Greetings!

We have some good news to kick off February!

Starting today, elders, unaccompanied youth, people with disabilities, and other households without minor children can begin applying for fiscal year 2018 homelessness prevention funds through the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition program (RAFT, line item 7004-9316). Building upon last year’s $500,000 pilot, up to $2 million will be made available between now and June 30th by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to help households without children avoid or exit homelessness.

As you may recall, the Legislature included the $2 million in the overall $15 million FY’18 RAFT line item, but Governor Baker vetoed the funds and language that expanded the definition of family beyond households with children under the age of 21. The Legislature overrode the veto in the fall, and we have been working since then to make sure the funds would be released to serve hundreds of households experiencing housing instability. Households approved for RAFT can receive up to $4,000 to help with expenses such as back rent, back utility bills, first month’s rent, last month’s rent, and security deposits.

Thank you for your calls, emails, State House visits, and general advocacy that helped make this possible!

See the DHCD website for more details about RAFT. A list of RAFT providers is available there and on our website.

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Please help spread the word, as we expect that the funds will be exhausted quickly.

With gratitude,

Kelly Turley
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781-595-7570 x17
SPEAK OUT TO END HOMELESSNESS!

Join the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless for Legislative Action Day 2018

Hosted by Representative Jim O’Day
Tuesday, February 27th
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
The Great Hall, Massachusetts State House
24 Beacon St. Boston, MA
RSVP: https://tinyurl.com/MCHLAD2018

So that everyone has a place to call HOME

STAY CONNECTED:

DONATE TODAY
Support the Coalition’s mission to ensure that everyone has a place to call home.
www.masshomeless.org/donate