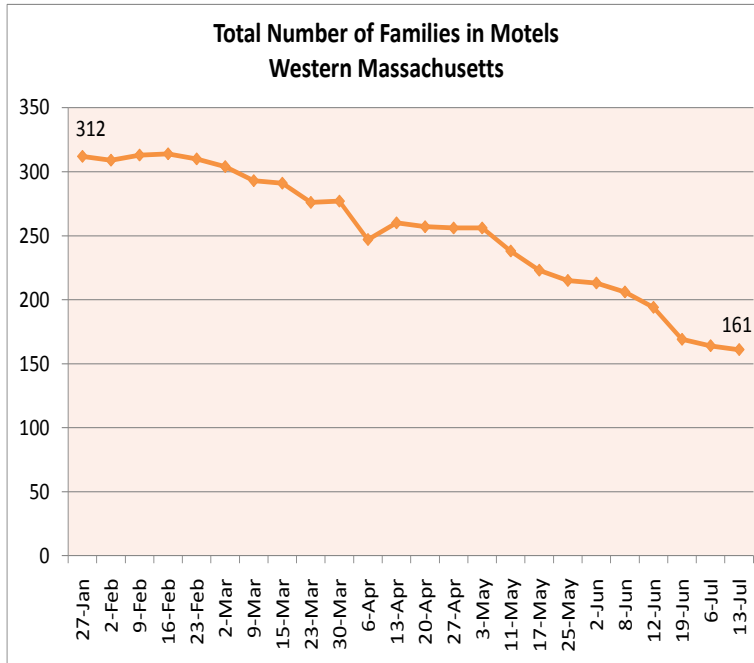


Focus on: Families – Prevention, Diversion, and Re-housing in FY 2010

The family hotel crisis peaked in the winter of 2009-2010. Since January, the number of families in hotels in Western Mass has decreased by 48%. In Massachusetts as a whole, that number has fallen by 35.8%, from 982 families in January to 630 in July.



Prevention, Diversion and Re-housing efforts across the state have contributed to this decline.

In Western Massachusetts, from July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010:

- 563 Families were placed into permanent housing from shelters and hotels.

- 1701 families at risk of homelessness were kept in their homes through prevention efforts that included counseling, mediation, negotiation and short-term flexible funds; 24% of these prevention outcomes were funded with ICHH dollars.
- 137 families were diverted from shelter; 42% with ICHH funds. Diversion is when a family is determined to be EA eligible by DHS staff at the local offices, but instead of entering the shelter system the family is assisted with an alternative housing arrangement.

