

# LIFT OUR KIDS

## Please Lift Kids Out of Deep Poverty In the FY 23 budget

Please ask Leadership to –

- (1) raise cash assistance grants by 20%, and
- (2) include an outside section raising grants by 20% a year until they reach *half* the federal poverty level.

- Half the federal poverty level is \$960/month for a family of three.
- The Legislature took the historic first steps of raising benefits by 10% in the FY 21 budget and another 9.1% in the FY 22 budget.
- But the maximum TAFDC grant for a family of three is still only \$712/month. The EAEDC grant for a single elder or person with a disability is only \$364/month.
- With inflation running so high, we need at least a 20% increase to make progress for children, elders and persons with disabilities.
- A 20% increase for TAFDC and EAEDC would cost about \$72 M in FY 23.
- 96 Representatives and 26 Senators co-sponsored H.199 or S.96 to raise grants by 20% a year until they reach half of the federal poverty level.



*"It is really hard to live on so little money. By the middle of the month I have zero benefits left."*

--R.S., parent

*"Toward the end of the month, there will be days I don't eat to make sure (my son) eats, because that's my son. I have to make sure that he has."*

--T.F., parent

### Deep Poverty hurts kids!

- Health and emotional damage
- Impaired school performance
- Homelessness & housing instability

For more information, please visit [LiftOurKidsMA.org](http://LiftOurKidsMA.org) or contact: Deborah Harris, Mass. Law Reform Institute, [dharris@mlri.org](mailto:dharris@mlri.org), 617-538-1680 (cell), or Naomi Meyer, Greater Boston Legal Services, [nmeyer@gbls.org](mailto:nmeyer@gbls.org), 617-603-1621.

## Lift Our Kids Supporting Organizations

Action for Boston Community Development, Inc.  
Action Inc.  
AFT MA  
Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs  
Alliance of MA YWCAs  
Allston Brighton Health Collaborative  
Amherst Survival Center  
ARISE for Social Justice  
Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK)  
Association of Haitian Women (AFAB)  
Berkshire Community Diaper Project  
Bethany Hill Place  
Beverly Bootstraps  
Boston Area Rape Crisis Center  
Boston Teachers Union  
Brazilian Women's Group  
Brookview House, Inc.  
Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association  
Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee  
Cape Cod Children's Place  
Casa Myrna  
Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Boston  
Central West Justice Center  
Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race & Justice  
Children's HealthWatch  
Children's Law Center of Massachusetts  
Chinese Progressive Association  
City Mission Boston  
Clarendon Early Education Services, Inc.  
Coalition for Social Justice  
Community Action Agency of Somerville, Inc.  
Community Action Pioneer Valley  
Community Teamwork  
Cradles to Crayons  
Crossroads Family Center  
De Novo Center for Justice and Healing  
Domestic Violence Action Committee in Needham  
DotHouse Health  
DOVE  
East Boston Social Centers  
Economic Development Council of Western Massachusetts  
Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath)  
Elizabeth Freeman Center, Inc.  
FamilyAid Boston  
Fenway Health/AIDS Action Committee  
Greater Boston Food Bank  
Greater Boston Legal Services  
HarborCOV  
Heading Home, Inc.  
Health Care for All  
Homes for Families  
HomeStart, Inc.  
HopeWell  
Horizons for Homeless Children  
Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health, Somerville  
Immigrants' Assistance Center, Inc.  
International Institute of New England  
Jane Doe Inc.  
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Action (JALSA)  
Jewish Community Relations Council  
Jewish Family and Children's Service  
Jumpstart  
Justice Center of Southeast MA  
Justice Resource Institute  
JVS Boston  
Lawrence Community Works  
League of Women Voters of Massachusetts  
Lynn Economic Opportunity, Inc.  
Massachusetts Advocates for Children  
Massachusetts AFL-CIO  
Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS)  
Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MassCAP)  
Massachusetts Association of Early Education & Care (MADCA)  
Massachusetts Association for Mental Health  
Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
Massachusetts Chapter of the National Organization for Women  
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless  
Massachusetts Community Action Network  
Massachusetts Head Start Association  
Massachusetts Immigrant & Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition  
Massachusetts Jobs With Justice  
Massachusetts Law Reform Institute  
Massachusetts Nurses Association  
Mass. PPD Fund  
Massachusetts School Nurse Organization, Inc.  
Massachusetts Teachers Association  
Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee  
Merrimack Valley Project  
Metro Boston Housing  
Metrowest Legal Services  
MLPB  
National Association of Social Workers, Mass. Chapter  
New England Jewish Labor Committee  
North Shore Postpartum Help  
Northeast Justice Center  
Northeastern University School of Law Clinics  
Nurtury  
One Family, Inc.  
Open Pantry Community Services Inc.  
Parenting Journey  
Parents Union of Massachusetts  
Pathways for Children  
Planned Parenthood Advocacy Fund  
Poor People's United Fund  
Progressive Massachusetts  
Project Bread  
Project Hope  
Providers' Council  
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, Inc.  
Reproductive Equity Now  
Roca  
Rosie's Place  
SEIU 32BJ Local 615  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston  
Somerville Homeless Coalition  
Springfield No One Leaves  
Springfield Partners for Community Action  
Square One  
St. Mary's Center for Women and Children  
Stavros  
StreetCred  
The Family Pantry – Damien's Place  
The Home for Little Wanderers  
The Neighborhood Developers  
The Open Door  
The Pettengill House, Inc.  
Those Who Can for Those in Need  
Transition House  
UAW Region 9A Mass. State CAP Council  
Union of Minority Neighborhoods  
Unitarian Universalist Mass Action Network  
United Interfaith Action of Southeastern Massachusetts  
United South End Settlements  
United Way Mass. Bay and Merrimack Valley  
UpTogether  
Vietnamese American Community of Massachusetts  
Vietnamese American Initiative for Development, Inc.  
Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness  
Witnesses to Hunger, Boston  
Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts  
Worcester County Food Bank  
Worcester Food Policy Council  
Workforce Solutions Group  
YW Boston  
YWCA Cambridge  
YWCA Lowell  
YWCA Malden  
YWCA Newburyport  
YWCA Northeast  
YWCA of Central MA  
YWCA Southeastern MA  
YWCA Western MA