



Programs and their Acronyms at the Intersection with Homelessness

September 2025

ACRONYM INITIALS	PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT
ACCESSING SUPPORT WHERE TO START			
BCCC's CE	BRISTOL COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE'S COORDINATED ENTRY	The Bristol County Continuum of Care (BCCC), through its coordinated entry system operated by CCBC, collaborates with agencies across the county (<i>outside of Fall River</i>) to coordinate its homelessness response for those who are unsheltered or are in emergency shelter. Those in need of assistance are asked to either contact the Coordinated Entry (CE) team directly and/or complete the Comprehensive Housing Assistance Tool (CHAT) available online at: https://www.bristolcountycoc.com/coordinated-housing-assessment-tool/	ce@comcounseling.org 508.501.0900
CHAT	COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING ASSISTANCE TOOL		
EOHLC	MASSACHUSETTS' EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HOUSING & LIVABLE COMMUNITIES	Emergency and long-term assistance to multiple state programs providing resources to those experiencing homelessness. See also <i>"RAFT"</i> and <i>HomeBASE</i> .	https://www.mass.gov/info-details/housing-assistance-for-massachusetts-residents
HOUSING & SHELTER			
AHVP	ALTERNATIVE HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM	A Massachusetts program providing rental assistance vouchers to non-elderly individuals with disabilities who are eligible for c.667 housing. (Helps low-income individuals with disabilities find and afford housing). This is administered by local agencies and the state's EOHLC. Applications can be made through CHAMP. (<i>Currently not issuing vouchers.</i>)	
CHAMP	CENTRALIZED HOUSING APPLICATION MANAGEMENT AND PROCESSING SYSTEM	The portal for the state's common housing application. Used for application for MRVPs, the AHVP program and state-aided public housing.	https://www.mass.gov/champ

EA	EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM	A Massachusetts funded initiative providing temporary emergency shelter and rehousing services to eligible families with children and pregnant individuals experiencing homelessness. Eligibility for EA qualifies families for access to HomeBASE.	https://www.mass.gov/how-to/review-eligibility-apply-for-emergency-assistance-ea-family-shelter Massachusetts Emergency Family Shelter Contact Line 866.584.0653
ESG	EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANTS	Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program is a federal initiative that provides funding to assist people who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of becoming homeless by helping them regain stability in permanent housing. Funds support activities such as street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, and rapid re-housing. The program also covers <u>Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)</u> costs and helps operate shelters by providing essential services to residents. While not all communities receive direct federal ESG funding (New Bedford, Fall River and Taunton do), all communities are eligible for state and federal homelessness programs through the <u>Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC)</u> .	New Bedford https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/community-development/
HOMEBASE	HOMEBASE	Funded by the State, HomeBASE helps families who have been found eligible for EA Family Shelter by providing up to \$30,000 over a 2-year period. If a family is found eligible for the Emergency Assistance (EA) Family Shelter program, they may work with a shelter or diversion case worker to apply. HomeBASE can provide financial assistance for rent, moving costs and other housing expenses to help families find or maintain stable housing.	Massachusetts Emergency Family Shelter Contact Line 866.584.0653
TYP	TRANSITIONAL YOUTH PROGRAM	This Catholic Charities program funded through the state serves unaccompanied youth ages 18 – 24 years old in scattered site shelter setting. The shelter sites are in Fall River and New Bedford and include 14 beds and 2 emergency beds. TYP offers case management services to overcome housing barriers and assists with other barriers; the program provides financial assistance related to educational needs, transportation and personal needs, etc.	Referrals should be sent to: Sheila Chasse Schasse@ccfrdioc.org Rosa Albassan Ralbassan@ccfrdioc.org
MRVP	MASSACHUSETTS RENTAL VOUCHER PROGRAM	A <u>state</u> -funded rental assistance program that provides both tenant and project-based rental subsidies for low-income families similar to Section 8. Applications are submitted through the CHAMP system or paper applications. <i>(Currently not issuing vouchers.)</i>	

RAFT	RESIDENTIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES IN TRANSITION	A Massachusetts state program designed to prevent homelessness by providing financial aid to cover immediate housing-related expenses. Financial assistance is given to help individuals and families facing housing instability, including those at risk of homelessness. RAFT can help with a variety of housing-related costs like rent, utilities and moving expenses and can provide up to \$7,000 within a 12-month period.	Applications can be made through the Housing Help HUB at one of the following: https://applyhousinghelp.mass.gov/s/?language=en_US&LanguageCode=en_US NeighborWorks Hsg Solutions 169 Summer Street Kingston, MA 781.422.4204 PACE's Housing Opportunity Center 308 Cottage Street NB 508.993.0033
SECTION 8	SECTION 8 OF THE HOUSING ACT OF 1937	Section 8 is officially known as the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) and is a federal program that provides rental assistance to low-income individuals, families, seniors and those with disabilities. It allows participants to find housing in the private market and pays a portion of their rent directly to landlords. Eligibility for Section 8 is based on income and family size, with preference often given to very low-income families, seniors, and people with disabilities. Section 8 vouchers can be tenant-based (moving with the tenant) or project based (tied to a specific unit/building).	NeighborWorks Hsg Solutions 169 Summer Street Kingston, MA 781.422.4204 New Bedford Housing Authority 128 Union Street, 4th Floor NB 508.997.4800 Taunton Housing Authority 30 Olney Street Taunton, MA 508.823.6308 Attleboro Housing Authority 37 Carlon Street Attleboro MA 508.222.0151
SSP	SELF SUFFICIENT PROGRAM	A state cash benefit program for qualified MA Supplemental Security Income (SSI) applicants. It helps participants increase their earned income and the difference between the original rent and increased rent is placed in an escrow account for the project participant. Participants can then access these funds upon completion of the program for purposes like homeownership, education or debt payments.	State Supplement Program (SSP) Client Assistance Line: (877) 863-1128

TAO	TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE OFFICE (for FAMILIES)	DTA's local office lobby is open for services, including new self-service options. Visitors can use their phones, copiers, or kiosks to apply for benefits or manage their case. DTA staff and interpreters are available. If an EBT card is needed, one can request it be sent to the recipient via mail on the DTA Connect mobile app , DTAConnect.com or using the automated prompts on the DTA Assistance Line (877-382-2363). Most cards are delivered within 3-5 days. (One can also visit one of the local offices to receive an EBT card one is needed quickly). Applications for SNAP, TAFDC, and EAEDC online at DTAConnect.com or over the phone on the DTA Assistance Line at 877-382-2363 (press 7) (help in over 100 languages).	16 Kilburn Street NB 508.961.200 21 Spring Street Taunton, MA 508.884.5300
TPP	TENANCY PRESERVATION PROGRAM	The Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) is a homelessness prevention program that works with tenants, including families with children with disabilities, facing eviction as a result of behavior related to a disability (e.g. mental illness, intellectual disability, substance abuse, aging related impairments). TPP functions as a neutral party to the landlord and tenant. In consultation with the Housing Court Department, TPP works with the property owner and tenant to determine whether the disability can be reasonably accommodated, and the tenancy preserved.	Southeast Housing Court-New Bedford Session 139 Hathaway Road NB 508.994.0156 Southeast Housing Court-Taunton Session 40 Broadway Taunton 508.997.4950 Father Bills/MainSpring 430 Belmont Street Brockton MA 508.944.9502
SUPPORTS			
A-CRA	ADOLESCENT COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT APPROACH	Walk-in screenings and clinical visit within 24 hours; medication appointment within 72 hours-children, adolescents	New Bedford 508.717.0500
BHCP	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMUNITY PARTNERS	BHCP stands for Behavioral Health Community Partner. It refers to a program or a role within a healthcare system that focuses on coordinating care for individuals with behavioral health needs, often within a larger healthcare network or as part of a MassHealth Accountable Care Organization (ACO) . BHCPs work to integrate services, improve access to care, and help individuals navigate the healthcare system to achieve their treatment goals.	<u>BHCP Provider Agencies within the BCCC</u> For referrals CCBC: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=dLNqT8UHqUyC0bpVsp0W-6f1mzw8W6FBtodS-e0FWSJUQU9VN0M1SVhXWThTNUY5M0ZIWjdVQzNHSC4u

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CBHC	COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER	Community Behavioral Health Centers (CBHCs) are one-stop shops for a wide range of mental health and substance use services and treatment. The statewide network of CBHCs includes centers across Massachusetts that offer immediate, confidential care for mental health and substance use needs. Crisis services are available around the clock for anyone in Massachusetts who feels they may be experiencing a mental health crisis. This 24/7 in-person crisis support can be used by anyone in Massachusetts, whether or not they have health insurance. CBHCs also offer day-to-day mental health and substance use services which are covered by all MassHealth plans and some commercial insurance plans. Counseling, psychiatry, groups for children, adolescents, adults.	Child & Family Services New Bedford 877.996.3154 Community Counseling of Bristol County (CCBC) 800.660.4300 Behavioral Health Help Line 833.773.2445 Web Chat: masshelpline.com HighPoint New Bedford Outpatient 508.717.0550

CDBG	COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT	The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is a federal program that provides annual grants to states, cities, and counties. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and aims to support viable urban communities and expand economic opportunities, primarily for low- and moderate-income individuals including those experiencing or on the verge of homelessness. The program works on a local level, allowing communities to tailor funds to their needs. HUD provides grants based on a formula. In Bristol County, New Bedford, Fall River, Taunton and Attleboro receive CDBG funding as “entitlement” communities. CDBG funds can be used for a wide range of activities including shelter development, programming, housing rehabilitation and public facility improvements.	Attleboro https://www.cityofattleboro.us/DocumentCenter/View/329/Community-Development-Block-Grant-Program-Overview-PDF New Bedford https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/community-development/ Taunton https://www.taunton-ma.gov/197/Community-Development-Block-Grant-CDBG
CSP	COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM	A coordinated behavioral health service offered by MassHealth to MassHealth members. It's a mobile, intensive case management service delivered by paraprofessionals, designed to support individuals with psychiatric or substance use disorder diagnoses, or those whose diagnoses impact their access to essential services. CSP aims to empower members, promote recovery and wellness, and increase their independence and provides intensive case management, acting as a single point of contact for coordinating and following up on an individual's care.	CSP Provider Agencies within the BCCC: CCBC: https://www.comcounseling.org/ Eliot Community Human Services: https://www.eliotchs.org/cspech High Point Treatment Center: https://hptc.org/ Volunteers of America Behavioral Health Services: https://www.voa.org/services/behavioral-health-services/
CSP-HI	COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS	CSP-HI provides support to help people experiencing homelessness transition into and maintain permanent housing. These programs, often run by community-based organizations and funded through MassHealth, offer a range of services, including help with finding housing, coordinating with healthcare providers, and connecting individuals with other community resources.	https://www.mass.gov/doc/community-support-program-for-homeless-individuals-provider-list/download

CSP-JI	COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR THOSE WHO ARE JUSTICE INVOLVED	CSP-JI is a specialized program that provides support services to individuals who have interacted with the justice system, including those re-entering the community after incarceration, those on parole or probation, and those at risk of further justice involvement. These programs aim to address health-related social needs and barriers to accessing healthcare, particularly for individuals with mental health or substance use disorders.	Referral Form For all providers: https://www.mass.gov/doc/universal-bhji-referral-form/download All provider List: https://www.mass.gov/doc/community-support-program-for-individuals-with-justice-involvement-provider-list/download
CSP-TPP	COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM TENANCY PRESERVATION PROGRAM	CSP-TPP is a specialized Massachusetts program that helps individuals and families at risk of eviction due to lease violations related to a disability or behavioral health condition. It acts as a neutral party, working with tenants, landlords, and the Housing Court to find solutions that preserve the tenancy.	All Provider List: https://www.mass.gov/doc/community-support-program-tenancy-preservation-program-provider-list/download
FAIHR	FOCUSED ACHIEVEMENTS IN HOUSING AND RECOVERY	Also known as “Project FAIHR” this SAMHSA-funded resource provides an integrated team of case managers and mental health professionals who work with homeless persons with moderate to severe mental health disorders and co-occurring substance use disorders. The program’s goal is to help folks achieve recovery from substance use and assist them with obtaining and retaining permanent housing. A clinical team assists each participant in developing their individualized service plan (ISP) that aligns with his/her own goals and aspirations.	Steppingstone: https://steppingstoneinc.org/faihr/ 774.992.0655
HRSN	HEALTH RELATED SOCIAL NEEDS	This program addresses social and economic factors that influence a person's health and well-being. These factors may include: housing instability, food insecurity, transportation difficulties, utility assistance needs, interpersonal safety, employment status, and educational attainment. HRSN screening tools are used to identify individuals who may be experiencing these social needs. This information can help healthcare providers and social service agencies connect individuals with resources and support to improve their health outcomes Current MA programs including Housing Search, Housing Navigation, Nutrition Assistance and Health Homes. Must have a designated ACO and each ACO has a different menu of services	

PATH	PROJECT FOR ASSISTANCE IN TRANSITION FROM HOMELESSNESS	In Massachusetts, PATH is a federally funded program administered by the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and implemented across the Commonwealth by Eliot Community Human Services. PATH offers person-centered, trauma-informed services to individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness who have serious mental illnesses or co-occurring substance use disorders. Services include street outreach, case management, and assistance with mental health care, housing placement, and substance use treatment.	Eliot Community Human Services Central Referral Email: hlsmnreferral@eliotchs.org Direct Email for the BCCC: Eliot PATH Online Referral Form
SOAP	STRUCTURED OUTPATIENT ADDICTION PROGRAM	SOAP aims to give patients a heightened level of self-awareness about their substance-use disorder, solid relapse prevention skills and a variety of coping skills to help them become independent adults in recovery. Outpatient treatment allows those in recovery to remain at home during treatment or at a sober living home that may be connected with the treatment program. Outpatient groups for men/women SUD MH.	HighPoint New Bedford Outpatient 508.717.0550
START	STIMULANT TREATMENT AND RECOVERY TEAM	START is a contingency management–based outpatient treatment program devised to help people with stimulant use disorder (e.g., cocaine, methamphetamine). Clinical site located within New Bedford through HighPoint. START in New Bedford serves the local community, offering hope through low-barrier, evidence-based treatment that emphasizes insightful behavioral tools, professional support, and incentive-based motivation. Walk in, drop in with cots available.	HighPoint New Bedford Outpatient 508.717.0550