



Trinity Boston Foundation Announces Charmane Higgins as New Executive Director and Unveils New Name as *Trinity Boston Connects*

*These changes reinforce **Trinity Boston Connects**' mission to unlock opportunity and change the odds for youth of color in Boston.*

Boston – July 31, 2019 – Trinity Boston Foundation announced today that it has appointed Charmane Higgins as its new Executive Director effective August 14, 2019. It is also changing its name to [Trinity Boston Connects \(TBC\)](#).



Mike Parker, Chair of TBC's Board of Directors added, "The entire Board of TBC is delighted that Charmane has agreed to take on this role. With her lifelong connection to the City of Boston, broad management experience and demonstrated commitment to youth of color, we are confident that Charmane possesses the skills, passion and vision to lead our organization in its next chapter of service to the Boston community."

Higgins, who succeeds the retiring current executive director and founder Louise Burnham Packard, served as Executive Director of STRIVE, a social justice nonprofit focused on young adults in Boston, from 2008-2017, during which time she transitioned the organization to become a part of Justice Resource Institute. She has most recently been a consultant to nonprofit organizations and has been a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Non-Profit Practice since 2010 where she mentors a cohort of emerging nonprofit leaders of color.

In accepting her new role, Higgins stated, "I am both humbled and honored to receive the baton of leadership for Trinity Boston Connects from its founding Executive Director, Louise Burnham Packard. Under her focused leadership and the strategic guidance of the board of directors, TBC has breathed new life into thousands of Boston's youth and youth-serving organizations for nearly two decades."

"While the challenges facing our young people are more complex and daunting than in years past, I believe the passion, commitment and tenacity of this great organization will make a significant impact in this generation and those to come."

Higgins attended Boston Public Schools and graduated from Boston Latin School. She earned a BA in Classical Civilization from Wellesley College, an MA in Latin from the University of Texas and an MBA from Simmons College. She has served as Past Chair and current member of the Board of Trustees of Boston Latin School Alumni Association and just completed a six-year term on the board of the ACLU in Boston. She is a current Board member of the Mass Nonprofit Network and is an adjunct faculty member at Boston College School of Social Work.

About Trinity Boston Connects

Founded in 2007, Trinity Boston Connects grew out of Trinity Church Boston's social justice mission. The 30-person organization engages a diverse set of stakeholders from across the greater Boston region to accomplish its mission.

Trinity Boston Foundation's name change to **Trinity Boston Connects** reinforces its mission to unlock opportunity and change the odds for the youth of color of Boston. Through connections and partnerships, Trinity Boston Connects builds communities that: affirm, inspire, and empower youth and their families; offer holistic support for physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being; and strengthen community health and cohesion across Boston.

Trinity Boston Connects Programs



The organization's expertise lies in the integration of three Community Practices deemed essential for effective youth programming and organizational development: **Trauma Inclusion, Restorative Justice, and Racial Equity**. TBC's direct-service programs aim to develop Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) skills in more than 600 young people per year, skills that research shows lead to academic, career, and life success. The organization also offers professional training, counseling and consulting services, and works collaboratively within schools, government agencies, and community organizations across Boston to help them more equitably and effectively serve over 15,000 young people.

Sole Train: Boston Runs Together connects 400 students in grades 4-12 with 131 adult volunteers at 21 schools across Boston. Sole Train is a community building and mentoring program that uses running as a vehicle for setting and achieving seemingly impossible goals.

Trinity Education for Excellence Program (TEEP) connects 120 middle- and high-school students to a values-based enrichment curriculum that centralizes personal and community growth through a six-year peer mentorship pipeline program. Youth are empowered to pursue excellence through academic enrichment and support, cultural and career exploration, and character and leadership development.

Trinity@McCormack connects students and staff at the McCormack Middle School in Dorchester to support the school in becoming a healing and inclusive educational community. The collaborative partnership creates an environment that understands, embraces, and supports the holistic needs of each student – specifically the needs of students dealing with trauma and toxic stress.

Trinity Boston Counseling Center connects youth and adults working with youth, including those within the juvenile justice system, to culturally competent mental health and wellness services. The Counseling Center sustains youth workers in the stressful work that they do and helps meet the mental health needs of youth through counseling, yoga and mindfulness, training, and consultation.

Organizational Equity Practice (OEP) connects individuals and organizations committed to racial equity to dynamic and holistic learning opportunities. OEP pursues the dismantling of systemic racism, a fundamental barrier to the success and well-being of youth of color, with multiple workstreams including community trainings, cohort-based workshops and organizational consulting and training for youth-serving non-profits.

For more information on how to get involved with Trinity Boston Connects please visit our website at [Trinity Boston Connects](#).

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