

Western Massachusetts

network to end  
homelessness



Housing First for Hampden, Hampshire,  
Franklin and Berkshire Counties

*Join Us For A Special Gathering*

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## **Ending Homelessness in Western Massachusetts: A Progress Report, April 26**

Dear Community Partner,

The Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness has brought together organizations, community members and government agencies around the goal of ending homelessness through a strategy known as Housing First.

We want you to join us as we celebrate the progress we are beginning to achieve at an event *Ending Homelessness in Western Massachusetts: A Progress Report* to be held **Monday, April 26 at 9:30 a.m. at the Kittredge Center on the campus of Holyoke Community College.**

**Dennis Culhane, Professor of Social Welfare policy from the University of Pennsylvania, and a national expert on homelessness, will honor us with a keynote address.** He will be sharing strategies from his recently released paper on the shift from shelter to housing in eliminating homelessness in Massachusetts.

We will highlight the collaboration that is leading to positive housing outcomes for individuals and families who otherwise would be in the emergency shelter system. We will also hear about the vision behind the Housing First initiative and the momentum we are achieving through a video presentation.

This special event will be an opportunity to celebrate the collaboration that is taking place around the effort to end homelessness in Hampden, Hampshire, Berkshire and Franklin Counties. **Please join us on Monday, April 26 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. for this important gathering; doors open at 9 a.m. for registration and refreshments.** Suggested donation is \$15, payable **only** at the door. Space is limited; to reserve your place please return the enclosed registration card or email: [westernmasshousingfirst@gmail.com](mailto:westernmasshousingfirst@gmail.com)

The Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness is one of ten regional networks across the state supported by the Commonwealth. This important event is made possible with the generous support of One Family Inc. and the Fireman Foundation. **Thank you for your support of the Network's ongoing work and we look forward to seeing you on April 26.**

Sincerely,

Lynne Wallace  
Chair, Leadership Council  
Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness  
Vice-President, Dietz & Co. Architects  
Springfield, MA

Father Stan Aksamit  
Vice Chair, Leadership Council  
Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness  
Our Lady of Peace Church  
Turners Falls, MA