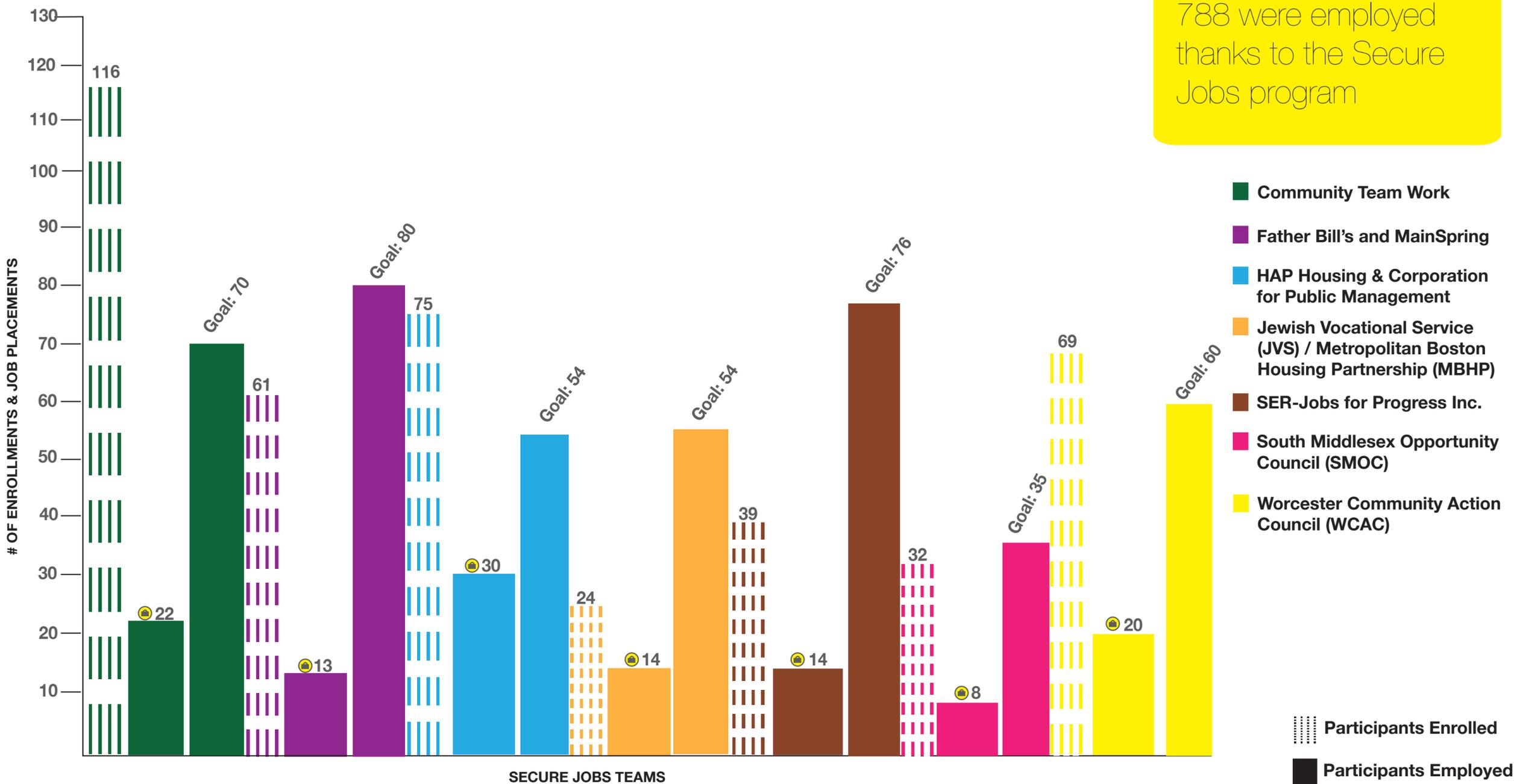


Secure Jobs Fund Year 3 *securing jobs and helping families*

 **Total # employed to date (Year 3): 121**
*Target outcome for year 3: 429 placements

Year 1 & 2 Achievements:
788 were employed thanks to the Secure Jobs program



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Andrea Woods was referred to JVS in Phase 2 of the Secure Jobs Program, through RAFT at MBHP. Andrea attended a Secure Jobs Program's informational session, and immediately decided to work with JVS as part of her strategy to re-enter the workforce.

Andrea faced many obstacles but continued striving for employment. When Andrea began working with SJP, she faced family obligations that temporarily halted her employment search. Although, Andrea was not able to actively job search, she remained interested in the program and in regular contact. Andrea's motivational levels consistently stayed high, and she informed her Career Navigator that when her issues were resolved, she would return to SJP.

After being absent from the program a couple months, but in constant contact with SJP staff, Andrea returned ready to find a job in her educational field of dental assisting; however her Everest certificate was not accepted by employers. Andrea reevaluated her career goals and due to having great experience and success in her previous banking career, she chose to focus her job search in the field of banking. Andrea met with her SJP Career Navigator at least once a week; attended workshops at Career Solution, JVS's One-Stop Career Center; and Secure Jobs -- Job Search Club, multiple times a week. Andrea diligently worked with her Career Navigator to create a resume, multiple cover letters, and reference pages that were the backbone of her seeking employment.

Together Andrea and her Career Navigator searched for job openings, practiced interviewing techniques and applied for banking jobs every week until a job in her interest was attained. Within a month, Andrea was placed at Citizens Bank, as a full time Bank Teller, making \$12 an hour, with full benefits. In addition to full medical and dental benefits, Andrea has access to tuition reimbursement benefit, which she plans to use for furthering her education in the future.



On our effort to help families Secure Jobs and Move Forward!

[Click here for more information and updates on this initiative.](#)

SECURE JOBS FUND PROGRAM GOAL

Link the housing/homelessness and workforce development fields in order to support families to obtain work and childcare, and to achieve economic security.

Current Hurdles to Employment

Homeless families face many barriers to employment, including:

- Insufficient training and employment services
- Limited childcare vouchers and slots
- Lack of transportation services
- No network to jobs

SECURE JOBS FUND OVERVIEW

The Secure Jobs Fund started as a one-year \$1.5 million demonstration project to build a coordinated service system that links extremely low-income households with the resources required to enter the workforce. During the first pilot year, the program supported five regional partnerships to secure employment for approximately 390 adults from HomeBASE* rental-assistance households, and to develop a replicable model for broader system reform, as well as inform state and federal policy regarding homelessness and employment. *Some regions launched their Secure Jobs program later than others.*

To implement the Secure Jobs Funds, the Paul & Phyllis Fireman Charitable Foundation initiated a partnership with Governor Patrick's administration and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance, the Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness, Brandeis University, and others. Secure Jobs partnerships provide access to job readiness, skill training, job development, and job placement services as needed. Our partners demonstrate the ability to cut across normal bureaucratic and service delivery boundaries to accurately assess the employability of each participant, remove barriers to employment, and secure the best job possible for each participant so they have the skills, self-esteem, and knowledge to sustain and increase economic security once enrollment in the project ends. Year 1 ended with 394 job placements.

SECURE JOBS YEAR 3:

In year 3, The Paul and Phyllis Fireman Charitable Foundation has contributed \$500,000 and DHCD has contributed \$750,000 to deepen and expand this regional work. There is an additional \$385,225 in leveraged dollars. The target goal for placements during Year 3 of Secure Jobs is 429.

TARGET OUTCOMES FOR YEAR 3 (DHCD AND FIREMAN)

HAP Housing & Corporation for Public Management:

Total enrolled: 67

Total employed: 54

Father Bill's and MainSpring:

Total enrolled: 120

Total employed: 80

Community Teamwork Inc.:

Total enrolled: 110

Total employed: 70

SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc.:

Total enrolled: 95

Total employed: 76

South Middlesex Opportunity Council

Total enrolled: 44

Total employed: 35

Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) / Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership (MBHP):

Total enrolled: 75

Total employed: 54

Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC)

Total enrolled: 100

Total employed: 60

PARTNER NEWS - NOVEMBER 2015

Father Bill's & Mainspring (FBMS):

1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 61
2. Number of individuals employed: 13

Jewish Vocational Service (JVS) / Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership (MBHP):

1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 24
2. Number of individuals employed: 14

Community Teamwork Inc. (CTI):

1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 116
2. Number of individuals employed: 22

HAP Housing & Corporation for Public Management (CPM):

1. Number of individuals enrolled: 75
2. Number of individuals employed: 30

SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc.:

1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 39
2. Number of individuals employed: 14

South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC):

1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 32
2. Number of individuals employed: 8

Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC):

1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 69
2. Number of individuals employed: 20

SUCCESS STORIES

TINA JOHNSON is currently residing in one of Father Bill and Mainspring's our Scattered Sites Family Emergency Shelter units. She was assessed and entered into the Secure Jobs program in June 2015. During her assessment she expressed interest in working as a dispatcher. She began working with the employment specialist on establishing a resume before beginning employment search.

After several interview Tina interviewed at Brewster's Ambulance Company, and was hired as a dispatcher in August 2015. She started working part time and immediately enjoyed being a part of the team, and working alongside the ambulances drivers. Shortly after she decided she wanted to increase her employment skills by becoming an EMT.

With the assistance of funding from the Secure Jobs grant, Tina is currently attending EMS Academy. She couldn't be happier with her decision, and is doing very well in school. Her expected graduation date is late December 2015. She has already applied for a position with her current employer and other job placement opportunities with other companies.

She has been saving for a few months, and is planning to move out of shelter with the assistance of HomeBase Household Assistance.

MARIA ESCALERA was residing in an EA Shelter when she was referred to Secure Jobs in June 2014. After going through a series of assessments, she became part of our phase 2 participants. It was evident from the start that Maria was willing to work and had clear employment goals, but was facing multiple barriers to achieve them. Secure Jobs was committed to assist Maria in her pursuit for meaningful employment and we understood that it was necessary to develop a career plan with a clear structure. First, Secure Jobs arranged childcare services for Maria through Playful Minds. Having this in place allowed her to be part of our job readiness program in Career Point. There she acquired the initial motivation and the necessary tools to begin her path to success.

She had expressed interest in the human services and the health care industry. She had been certified as a nurse assistant in the past, but had left her certification expire. In order to build on her credentials and work experience, we recommended that she go through a series of educational trainings that would make her marketable and prepare her professionally. Maria trusted the Secure Jobs staff and with their support she participated of phlebotomy training, got recertified as a CNA, and obtained her CPR and First Aid certification.

By January 2015, Maria was working as a PCA through Stavros, providing home care health services. This was not Maria's ultimate goal, as she wanted a full time position with a decent salary, but she understood that this work experience will open many doors if she wanted to make a name for herself in that field. On July 2015 she moved on to another job as a PCA at Caregivers of Massachusetts earning \$12.00/hour. She continued to stay focus, and always had her goals clear and present. On September 2015, Maria began working for Century Home Care in Holyoke as a Secretary and a CNA. This was a full time position with a wage that allowed her to be self-sufficient. Now, not only does Maria serve the population that she cares about through home care services, but she has also become a mentor for current Secure Job participants. Her experience has served as an example to those who wish to achieve their employment goals and want to set up a plan to follow. Maria has created employment opportunities for other Secure Job member's and wishes to give back to the community, assisting those in need, as she once was.