet accompanying the report [here](#).

Massachusetts's 2020 Budget Earmarked Funding Specifically for Emerging Adult Re-Entry Programs

In continuation of Massachusetts's interest and investment in emerging adult justice, the legislature [allocated funding in its 2020 budget](#) for a grant program to support the re-entry of emerging adults returning to their communities from state prisons and county correctional facilities. The \$1.8 million in grants will be awarded to community-based nonprofits that provide a continuum of services in facilities and in the community, and that provide pre- and post-release support.

The Justice Lab is hiring! Click [here](#) to learn about available positions and how to apply.

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