



## Jon Santiago

Born in Puerto Rico, Jon and his family left in search of opportunity and made their way to Boston. The move allowed his father to finish college at Northeastern University while they lived in subsidized housing and relied on government support. But while Boston offered the promise of expanded opportunity, Jon's family also found a city facing a scourge of gun violence, struggling schools, and worsening inequity.

At ten years old, Jon learned that his uncle had been diagnosed with HIV, a disease that would eventually claim his life. The memory of his uncle's inability to access care while living just blocks away from the world's greatest health care institutions remains a central motivation to Jon's public service. It's a story that reflects the systemic inequities that too many families across Boston face and it sparked Jon's lifelong interest to serve those most in need.

After college, drawn to service, Jon volunteered for the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic; won a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Paris; and ultimately spent almost five years abroad working across Europe, Latin America, and Africa.

Jon returned to Boston with a plan to study medicine and give back. A graduate of Yale Medicine, Jon now works as an ER doctor at Boston Medical Center, the city's safety net hospital. Jon also serves as captain in the U.S. Army Reserve and has been deployed overseas.

Beyond his work in the ER, Jon has fought to address health disparities and combat the opioid epidemic as a state representative. Jon secured millions of dollars for his neighborhood to address the opioid crisis, helped to preserve and expand affordable housing, and worked to pass a once-in-a-generation education reform bill. Jon also successfully lobbied the MBTA to preserve the #43 MBTA bus, protecting vital public transportation serving vulnerable communities. Jon is proud to have been a leader in one of the most productive and progressive legislative sessions in history.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Jon has been one of the city's leading voices informing and educating the public. In addition to doubling his hours in the emergency room, Jon served as a member of the House of Representative COVID-19 Working Group to advise policy making and ensure state government accountability. Jon is actively working with community leaders across the city and has filed legislation to ensure equitable distribution of vaccinations to working families and communities of color.

Now, Jon Santiago is running for mayor of Boston. He will bring his life's work as a public servant to City Hall and work in partnership to lead the city through a recovery rooted in equity and opportunity.

