

December 16, 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: December 16, 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 December 12, 2024. The Administration continues to pursue key activities related to these datapoints below.

Caseload

Datapoint	Value as of 12/12/24	Notes
Total families in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers	3,265	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	792	Not all families that apply for shelter are eligible.
Number of families in Temporary Respite Centers (TRCs) and Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment (CSRA) sites	235	This currently includes three state-funded Temporary Respite Centers (Chelsea, Lexington, and Norfolk) and two clinical and safety risk assessment sites (Revere and Quincy). Families at these two types of sites are placed in site based on site availability and a family's health and safety needs.
Number of exits from EA in the previous 14 days (families)	190	Exits from November 28 – December 11
Average length of stay in the EA program	353 days	Based on families active in EA shelters/hotels on 12/12/2024.
Number of new student enrollments associated with the EA program in the last 14 days	67	Data includes newly enrolled students in K-12 districts from hotel EA sites and TRCs from the previous 2 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	6,878	

G.L. Chapter 23B Section 30 paragraph G		
Number of families not certified pursuant to G.L. Chapter 23B Section 30 paragraph G	0	

EA Contact List

Datapoint	Value as of 12/12/24	Notes
Number of families on the EA contact list	431	
Number of families on the contact list who have been placed in the last 14 days	139	Placements from November 28 – December 11
Services provided to families on the EA contact list		<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"> o Basic needs provisions, including but not limited to diapers, wipes, hygiene products, baby formula, and meals o Employment authorization legal assistance o Public benefits enrollment o Vaccinations and health screenings o Reticketing o Referrals to other services such as ESOL courses, legal assistance, mental health services, health care services - Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment site services for eligible families on the bridge shelter contact list, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Clinical supports and connections to care o 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 12/12/24	Notes
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<p>Total number of individuals in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have work authorizations</p>	<p>4,451</p>	<p>Adults who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers in EA shelter system who have self-reported that they have confirmed work authorization, including those who filed for work authorization at the work authorization clinic in November. 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. This number has dropped from prior reports due to individuals with work authorizations exiting the system.</p>
<p>Total number of individuals in EA who entered as migrants, refugees, or asylum seekers who have filed for work authorizations</p>	<p>5,156</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>This number includes those captured above who have confirmed receipt of a work permit, as well as those who have filed and are waiting for their application to be processed. This number has dropped from prior reports due to individuals who filed for work authorizations having exited the system.</p>

Fiscal

Datapoint	Value as of 12/12/24	Notes
<p>Total amount expended on the emergency housing assistance program in FY24</p>	<p>\$856.8 M</p>	<p>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 TRC spending.</p>
<p>Total amount expended on the emergency housing assistance program in FY25</p>	<p>\$331.8 M</p>	<p>Spending to date includes shelter & associated services, National Guard activation, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Temporary Emergency Shelters, TRC spending, and exit programs.</p>
<p>Total amount expended on supplemental school district costs, by district</p>	<p>See Appendix B</p>	<p>FY23 and FY24 school district per-pupil emergency aid payments detailed in Appendix B.</p>

Total amount expended on municipal supports, by municipality	\$45.0 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$43.0 M spent on FY24 school district per-pupil emergency aid payments detailed in Appendix B. • \$2.0 M spent on FY24 Q1, Q2, Q3, and Q4 municipal room occupancy tax reimbursements.
FY24 total amount spent for any other purpose from 1599-0514 and 1599-1213	\$393.2 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$298.3 M spent to pay shelter providers • \$43.0 M for emergency per-pupil student aid • \$31.3 M spent to pay service providers at Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment and Temporary Respite Centers • \$9.7 M spent for National Guard payroll. • \$3.8 M spent for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers • \$3.0 M for additional educational supports for homeless student transportation and multi-lingual faculty • \$2.0 M for municipal reimbursements • \$743 K for community health, including vaccine record reviews • \$524 K spent for Immigrant Family Services Institute • \$359 K spent for Regional Response Team Leads • \$260 K for Neighborhood Villages Pilot Program • \$88 K spent for nursing staff supporting Temporary Respite Centers <p><i>Note:</i> Figure is inclusive of municipal payments reported above.</p>
Projected FY24 deficiency	\$0	FY24 finished without a deficiency.
Projected FY25 costs through the end of FY25	\$1.094 B	Estimate includes shelter & associated services, staffing, Clinical and Safety Risk Assessment Sites, Family Welcome Centers, Temporary Respite Centers, school district reimbursements, immigration and refugee health, community, and workforce supports, municipal support, and exits.
Current funded capacity of the EA program	7,500	Based on historical costs and current projections, sufficient funding exists to support a capacity of 7,500 through late January 2025.

Expenditures from TEF consistent with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 in the previous 14 days, delineated by purpose (line 1599-0514)	\$3.5 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$3.0 M for shelter services • \$364 K for National Guard payroll • \$65 K for Neighborhood Villages Program • \$23 K for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers
Total expenditures from TEF consistent with Section 25 of Chapter 88 of the Acts of 2024 since July 1, 2024, delineated by purpose (line 1599-0514)	\$9.7 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5.9 M for National Guard payroll • \$3.0 M for shelter services • \$567 K for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers • \$254 K for Neighborhood Villages Program
FY25 total amount spent from other appropriations	\$322.1 M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$258.4 M for shelter services • \$35.9 M for HomeBASE • \$19.7 M for Temporary Respite Centers and Clinical Safety Risk Assessment sites • \$5.0 M for United Way Shelter Safety Net Program • \$1.0 M for public and mental health services • \$816 K for immigrant services • \$855 K for life safety improvements at Temporary Respite Centers • \$367 K for technical infrastructure
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-A) in 2023 • \$7 M award for additional FEMA SSP-A grant via the first 2024 funding round <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$6 M of award will be used for FY24 TRC/CSR costs ○ \$1 M is allocated to the City of Boston • \$20.3 M award for FEMA SSP-A and SSP-C grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ \$19 M of award will be used for FY25 TRC/CSR costs ○ \$1.3 M is allocated to the City of Boston 	

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

Town	Total Families
Acton	37
Amherst	5
Andover	28
Ashland	2
Attleboro	15
Auburn	93
Ayer	51
Barnstable	30
Beverly	22
Boston	1,270
Bourne	45
Bridgewater	6
Brockton	183
Brookline	32
Burlington	28
Cambridge	36
Chelmsford	4
Chelsea	22
Chicopee	72
Concord	75
Danvers	145
Dedham	166
Devens	9
Everett	90
Fall River	91
Falmouth	8
Fitchburg	7
Foxborough	68
Framingham	180
Franklin	89
Gardner	40
Gloucester	7
Greenfield	31
Hanson	1
Haverhill	76
Holyoke	173
Hudson	40
Kingston	83
Lawrence	81
Leicester	39
Lexington	25
Lowell	362

Lynn	306
Malden	55
Marlborough	138
Marshfield	21
Medford	39
Medway	11
Melrose	1
Methuen	71
Middleborough	12
Milford	78
Milton	2
New Bedford	27
Northampton	26
Northborough	12
Norton	19
Norwell	14
Norwood	82
Peabody	219
Pittsfield	29
Plainville	35
Plymouth	35
Raynham	59
Revere	27
Rockland	80
Salem	78
Saugus	69
Sharon	68
Shrewsbury	58
South Hadley	8
Southbridge	1
Springfield	283
Stoughton	219
Taunton	169
Tewksbury	27
Waltham	51
Watertown	43
West Springfield	66
Westborough	23
Westminster	33
Weymouth	6
Woburn	98
Worcester	313
Total	6,878

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>	<i>FY24 - Third Tranche</i>	Total to Date
	Amount (Oct. 1, 2022 – Mar. 1, 2023)	Amount (Mar 2, 2023 – end of school year)	Amount (Sept. 1, 2023 – Nov. 30, 2023)	Amount (Dec. 1, 2023 – Feb. 29, 2024)	Amount Mar 1, 2024 - end of school year)	
Acton-Boxborough			\$0	\$49,193	\$197,445	\$246,638
Andover			\$16,048	\$72,374	\$72,374	\$160,796
Arlington			\$0	\$114,645	\$80,765	\$195,410
Ashburnham-Westminster			\$61,570	\$81,395	\$89,681	\$232,646
Auburn			\$121,568	\$152,478	\$293,191	\$567,237
Ayer Shirley School District			\$61,570	\$92,408	\$223,924	\$377,902
Bedford			\$284,252	\$260,547	\$343,095	\$887,894
Berkshire Hills School District			\$0	\$0	\$131,322	\$131,322
Billerica			\$94,611	\$114,993	\$140,895	\$350,499
Boston			\$0	\$751,844	\$1,034,867	\$1,786,711
Bourne			\$221,737	\$214,710	\$12,587	\$449,034
Braintree			\$40,488	\$47,934	\$70,440	\$158,862
Bridgewater-Raynham			\$0	\$223,557	\$219,919	\$443,476
Burlington		\$44,200	\$142,021	\$147,895	\$177,789	\$511,905
Cambridge		\$11,648	\$0	\$180,281	\$230,309	\$422,238
Chelsea			\$0	\$154,713	\$90,730	\$245,443
Chicopee		\$52,416	\$101,009	\$394,177	\$314,040	\$861,642

Concord		\$39,832	\$148,944	\$139,713	\$258,239	\$586,728
Concord-Carlisle		\$13,312	\$0	\$46,991	\$35,348	\$95,651
Danvers			\$251,946	\$517,057	\$694,712	\$1,463,715
Dartmouth			\$62,514	\$72,060	\$9,860	\$144,434
Dedham		\$5,824	\$477,354	\$280,791	\$508,716	\$1,272,685
Dennis-Yarmouth			\$112,652	\$177,474	\$250,049	\$540,175
Everett			\$0	\$595,461	\$376,240	\$971,701
Fairhaven			\$30,418	\$44,473	\$0	\$74,891
Foxborough			\$214,710	\$275,231	\$354,738	\$844,679
Framingham			\$231,387	\$269,079	\$317,685	\$818,151
Franklin			\$198,557	\$385,575	\$434,979	\$1,019,111
Gardner			\$163,628	\$145,482	\$197,928	\$507,038
Greenfield		\$18,200	\$68,598	\$205,060	\$246,701	\$538,559
Hadley			\$22,237	\$47,725	\$73,675	\$143,637
Holyoke			\$75,626	\$0	\$0	\$75,626
Hudson			\$83,283	\$115,798	\$166,880	\$365,961
King Philip			\$64,717	\$90,835	\$104,261	\$259,813
Kingston	\$87,984	\$130,416	\$101,848	\$248,170	\$251,841	\$820,259
Leicester			\$81,604	\$87,479	\$138,472	\$307,555
Lexington			\$24,964	\$81,919	\$239,746	\$346,629
Lowell			\$0	\$256,236	\$431,598	\$687,834
Malden			\$420	\$104,155	\$102,583	\$207,158
Mansfield			\$48,249	\$54,630	\$32,178	\$135,057
Marlborough	\$38,064	\$104,832	\$423,756	\$684,532	\$925,507	\$2,176,691
Methuen	\$237,952	\$376,480	\$277,959	\$454,803	\$412,431	\$1,759,625
Middleborough			\$116,743	\$186,599	\$220,269	\$523,611

Milford			\$40,907	\$161,321	\$265,162	\$467,390
North Attleborough			\$113,806	\$185,840	\$141,046	\$440,692
Northampton			\$0	\$0	\$35,750	\$35,750
Northboro-Southboro			\$25,488	\$39,439	\$34,614	\$99,541
Northborough			\$46,152	\$72,920	\$76,117	\$195,189
Norton			\$3,147	\$35,453	\$31,362	\$69,962
Norwood		\$3,432	\$12,692	\$141,407	\$243,558	\$401,089
Oxford	\$21,320	\$50,232	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$71,552
Peabody		\$43,472	\$183,348	\$542,334	\$697,963	\$1,467,117
Pittsfield			\$8,916	\$38,494	\$49,928	\$97,338
Plainville			\$111,183	\$124,924	\$160,641	\$396,748
Plymouth	\$93,496	\$123,864	\$135,728	\$202,081	\$173,040	\$728,209
Revere		\$11,544	\$0	\$339,384	\$299,719	\$650,647
Rockland			\$36,082	\$63,878	\$187,930	\$287,890
Salem	\$52,936	\$231,504	\$388,303	\$395,194	\$421,343	\$1,489,280
Saugus			\$98,072	\$124,400	\$112,756	\$335,228
Seekonk			\$84,751	\$34,299	\$0	\$119,050
Sharon			\$6,503	\$306,214	\$329,904	\$642,621
Shrewsbury		\$102,648	\$310,055	\$261,805	\$359,773	\$1,034,281
Silver Lake	\$27,248	\$64,584	\$77,409	\$66,500	\$83,493	\$319,234
Somerset			\$43,949	\$111,813	\$83,073	\$238,835
Somerset Berkley Regional School District			\$5,245	\$34,928	\$12,796	\$52,969
Stoughton			\$43,949	\$715,970	\$708,950	\$1,468,869
Sturbridge			\$302,398	\$61,361	\$194,780	\$558,539
Sutton			\$90,625	\$79,297	\$0	\$169,922

Swansea			\$59,158	\$79,507	\$25,488	\$164,153
Tantasqua			\$37,865	\$19,720	\$64,449	\$122,034
Taunton		\$61,672	\$345,508	\$324,949	\$492,773	\$1,224,902
Tewksbury			\$0	\$0	\$5,769	\$5,769
Waltham			\$58,214	\$74,262	\$119,034	\$251,510
Wareham			\$58,843	\$106,477	\$71,540	\$236,860
Watertown			\$0	\$152,930	\$138,664	\$291,594
West Springfield	\$71,864	\$295,360	\$383,058	\$785,836	\$733,496	\$2,269,614
Westborough	\$44,928	\$142,064	\$194,256	\$191,739	\$238,700	\$811,687
Woburn			\$464,348	\$443,475	\$552,036	\$1,459,859
Worcester	\$201,240	\$235,040	\$586,020	\$745,034	\$891,985	\$2,659,319
Total	\$877,032	\$2,162,576	\$8,782,966	\$15,683,657	\$18,545,639	\$46,051,870