

Here at Roca, after 20 years of work, lessons, loving young people, witnessing the power of young people, and relentless commitment, we have found a powerful solution for young people to live out of harm's way and become economically independent.

Roca is about the privilege of spending time with an supporting four (4) groups of young people, who we often leave behind and who do not participate in other programs: young people from the greater Boston area including the communities of Chelsea, Revere, East Boston, and Charlestown, MA.:

- Some are in gangs, on the streets, or in and out of prison
- Some have dropped out of school or are close to it
- Some are young parents, as young as 12, or with several children
- And many are immigrants, mostly undocumented, far from home, with memories of unspeakable violence or the legacy of their parents' trauma

Our purpose at Roca is to relentlessly build relationships with the young people everyone has left behind, to support them to live safely and succeed. As we realize our vision, young people will leave the streets and gangs to take responsibility for their actions and have jobs. Young immigrant mothers will be able to raise their children in safety and be recognized for their contributions to society. Our communities will have the ability to keep young people out of harm's way and, in turn, thrive through young people's participation and leadership.

(rocainc.org)