



## ON SOLID GROUND COALITION

The On Solid Ground Coalition (OSG) is a cross-sector group of diverse partners committed to improving housing stability and economic mobility families living in Massachusetts through cross-sector research, evidence-informed advocacy, and family engagement. OSG is jointly led by the Citizens Housing and Planning Association Center for Social Policy and Homes for Families.

On any given night in Massachusetts, more than 13,000 individuals in families experience homelessness, approximately 60% of them children. Since FY2008, Massachusetts has experienced one of the largest increases in family homelessness in the country. It is time for a new approach to addressing family homelessness. By focusing on housing and economic stability, instead of the short-term goal of reducing shelter numbers, thousands of families can avoid the need for shelter, and families in shelter will be less likely to re-enter in the future. Progress is possible. To tackle this crisis, On Solid Ground takes effort to foster partnerships between low-income families, service providers, employers, property owners, federal and state government, and philanthropic communities. The Coalition aims for a collaborative approach and a system coordination strategy that will increase the number of families who are on solid ground.

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### CREATING A PATH TO HOUSING STABILITY AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Increasing stability and reducing family homelessness requires a four-pronged approach:

#### Advancing System Coordination and Efficiency

Improve system coordination between different state agencies for better service delivery. A coordinated system can help support homelessness prevention, minimize cliff effects and provide case management to support housing and economic stability.

#### Increasing Resources and Opportunities for Affordable Housing

Expand the stock of affordable housing as well as rental assistance vouchers for households with extremely low-incomes; preserve existing privately and publicly subsidized homes.

#### Improving Access to Support Services for Families

Increase investment in services that provide a path to increased incomes and economic mobility for families who have extremely low-incomes (incomes of less than 30% of the area median income).

#### Tracking and Reporting of Progress to Measure Social Impact

Collect and analyze data and track progress within state agencies and their nonprofit partners towards an agreed upon set of goals related to housing stability and economic mobility.

*For more information, please contact  
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Ground Coalition, at [akurve@chapa.org](mailto:akurve@chapa.org) or (617) 742-0820.*

## COALITION MEMBERS

Citizens' Housing and Planning Association

Homes for Families

Center for Social Policy

Economic Mobility Pathways

Children's HealthWatch

Regional Housing Network of  
Massachusetts

Massachusetts Law Reform Institute

On Solid Ground Family Liaisons Group

Family Independence Initiative

FamilyAid Boston

Father Bill's & MainSpring

Friends of Families in Transition

WayFinders

Home Funders Collaborative LLC

Horizons for Homeless Children

Jane Doe Inc., the Massachusetts Coalition  
Against Sexual Assault and Domestic  
Violence

Jewish Community Relations Council

Massachusetts Association for Community  
Action

Massachusetts Association of Community  
Development Corporations

Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Massachusetts Public Health Association

Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership

New Lease for Homeless Families

One Family, Inc.

Project Bread

Project Hope

Project Place

Somerville Homeless Coalition

Square One

The Worcester Area Mission Society

Thrive in 5 Initiative

Tzedek Reflection

Western Mass. Network to End  
Homelessness

Economic Development Council of Western  
Mass, Inc.

Worcester Community Connections with  
YOU, Inc.

National Association of Social Workers -  
MA Chapter

AIDS Action Committee

## PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS

