



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
and
Department of Housing and Community Development*

CHARLES BAKER
Governor

KARYN POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary
Executive Office of Health
and Human Services

CHRYSTAL KORNEGAY
Undersecretary
Department of Housing and
Community Development

June 28, 2016

His Excellency Charles D. Baker
Governor
Massachusetts State House
Office of the Governor
Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker:

We are pleased to share with you this report on the accomplishments of the Commonwealth's Interagency Supportive Housing Steering Committee and Working Group. This report marks new milestones, achieved since the Year Two Report, for this group convened to execute the mandates of the Act Relative to Community Housing and Services, St. 2012, c. 58.

Most especially, this Final Report of the Working Group on the Demonstration Program and Report on the Overall Action Plan celebrates the achievement of the Commonwealth's creating 3,507 units of permanent supportive housing. The consistent commitment across administrations of resources for capital, rental assistance and services led to this success. These new units of supportive housing will help elders, veterans, homeless individuals and families, and persons with disabilities, to live independently and stably in the community for many years to come.


This report is the product of the diligent efforts of representatives from the multiple state agencies in the Commonwealth that administer our myriad of services and service-enriched housing for vulnerable populations. We gratefully acknowledge all of those engaged in the planning process. All parties brought a wealth of experience and commitment. As shown in the report, the goals of the legislation have been completed or are well underway.

Given the accomplishments of the supportive housing initiative thus far, and mindful of the overlap in the work of a number of interagency efforts to address housing needs, we are poised to take this initiative in a new direction while retaining the best of the work of the initiative over the past three years. In its June 2016 meeting, the Steering Committee accepted the Final Report of the Working Group, adopted the recommendation of the Working Group to consolidate interagency efforts to address supportive housing, and agreed to amend the Community Housing and Services Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

accordingly. The Secretaries of EOHHS and EOHEd have determined that the collaborative work taking place under the auspices of the MOU is critical to meeting the needs of the low-income citizens of the Commonwealth and will continue as a committee of the Massachusetts Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness (ICHH). The work and recommendations of the Interagency Supportive Housing Working Group are complementary and synergistic to the ICHH work. The MOU will be amended such that the Interagency Steering Committee, whose membership largely overlaps with that of the ICHH, will sunset and that the Working Group as described in the MOU will continue as a committee of the ICHH.

We invite you to review this report and recognize the important milestones achieved and the continued commitment across secretariats to serving elders, veterans, homeless individuals and families, and persons with disabilities. Congratulations on this lasting achievement.

Sincerely,


Marylou Sudders
Secretary
Executive Office of Health
and Human Services


Chrystal Kornegay
Undersecretary
Department of Housing and
Community Development