



August 24, 2018

Dear MetroLacrosse Family,

With the spring 2018 season behind us, we are proud to announce that the past year has been one of the most impactful since MetroLacrosse's inception nearly 18 years ago. In addition, I am writing to share some changes that will reshape the structure of our organization going forward. We are excited to announce that we are in the process of merging MetroLacrosse with one of our long-time partners, [Harlem Lacrosse](#).

Harlem Lacrosse is a national youth development organization that operates school-based programs in New York, Baltimore, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and since 2016, Boston (Mattapan and Dorchester). Many of you will recognize the name from our collaboration at the annual overnight summer camp (SummerBounce), our youth scrimmages the past two years in Boston, or from our annual spring trip to the University of Pennsylvania Urban Lacrosse Jamboree. As part of [Harlem Lacrosse - Boston](#), we will continue to serve our current participants through community programs while combining our staff and resources to adopt the Harlem Lacrosse program model at specific public schools. The school sites will have full-time staff members in each school, all day, for the entire school year. In addition to leading all of the after-school enrichment and athletic experiences, these in-school Program Directors will provide academic and behavioral support, including study halls, so that our students can leverage their participation in the program to achieve greater success in the classroom. Current MetroLacrosse participants that do not attend Harlem Lacrosse-Boston designated schools will continue their participation at their existing fields in Dorchester in Chelsea.

Since my first season as a MetroLacrosse youth participant in 2001 through my current role as Program Director, this organization has existed for the purpose of expanding access to lacrosse and using the sport as a platform to cultivate life skills and create opportunities for growth. Joining forces with Harlem Lacrosse will put us in an even better position to continue changing the trajectory of young people's lives, and I know it will help us create the most comprehensive and rewarding experiences for the kids in our program. Thank you for being a part of the MetroLacrosse community and for supporting our work through this transition.

I will continue leading the community programs and actively coaching teams in both Boston and Chelsea. Although my email address will be changing to a *HarlemLacrosse.org* account, I am not going anywhere! I am sure there will be many questions regarding our upcoming programs. Please do not hesitate to contact me through this current email address or at coachpat@harlemlacrosse.org.

Best,

Patrick Cronin

Program Director

MetroLacrosse → Harlem Lacrosse-Boston