



FY2016 Supplemental Budget Priority: Tenancy Preservation Program

Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) (Line Item 7004-3045)

Prevents homelessness among people with disabilities by working with landlord and tenants as well as providing clinical consultation services to Housing Court. Nearly half of all those served are single parents with children.

FY2015 funding:	\$850,000
FY2016 Governor's budget recommendation:	\$790,000
FY2016 CMHA budget recommendation:	\$1 million

Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) is a cost effective homelessness prevention program. TPP works with tenants, including families with children, with disabilities who are facing eviction as a result of behavior related to a disability (e.g. mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, and aging-related impairments). TPP functions as a neutral party to the landlord and tenant. In consultation with the Housing Court Department, TPP works with the property owner and tenant to determine whether the disability can be reasonably accommodated and the tenancy preserved.

TPP differs from other prevention programs by focusing clinical services specifically on the housing problem, providing intensive short-term case management and addressing the underlying issues threatening the tenancy.

Over one-third of TPP participants have had a history of homelessness before participating in TPP, and approximately half of the participants are single parents with children. The program is extremely cost effective. In FY 2014, TPP statewide stabilized 92% of the 366 households served with an average cost of \$2,854 per case. In addition, TPP provided consultation services to an additional 1,640 households.

Our Request:

Increasing funding level to \$1M will enable this program to prevent homelessness for more households, thereby diverting households from entering costly emergency shelter and maintaining the stability of households served. With an additional \$500,000, TPP services could provide an additional 200 households with disabilities, and consultation services could be provided to an additional 600 households.

In Worcester County:

TPP is administered by Community Healthlink, Inc. Thus far in FY 2015 (from July of 2014 through February of 2015) TPP at Community Healthlink has performed 112 consultations with households facing eviction, and preserved tenancies or prevented homelessness for 84 households.