



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home

Unaccompanied Youth Homelessness FY'14 Budget Request

Address the needs of unaccompanied youth and young adults through age 24 who are experiencing homelessness by funding housing and services and by conducting a count to better understand the scope of the need (EOHHS – Line Item 4000-0300).

Overview:

Include \$500,000 in the FY'14 budget through the Executive Office of Health and Human Services administrative line item for the ongoing work of the Massachusetts Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Commission so as to determine the scope of need among unaccompanied youth and young adults ages 24 and younger who are experiencing homelessness, and to identify and implement potential models for appropriate service delivery to unaccompanied homeless youth in urban, suburban, and rural areas of the Commonwealth. Such funding would support and further the work of the Commission, which was established through the FY'13 budget process, and brings together representatives from key executive branch offices/departments (such as the Departments of Children and Families, Transitional Assistance, and Housing and Community Development), members of the Legislature, youth affected by the issue, and representatives of statewide non-profit agencies and advocacy organizations.

Proposed Language in Line Item 4000-0300:

“\$500,000 for the work of the Massachusetts Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Commission to determine the scope of need among unaccompanied youth and young adults ages 24 and younger who are experiencing homelessness, and to identify and implement potential models for appropriate service delivery to unaccompanied homeless youth in urban, suburban, and rural areas of the Commonwealth.”

Proposed Allocations:

- \$150,000 to pilot a survey of unaccompanied homeless youth in 3-5 areas within Massachusetts and conduct youth outreach
- \$300,000 to fund 3-6 demonstration projects to identify service and housing models appropriate to support unaccompanied homeless youth in education and successful transition from childhood to adulthood
- \$50,000 to fund a part time staff person or consultant to oversee implementation, to analyze data, and to report to the Special Commission

For more information, please contact Kelly Turley, Director of Legislative Advocacy, at 781-595-7570 x17 or kelly@mahomeless.org.

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