



kelly turley <kellyturley@gmail.com>

Participate in a Statewide Call-in Day Tomorrow, 11/20 to Push Back Against New Family Shelter Eligibility Restrictions!

Kelly Turley <kelly@mahomeless.org>
Reply-To: kelly@mahomeless.org
To: emailalert@mahomeless.org

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Click here for a web page version of this alert: [EA call-in day, 11-19-12](#)



Committed to ensuring that everyone has a place to call home

November 19, 2012

Participate in a Statewide Call-in Day Tomorrow to Ask the Governor and Legislative Leadership to Remove New Emergency Assistance Family Shelter Eligibility Restrictions!

Quick Links

[Coalition's home page](#)

[Coalition's Public Policy page](#)

[EA call-in day flyer](#)

[Organizational sign-on letter to the Governor and legislative leadership](#)

[EA regulation change page](#)

[Videos from the 10/22 hearing and 10/25 hearing](#)

[DHCD materials on](#)

Dear friend,

This Thanksgiving week, our advocacy to restore access to Emergency Assistance family shelter continues with great urgency. **Please participate in a call-in day tomorrow, Tuesday, 11/20, and make three phone calls to ask the Governor and the Legislature to act now on behalf of families experiencing homelessness!** If you can't make the calls tomorrow, please call today or Wednesday, as the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is set to finalize the regulations this Friday, 11/23.

Please keep reading below for more details, and [click here](#) for a flyer.

Special thanks to all those who participated in the recent DHCD regulation hearings in [Springfield](#) and [Boston](#), and in our [organizational sign-on letter!](#)

On behalf of the Coalition, best wishes to you and your loved ones this Thanksgiving. Know that we are deeply grateful for your collaboration

[changes](#)

[Blog post: A family's reaction to the EA regulation changes](#)

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DEEP DARK GINGERBREAD CAKE



MAPLE PUMPKIN CRANBERRY CAKE



CHOCOLATE ESPRESSO CAKE

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and compassion!

With gratitude,
Kelly

-Kelly Turley
Director of Legislative Advocacy
kelly@mahomeless.org
781-595-7570 x17

Emergency Assistance Advocacy Next Steps

Please make three quick calls as part of our call-in day that could make a world of difference to families and children without a safe place to sleep!

- **Call Governor Patrick (1-888-870-7770) and ask that he require DHCD to amend the regulations to provide shelter to families with children at "imminent risk of staying in a place not meant for human habitation."**
- **Call Senate President Therese Murray (617-722-1500) and House Speaker Robert DeLeo (617-722-2500) to ask them to amend the EA budget language in Line Item 7004-0101 to ensure that Emergency Assistance shelter be provided to such families!**

If you have a few more minutes, please ask your State Senator and State Representative to weigh in/continue to advocate with DHCD and legislative leadership. You can reach your elected officials by calling the State House Switchboard at [617-722-2000](tel:617-722-2000). For direct contact information, [click here](#).

Talking Points

A few key points as you get ready to make your calls, in case you are able to have a longer conversation with our targeted offices:

- Let the Administration and the Legislature know that you are disturbed that DHCD is now denying shelter to so many children and families who are experiencing homelessness.
- Ask the Administration re-examine the proposed regulations, and use their power to amend them to better protect children and families truly in need of Emergency Assistance. In particular, ask that language be added to the regulations so that families at imminent risk of having to stay in places not meant for human habitation can access shelter. Swift action is needed, in particular as the colder weather descends on Massachusetts.
- Let the Administration and the Legislature know that you believe Massachusetts must and can simultaneously invest in housing, homelessness prevention, and safety net resources.

- Ask the Legislature to add in protective language into the EA line item (7004-0101) to cover families at imminent risk of having to stay in a place not meant for human habitation– and to provide additional funding necessary to reverse the eligibility restrictions and make adequate and necessary re-investments in housing, homelessness prevention, and safety net resources to match the scale of the homelessness crisis.

Thank you for your advocacy and support!



Please join us in raising money to help end homelessness, just by searching the Internet or shopping online with GoodSearch.

GoodSearch for the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless by following this link:

<http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=849550>.

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Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless | 15 Bubier St. | Lynn | MA | 01901