

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Aileen is a single mother of three young children who was referred to Secure Jobs by her Scattered Site Housing Case Manager in March of 2015. She had a certification as a PCA and got a job making \$12.00 an hour with Western Mass Elder Care. SJI staff and Aileen recognized that she would need to make more than \$12.00 an hour to afford a market rent unit and moved out of the shelter. SJI continued to work with her through Job Readiness Training and Job Development. While enrolled in SJI, the team assisted her with obtaining an EEC/DTA childcare voucher for her children, allowing her to work part time and attend a formal CDL training. Aileen was hired at Universal Shredding as a driver in January 2016 making \$16.50 an hour. Knowing the importance of exiting shelter and living in her own unit with her children, Aileen continued to save money while getting an increase in her wages.

At the end of February shortly after starting her new job, she utilized HomeBASE to move out of the shelter and into a unit of her own with her children. Throughout the move, Aileen continued to work and gain additional experience as a CDL driver. Aileen had a desire to continue to increase her income and at the beginning of the school year was hired at First Student as a bus driver and she is now earning \$25.13 an hour. She reports that she works a minimum of 30 hours a week with the opportunity to work extra hours if there is a field trip or extra-curricular activity in one of the schools. She credits her support to the Secure Jobs team in helping her obtain the skills and childcare she needed to be successful on her job, move out of shelter and provide for her family.



on this initiative.

Secure Jobs Fund securing jobs and helping families

September 2016

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. Under Patrick administration, a state line item was established for Secure Jobs in FY15 at a level of \$500,000. In addition, during FY15, DHCD allocated \$1M in the Housing Preservation Stabilization Trust Fund (HPSTF). Under the Baker-Polito administration, the funding for the line-item was increased to \$750,000 in FY16 and \$800,000 in FY17.

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 4:

As mentioned above, through the state-line, the Secure Jobs Program was funded at a level of \$800,000 for Year 4 (FY17). The Paul and Phyllis Fireman Chartiable Foundation will continue supporting the SJ Program with \$240,000 in money carried over from the previous fiscal year. The target goal for placements during Year 4 of Secure Jobs is 299.

TARGET OUTCOMES FOR YEAR 4 (DHCD AND FIREMAN)

HAP Housing: Total enrolled: 46 Total employed: 37 Father Bill's and MainSpring (FBMS):

Total enrolled: 57 Total employed: 34

Community Teamwork Inc. (CTI):

Total enrolled: 55 Total employed: 48

SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc.:

Total enrolled: 78 Total employed: 62

South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC):

Total enrolled: 40 Total employed: 32

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

Total enrolled: 36 Total employed: 26

Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC):

Total enrolled: 100 Total employed: 60

PARTNER NEWS - SEPTEMBER 2016

Father Bill's & Mainspring (FBMS):

Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 67

2. Number of individuals employed: 24

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

- Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 30
- 2. Number of individuals employed: 13

Community Teamwork Inc. (CTI):

- 1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 137
- 2. Number of individuals employed: 17

HAP Housing:

- 1. Number of individuals enrolled: 127
- 2. Number of individuals employed: 32

SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc.:

- 1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 19
- 2. Number of individuals employed: 12

South Middlesex Opportunity Council (SMOC):

- 1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 14
- 2. Number of individuals employed: 10

Worcester Community Action Council (WCAC):

- 1. Number of individuals enrolled YTD: 38
- 2. Number of inividuals employed: 4