## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Lynn Youth Street Outreach Advocacy (LYSOA) is to empower the highest risk youth in our community to reach a positive purpose in life.

Providing Service to youth ages 12-24.



## LYSOA Inc.



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Teresa DiGregorio Executive Director Phone: 781-342-0580 <u>lysoainc@gmail.com</u> www.lysoa.org



# Lynn Youth Street Outreach Advocacy

Our Youth are Our Future

312A Union St. Lynn, Ma 01901

Tel: 781-342-0580

#### **About LYSOA**

Based on a vision of creating a single-purpose organization fully committed to providing street outreach to the highest risk youth in Lynn, Antonio Gutierrez and Teresa DiGregorio founded LYSOA in April 2011. Prior to forming LYSOA, Antonio worked as a street outreach worker funded through the Charles Shannon Grant in the City of Lynn for many years.

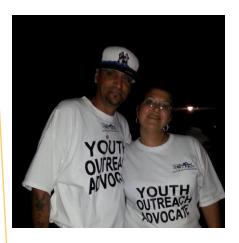
LYSOA joined in a city-wide collaboration called the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative that provided funding to employ a fulltime outreach worker. LYSOA has also established a strong presence in the community, having already become well known as a trusted organization among high-risk youth and by other organizations and government agencies such as the Lynn Police Department and juvenile probation. LYSOA works in collaboration with several other organizations in the Lynn community such as Centerboard, KAYA, Lynn Community Association, and The Lynn Public Schools.

#### Where We Come From

The LYSOA team is made up of two Hispanic/American Outreach Advocates, both of whom are fluently bilingual in Spanish and English. LYSOA's Executive Director has a cultural background of living within a Laos community here in Lynn, is fluent in the Laotian language, and has a good understanding of Southeast Asian religious practices and customs. The LYSOA outreach team members have personal experiences with the legal system and in the street culture that enables them to have an understanding of the program participants including why they are involved in gangs, and how the street dynamics can become all-encompassing. The team's experience and qualifications stem from past street and gang involvement as well as having family members who have been involved in gangs. Because of their past experience and their current status in the community, LYSOA is effective in helping those in need to make positive changes in their life.

#### LYSOA Services

- Street Advocacy (Outreach)
- Mediation Services (Violence Prevention)
- Job search
- Referrals in Community
- Family Development
- Case Management
- Community Service



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