The mission: Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness creates collaborative solutions across Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire Counties to prevent and end homelessness through a Housing First approach that centers racial equity.

Network Leadership Council
100 elected and community leaders signed on to the Network’s mission

Steering Committee
Chaired by CoC Directors and 20 community leaders, charged with budget and policy decision-making for the Network

Western Massachusetts Task Force for Housing First
A monthly convening of western Massachusetts legislators, city and town officials and shelter and housing providers

Network Committees
in collaboration with CoCs

Continuums of Care (CoCs)
CoCs provide the vehicle for federal homelessness dollars in the region, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Hampden County Continuum of Care
lead agency: City of Springfield

Three County Continuum of Care
Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire Counties
lead agency: Community Action Pioneer Valley

CoC Select Projects
in collaboration with the Network

Individual Services

Career Services Committee

Family Services

Youth and Young Adult Services

Coordinated Entry
Youth Homelessness
Racial Equity Work Group

1 Coordinated Entry is the implementation of a uniform assessment tool and “by-names” list for all people experiencing homelessness, ensuring the best possible allocation of housing resources.

2 Youth Homelessness: Each CoC was awarded HUD funds for a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) to prevent and end youth homelessness in Hampden County and Franklin County.

3 Each CoC is producing a racial equity work plan, funded by the Network to address the disproportionate impact of homelessness on people of color.