

MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

FY'11 Budget Overview – Governor's H2 Budget 1-27-10

Item	Final FY'10 Budget (reflecting mid-year 9C cuts & any supplemental appropriations)	Governor's FY'11 Budget Recommendations
Emergency Aid to Elderly, Disabled and Children Line Item 4408-1000	\$83.4 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor made a small 9C cut in the appropriation in FY'10 to reflect revised caseload numbers. ➤ The line item contains protective language requiring DTA to give the Legislature 60 days notice of any proposed eligibility or benefit changes. This language was vetoed by the Governor but restored by the Legislature. 	\$88.8 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor's budget increases the appropriation for this line item to reflect projected increases in the number of households in need of assistance in FY'11. ➤ The Governor's budget eliminates language which requires DTA to give the legislature 60 day notice before making eligibility or benefit changes.
Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children Line Item 4403-2000	\$316.1 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The initial FY'10 appropriation for this line item was \$308.0 million. The Governor increased funding for this line item to address a deficit in the account due to increasing caseloads and to avoid eliminating /reducing benefits to nearly 9,000 TAFDC families headed by a disabled parent on SSI. ➤ The line item contains protective language requiring DTA to give the Legislature 60 days notice of any proposed eligibility or benefit changes. This language was vetoed by the Governor but restored by the Legislature. 	\$319.1 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor's budget increases funding for this line item to reflect projected increases in the number of households in need of assistance in FY'11. ➤ The Governor's budget eliminates language which requires DTA to give the legislature 60 day notice before making eligibility or benefit changes.
Emergency Assistance Family Shelter and Services Line Item 7004-0101	\$133.4 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The initial FY'10 appropriation for this line item was \$91.6 million (significantly under FY'09 expenditures of \$113 million). ➤ The Legislature and the Governor increased the appropriation for this line item mid-year to cover the dramatically increasing caseload (Which increased despite the Legislature's reducing the income eligibility in FY'10 from 130% to 115% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL)). ➤ The final FY'10 budget line item contains protective language related to providing temporary shelter placements pending verifications for eligible families, providing a six month grace period for families who exceed the income limits while in shelter, tracking and reporting requirements, and requiring DHCD to provide 60 days notice to the Legislature of proposed eligibility or benefit changes. 	\$113.4 million <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ While the Governor's appropriation of \$113.4 million is an increase over the initial FY'10 appropriation of \$91.6 million, it is well below the actual expenditures for FY'10(\$133.4 m). ➤ The Governor's FY'11 budget expects to achieve cost reductions through the continued implementation of DHCD's "housing first" strategies which will reduce the reliance on emergency shelter as the state's primarily response to homelessness. ➤ The Governor's budget changes the rules around placing families who are in immediate need, in shelter pending verifications. Under current rules, families have up to 30 days to obtain needed verifications. The Governor's budget reduces the placement pending time frame to 10 days. ➤ The Governor's budget eliminates tracking and reporting language requiring the Administration to provide quarterly reports to the Legislature as well as language requiring the Administration to notify the legislature 60 days in advance of proposed eligibility changes.

Item	Final FY'10 Budget (reflecting mid-year 9C cuts & any supplemental appropriations)	Governor's FY'11 Budget Recommendations
<p>Individual Homeless Assistance</p> <p>Line Item 7004-0102</p>	<p>\$36.2 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor proposed significant mid-year cuts to this line item but withdrew these cuts before they were implemented. ➤ The line item contains language stating that no shelter will be paid less than an average per bed/per night rate of \$12.92.. 	<p>\$37.2 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor's budget level funds this line item. The increase in funding from the FY'10 appropriation reflects the movement of monies for "Hope Found" emergency shelter into the account from line item 4590-0915. ➤ New line item language identifies the range of activities which can be funded through this account including "shelter, transitional housing, and services designed to assist individuals to avoid entry into shelters or successfully exit shelters". ➤ Line item language also directs DHCD to work with the Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness and (at least) three programs funded in FY'10 under the line item, to develop recommendations to standardize shelter contract rates across the state and to increase programs that provide transitional housing and housing first models utilizing "evidence-based models with high levels of success in providing long-term savings to state spending on homeless and at-risk populations". Recommendations must be submitted to the secretary of Administration and Finance no later than September 30, 2010. ➤ The line item language also directs Administration and Finance to limit appropriations under the line time to 75% of the funding until the Secretary of A&F has approved these recommendations
<p>Home and Healthy for Good Pilot Program on Chronic Homelessness</p> <p>Line Item 7004-0104</p>	<p>\$1.2 million</p>	<p>\$1.2 million</p>
<p>Public Housing Operating Subsidies</p> <p>Line Item 7004-9005</p>	<p>\$62.5 million</p>	<p>\$62.5 million</p>
<p>Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP- Line Item 7004-9024)</p>	<p>\$35.4 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The FY'10 budget appropriated \$29.9 million for the MRVP program. Mass Housing provided approximately \$2.5 million to the MRVP program in FY'10. This was not enough to cover the current costs of the program. To avoid reducing or eliminating housing subsidies for existing subsidy holders, the Governor transferred \$2.9 money from the RAFT program into this account mid- year. 	<p>\$35.4 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor's budget appropriates \$32.8 million for the program in the FY'11 line item. In his budget narrative, the Governor states that MRVP has been level funded at FY'10 expenditures with the difference between the appropriation and expenditures being filled by money from Mass Housing.

Item	Final FY'09 Budget After Mid-year 9C Cuts	Governor's FY'10 Budget
Housing Services Contracts - Housing Consumer Education Centers (Line Item 7004-3036)	<p style="text-align: center;">\$1.49 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The initial FY'10 appropriation for this line item was \$1.6 million but the Governor reduced the funding in this line item through his mid-year 9C cuts. 	<p style="text-align: center;">\$1.49 million</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor's FY'11 budget level funds the program at the reduced FY'10 appropriation level.
Residential Assistance to Families in Transition (RAFT-Line Item 7004-9316)	<p style="text-align: center;">\$160,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Legislature initially funded RAFT at \$5 million. The Governor, through his veto power, reduced the appropriation to \$3.06 million. The Legislature did not override the veto but appropriated an additional \$1 million for the program through a supplemental budget which brought the appropriation back up to \$4.06 million. ➤ The Governor subsequently transferred out most of the funding in this line item into the MRVP program to prevent cuts to existing subsidy holders. ➤ Line item language changes made by the Legislature capped the amount a household may receive through RAFT at \$2,000 (down from \$3,000). 	<p style="text-align: center;">\$60,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Governor's budget eliminates most of the funding for this program, carrying his deep funding reductions into FY'11. ➤ The Governor has stated that he has reduced this line item because the Federal Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing money provided through the Federal Stimulus package serves the same purpose. The Governor left some money in the account as a place holder for future budgets. ➤ Line item language returns the cap on the amount a household may receive through RAFT to \$3,000. ➤ The line item language limits help with utility arrearages to those incurred after December 1, 2009.
Alternative Housing Voucher Program (Line Item 7004-9030)	<p style="text-align: center;">\$3.45 million</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">\$3.45 million</p>