

June 3, 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 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024, we are transmitting to you this bi-weekly report on the Emergency Housing Assistance Program.

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 3, 2024
RE: Bi-weekly EA report

Background/Narrative

The table below includes key datapoints outlined in Chapter 77 of the Acts of 2023 and Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024. The data is updated as of May 30, 2024. The Administration continues to pursue key activities related to these datapoints below.

Caseload

Datapoint	Value as of 05/30/24	Notes
Total families in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	3,755	Estimate based on family head of household citizenship status and primary language spoken.
Total families currently in shelters, hotels or motels, by municipality	See Appendix A	Families are supported across traditional EA shelters and hotels/motels.
Number of families applying for shelter in the previous 14 days	433	Not all families that apply for shelter are eligible.
Number of families in overflow	374	
Number of exits from EA in the previous 14 days (families)	120	
Average length of stay in the EA program	362 days	Based on families active in EA shelters/hotels on 5/30/2024
Number of new student enrollments associated with the EA program	69	Data includes newly enrolled students in K-12 districts from hotel EA sites and overflow shelter sites between May 13, 2024 and May 21, 2024. Future reports will include new enrollment for previous two weeks. There may be a lag in data reporting to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education from school districts.
Number of families certified pursuant to	N/A	Reporting will begin when 60-day rehousing plan compliance policy is implemented

G.L. Chapter 23B Section 30 paragraph G		
Number of families not certified pursuant to G.L. Chapter 23B Section 30 paragraph G	N/A	Reporting will begin when 60-day rehousing plan compliance policy is implemented

Waitlist

Datapoint	Value as of 05/30/24	Notes
Number of families on the EA waitlist	798	
Number of families on the waitlist who have been placed in the last 14 days	173	
Services provided to families on the EA waitlist	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 - Diversion services - School enrollment - Referrals to health services 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 	

Work Authorizations

- **Work Authorization Clinics:** In partnership with the Department of Homeland Security and multiple Massachusetts state agencies, the Administration successfully ran two weeks of work authorization clinics for migrants staying in emergency family shelter (November 13-17 and November 27-30). In total, the work authorization clinics supported 2,910 individuals, completed 1,951 biometrics with USCIS, vaccinated 1,031 adults and children, and facilitated 734 visits to MassHire stations.

Datapoint	Value as of 05/30/24	Notes
Total number of individuals in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have work authorizations	2,713	<p>Adults who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers in EA shelter system who have self-reported that they have confirmed work authorization plus the number of approved work authorizations resulting from the work authorization clinic as reported by USCIS. This excludes (1) US citizens, green card holders, and other categories of individuals who have not recently migrated but are eligible to work; and (2) those who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have applied for work authorization but who have not reported confirmation of approved work authorization.</p> <p>While this number is unchanged from the last biweekly report, the Administration continues to partner with the Department of Homeland Security to verify additional work authorizations granted via the November work authorization clinic.</p>
Total number of individuals in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have filed for work authorizations	3,711	In addition to the approved work authorization efforts, the Administration is working with local legal services providers to file additional work authorization applications for migrants staying in emergency shelter.

Fiscal

Datapoint	Value as of 05/30/24	Notes
Total amount expended on the emergency housing assistance program in FY24	\$655 M	Spending to date includes shelter & associated services, National Guard activation, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Temporary Emergency Shelters, Family Welcome Centers, municipal payments, and overflow spending. Because the Commonwealth typically pays service providers and vendors monthly, spending to date is largely reflective of costs through mid-March; March invoices are currently being received and processed.

Total amount expended on supplemental school district costs, by district	See Appendix B	FY23 and FY24 school district per-pupil emergency aid payments detailed in Appendix B.
Total amount expended on municipal supports, by municipality	\$24.2 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$23 M spent on FY24 school district per-pupil emergency aid payments detailed in Appendix B; • \$1.2 M spent on Q1 and Q2 municipal room occupancy tax reimbursements.
Total amount spent for any other purpose from 1599-0514 and 1599-1213	\$209.2 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$153.1 M spent to pay shelter providers; • \$23 M for emergency per-pupil student aid; • \$20.5 M spent to pay service providers at Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment and overflow sites; • \$7.1 M spent for National Guard payroll; • \$2.7 M for additional educational supports for homeless student transportation and multi-lingual faculty • \$1.2 M for municipal reimbursements; • \$674 K spent for life safety improvements to overflow shelters including the Registry of Deeds building in Cambridge, the Melnea Cass building in Roxbury, and the Veterans Home in Chelsea; • \$381 K for vaccine record reviews • \$359 K spent for Regional Response Team Leads • \$28 K spent for nursing staff supporting overflow sites; • \$9 K spent for Immigrant Family Services Institute <p><i>Note:</i> Figure is inclusive of municipal payments reported above.</p>
Projected FY24 deficiency	\$0	The recently signed supplemental budget will address all spending needs for the remainder of FY24, which includes shelter & associated services, staffing, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Family Welcome Centers, school district reimbursements, immigration and refugee health, community, and workforce supports, and municipal support.

Projected FY25 costs through the end of FY25	\$915 M	While \$915 M represents projected FY25 costs, when one subtracts assumed FY25 resources consistent with the FY25 House and SWM budgets and recently signed supp, the gap between projected FY25 costs and assumed resources is \$415 M. Estimate includes shelter & associated services, staffing, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Family Welcome Centers, school district reimbursements, immigration and refugee health, community, and workforce supports, and municipal support.
Current funded capacity of the EA program	7,500	Sufficient funding exists to support a capacity of 7,500 through the end of FY24.
Expenditures from TEF consistent with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 in the previous 14 days, delineated by purpose	\$0	No transfer from TEF to 1599-0514 in accordance with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 has yet occurred.
Total expenditures from TEF consistent with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 since July 1, 2024, delineated by purpose	\$0	Not applicable at this time.
Efforts by A&F to maximize federal support and reimbursement for funds spent on EA	<p>A&F and other executive branch agencies continue to aggressively pursue federal support for the EA program. So far, the following have been secured:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of revised 1115 waiver, which may bring additional reimbursements on HHS-related EA program costs directly to the General Fund • \$1.8 M portion of joint City of Boston-Commonwealth of Massachusetts award within FEMA Shelter and Services Program (SSP) in 2023 • \$7 M award for additional FEMA SSP grant via the first 2024 funding round <p>A&F is currently pursuing a third SSP grant application and evaluating additional avenues for federal support.</p>	

Appendix A: Total Families Currently in Shelters, Hotels or Motels by Municipality

Town	Total Families
Acton	28
Amherst	6
Andover	19
Arlington	10
Ashland	2
Attleboro	15
Auburn	87
Ayer	47
Barnstable	34
Beverly	28
Boston	1,289
Bourne	45
Braintree	7
Bridgewater	4
Brockton	168
Brookline	33
Burlington	34
Cambridge	32
Chelmsford	3
Chelsea	31
Chicopee	128
Concord	92
Danvers	174
Dedham	160
Devens	11
Everett	104
Fall River	93
Falmouth	10
Fitchburg	9
Foxborough	88
Framingham	187
Franklin	90
Gardner	38
Gloucester	7
Great Barrington	14
Greenfield	57
Hanson	1
Haverhill	73
Holyoke	173
Hudson	51

Kingston	95
Lawrence	56
Leicester	37
Lexington	26
Lowell	346
Ludlow	1
Lynn	286
Malden	63
Marlborough	159
Marshfield	21
Medford	41
Medway	11
Methuen	75
Middleborough	52
Milford	77
Milton	2
New Bedford	26
North Attleboro	1
Northampton	13
Northborough	14
Norton	22
Norwell	12
Norwood	77
Peabody	241
Pittsfield	24
Plainville	59
Plymouth	37
Raynham	78
Revere	26
Rockland	56
Salem	125
Saugus	76
Sharon	72
Shrewsbury	79
South Hadley	8
Southbridge	1
Springfield	284
Stoneham	1
Stoughton	220
Sturbridge	20
Taunton	187
Tewksbury	28
Wakefield	1

Waltham	53
Watertown	41
West Springfield	83
Westborough	83
Westminster	29
Weymouth	6
Woburn	159
Worcester	364
Total	7,435

Appendix B: Amount Expended on Supplemental School District Costs by District

District	<i>FY23 – First Tranche</i>		<i>FY23 – Second Tranche</i>		<i>FY24 – First Tranche</i>		<i>FY24 – Second Tranche</i>		Total to Date
	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	
	(Oct. 1, 2022 – Mar. 1, 2023)		(Mar 2, 2023 – end of school year)		(Sept. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023)		(Dec. 1, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024)		
Acton-Boxborough							\$49,193	5/16/2024	\$49,193
Andover					\$16,048	1/29/2024	\$72,374	5/16/2024	\$88,422
Arlington							\$114,645	5/16/2024	\$114,645
Ashburnham-Westminster					\$61,570	1/29/2024	\$81,395	5/16/2024	\$142,965
Auburn					\$121,568	1/29/2024	\$133,840	5/16/2024	\$255,407
Ayer Shirley School District					\$61,570	1/29/2024	\$92,408	5/16/2024	\$153,979
Bedford					\$284,252	1/29/2024	\$260,547	5/16/2024	\$544,799
Billerica					\$94,611	1/29/2024	\$87,268	5/16/2024	\$181,879
Boston							\$620,844	5/16/2024	\$620,844
Bourne					\$221,737	1/29/2024	\$214,710	5/16/2024	\$436,447
Braintree					\$40,488	1/29/2024	\$47,935	5/16/2024	\$88,422
Bridgewater-Raynham							\$105,519	5/16/2024	\$105,519
Burlington			\$44,200	8/30/2023	\$142,021	1/29/2024	\$147,895	5/16/2024	\$334,116
Cambridge			\$11,648	8/30/2023			\$74,577	5/16/2024	\$86,225
Chelsea							\$154,713	5/16/2024	\$154,713
Chicopee			\$52,416	8/30/2023	\$101,009	1/29/2024	\$394,177	5/16/2024	\$547,602
Concord			\$39,832	8/30/2023	\$148,944	1/29/2024	\$139,713	5/16/2024	\$328,489

Concord-Carlisle			\$13,312	8/30/2023			\$46,991	5/16/2024	\$60,303
Danvers					\$251,946	1/29/2024	\$454,383	5/16/2024	\$706,329
Dartmouth					\$62,514	1/29/2024	\$72,059	5/16/2024	\$134,574
Dedham			\$5,824	8/30/2023	\$477,354	1/29/2024	\$280,791	5/16/2024	\$763,969
Dennis-Yarmouth					\$112,652	1/29/2024	\$177,474	5/16/2024	\$290,126
Everett							\$595,461	5/16/2024	\$595,461
Fairhaven					\$30,418	1/29/2024	\$44,473	5/16/2024	\$74,891
Foxborough					\$214,710	1/29/2024	\$275,231	5/16/2024	\$489,941
Framingham					\$231,387	1/29/2024	\$244,079	5/16/2024	\$475,466
Franklin					\$198,557	1/29/2024	\$385,576	5/16/2024	\$584,132
Gardner					\$163,628	1/29/2024	\$145,482	5/16/2024	\$309,111
Greenfield			\$18,200	8/30/2023	\$68,598	1/29/2024	\$205,060	5/16/2024	\$291,858
Hadley					\$22,237	1/29/2024	\$47,725	5/16/2024	\$69,962
Holyoke					\$75,626				\$75,626
Hudson					\$83,283	1/29/2024	\$115,799	5/16/2024	\$199,081
King Philip					\$64,717	1/29/2024	\$90,835	5/16/2024	\$155,552
Kingston	\$87,984	6/22/2023	\$130,416	8/30/2023	\$101,848	1/29/2024	\$248,170	5/16/2024	\$568,418
Leicester					\$81,604	1/29/2024	\$87,478	5/16/2024	\$169,083
Lexington					\$24,964	1/29/2024	\$81,919	5/16/2024	\$106,883
Lowell							\$87,898	5/16/2024	\$87,898
Malden					\$420	1/29/2024	\$104,156	5/16/2024	\$104,575
Mansfield					\$48,249	1/29/2024	\$50,242	5/16/2024	\$98,492
Marlborough	\$38,064	6/22/2023	\$104,832	8/30/2023	\$423,756	1/29/2024	\$570,287	5/16/2024	\$1,136,939
Methuen	\$237,952	6/22/2023	\$376,480	8/30/2023	\$277,959	1/29/2024	\$454,803	5/16/2024	\$1,347,194
Middleborough					\$116,743	1/29/2024	\$186,599	5/16/2024	\$303,342
Milford					\$40,907	1/29/2024	\$161,321	5/16/2024	\$202,228

North Attleborough					\$113,806	1/29/2024	\$174,117	5/16/2024	\$287,923
Northboro-Southboro					\$25,488	1/29/2024	\$39,439	5/16/2024	\$64,927
Northborough					\$46,152	1/29/2024	\$66,081	5/16/2024	\$112,232
Norton					\$3,147	1/29/2024	\$35,453	5/16/2024	\$38,600
Norwood			\$3,432	8/30/2023	\$12,692	1/29/2024	\$112,232	5/16/2024	\$128,356
Oxford	\$21,320	6/22/2023	\$50,232	8/30/2023					\$71,552
Peabody			\$43,472	8/30/2023	\$183,348	1/29/2024	\$418,826	5/16/2024	\$645,645
Pittsfield					\$8,916	1/29/2024	\$38,495	5/16/2024	\$47,410
Plainville					\$111,183	1/29/2024	\$124,924	5/16/2024	\$236,107
Plymouth	\$93,496	6/22/2023	\$123,864	8/30/2023	\$135,728	1/29/2024	\$155,027	5/16/2024	\$508,115
Revere			\$11,544	8/30/2023			\$306,384	5/16/2024	\$317,928
Rockland					\$36,082	1/29/2024	\$63,878	5/16/2024	\$99,960
Salem	\$52,936	7/10/2023	\$231,504	8/30/2023	\$388,303	1/29/2024	\$330,194	5/16/2024	\$1,002,937
Saugus					\$98,072	1/29/2024	\$124,400	5/16/2024	\$222,472
Seekonk					\$84,751	1/29/2024	\$34,299	5/16/2024	\$119,050
Sharon					\$6,503	1/29/2024	\$230,338	5/16/2024	\$236,842
Shrewsbury			\$102,648	8/30/2023	\$310,055	1/29/2024	\$261,805	5/16/2024	\$674,508
Silver Lake	\$27,248	6/22/2023	\$64,584	8/30/2023	\$77,409	1/29/2024	\$66,500	5/16/2024	\$235,741
Somerset					\$43,949	1/29/2024	\$111,813	5/16/2024	\$155,762
Somerset Berkley Regional School District					\$5,245	1/29/2024	\$34,928	5/16/2024	\$40,173
Stoughton					\$43,949	1/29/2024	\$475,680	5/16/2024	\$519,629
Sturbridge					\$302,398	1/29/2024	\$61,361	5/16/2024	\$363,759
Sutton					\$90,625	1/29/2024	\$79,297	5/16/2024	\$169,922
Swansea					\$59,158	1/29/2024	\$79,507	5/16/2024	\$138,665
Tantasqua					\$37,865	1/29/2024	\$19,719	5/16/2024	\$57,585

Taunton			\$61,672	8/30/2023	\$345,508	1/29/2024	\$324,949	5/16/2024	\$732,129
Waltham					\$58,214	1/29/2024	\$74,262	5/16/2024	\$132,476
Wareham					\$58,843	1/29/2024	\$56,850	5/16/2024	\$115,694
Watertown							\$152,930	5/16/2024	\$152,930
West Springfield	\$71,864	6/22/2023	\$295,360	8/30/2023	\$383,058	1/29/2024	\$785,836	5/16/2024	\$1,536,118
Westborough	\$44,928	6/22/2023	\$142,064	8/30/2023	\$194,256	1/29/2024	\$191,739	5/16/2024	\$572,987
Woburn					\$464,348	1/29/2024	\$443,475	5/16/2024	\$907,823
Worcester	\$201,240	6/21/2023	\$235,040	8/30/2023	\$586,020	1/29/2024	\$745,034	5/16/2024	\$1,767,334
Total	\$877,032		\$2,162,576		\$8,782,964		\$14,225,815		\$26,048,387