

June 17, 2024

The Honorable Michael J. Rodrigues
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz
Chair, House Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs Rodrigues and Michlewitz:

Pursuant to Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024, we are transmitting to you this report on overflow emergency shelter sites.

Sincerely,

Secretary Matthew J. Gorzkowicz,
Executive Office for Administration
and Finance

Secretary Edward Augustus,
Executive Office for Housing and
Livable Communities

MEMORANDUM

TO: House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means
FR: Executive Office for Administration and Finance, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities
DT: June 17, 2024
RE: Monthly Overflow report

Background/Narrative

The table below includes key datapoints outlined in Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024. The data is updated as of June 13, 2024. The Administration continues to pursue key activities related to these datapoints below.

Caseload

Datapoint	Value as of 06/13/24	Notes
Number of families in overflow	272	This currently includes three state-funded overflow sites (Cambridge, Chelsea, and Lexington) and two clinical and safety risk assessment sites (Revere and Quincy). Families at these two types of sites are currently on the waitlist for the Emergency Assistance shelter system and are placed in site based on site availability and a family's health and safety needs.
Number of families new to the overflow emergency shelter site since the last report	N/A	
Total number of individuals in overflow	919	
Number of individuals new to the overflow emergency shelter site since the last report	N/A	

Average Length of Stay

Datapoint	Value as of 06/13/24	Notes
Average length of stay, for individuals at overflow sites	43 days	

Family with the longest length of stay	188 days	
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Exits

Datapoint	Value as of 06/13/24	Notes
Families that have been placed in EA from overflow	319 families	Data from 5/1 - 6/13
Families that have left overflow to a non-EA location	40 families	Data from 5/1 - 6/13

Overflow Services

Datapoint	Notes (as of 6/13/24)
Types of services provided to families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelter diversion services, including HomeBASE • Family Welcome Center services, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Basic needs provisions, including but not limited to diapers, wipes, hygiene products, baby formula, and meals ○ Employment authorization legal assistance ○ Public benefits enrollment ○ Vaccinations and health screenings ○ Referrals to other services such as ESOL courses, legal assistance, mental health services, health care services • Overflow and safety net shelter and services including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Temporary shelter ○ Case management and wraparound services ○ ESOL courses ○ Legal assistance for work authorization applications ○ Diversion services, including but not limited to job training and employment assistance, housing search, and application assistance for housing programs ○ School enrollment • Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment site services for eligible families on the waitlist, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clinical supports and connections to care • Case management services
Hours of operations for services provided to families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridge overflow site: 5pm-10am Monday-Friday; 24 hours Saturday and Sunday • Chelsea overflow site: 24/7 • Lexington overflow site: 24/7
A procurement record for state-funded overflow sites for supplies and services	<p>EOHHS issued a Bid Solicitation (BD-24-1039-EHS01-ASHWA-96820) for the purposes of procuring one or more qualified vendor(s) to operate and staff one or more overflow emergency overnight shelter site(s) on January 8, 2024. Link to the procurement and materials can be accessed here: COMMBUYS - Bid Solicitation Bids were due April 5, 2024. Selected qualified vendors have been notified by EOHHS and contract negotiations are nearly complete. Contracts execution is anticipated in late June.</p> <p>EOHHS also issued a Bid Solicitation for the purposes of procuring one or more qualified vendor(s) to operate and staff one or more Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Site(s) on January 8, 2024. Link to the procurement and materials can be accessed here: COMMBUYS - Bid Solicitation Bids were due April 5, 2024. Selected vendors have been notified by EOHHS and contract</p>

	negotiations are nearly complete. Contract execution is anticipated by end of June.
Efforts made to connect families with additional services, including RAs, HomeBASE or other housing programs	Case managers at overflow sites meet regularly with families to assess needs, develop rehousing plans, and connect families with services include housing and employment programs to expedite rapid rehousing efforts.