

Individual Services Committee Meeting Minutes - 2/24/26

Reports from shelters:

Greenfield-at capacity every night and using some add'l cots

Craigs Doors-full capacity in Amherst. Hadley to close April 1. They have a small amount of money to cover brief hotel stays for inclement weather.

Holyoke – Motel 6 is full. Providence has operated its pop-up shelter intermittently on the coldest nights—with about 27 people

CSO/FOH – 175 beds + 7 overflow, all full

Louison House full - noted the struggle they have having due to reduced bus schedules. People get stranded and cannot get to shelter.

It was noted that churches have been real heros in stepping up with services and support

PIT count

Brutally cold weather, very hard to be finding people unsheltered.

Springfield – [Go here](https://www.masslive.com/westernmass/2026/02/census-finds-homelessness-decreasing-in-hampden-county.html?gift=39fcb6e3-a529-469b-bc57-71a1d70b7bc3) for initial numbers and trend. See also <https://www.masslive.com/westernmass/2026/02/census-finds-homelessness-decreasing-in-hampden-county.html?gift=39fcb6e3-a529-469b-bc57-71a1d70b7bc3>

3 county still has data coming in, so they don't have numbers to share yet

Three County CoC invitation to join Coordinated Entry Committee and Evaluation Process:

The Three County CoC is undertaking a Coordinated Entry Evaluation by the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) to closely examine how their system is functioning and where improvements are needed.

This evaluation is an opportunity to:

- Identify strengths and gaps in the current CE process
- Ensure the system is equitable, accessible, and responsive

- Center the voices of those most impacted by Coordinated Entry decisions

Please join the meetings on the first Tuesday of every month - next meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 12 pm - 1pm. [See the Zoom link here](#)

Network News

The Network convened a series of county-based meetings with state legislators and Network partners to advocate for our [FY27 budget priorities](#) and [legislative priorities](#). Read more about the meetings [here](#) - thanks to all who participated!

The Network's Annual Gathering is on the calendar: Friday, May 29, 9:30-11:30 am, Holyoke Community College. Please see the [flyer here](#) and [register here](#).

New Housing and Livable Communities' Secretary Juana Matias. HLC Secretary Ed Augustus is stepping down for a job in the private sector. Gov. Healey has appointed a new Secretary, Juana Matias, who will start in this position on April 1. See press release here: <https://www.mass.gov/news/governor-healey-appoints-juana-matias-as-secretary-of-housing-and-livable-communities>

Next meeting date: Tuesday, March 24, 1 pm