

May 20, 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 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: May 20, 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 16, 2024. The Administration continues to pursue key activities related to these datapoints below.

Caseload

Datapoint	Value as of 05/16/24	Notes
Total families in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	3,731	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	514	Not all families that apply for shelter are eligible.
Number of families in overflow	338	
Number of exits from EA in the previous 14 days (families)	118	
Average length of stay in the EA program	365 days	
Number of new student enrollments associated with the EA program	64	Data includes newly enrolled students in K-12 districts from hotel EA sites and overflow shelter sites between April 1, 2024 and May 10, 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 05/16/24	Notes
Number of families on the EA waitlist	778	
Number of families on the waitlist who have been placed in the last 14 days	162	
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 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 05/16/24	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	3,605	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 05/16/24	Notes
Total amount expended on the emergency housing assistance program in FY24	\$591 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	\$10 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$8.9 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	\$145.7 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$107.5 M spent to pay shelter providers; • \$20.5 M spent to pay service providers at Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment and overflow sites; • \$8.9 M for emergency per-pupil student aid; • \$6.2 M spent for National Guard payroll; • \$1.2 M for municipal reimbursements; • \$631 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	5
Andover	19
Arlington	11
Ashland	2
Attleboro	13
Auburn	87
Ayer	46
Barnstable	32
Beverly	26
Boston	1,292
Bourne	47
Braintree	11
Bridgewater	4
Brockton	168
Brookline	34
Burlington	34
Cambridge	33
Chelmsford	3
Chelsea	32
Chicopee	123
Concord	91
Danvers	172
Dedham	159
Devens	12
Everett	102
Fall River	94
Falmouth	10
Fitchburg	10
Foxborough	87
Framingham	183
Franklin	92
Gardner	39
Gloucester	7
Great Barrington	14
Greenfield	56
Hanson	1
Haverhill	72
Holyoke	173
Hudson	52

Kingston	95
Lawrence	61
Leicester	35
Lexington	26
Lowell	350
Ludlow	1
Lynn	292
Malden	63
Marlborough	155
Marshfield	21
Medford	42
Medway	12
Melrose	1
Methuen	76
Middleborough	54
Milford	77
Milton	2
New Bedford	25
North Attleboro	1
Northampton	15
Northborough	14
Norton	22
Norwell	15
Norwood	67
Peabody	238
Pittsfield	28
Plainville	58
Plymouth	36
Raynham	75
Revere	26
Rockland	56
Salem	134
Saugus	75
Sharon	72
Shrewsbury	83
South Hadley	8
Southbridge	1
Springfield	274
Stoneham	1
Stoughton	221
Sturbridge	20
Taunton	187
Tewksbury	27

Wakefield	1
Waltham	53
Watertown	42
West Springfield	88
Westborough	82
Westminster	35
Weymouth	9
Woburn	157
Worcester	355
Total	7,440

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>		Total to Date
	Amount (Oct. 1, 2022 – Mar. 1, 2023)	Date	Amount (Mar 2, 2023 – end of school year)	Date	Amount (Sept. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023)	Date	
Andover	\$-		\$-		\$16,048	1/29/2024	\$16,048
Ashburnham- Westminster	\$-		\$-		\$61,570	1/29/2024	\$61,570
Auburn	\$-		\$-		\$121,568	1/29/2024	\$121,568
Ayer Shirley School District	\$-		\$-		\$61,570	1/29/2024	\$61,570
Bedford	\$-		\$-		\$284,252	1/29/2024	\$284,252
Billerica	\$-		\$-		\$94,611	1/29/2024	\$94,611
Boston	\$-		\$-		\$13,100	1/29/2024	\$13,100
Bourne	\$-		\$-		\$221,737	1/29/2024	\$221,737
Braintree	\$-		\$-		\$40,488	1/29/2024	\$40,488
Bridgewater- Raynham	\$-		\$-		\$7,500	1/29/2024	\$7,500
Burlington	\$-		\$44,200	8/30/2023	\$142,021	1/29/2024	\$186,221
Cambridge	\$-		\$11,648	8/30/2023	\$10,570	1/29/2024	\$22,218
Chicopee	\$-		\$52,416	8/30/2023	\$101,009	1/29/2024	\$153,425
Concord	\$-		\$39,832	8/30/2023	\$148,944	1/29/2024	\$188,776
Concord-Carlisle	\$-		\$13,312	8/30/2023	\$-		\$13,312
Danvers	\$-		\$-		\$251,946	1/29/2024	\$251,946
Dartmouth	\$-		\$-		\$62,514	1/29/2024	\$62,514
Dedham	\$-		\$5,824	8/30/2023	\$477,354	1/29/2024	\$483,178
Dennis-Yarmouth	\$-		\$-		\$112,652	1/29/2024	\$112,652

Fairhaven	\$-		\$-		\$30,418	1/29/2024	\$30,418
Foxborough	\$-		\$-		\$214,710	1/29/2024	\$214,710
Framingham	\$-		\$-		\$233,887	1/29/2024	\$233,887
Franklin	\$-		\$-		\$198,557	1/29/2024	\$198,557
Gardner	\$-		\$-		\$163,628	1/29/2024	\$163,628
Greenfield	\$-		\$18,200	8/30/2023	\$68,598	1/29/2024	\$86,798
Hadley	\$-		\$-		\$22,237	1/29/2024	\$22,237
Holyoke	\$-		\$-		\$75,626	1/29/2024	\$75,626
Hudson	\$-		\$-		\$83,283	1/29/2024	\$83,283
King Philip	\$-		\$-		\$64,717	1/29/2024	\$64,717
Kingston	\$87,984	6/22/2023	\$130,416	8/30/2023	\$101,848	1/29/2024	\$320,248
Leicester	\$-		\$-		\$81,604	1/29/2024	\$81,604
Lexington	\$-		\$-		\$24,964	1/29/2024	\$24,964
Lowell	\$-		\$-		\$20,000	1/29/2024	\$20,000
Malden	\$-		\$-		\$420	1/29/2024	\$420
Mansfield	\$-		\$-		\$48,249	1/29/2024	\$48,249
Marlborough	\$38,064	6/22/2023	\$104,832	8/30/2023	\$423,756	1/29/2024	\$566,652
Methuen	\$237,952	6/22/2023	\$376,480	8/30/2023	\$277,959	1/29/2024	\$892,391
Middleborough	\$-		\$-		\$116,743	1/29/2024	\$116,743
Milford	\$-		\$-		\$40,907	1/29/2024	\$40,907
North Attleborough	\$-		\$-		\$113,806	1/29/2024	\$113,806
Northboro-Southboro	\$-		\$-		\$25,488	1/29/2024	\$25,488
Northborough	\$-		\$-		\$46,152	1/29/2024	\$46,152
Norton	\$-		\$-		\$3,147	1/29/2024	\$3,147
Norwood	\$-		\$3,432	8/30/2023	\$12,692	1/29/2024	\$16,124
Oxford	\$21,320	6/22/2023	\$50,232	8/30/2023	\$-		\$71,552
Peabody	\$-		\$43,472	8/30/2023	\$183,348	1/29/2024	\$226,820
Pittsfield	\$-		\$-		\$8,916	1/29/2024	\$8,916
Plainville	\$-		\$-		\$111,183	1/29/2024	\$111,183

Plymouth	\$93,496	6/22/2023	\$123,864	8/30/2023	\$135,728	1/29/2024	\$353,088
Revere	\$-		\$11,544	8/30/2023	\$6,800	1/29/2024	\$18,344
Rockland	\$-		\$-		\$36,082	1/29/2024	\$36,082
Salem	\$52,936	7/10/2023	\$231,504	8/30/2023	\$394,803	1/29/2024	\$679,243
Saugus	\$-		\$-		\$98,072	1/29/2024	\$98,072
Seekonk	\$-		\$-		\$84,751	1/29/2024	\$84,751
Sharon	\$-		\$-		\$11,203	1/29/2024	\$6,503
Shrewsbury	\$-		\$102,648	8/30/2023	\$310,055	1/29/2024	\$412,703
Silver Lake	\$27,248	6/22/2023	\$64,584	8/30/2023	\$77,409	1/29/2024	\$169,241
Somerset	\$-		\$-		\$43,949	1/29/2024	\$43,949
Somerset Berkley Regional School District	\$-		\$-		\$5,245	1/29/2024	\$5,245
Stoughton	\$-		\$-		\$58,849	1/29/2024	\$43,949
Sturbridge	\$-		\$-		\$302,398	1/29/2024	\$302,398
Sutton	\$-		\$-		\$90,625	1/29/2024	\$90,625
Swansea	\$-		\$-		\$59,158	1/29/2024	\$59,158
Tantasqua	\$-		\$-		\$37,865	1/29/2024	\$37,865
Taunton	\$-		\$61,672	8/30/2023	\$345,508	1/29/2024	\$407,180
Waltham	\$-		\$-		\$58,214	1/29/2024	\$58,214
Wareham	\$-		\$-		\$58,843	1/29/2024	\$58,843
West Springfield	\$71,864	6/22/2023	\$295,360	8/30/2023	\$383,058	1/29/2024	\$750,282
Westborough	\$44,928	6/22/2023	\$142,064	8/30/2023	\$194,256	1/29/2024	\$381,248
Woburn	\$-		\$-		\$464,348	1/29/2024	\$464,348
Worcester	\$201,240	6/21/2023	\$235,040	8/30/2023	\$586,020	1/29/2024	\$1,022,300
Total	\$877,032		\$2,162,576		\$8,869,534		\$11,894,242