



MASSACHUSETTS COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home

Legislative Action Day 2016 · Thursday, March 3, 2016 · Great Hall, Massachusetts State House

Advanced Schedule for the Morning Plenary Session

- 9:00 a.m. **Light Breakfast and Check-in/Registration**
- 9:30 a.m. **Welcome**
Kelly Turley, Director of Legislative Advocacy, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Representative James O'Day, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government, lead sponsor of An Act Relative to Assisting Elders and People with Disabilities in the Commonwealth (a.k.a. the EAEDC bill), and sponsor of Legislative Action Day
- 9:45 a.m. **Celebrating Legislative Progress and Victories from the Past Year and Honoring the Work of Key Partners, Highlighting the Work of the Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness**
Kelly Turley, Director of Legislative Advocacy, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Frank Austin, Convener, Advocacy Network to End Family Homelessness
- 9:55 a.m. **Legislative Remarks**
Senator Jamie Eldridge, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Financial Services
Representative Marjorie Decker, Member, Joint Committees on Ways and Means and Housing
- 10:10 a.m. **Introduction and Overview of the Coalition's FY'17 Budget and 2015-2016 Bill Priorities**
Kelly Turley, Director of Legislative Advocacy, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Tina Giarla, Community Organizer/Legislative Advocate, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Sr. Linda Bessom, Senior Community Organizer, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
- 10:30 a.m. **Testimonies, Part I: Remarks from Families, Youth, Adults, and Coalition Members on the Importance of Investing in Housing, Homelessness, and Benefits Programs**
Scheduled speakers: *Juell Frazier, Witnesses to Hunger*
Susan O'Neil, Community Speaker
Ken Baker, Community Speaker
Nikia Ramsey, Program Participant, Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership
Kim Paul Bispham, Boston Homeless Union, Local 1
- 10:45 a.m. **Legislative Remarks**
Senator Patricia Jehlen, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs
Senator Linda Dorcena Forry, Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing
Senator Harriette L. Chandler, Senate Majority Leader and Member of the Special Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth
Representative Kevin Honan, House Chair, Joint Committee on Housing
Representative Denise Provost, lead sponsor of An Act to End Child Homelessness
- 11:25 a.m. **Testimonies, Part II**
Scheduled Speakers: *Charlie Gargiulo, Program Participant, Boston Center for Independent Living*
Olivia Richard, Program Participant, Boston Center for Independent Living
Marybeth Worden, Member, Worcester Fellowship
Thomas Holland, Business Owner
Young Adult Speakers from Y2Y Harvard Square and the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
- 11:50 a.m. **Calling for a State of Emergency to Address and End Homelessness in Massachusetts**
Reverend June R. Cooper, Executive Director, City Mission Boston
Brenda Jarvis, Speakers Panel Member, City Mission Boston
Reverend John Edgerton, Associate Minister, Old South Church

- 12:05 p.m. **Legislative Closing Remarks**
Representative William Smitty Pignatelli, lead sponsor of An Act to Establish a Homeless Bill of Rights
- 12:15 p.m. **Tips for Meeting with Legislative Offices**
Tina Giarla, Community Organizer/Legislative Advocate, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
- 12:25 p.m. **Closing Remarks and Send-Off for Legislative Visits**
Hannah Colbert, Legislative Advocacy Intern, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless
Kelly Turley, Director of Legislative Advocacy, Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless

Schedule for the Afternoon Session

12:30 – 3:00 p.m. **Meetings with Legislators**